

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONDEMNING NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR TEST

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 65 and to thank Representatives ROYCE, ENGEL and ROS-LEHTINEN for their leadership on this important issue and for working together to bring this bipartisan resolution to the floor today. H. Res. 65 condemns the government of North Korea for its flagrant and repeated violations of multiple U.N. Security Council resolutions, for its repeated provocations that threaten international peace and for its test of a nuclear device on February 12, 2013.

Since 2006, the U.N. Security Council has passed three resolutions condemning North Korea for its illegal missile tests, most recently the resolution passed last month. Then, on Tuesday, in further defiance of U.N. resolutions, the North Korean government detonated an underground nuclear device. Taken together, these events are clear indications of North Korea's flagrant disregard for international law, regional stability and for the welfare of its own people.

Instead of feeding the millions of North Koreans who are starving, the government chooses to squander what little resources it possesses on an illegal nuclear weapons program. Its actions are reckless and dangerous and the international community cannot stand by silently as it continues to oppress its people to deny their human rights and political liberties and to permit them to suffer material deprivation just so that they can pursue a nuclear weapons program at their expense.

I stand with my colleagues in condemnation of the government of North Korea for its reckless disregard for international law, for threat its actions pose to the stability of the region and for its contempt for the welfare of its own people. And I call on China, as a party of the Six-Party Talks and the closest ally of North Korea, to use its considerable influence to encourage the North Koreans to abandon their illegal nuclear weapons program.

IN RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN ACTION

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 40 years of service by Community Christian Action (CCA) to North Texans in need. CCA was founded February 22, 1973 when seven members of the Bible study group at St. Philip's Catholic Church in Lewisville committed to spreading God's word by helping

those less fortunate. This faith-based non-profit organization started learning about poverty and ways to improve peoples' lives through their local church congregations.

Over 35 years later, CCA has expanded their outreach of help with the support of volunteers, families, churches and local businesses to 42 communities throughout Collin, Dallas, Denton, Tarrant, and Wise counties. With 150 employees and more than 2,500 volunteers, the ministry strives to give families in crisis the education and training they need to become self-sufficient while offering a safe haven of food, shelter, medical care, and spiritual support.

In one year, CCA assists more than 12,000 individuals. They distribute more than \$1.4 million of food, provide more than 4,000 low-income patients health care in their center each year, and offer educational and vocational training programs that more than 1,660 people participate in annually. CCA ensures that more than 57,000 lunches are delivered to kids during the summer, and that 2,900 children get to experience each holiday season with Christmas toys.

It is my honor to recognize Community Christian Action and their efforts to help North Texans.

HONORING JUSTICE BERNETTE JOSHUA JOHNSON

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the continued achievements of Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, a leader in the Louisiana community. I congratulate Justice Johnson on her pending investiture as Chief Justice of Louisiana's Supreme Court, on which she has served with distinction for nearly two decades. As the most-tenured member of Louisiana's highest court, Bernette Joshua Johnson will continue her legacy of excellence as the state's first African American Chief Justice. Her investiture is an important one for her career as a civil servant, for the state of Louisiana, and for the United States.

Before her service on Louisiana's Supreme Court, Justice Johnson began her career as the first woman to be elected to the Civil District Court of New Orleans and was elected Chief Judge soon after. A cornerstone of her career has always been advocacy for civil rights and social justice. During the Civil Rights Movement, she worked as a community organizer with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Legal Defense & Educational Fund. She also worked as a legal intern with the Civil Rights Division at the US Department of Justice, here in Washington, D.C. where she worked on cases filed by the Department to implement the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson has received numerous honors and awards through-

out her career, including the Louisiana Bar Foundation's 2009 Distinguished Jurist Award, the American Bar Association's Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, and the 2000 Medal of Honor presented by the Mayor of the City of New Orleans. In addition, she has spoken at universities and government agencies all over Louisiana and throughout the south. Justice Johnson is a prolific writer having published editorials, essays, and legal opinions since the beginning of her legal career.

Justice Johnson is a community advocate, an active member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and the proud mother of two. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia, and in 2001 was honored with an Honorary Doctorate in Law from her alma mater. She was one of the first African American women to attend the Law School at Louisiana State University where she received her Juris Doctorate in 1969. She has since been inducted into the LSU Law School Hall of Fame. Justice Johnson's achievements are a testament to her commitment to public service. She is an excellent example of the value of hard work and perseverance in the face of adversity.

I wish to congratulate Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson on her investiture as the Louisiana Supreme Court's first African American Chief Justice.

ELIMINATION OF 2013 PAY ADJUSTMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, this legislation is nothing more than an attempt to penalize hardworking federal employees who are doing our nation's business. I support extending the freeze on Congressional pay, but there is no reason we should block federal civil servants from receiving a partial COLA of a 1/2 of 1 percent.

Federal workers have already contributed \$103 billion toward lowering our deficit through pay freezes and increases in their retirement contributions. A full pay freeze for a third year in a row would take another \$11 billion out of the pockets of these dedicated public servants.

And let's be clear: this bill does not cut spending by one dime because it does not change the overall spending caps. As a result, these dollars will be spent elsewhere in the budget. So while this bill does nothing to reduce the deficit, it does punish people doing essential work for our country. It punishes: Nurses caring for our wounded warriors; the FBI agents who helped rescue the young boy in Alabama; air traffic controllers who keep our skies safe to fly; scientists doing lifesaving medical research; meat and food inspectors

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

who keep our food safe; the individuals who helped get the intelligence to track down Osama bin Laden; and the individuals who keep our border safe, ensure Social Security payments arrive on time, and so many others who do the work of America.

All that is bad enough. At the same time, this bill does nothing to avoid the hit to the economy and jobs that will begin on March 1, just over two weeks from today.

I want everyone to remember two numbers. First, 750,000. That is the number of jobs that will be lost between March 1 and the end of the year if we don't stop the sequester. This number doesn't come from me; it comes from the nonpartisan, independent Congressional Budget Office, CBO.

That job loss is equal to wiping out all the job gains from October 1 of last year through last month—5 months—of job gains. Additionally, the sequester will cut economic growth this year one-third. So, we should prevent this needless action from taking place. And House Democrats have repeatedly offered a plan to do so.

The second number to remember is 4. That is the number of times Democrats have tried to get a vote on our plan to replace the sequester with the same amount of long term deficit reduction without hurting jobs or the economy. Our Republicans colleagues have not lifted a finger in the 113th Congress to prevent these impending job losses.

In fact, Tea Party Republicans like Senator RAND PAUL are cheering for this job cleaver to come down.

Our plan would replace the \$120 billion sequester for the remainder of the year, with an equal amount of long-term deficit reduction without harming jobs and disrupting the economy.

The key elements of our plan are as follows: cut direct payment subsidies to agribusiness by \$29 billion; cut Big Oil tax subsidies by \$38 billion; implement the Buffet Rule, which brings in \$54 billion in revenue. That totals \$121 billion of offsetting deficit reduction that won't hurt the economy or kill jobs.

So instead of penalizing hard working federal employees, let's focus on preventing the loss of 750,000 American jobs and let's pass the Stop the Sequester Job Loss Act now.

FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE NONPROFIT FAIRNESS ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 592.

In this country, we have a strong tradition of coming to the aid of communities that have suffered national tragedies and natural disasters. This is a tradition to be proud of, but H.R. 592 takes an unprecedented and unconstitutional step of adding houses of worship to the list of entities eligible for direct government assistance through Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The Supreme Court has repeatedly ruled that direct government aid for houses of worship is unconstitutional. In *Tilton v. Richardson* (1971) and *Committee for Public Education v.*

Nyquist (1973), the Supreme Court ruled that taxpayer funds could not go to buildings to construct or repair facilities intended to be places of worship. Religious institutions are still eligible for federal loans, including small business loans, to help rebuild their place of worship.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote in a later ruling (*Mitchell v. Helms*, 2000), that direct grant government grants to religious institutions brings "special dangers." This danger is not just to the government, but also to the religious institution. Religious freedom is one of our country's most sacred principles. The separation of church and state protects not only the state, but also the church from state interference and restriction. This type of direct assistance, however well intentioned, puts that separation and religious freedom at risk.

Churches, synagogues, temples and mosques are often the center of a community; the wish to rebuild as quickly as possible in the wake of a natural disaster is well-intentioned and understandable. However, rebuilding or repairing these houses of worship with direct government assistance, putting their independence at risk, comes at too high of a cost.

HONORING MS. DELEIGH DANIEL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable volunteer firefighter, Ms. Deleigh Daniel.

Ms. Daniel wanted to become a firefighter after hearing her ex-husband speak about his experiences and the importance of being able to save a life or someone's home. In 2007, she joined the Linn Steiner Roundaway Volunteer Fire Department where she is one of two female firefighters. In 2009, she joined the Indianola Volunteer Fire Department where she is the first female firefighter.

Ms. Daniel's greatest satisfaction as a volunteer firefighter is knowing the benefit of saving lives, businesses, personal property, and the educating others on fire prevention and safety techniques.

Her children, Claire and Clay are supportive of their mother being a firefighter and being able to fulfill her life's goal. Ms. Daniel lives her life by this motto, "I can accomplish anything I set my mind to".

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Deleigh Daniel for her dedication to serving her community and our great country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 43 "Providing for the conditional adjournment of the House and Senate" (H. Con. Res. 15). Had I been present, I would have voted "no".

REMEMBERING AMBASSADOR MAX M. KAMPELMAN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, last month I lost a dear friend, and our nation lost a tireless public servant who spent his career keeping Americans—and, indeed, the world—safe from the threat of nuclear war.

Ambassador Max M. Kampelman never held elected office, and most Americans may not know of the impact he had on their security. But he played a crucial role in advising leaders from both parties during the Cold War and in helping to negotiate the first Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty in 1991. He died on January 25 at the age of ninety-two.

Born in 1920 in New York City, New York, Max was the son of Jewish immigrants who taught their son the importance of education and the value of hard work. After graduating from New York University in 1940, he attended night school there in pursuit of his law degree, which he earned in 1945.

During World War II, Max volunteered for an experimental study on the effects of recovering from starvation and malnutrition, the findings of which were later used to treat concentration camp survivors and former prisoners of war. Following the end of the war, he obtained a master's degree and doctorate in political science from the University of Minnesota, and while there he began working as an aide to then-mayor of Minneapolis Hubert Humphrey.

When Humphrey was sworn in as a United States Senator in 1949, Max came with him to Washington as his legislative counsel. After six years with Senator Humphrey, Max went into private law practice and joined the Marine Corps Reserves. In 1968, he advised Vice President Humphrey's presidential campaign.

Growing alarmed by the Soviet Union's foreign policies and human rights violations in the early 1970s, Max became a proponent of a tougher Cold War stance. He was brought on to advise the Reagan Administration and led the negotiations for the Madrid Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe that were the key forum in the early 1980s for raising human rights concerns in the Soviet bloc and that led to the release of some prisoners of conscience and refuseniks from the U.S.S.R.

At the Madrid conference and throughout the 1980s, Max Kampelman advocated a concept we now take for granted—the notion that human rights are an integral element of international security. As former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton noted, Max "advanced with unmatched eloquence and effectiveness the precept that respect for human rights within nations is essential to cooperation and peace among nations."

Max was instrumental in the drafting of the first START treaty to limit nuclear arms stockpiles at the end of the Cold War, helping to ease tensions between the superpowers during the days of communism's collapse in the former Soviet Union.

Testifying to Max's beliefs in putting country before party, and indicative of the respect leaders on both sides of the aisle felt for him, in 1984 he served concurrently as a foreign

policy advisor for Democratic presidential nominee Walter Mondale and as counsel to Edwin Meese III, one of President Reagan's closest aides.

Throughout his years in Washington, Max left his deep imprint on the city and its community. He was a founder of the DC National Bank, a chairman of WETA-TV, and founding president of Friends of the National Zoo. For many years, Max was an active supporter of Jewish community organizations, such as the Anti-Defamation League, the American Friends of Lubavitch, and others. In 1989, Max received the Presidential Citizens Medal from President Reagan, and, ten years later, President Clinton awarded Max the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

I came to know Max well when I served as Chairman of the Helsinki Commission in the 1980s, and we worked together on human rights and disarmament issues. In the process, we became great friends. Max led the U.S. Delegation to a Human Dimension meeting of the Helsinki process in Copenhagen in 1990, where, thanks in no small part to his able stewardship, breakthrough achievements were reached on democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections. A year later, he led a U.S. delegation to another Human Dimension meeting in Moscow—on the heels of the August 1991 Soviet coup attempt—and negotiated an agreement explicitly recognizing that human rights are the direct and legitimate concern of all countries.

Max was a true believer in the power of diplomacy to shape a safer, freer, and more just world, and he will be missed terribly by all those in Washington and throughout the country who came to know him as I did—smart, thoughtful, and creative in the pursuit of a better life for all.

Marjorie, Max's wife of fifty-eight years, passed away in 2007, and they were predeceased in death by two of their children, David and Anne. Max is survived by their three remaining children, Jeffrey, Julia, and Sarah, along with five grandchildren.

I join in saluting Ambassador Max Kampelman's life of service to our nation as a diplomat, as a Marine Reserve officer, as a philanthropist, and as a model citizen. The furtherance of peace in our world and freedom for millions who had suffered behind the Iron Curtain will be his lasting legacy.

IN HONOR OF BOY SCOUT
TROOP 88

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Audubon's Boy Scout Troop 88. This troop was founded in 1965 by Eagle Scout Chairman Bob Beetle, along with Al Murray, Joe Kranz, Bill Holland, and Jack Rex. At last Thanksgiving's Audubon football game, the troop and the tireless work of the founder Bob Beetle, was honored as the Troop 88 banner was dedicated and raised at halftime. The true legacy of Mr. Beetle and this troop is the perpetuation of resourceful skills and the instillation of strong leadership values. The boy scouts are an outstanding opportunity for the young gentlemen of South Jersey to de-

velop through service to their community. Troop 88 initiates many projects within the community including: Food Drives and help with the South Jersey Food bank, a 9/11 Ceremony at Mt. Ephraim, railroad clean-ups, the Mansion Ave. school map playground project, and Masons Wheel chair Push in Burlington. On behalf of town of Audubon, and the First District of New Jersey, I want to express my sincere appreciation and pride to have such a great organization operating in my district.

HONORING TOMMY TRAXLER, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran, Tommy Traxler, Jr. Mr. Traxler has shown what can be done through hard work, setting goals, and aiming high.

Tommy Traxler, Jr., was born January 17, 1945 in Crystal Springs, Mississippi to the late Charlean Traxler and Tommy Traxler, Sr. He was reared by his grandmother, the late Gussie Hudson.

He was a 1963 graduate of William H. Holtzclaw Memorial High School in Crystal Springs, Mississippi and 1965 graduate of Utica Junior College, Utica, Mississippi. On September 6, 1966, Tommy was killed in Vietnam.

Tommy had two siblings; one brother, Charles E. Pickett and one sister, Cynthia Traxler of Crystal Springs, Mississippi. His hobbies included football, basketball and drawing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Tommy Traxler, Jr. for his dedication to serving our great country and his community.

MADISON COUNTY CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate Madison County on its 100th anniversary as an organized county in the great state of Idaho. Significant events over the past century have made for a colorful history, and this commemoration is a noteworthy event for both past and present residents of Madison County.

Madison County, located in Idaho's Upper Snake River Valley, was officially established February 18, 1913, by signature of Governor John Haines, with its county seat at Rexburg. The new county was named for President James Madison, fourth president of the United States. The region was first settled by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, (Mormons) from nearby Utah. Early families were industrious farmers who built the first irrigation system in the state. Madison County is now the eighth largest potato growing county in the nation and also grows significant acres of grain.

Brigham Young University Idaho, formerly Ricks College, now the second largest university in Idaho, was named after one of the early settlers, Thomas E. Ricks. Madison County was declared a national disaster area after the ruinous Teton Dam flood of June 5, 1976.

Sugar City is another thriving city in Madison County, located only a few miles from the county seat. The four federally protected areas in the county are: Caribou Targhee National Forest, Cartier Slough and Deer Parks Wildlife Areas, and the volcanic Menan Twin Buttes.

Visitors to Madison County can tour two buildings listed on the National Historic Register: The Rexburg Tabernacle and the Madison County Courthouse. Other attractions include the Teton Dam Flood Museum, Yellowstone Bear World, Brigham Young University Idaho Campus, the Idaho Centennial Carousel, and the famous International Dance Festival.

The citizens of Madison County demonstrate unity and a sense of pride through their deeply sown roots. Family traditions, farms, entrepreneurship, and a willingness to extend a helping hand to others appropriately characterize this community and its time-honored Idaho lifestyle.

It is a privilege to represent Madison County and the people who structure its prominence.

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF PHEASANTS FOREVER

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the founders, members and staff of Pheasants Forever on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the organization.

The Minnesota roots of this organization go back to day one and its 500 original members in the early 1980s. Residents of Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District share great pride that for most of those years, the organization has worked to protect the habitat for this beautiful bird throughout North America from its home base in White Bear Lake. Today, Pheasants Forever boasts more than 125,000 members in more than 600 chapters in both the U.S. and Canada, from Pennsylvania to Washington and Minnesota to Texas.

Minnesota has a long and distinguished history of wildlife conservation, and is the birthplace of several organizations dedicated to protecting wildlife and other natural resources. Born out of a crisis when our state suffered a dramatic decline in pheasant numbers, Pheasants Forever is a vital part of this proud tradition. The organization first took flight when a group of conservation minded hunters rose to meet the challenge presented by Dennis Anderson, St Paul Pioneer Press outdoor editor, as he wrote about the devastation of grassland habitat in Minnesota.

The grassroots origins of Pheasants Forever have remained critical to its success, and each chapter is empowered to determine how their funds are used. Members directly participate in the decisionmaking process and see firsthand the conservation impact of their contributions. Over the years, this strategy has produced real progress in protecting habitat.

In 1985, members of Pheasants Forever helped form the Conservation Reserve Program, CRP, as part of the Department of Agriculture. The CRP implemented a land set-aside program that paid landowners to keep their environmentally sensitive areas unused, creating more natural habitat for pheasants and other wildlife.

To this day, Pheasants Forever continues to work closely with the Department of Agriculture, partnering with USDA service centers and local landowners to create and improve vital habitat on private lands. More recently, Pheasants Forever launched the "Build a Wildlife" program to create public hunting grounds and outdoor recreation areas. In 2005, Quail Forever launched to focus on improving habitats for quail populations. To date, Pheasants Forever's various initiatives have protected and improved more than 8 million acres of wildlife habitat. These significant achievements have reversed the trend toward vanishing grasslands, and made Minnesota a premier example of upland habitat conservation.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the 30th anniversary of Pheasants Forever and the hunters and outdoor enthusiasts who make this organization successful.

IN RECOGNITION OF SAVAS
TSIVICOS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Savas Tsivicos as he is celebrated by AHEPA Chapter #287 with a Testimonial Dinner in his honor. As Past President of the Chapter and Past District Governor of AHEPA District 5, Savas is truly deserving of this recognition.

A native of Cyprus, Savas immigrated to the United States in 1982 to pursue educational and work opportunities. He earned a Bachelor's Degree and MBA in Management from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a Masters Certificate from George Washington University. In 1989, Savas founded Tsivicos Enterprises, Inc., a consulting and construction management company, and continues to serve as its President today.

Active in the Greek community, Savas has been a tireless advocate for the people of Cyprus. He co-founded the Panpaphian Association of America in 1987 and twice served as its President. He also served as Chairman of the American Hellenic Institute Public Affairs Committee for 3 years. In addition, Savas has been a member of countless other Greek organizations, often holding leadership positions, including the Cyprus Federation of America, which represents all Cypriot Americans. Likewise, Savas has served on the Board of Directors for the NJ Greek-American Chamber of Commerce and Cosmos FM, a Hellenic public radio station. Savas also serves on the Cyprus Children's Fund and is an active member of the St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Ocean, NJ.

Savas has received many awards for his tremendous work on behalf of the community. In 1988, the Government of Cyprus recognized his contributions with a Certificate of

Recognition. He has also been honored with the Greek-American Chamber of Commerce of NJ Achievement Award, the NECO Ellis Island Medal of Honor Award, and the Evagoras Pallikarides Award of Merit. Savas has twice been recognized as Ahepan of the Year, first by the John G. Thevos Fifth District and most recently by Chapter #287.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Savas Tsivicos for his immeasurable contributions to the community and thanking AHEPA Chapter #287 for hosting the Testimonial Dinner in his honor.

REMARKS OF GOVERNOR DANNEL
P. MALLOY AT THE INTERFAITH
VIGIL FOR FAMILIES OF SANDY
HOOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of the lives lost at Sandy Hook Elementary School. I submit the remarks of Connecticut Governor Dannel P. Malloy, at the Interfaith Vigil for the families and community of Newtown, CT with the President of the United States.

Pat, thank you for all of the great work that you have done for this community in the last three days. To the police chief and to the superintendent of schools, thank you for your great service, as well. To all of the first responders, thank you.

When I came into the hall, one of the first songs to be played on the piano was "Amazing Grace," which is fitting for any number of reasons. Its become an anthem for first responders. It has great words. It also speaks of the power of faith.

"Amazing Grace" was written by a former sea captain engaged in the slave trade. And those profound words that "I once was lost and now am found" speak to us on a day like today when we are called upon—dare I say required to be invested in our faith.

A faith so evident in this room and in this community at this time. A faith that is, after all, at its very core a gift from God. A faith in which we find comfort and hope and compassion. A faith in which we are given the power to go on, to survive that which has befallen this community, these families, these spouses. That which has happened and is unimaginable and unthinkable and was never, we thought, intended to be upon us here in Connecticut, or in Newtown, or in Sandy Hook.

I choose to think about the fact that in the coming days we will officially enter winter. And that is always to be followed by the spring. Let me assure you that in winter, each time I see the beginning of a snowfall, I will be thinking of those 27 souls lost just a few days ago.

Each time the day gets a little longer, I will think and dream of the lives that might have been and the lives that were so full of grace. And when the flowers start to come out of the ground, and when they rise up, I will know that we are in touch with those that we have lost in the last few days.

We will go on, we will find strength. Faith is a gift, as is our ability to support one another in our greater community.

To all of you, I extend my most profound condolences on behalf of all of your fellow citizens for what you have seen, for what you have witnessed and for what have you personally experienced.

We will move on, we will never forget, we will in many ways be made stronger for what has transpired and we will get better.

We are blessed today to have with us the President of the United States, who upon meeting with Pat and me just a little while ago said that the most difficult day of his presidency was Friday, when he heard the news of that which had befallen this community. I assured him that Connecticut, Newtown and Sandy Hook are strong, and I welcomed him on your behalf to our community.

I now introduce the President of the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE KHOJALY
MASSACRE

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues and people all over the world in recognizing the tragedy known as the Khojaly Massacre which occurred on February 26, 1992 in the small Azerbaijani town of Khojaly. The attack resulted in the massacre of 613 Azerbaijani civilians and is one of the most devastating acts of violence in the South Caucasus in recent history. According to some accounts, the fate of 150 Khojaly inhabitants is still unknown, even after twenty-one years.

The numerous casualties and acts of torture in the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan underscore the need for a political—rather than a military—solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. A fair and comprehensive settlement is the only effective tool to encourage stability, prosperity, and a lasting peace in the region. As co-chair of the Minsk Group, the United States remains committed to working with both sides to that end. With that goal in mind, we remember and mourn the 613 victims of Khojaly and work together to safeguard the human rights of all.

HONORING THE JACKSON,
MISSISSIPPI FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Jackson, Mississippi Fire Department. The Jackson Fire Department is the largest fire department in the State of Mississippi. The Jackson Fire Department currently consists of 7 divisions with 433 budgeted positions. The 7 divisions that make up the Jackson Fire Department are Administration and Finance; Arson and Internal Affairs; Community Relations and Fire Safety Education; Emergency Services; Training, Safety, Research and Development; Office of the Fire Marshal; and Fire Loss.

Emergency Services is the largest division which consists of 21 fire stations and 32 pieces of emergency equipment. In 2006, they upgraded all of their Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA) along with new ultralite facepieces. The Jackson Fire Department constantly strives for improvement and the highest level of firefighting by updating and purchasing

the latest firefighting equipment and technology such as thermal cameras, chemical detectors, weather stations, portable radios, TSI Portacount Plus Respirator fit testers, Scott Eagle Imagers, video conference systems, Lifepak AEDs, and personal protective gear.

In April 2006, the Jackson Fire Department sponsored an Urban Search and Rescue class, which enhances their ability to serve the City of Jackson and any other city in times of immediate need. In the summer of 2006, the Jackson Fire Department received 7 new fire trucks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Jackson Fire Department for their dedication to serving the citizens of Jackson, Mississippi.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF FLOYD WEAVER

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the public service of Floyd Weaver.

Floyd Weaver's family first moved to Stockton, CA in 1938 from Phoenix, Arizona. After attending local schools in Stockton, he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. A proud veteran, he then dedicated his life to the social, educational, and economic advancement of community members in Northern California.

Mr. Weaver retired from the Stockton Unified School District after more than three decades of service as both a teacher and an administrator. Mr. Weaver was the first African American male principal in the Stockton Unified School District.

In addition, he served on the Stockton City Council and was also the first African American to be a two-term vice mayor for the city. In recognition of his hard work on the city council, local commissions, and his political activism, Mr. Weaver was honored with a lifetime achievement award by the Stockton Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in 2006.

One of Mr. Weaver's proudest accomplishments was overseeing construction of the Martin Luther King Jr. plaza in downtown Stockton while he was vice mayor. He was also instrumental in changing the name of Charter Way in Stockton to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

As our nation celebrates African American History Month, it is important that we recognize local heroes who helped shape our communities and states for the better. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the public service contributions of Floyd Weaver.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM D. LAUNDY

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 43-year career and service of a con-

stituent and my friend, William D. Laundry of the State University of New York in Plattsburgh, New York, and to congratulate him on his retirement. Mr. Laundry has served countless numbers of New York's college students in a variety of different roles at SUNY Plattsburgh, ultimately retiring as the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

For more than four decades, Mr. Laundry has devoted his life to ensuring students at SUNY Plattsburgh gain an education that prepares them to lead our society. As Director of Residence Life, Director of Campus Life, Dean of Students, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Mr. Laundry has served as a valuable counselor and confidant to his students, guiding them through the most formative parts of college and helping them understand the lessons life teaches outside the classroom.

Mr. Laundry's influence in the Plattsburgh community spills beyond the border of the SUNY Plattsburgh campus. Whether he was officiating an alumni couple's wedding, helping a recent graduate land her dream job, or connecting an eager student to a new perspective in his service-learning experience, William Laundry has helped make our community a more vibrant and better place.

I have known Mr. Laundry personally for more than 20 years. He deserves recognition for his outstanding character and warm sense of humor, and most of all for his consistent dedication to the students, alumni, and the university, the spirit of which is etched deeply in his soul.

I wish Mr. Laundry well in what I am sure will be an active retirement. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating him and wishing him success in his next endeavors.

IN TRIBUTE TO LINDA LEVINE

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Linda Levine, on her more than 30 years of outstanding service to our nation. Ms. Levine, who is retiring on February 28, 2013, has served as a Specialist in Labor Economics for the Congressional Research Service (CRS). She is the model of a dedicated public servant.

Linda received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University and a Master's degree in Labor and Industrial Relations from Michigan State University.

Linda began her career in federal service in 1976 as a labor economist at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, followed by her service as a research economist at the Communications Workers of America. Linda joined the Congressional Research Service in 1982, where she has worked for more than 30 years. During that time, Linda assisted Congress with dozens of reports, countless memoranda, and numerous consultations with Congressional staff and Members of Congress. Linda also served as Section Head of the Labor and Industries Section at CRS.

Linda's first report at CRS, entitled "The Impact of Defense Spending on Employment,"

was as relevant then as it is today. Her last report traces changes in the real value of the minimum wage. In between, Linda drafted analyses on older workers, younger workers, women in the labor force, pay equity, unemployment, job growth, and inequality. She also wrote reports on leave benefits, worker safety, green jobs, offshoring, the chained CPI, immigration policy, and many other subjects.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Linda Levine and in extending our nation's gratitude to her for her honorable and productive service. I know that we will all miss her significant contributions to the important labor economic issues of our country and wish her well in the years to come.

SCHOOL SAFETY

HON. MICHAEL G. GRIMM

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the important issue of school safety. The tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut shocked and saddened us all. We must learn from this deplorable incident so our children and educators know their school is the one place they should feel the safest.

As we grapple with Newtown and other school tragedies, we have to discuss how these incidents could have been prevented and what steps should be taken to prevent something like Sandy Hook from happening again. As a former federal law enforcement agent, I recognize that our schools must be safe and secure, and I welcome this important discussion. I strongly believe that we must examine ways we can protect our schools through responsible security protocols, barriers, and training.

However, I must share my objection to the idea of allowing educators to carry weapons in schools. As a supporter of the Second Amendment, my objection has nothing to do with gun rights. I object to this proposal because our schools are—and must remain—a safe haven for teaching and learning. School administrators, teachers, counselors, nurses and the many other support professionals all have unique roles and responsibilities for ensuring a productive learning environment for children in their schools. We should not diminish the importance of allowing teachers to teach, principals to lead, and counselors and nurses to care by also asking that they serve as armed security.

HONORING ANNIE LARRY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a courageous woman of the community, Mrs. Annie Larry.

Annie Larry, a lifelong resident of Rolling Fork, MS was born August 4, 1962. She is the sixth of ten children born to the late Mariah and Herman Larry. Annie has been married to Nathaniel Pinkins for twenty-six years, and they have four children.

Mrs. Larry graduated from Rolling Fork High School in 1981. She went on to receive an Associate Degree in 1983 from Mississippi Delta Community College. In 2009 Annie became the first female volunteer firewoman in Rolling Fork, MS.

Annie is the Founder and President of the gospel group, Southern Truth, of which she started 17 years ago. She is a member of House of Peace, under the leadership of Apostle Linda Sweezer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Annie Larry for her dedication to serving others and giving back to the community she grew up in.

IN HONOR OF THE PATRIOT CLUB
OF CHERRY HILL HIGH SCHOOL
WEST

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Patriot Club of Cherry Hill High School West. The Patriot Club focuses on bringing together students and members of the local community to honor current and former servicemembers through their Veteran's Day and Donations for Soldiers programs.

The Veteran's Day program gives veterans the ability to share their service experiences at schools throughout Cherry Hill. Each November, members of the Patriot Club recruit veterans to take part in the program that gives students the opportunity to gain a better understanding and appreciation for the sacrifices made by military personnel.

The two-month-long Donations for Soldiers program gathers monetary and supply donations from students, parents, teachers, administrators and local businesses of Cherry Hill to create care packages that are distributed to soldiers currently serving in Afghanistan and other parts of the world.

In 2012, the Patriot Club recruited five schools to participate in the program, raising more than \$4,000 and enough supplies to send 90 care packages overseas. This year, the club will be expanding the program to include all 18 schools in the Cherry Hill district. The goal is to raise \$10,000 and to send 200 care packages to soldiers abroad.

For the past two years, Ray Horner has served as President of the Patriot Club. Senior Sean Bivins and Junior President-Elect Eytan Gittler have served as Co-Vice Presidents. Officers include Seniors Chris Blandy, Kevin Mullarkey, Sean Mullarkey and Conor McFadden. Freshman Rebecca Horner also volunteers with the club.

NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES
AWARENESS WEEK 2013

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of National Invasive Species Awareness Week, which will be observed this year from March 3 through March 8.

Invasive plant and animal species are dangerous to regional ecosystems and carry with them serious negative effects on our economy. Already, they are a threat to 50% of federally endangered or threatened native species. From reduced crop yields to declines in fish populations, the consequences of invasive species are significant. In the agriculture sector alone, they have led to an annual loss in productivity worth \$7.4 billion. Researchers estimate that invasive species cost the United States more than \$130 billion in damages every year.

National Invasive Species Awareness Week, which is sponsored by the Weed Sciences Society of America, Dow AgroSciences, the National Network of Invasive Plant Centers, the Entomological Society of America, APS, and the Wildlife Habitat Council, helps raise public consciousness about this important issue. It features workshops and panel discussions at the Capitol and around Washington with experts in invasive species containment and prevention methods—as well as educational programs for students and families.

National Invasive Species Awareness Week also highlights the work of local, state, federal, and tribal agencies as well as efforts by private organizations and individuals to combat invasive species and preserve local and regional ecosystems.

In the State of Maryland, we have forged strong partnerships to try to address the problems posed by invasive species in our state. The Maryland Invasive Species Council is comprised of concerned scientists, land managers, business people and citizens. It works closely with our state agencies and the United States Department of Agriculture, particularly the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, the United States Department of the Interior, and the University of Maryland. Committed partnerships such as these are an important part of focusing attention and sharing limited resources in an effort to reduce the spread of invasive plants, animals, and diseases.

I am proud to support the goals of National Invasive Species Awareness Week, and I join with many of my colleagues in Congress in wishing its sponsors and participants a successful program.

RECOGNIZING THE SHEETZ
FAMILY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sheetz Family which owns a convenience store chain, based in Altoona, Pennsylvania. For more than 60 years, the Sheetz name has represented entrepreneurship, vision and innovation. And while consumer needs and lifestyles have changed over the years, one thing that has remained constant is the Sheetz Family's commitment to its customers, employees and the communities in which they operate.

Sheetz, Inc. was founded by Bob Sheetz in 1952 when he purchased one of his father's five dairy stores in Altoona. In 1961, Bob hired his brother Steve to work part-time at the store. It was not until 1963 that the second store was opened under the name "Sheetz

Kwik Shopper." In 1972, the brothers literally doubled the size of the company, expanding from seven to fourteen stores. One year later, Sheetz added gasoline pumps and introduced self-serve gasoline to Central Pennsylvania.

By 1983, Bob and Steve had opened 100 stores. The following year, Bob retired and handed over the leadership of the company to his trusted business partner and brother Steve. In 1995, Stan Sheetz, Bob's son, became president and Steve assumed the position of Chairman of the Board. To this day, Sheetz maintains a unique and successful family business with five family members serving on the Executive Committee.

Since 1952, Sheetz has grown from a small dairy/deli in Altoona, PA, to one of the fastest growing family-owned convenience stores in the world, with more than 437 locations across six states—Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio and North Carolina—and more than 14,500 employees. The company manufactures its own unique Sheetz brand food products; it consistently is listed as one of the "Best Places to Work" in state surveys; and it donates hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to programs like the Special Olympics and Make-A-Wish Foundation through its corporate Sheetz Family Charities organization.

The Sheetz Family will be honored February 23, 2013 with the Respected Citizen Award by the Central Blair Recreation Commission and the Booker T. Washington Revitalization Committee in Altoona. I congratulate the family on this recognition, applaud them for their extraordinary contributions to the community and thank them for the positive impact their company has on the economy.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF
THE MONSIGNOR FARRELL DIVI-
SION #2 CHAPTER OF THE AN-
CIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, Saturday, February 23, marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Monsignor Farrell Division #2 Chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, located in Carbondale, PA. I rise to congratulate this important Chapter of the Order on this high accomplishment. I also congratulate four founding members of the organization for their foresight in the formation of this Chapter and for their continued support of the work of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. In 1973, Mr. Jerome Brennan, the Honorable James Munley, Attorney Robert Munley and William Pryle founded this Chapter and dedicated it to charitable works, the preservation of Irish culture in America, and the education of the next generation of students about the contributions of Irish immigrants throughout our nation's history.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is America's oldest Irish Catholic Fraternal Organization; it was founded concurrently in the coal-mining regions of Pennsylvania and in New York City in May 1836. The organization provided invaluable support to the vast influx of Irish immigrants fleeing the Great Hunger in

the late 1840s, offering both economic aid as well as an introduction to a new culture of opportunity in America. The members of the Order were among the first to welcome new immigrants to their communities, preserving many of the old traditions of a far-away homeland while simultaneously introducing new traditions that were part of a uniquely American experience.

The Monsignor Farrell Division #2 Chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and its founders exemplify the core principles of charity, concern for our fellow man, and commitment to educating students about the sacrifices and accomplishments of prior generations. On this momentous occasion, please accept my congratulations and my gratitude for your continuing service to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 44 "To eliminate the 2013 statutory pay adjustment for Federal employees" (H.R. 273). Had I been present, I would have voted "No."

HONORING JIM MATTHEWS, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran, John Matthews, Jr. He is a lifelong resident of the Mississippi Delta.

Mr. Matthews was drafted to serve in the United States Army after graduating from Alcorn State University and becoming a licensed educator.

Mr. Matthews served during the time of the Vietnam Conflict and was a member of the 258th Personnel Service Company and the 30th Air Defense Artillery Brigade. He earned the rank of Sergeant Major and after serving our country for 30 years he retired with an Honorable Discharge. Upon completion of his tour of duty, Mr. Matthews returned to the Mississippi Delta and was a business manager, educator and cancer research assistant.

Mr. Matthews has stated that his service to America taught him discipline and leadership skills, and gave him the opportunity to travel and interact with various ethnic groups around the world.

Mr. Matthews wanted to continue his contact with fellow veterans so he became a member of the American Legion Post 206 in Indianola, Mississippi. In 2010 he was elected to serve as Vice Commander of VFW Post 206. He serves in other leadership roles as Chairman of the Sunflower Humphreys Counties Progress, Inc; Head Start Policy Council; Chairman of the Sunflower County Democratic Executive Committee; Community representative of the Sunflower County Crime Stoppers Program and Deacon at Bell Grove Missionary Baptist Church.

Mr. Matthews is married to Ms. Gwendolyn Goines-Matthews. His life motto is from Robert

E. Lee: "First be sure you're right, and then proceed".

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. John Matthews for his dedication to serving our great country.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CAMPUS SEXUAL VIOLENCE ELIMINATION ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I am proud to introduce the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act. This bill will close a gap in current law by requiring universities and colleges to spell out their policies on sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and domestic violence generally. By requiring transparency out of these institutions, this bill will increase awareness for the victimization students face every day on our college campuses.

Sexual and dating violence is a serious problem on our college campuses. Over 13 percent of female undergrads have reported being stalked while at school and one out of every five women in college have reported being sexually assaulted. While these statistics are shocking, what's even more shocking is that only a fraction of these incidents are reported. When these instances of abuse go unreported, our nation's female undergraduate victims never get the support they need.

The Campus SaVE Act would close the gap in current law by requiring institutions of higher education to clearly explain their policies on dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence. Institutions will be required to include in their annual security reports statistics on domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking that were reported to campus police or local police agencies. It will also promote prevention and bystander responsibility by requiring these institutions to develop clear statements of policy regarding domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking prevention programs. Campus SaVE ensures that victims get the help they need by requiring schools to provide clear statements regarding their procedures followed when a case of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking is reported and provide victims an explanation of their rights in writing.

Young people should be able to focus on finding their intellectual passion during these years, not dealing with the mental and physical exhaustion of abuse. The Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act will help ensure our college campuses and universities are safer and I urge my colleagues to support it.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE KHOJALY MASSACRE

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as the United States and Azerbaijan continue

to develop closer relations—relations which have proven immensely valuable to both nations—it is important to take the time to remember the Khojaly Massacre which took place in Azerbaijan 21 years ago, on February 25–26, 1992.

In a period of less than 12 hours, 1,275 Azerbaijanis were tortured and 613 were murdered, including 106 women and 63 children, in the town of Khojaly.

Newsweek described the victims of Khojaly as "ordinary Azerbaijani men, women, and children," separate from the on-going military conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Despite the shocking nature of these events, remembrance of the Khojaly Massacre has become nearly forgotten outside Azerbaijan's borders. This is unconscionable for our country, which has always fought to safeguard the human rights of all people.

In the wake of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, Azerbaijan shared in our grief and pledged to stand by the United States as we brought the perpetrators to justice.

True to their word, Azerbaijan has supported allied efforts against international terrorism by allowing unrestricted access to their territory for aircraft, troops, and supplies, as well as committing their own troops to fight alongside our own.

Just as Azerbaijan has supported our nation in its time of need, so too must we not let the massacre of the 613 Azerbaijani men, women, and children drift into the dim memory of history.

I urge my colleagues to commemorate this terrible tragedy and continue our nation's support for the people of Azerbaijan, our partners in peace and prosperity for the Caspian Region.

HONORING NANCY DAVENPORT-ENNIS ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE PATIENT ADVOCATE FOUNDATION

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my distinguished colleagues from Virginia Representative RIGELL and Representative SCOTT to recognize Nancy Davenport-Ennis, of Yorktown, Virginia, on her retirement 17 years after founding the Patient Advocate Foundation and the National Patient Advocate Foundation. Nancy Davenport-Ennis founded the Patient Advocate Foundation and the National Patient Advocate Foundation in 1996 in honor and memory of her friend, Cheryl Grimm, a breast-cancer patient who was denied coverage for her treatment. Through Nancy Davenport-Ennis' determined leadership the Patient Advocate Foundation and the National Patient Advocate Foundation have provided direct patient assistance to over 965,000 patients with chronic, debilitating and life-threatening conditions who needed help navigating the health care system or finding affordable health care. Additionally, millions of other patients were assisted through web-based informational services.

Nancy Davenport-Ennis knows first-hand of the personal battle of cancer as a two-time

breast cancer survivor. She has eloquently and openly discussed how this experience aided her in establishing a body of work that will continue to help millions of patients long past her retirement. Throughout her exemplary career as a leader in health care policy she has embodied the dignity and integrity of a true patient advocate. I join with my distinguished colleagues in expressing our utmost respect and admiration for her service to Virginians and all Americans.

RECOGNIZING OLIVER EVANS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a remarkable young man, Oliver Evans. He is the younger of two children born to Oliver and Pearlie Evans. Oliver is a graduate of Clarksdale High School, Coahoma Community College and Mississippi Valley State University.

Oliver has been a fireman for four years with the Clarksdale Fire Department. He is certified by the Mississippi State Fire Academy. Saving lives is an emotional, physically fit, and demanding job. Firefighters must always be conscious of their physical ability and responsibility. Oliver received the "Most Physically Fit Award" from the Mississippi State Fire Academy. As a fireman, routine activities and exercises are what help him improve upon his ability to save lives such as checking fire hydrants, appliances, fire equipment, visiting local schools, building inspections and skill enhancement training. The extra training can be challenging and there are always new technologies that you must master. Again, the job is both physically and mentally demanding. You never know what to expect, the normal instinct is to run from danger; a firefighter runs into danger. Oliver said, "I considered myself truly blessed to have the opportunity to affect the lives of others in the way that this job has provided."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Oliver Evans, a committed firefighter and public servant.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 45, "Condemning the Government of North Korea for its flagrant and repeated violations of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions, for its repeated provocations that threaten international peace and stability, and for its February 12, 2013, test of a nuclear device" (H. Res. 65). Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

COMMEMORATING THE KHOJALY TRAGEDY

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, since declaring its independence from the Soviet Union, Azerbaijan has been a reliable friend and valuable ally of the United States in a turbulent region. In this true spirit of friendship, it seems appropriate for Congress to commemorate the victims of the Khojaly tragedy as Azerbaijani people mark the 21st anniversary of this event.

The town of Khojaly is located in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan and was home to some 7,000 Azerbaijani citizens during the Armenian-Azerbaijani war. On February 25 and 26 of 1992, in a period of less than 12 hours, 613 citizens, including women and children, died at the hands of Armenian forces and Russian military troops.

Human rights organizations described the advancing forces as having committed unconscionable acts of violence against civilians as they fled. The bodies of fallen men, women and children were observed by foreign journalists who visited the region in the wake of the tragedy. Given our deepening ties with Azerbaijan, it is important for American citizens to remember this event.

Twenty-one years later, the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict has not yet been fully resolved. The anniversary of this horrible tragedy is an appropriate time to honor the victims of these atrocities and reflect on the need for all parties to work together to bring a swift end to this conflict. I urge my colleagues to join me in standing with Azerbaijanis as they commemorate this tragedy.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH AND DR. YVONNE SCRUGGS-LEFTWICH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Black History Month and to honor and highlight the distinguished career of Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich. Dr. Scruggs-Leftwich's contributions to civil rights, education, and public service have left an indelible mark on our country.

Dr. Scruggs-Leftwich has dedicated the majority of her life to public service. Born in Niagra Falls, New York, she completed her elementary and high school education in Buffalo, New York. After high school, she earned her Bachelor's Degree, with honored distinction, in Political Science from North Carolina Central University. She went on to earn a master's degree in Public Administration from the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota. Finally, Dr. Scruggs-Leftwich earned her Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania. She was also the first African-American to be awarded a prestigious Fulbright Fellowship, which she used to study political science at both the Free University in Berlin, Germany, and the Deutsche Hoch

Schule fur Politik. Her impressive educational background has earned her teaching positions at some of the country's most revered universities, including Howard University, the University of Pennsylvania, and the George Washington University.

Her commitment to public service has been evident as well. Dr. Scruggs-Leftwich has served as Deputy Mayor of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She was also New York State Housing Commissioner under Governor Mario Cuomo and has served as the Executive Director of President Carter's Urban and Regional Policy Group. Here, she worked to issue America's first formal National Urban Policy, a significant accomplishment. Additionally, as the Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of the Black Leadership Forum, Inc., Dr. Scruggs-Leftwich worked tirelessly to facilitate dialogue between the leaders of the African-American community while also working to design opportunities for collaboration across racial lines.

As residents of St. Petersburg, Florida, Dr. Scruggs-Leftwich and her husband, Reverend Edward Leftwich, have launched the Quantum Opportunities after-school program through the Center for Community and Economic Justice. This program works to help at-risk teens become community leaders through tutoring, internship opportunities and training in civic leadership skills. Her unwavering dedication to encouraging a commitment to education and community service with at-risk teens has contributed in countless ways to the Tampa Bay area.

Her impressive volunteer endeavors continue to make Dr. Scruggs-Leftwich's dedication to community service clear. She currently serves as Vice Chair of the Milton S. Eisenhower Foundation's Board of Trustees, Executive Director of the Center for Community and Economic Justice, and is Member at Large of the Black Leadership Forum.

The Tampa Bay Community is proud to recognize Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich for her outstanding career and significant contributions to the fields of education, public policy, and civil and community activism. Her dedication to advancing the rights of others through both public and community service makes her an inspirational leader. I ask that you and all Americans recognize such a remarkable citizen for her dedication to our community and our nation.

TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN CANCER FUND FOR CHILDREN AND KIDS CANCER CONNECTION

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise once again today to recognize and congratulate the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection.

The City of Beverly Hills proclaimed the week of November 18, 2012 "Childhood Cancer Awareness Week." I am pleased to join the City of Beverly Hills in thanking Steven Firestein, the founder of the American Cancer Fund for Children and its sister organization, Kids Cancer Connection for his wonderful work in assisting children affected by cancer.

More than eighteen years ago, Steven began the American Cancer Fund for Children to provide vital patient psychosocial services to children undergoing cancer treatment at the Skull Base Institute at the Cedars-Sinai Medical Office Towers in Los Angeles, Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles as well as participating hospitals throughout the country.

One of the wonderful services provided through the American Cancer Fund for Children is the Magical Caps for Kids program. Hand-made caps and decorated baseball caps are given to children who want to protect their heads following the trauma of chemotherapy, surgery and/or radiation. The American Cancer Fund for Children also sponsors the Courageous Kid award ceremonies and hospital celebrations in recognition of a child's bravery and determination to fight the battle against childhood cancer.

As we know, cancer is the leading cause of death by disease among children in the United States. This tragic disease is detected in nearly 15,000 of our nation's children each year. Steven Firestein and the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection are providing critical services and comfort to young patients battling cancer and their families. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking and recognizing Steven Firestein for his tremendous efforts.

HONORING ROBERT SEATON, SR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a selfless man of the community, Mr. Robert Seaton, Sr.

Robert Seaton is a resident of Sharkey County, Mississippi. He was born December 2, 1944 in Blanton, Mississippi to the late Leola and Oscar Seaton. Mr. Seaton was raised by his grandparents, Ester and Joseph Kelly until 1954, the death of his grandmother.

Mr. Seaton graduated from Rolling Fork School. After graduation he moved to Los Angeles, California where he worked in a bakery downtown. In 1972, he returned to Mississippi. Since his return Robert worked for an auto mechanics shop, served 14 years as a volunteer firefighter in Cary, Mississippi, and served two terms as Alderman in the Town of Cary until he became the Mayor of Cary.

Robert is a member of New Hope M. B. Church in Blanton, Mississippi. He also is a member of the Deer Creek Watershed Executive Board. Mr. Seaton hosts Fire Prevention Week each year for the children of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Robert Seaton, Sr. for his dedication to serving others and giving back to the community he grew up in.

MCILHENNY COMPANY CEO PAUL MCILHENNY PASSES AWAY AT 68

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to commemorate the passing of a great leader in the South Louisiana community who built his family business into a national brand and was known as "The Scion of Spice."

Paul McIlhenny, CEO of the McIlhenny Company and owner of the Tabasco sauce brand, was a true friend and advocate for the state of Louisiana, promoting tourism and Cajun culture abroad while fighting coastal erosion at home. He was passionate about food, an avid hunter, a generous philanthropist and always quick with a joke. He will be dearly missed by the entire community in South Louisiana and remembered as a steadfast advocate for our state. To commemorate Mr. McIlhenny's passing, I request to include an article from the New Orleans Times-Picayune, written by John Pope, in its entirety into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Paul McIlhenny, an ebullient executive who for 14 years led the family-owned company that makes Tabasco sauce and who reigned as Rex in 2006, died Saturday at his New Orleans home, apparently of a heart attack. He was 68.

Mr. McIlhenny, whom The New York Times once called "The Scion of Spice," became the company's president in 1998—the sixth family member to hold that title—and chief executive officer two years later. At his death, he still held the latter position and also was chairman of the board of directors, but a cousin, Anthony "Tony" Simmons, was named president last year.

The company, which was founded by Edmund McIlhenny in 1868 on Avery Island, near New Iberia, sells Tabasco sauce in about 165 countries and has 11 websites outside the United States, in North and South America and Europe.

During Mr. McIlhenny's years at the helm of the McIlhenny Co., he worked aggressively to expand the number of items to which the familiar Tabasco logo could be affixed. They include T-shirts, aprons, neckties, teddy bears and computer screensavers, as well as seven varieties of hot sauce.

In 2009, Queen Elizabeth II granted the company a royal warrant, which entitles it to advertise that it supplies the pepper sauce to the British royal family. In honor of the queen's Diamond Jubilee last year, the company turned out a Tabasco-sauce box for its British market emblazoned with drawings of dozens of diamonds.

In the United States, the company provides hot sauce for Air Force One.

Mr. McIlhenny entered the family business in 1967, shortly after earning a degree in political science at the University of the South in Tennessee.

Despite his passion for all things Louisiana, Mr. McIlhenny was born in Houston in 1944, along with a twin sister, Sara, because their mother was staying there with her mother while the children's father was in the military during World War II, said his daughter Barbara McIlhenny Fitz-Hugh.

Mr. McIlhenny grew up in New Orleans and spent much of his childhood shuttling between New Orleans and the family's compound on Avery Island.

Because of his interest in the wetlands around Avery Island, his passion for hunting

and his mother's membership on a committee concerned with coastal-zone management, Mr. McIlhenny became aware years ago of Louisiana's increasingly fragile coastline. Gov. Mike Foster appointed him to the Governor's Advisory Commission on Coastal Restoration, Protection and Conservation, and he was a vice chairman and board member of the America's Wetland Foundation, whose logo appears on every box of Tabasco sauce sold in the United States.

Although Mr. McIlhenny was serious about coastal restoration and the preservation of Louisiana's wetlands, he generally was a merry man—one friend described him as "Falstaffian"—who strove to inject humor wherever possible.

A few days before he reigned as Rex in 2006, Mr. McIlhenny quipped that if, during the ceremonial toast to the mayor at Gallier Hall, the subject of hot sauce came up, "I'll say that's one form of global warming I'm totally in favor of. We're defending the world against bland food."

He took the throne six months after Hurricane Katrina roared ashore, the city's levees failed and 80 percent of New Orleans was flooded. The Rex den took on about 5 feet of water; watermarks were clearly visible on its floats when the parade rolled.

Because of the storm's impact, some people, including Carnival insiders, had questioned the wisdom of having parades in 2006. Mr. McIlhenny said in a pre-parade interview that the thought never crossed his mind. "If there was any time when we needed distraction, digression, diversion from the grind, it's Mardi Gras," he said, "and if there was any time we ever needed it, it's here. We need to let it all hang out and, in the sense of pre-Lenten revelry, make sure we relax and recreate."

Mr. McIlhenny was president of Bayou Corp., his hunting club in Vermilion Parish; a former president of the New Iberia Rotary Club; a founder and board member of Fuelman/Fleetman Cos. Inc.; a director of the Friends of the National Arboretum; a member of the Marine Military Academy board; and a lifetime sponsor of Ducks Unlimited. He also was a member of the Bohemian Grove, the Avoca Duck Club, the Boston Club, the Louisiana Club, the Recess Club and the Chattooga Club.

In 2010, Mr. McIlhenny was inducted into the James Beard Foundation's Who's Who of Food and Beverage in America. He was an author of a cookbook compiled to mark the McIlhenny Co.'s 125th anniversary.

Survivors include his wife, Judith Goodwin McIlhenny; two daughters, Barbara McIlhenny Fitz-Hugh of New Orleans and Rosemary McIlhenny Dinkins of Nashville, Tenn.; a brother, Gustaf McIlhenny of Maine; a sister, Sara McIlhenny Ringle of Covington; and four grandchildren.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA PRESIDENT BEN ALLEN

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Ben Allen on his retirement as the President of the University of Northern Iowa. On May 31st, President Allen will be retiring after six and a half years of service to the University of Northern Iowa (UNI).

Ben Allen was named the ninth President of UNI on April 28, 2006. Prior to serving at UNI,

President Allen served as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at Iowa State University. President Allen has been a hard-working leader for UNI and the Cedar Valley community. Under President Allen's leadership, UNI has established priorities for increasing student achievement in undergraduate performance, and providing statewide leadership in Pre-K through 12 education.

Ben Allen led UNI through exciting and challenging times. I have always respected Ben's love for the University and his contributions to higher education at both UNI and Iowa State. I'm proud to call Ben my friend and I wish Ben and his wife Pat all the best in their future plans and endeavors.

**HONORING MR. MICHAEL HIGGINS
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS**

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and some sadness that I rise to honor Mr. Michael R. Higgins, a Professional Staff Member of the Armed Services Committee, on the eve of his retirement.

For over forty years, Mike has dedicated himself to his country and the Armed Forces. He served in the United States Air Force for twenty years and retired as Lieutenant Colonel. For the next 23 years, it was our great fortune that he chose the Armed Services Committee as the home for his incredible talents.

Mike served 7 HASC chairmen and 8 subcommittee chairmen, helping to steer our committee through war and peace. His sage advice guided members out of the Cold War and through the sporadic conflicts of the 1990s, social changes both large and small, and a tough 11 years of war. For any analyst looking to answer the question, "How did the all-volunteer military survive those war years?," I would urge them to examine the contributions of Mike Higgins.

When the Pentagon struggled to attract quality recruits, Mike helped improve military recruiting and retention programs. When issues arose with outdated military pay and retirement policies, Mike modernized those systems. When the strains of combat brought in Wounded Warriors to rehabilitate, Mike helped guarantee attention to their needs.

Mike encountered an historic array of challenges to the Armed Forces. Some were structural, some were strategic, and some were social. But Mike's consummate professionalism, commitment to the military people that he loved, and perseverance in the face of the toughest political and policy debates helped us meet each issue with wisdom and experience. For that, I am grateful and in his debt.

His legacy is unmistakable. Whenever the military and Congress found themselves at odds, whenever there was a shared obstacle to overcome, and whenever a member of our committee—Republican or Democrat—needed advice or counsel, Mike was there.

Mike Higgins is a giant. He shaped the service of every man and woman of the Armed Forces over the last two decades. Every mili-

tary retiree, their survivors, and each military family benefited from Mike's commitment to them. Mike will cast a long shadow far beyond his retirement.

His humility is matched only by his intellect, his ability to listen and a fearsome ability to see to the heart of an issue. When oversight is your business, sharp eyes are your sword. And no sword was sharper than that of this modest, unassuming Airman, who served his country with the tenacity of a lion, yet would today be surprised that so much is being made of all that he accomplished. Thank you, Mike.

TRIBUTE TO THE SHAW VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NUMBER ONE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable volunteer fire department in the Mississippi Delta.

The Shaw Volunteer Fire Company Number One was established on November 15, 1921 with Chas F. Hill as Fire Chief, R. V. Farmer as Assistant Chief, and N. L. Chapman as Captain and twenty firemen. Recently, the Shaw Volunteer Fire Department became a part of the Bolivar County Fire Department and is known as District 5. This has increased their service area to surrounding communities and they currently serve 4,000 residents.

Since its establishment, the Shaw Volunteer Fire Department has been a great benefit to the citizens of Shaw by saving many lives, businesses, and personal property. The fire department has been the first responders and rescuers at numerous incidents like automobile, school bus, and natural disasters.

The Shaw Volunteer Fire Department was one of the first departments to have female firefighters. Under the direction of its current Fire Chief, Timothy Caninco and Captain Bernice Boone and 12 firefighters, they have established the Shaw Fire Academy to educate and train youths and adults on fire safety. The fire department has received numerous outstanding performance certifications and awards.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the City of Shaw Volunteer Fire Department for its dedication to serving the citizens of Shaw and responding to call for help within the surrounding area.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 25, 2013

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, on February 4, 2013, through February 6, 2013 I was unable to record my votes for rollcall No.31–No.38. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 31: Yes—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 225.

Rollcall No. 32: Yes—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 297.

Rollcall No. 33: No—Ordering the Previous Question.

Rollcall No. 34: No—On Agreeing to the Resolution.

Rollcall No. 35: Yes—On Agreeing to the Takano Amendment.

Rollcall No. 36: Yes—On Agreeing to the Schrader Amendment.

Rollcall No. 37: Yes—On Motion to Recommit with Instructions.

Rollcall No. 38: Yes—On Passage.

**HONORING THE HONOREES OF THE
OXFORD HILLS CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE AWARDS**

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the recipients of the 2013 Annual Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce Awards. Representing over 400 area businesses and organizations, the Oxford Hills Chamber has been instrumental in advocating for economic growth throughout the greater Oxford County region.

Each year, the Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce honors local businesses, business leaders, and individuals who promote and advance a vital and healthy economic environment. These honorees embody the kind of entrepreneurship and resourcefulness which has helped the state to weather one of the harshest economic climates in American history.

This year's award recipients include Business of the Year, Oxford Casino; Employee of the Year, Steve Holbrook, teacher at Oxford Hills Christian Academy; Rising Star of the Year, ServiceMaster Fire and Water Restoration of Oxford. Additionally, the staff at Responsible Pet Care will receive the Community Service Award.

These 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 to do business.

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

WASHINGTON FIRE COMPANY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Washington Fire Company No. 1, which will celebrate 155 years of service to the Borough of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania and the surrounding counties.

The Washington Fire Company is one of the oldest operations of its kind still servicing Cumberland County. Named after our country's first president, the company was formally constituted on February 22nd, 1858. The town hall was used to house equipment and hold meetings until 1860, when a firehouse was built on East Main Street, a facility the Washington Fire Company still uses to this day.

The Washington Fire Company has been an important force against many historic fires in

the region. Members of their workforce were present at the Thomas Printing fire in 1903, the Grantham Aircraft Engine Works and the Updegraff's Bowling Alley fires in 1956, the Brandtsville Train Wreck in 1963, the Arch Street School fire in 1972, and the fire at Rakestraw's Ice Cream in 1991. They continue to put their lives on the line to protect the people of Cumberland County.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 155 years, the Washington Fire Company has acted as an important asset to the citizens of Mechanicsburg and the surrounding counties. Therefore, I commend the personnel who have faithfully worked to protect our community at this fire house.

**HONORING THE TUTWILER
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Tutwiler Volunteer Fire Department (Tutwiler VFD) located in Tutwiler, Mississippi. The department serves a population of 3,550 citizens.

The Tutwiler VFD is staffed by twelve volunteers tasked with the responsibility of saving lives and responding to emergencies. The staff consists of both full and part time volunteers. Some of the volunteers have been certified by the National Fire Protection Association and/or the State of Mississippi as a highly trained and qualified firefighter and first responder. Volunteer fire departments with trained firefighters are an invaluable asset to rural areas like Tutwiler.

The job of saving lives requires skill, a passion for life, and good equipment. Some of the volunteers work for more than one volunteer fire department because many communities are small and spread apart.

The Tutwiler VFD has a lot of territory to cover. They respond to calls from the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility, the Tallahatchie County School District, and neighboring communities. The correctional facility is a 2800 bed facility, and the school district has a student body of over 800 students. When the Tutwiler VFD staff is not responding to calls, they engage in ongoing community outreach to educate citizens on fire safety measures and techniques.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Tutwiler Volunteer Fire Department for the work they are doing to save lives in the Mississippi Delta.

**TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM P.
DIGGS**

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable theologian and dedicated community servant. Dr. William P. Diggs has retired after 50 years of leading Trinity Baptist Church in Florence, South Carolina. He has set a tremendous example of

stewardship and service for future generations to follow.

Dr. Diggs was born in Columbia, South Carolina, but grew up in Rock Hill. Always a dedicated student, he graduated from Morehouse College, earned a Master of Arts in Sociology from Atlanta University, a Master of Divinity from Colgate-Rochester Divinity School in Rochester, New York, and a Doctor of Ministry from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago.

Educational opportunities took him around the country, but Dr. Diggs longed to return home to South Carolina. Upon his return, he served as Pastor at Flat Rock Baptist Church in Clover, South Carolina, and Galilee Baptist Church in nearby York. In 1962, he truly found a home when he took the position as Pastor of Trinity Baptist Church where he remained until his retirement in December 2012.

During his half-century at Trinity, the church itself grew in size and influence. The improvements to the physical structure included a church manse, a complete renovation of the edifice, and the construction of a new education building. The church also purchased two buildings—Trinity Annex and the Old Seaboard Depot—and secured land for a new parking lot. A new addition which houses a pre-school; additional Sunday school classrooms; meeting rooms; and a fully-equipped kitchen was also built. And in 2010, the church purchased commercial property on North Dargan Street that includes barber shops, beauty salons and a restaurant.

The church's community influence also grew with its size. Dr. Diggs made education a priority and led Trinity Baptist Church to contribute nearly \$35,000 annually to higher education facilities. He also instituted a pre-school which is licensed by the State of South Carolina and has been recognized for its excellence. The church also organized a federally operated credit union, which has assets of almost three million dollars.

Dr. Diggs accomplished quite a lot at Trinity Baptist Church, but his contributions did not stop at the church's door. He served as an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Friendship, Benedict and Morris Colleges for a total of 24 years, and is a former Adjunct Professor at Francis Marion University. He is a sought after speaker having addressed students at Morehouse College, Morehouse School of Religion, Interdenominational Theological Center, Bishop College, the University of South Carolina, Winthrop University and Coker College, and many sermons at churches throughout the country.

He has also contributed his time and talents to other faith-based organizations; serving as Past President and Past Dean of the Congress of Christian Education, Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., and Past Dean of the South Region. He is also a Past Moderator of the Pee Dee Baptist Association, and the Past Dean of the Pee Dee Baptist Workshop.

He has served as a member of the Boards of Trustees at Friendship College, Benedict College, and Morris Colleges, a member of the Boards of Directors at Morehouse School of Religion, the Interdenominational Theological Center, and as a board member of Nannie Helen Burroughs School, the Greater Florence Habitat for Humanity, and the Mayor's Human Relations Committee.

Dr. Diggs is a Life Member of the NAACP, and Past President of the Florence Branch.

He helped to organize the first "sit-in" demonstrations in South Carolina, which occurred on February 12, 1960 in Rock Hill.

Dr. Diggs is the recipient of numerous awards including the Order of the Palmetto in 1996, the highest civilian award given by the Governor of South Carolina. He was inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame in 1998 by 100 Black Men of South Carolina, Inc. and the United Black Fund. The Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce awarded him the Building Bridges Humanitarian Award in 2000. He is also the recipient of the Pee Dee Area Council Boy Scouts of America Whitney Young Award and the AARP Andrus Award for Community Service for the State of South Carolina among many other honors.

Dr. Diggs is married to the former Clotilda Daniels, and the couple has two children—Mary Lynne and William, Jr. (Lennette). They have one grandson, William IV.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in commending Dr. William P. Diggs for his more than 50 years of service in the ministry. His ministry is a living example of Peter's admonition, "As each one has received a special gift, employs it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." I am proud to call Dr. Diggs a dear friend, and I wish him well in retirement.

**HONORING SERGEANT FIRST
CLASS LLOYD CLAUDE "L.C." RICE**

HON. MICK MULVANEY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and mark the passing of Sergeant First Class L.C. Rice, one of my constituents, a highly decorated veteran, and a true servant of our nation.

SFC Rice was born in Greer, SC, in 1923, the son of the late Bunyon Clinton Rice and the late Tenie Jane Beaver Rice. L.C. Rice grew up during the Depression, so after completing the lower grades, he went to work. In January 1941, SFC Rice joined the Navy at the age of 17.

He was a machinist mate stationed on the USS Pennsylvania at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on the morning of December 7, 1941. His ship was in dry dock when it was attacked, and all weapons and ammunition had been removed. SFC Rice spent that day "which shall live in infamy" rescuing the wounded and collecting the dead.

Next, SFC Rice was sent on a secret mission to deliver the cruiser USS Milwaukee to the Russians. His family could not be told where he was, and he was gone for so long they believed him missing in action. Later, he was stationed on a ship off the coast of Normandy, which was torpedoed and sank beneath him. Although he was hit by shrapnel, he swam through the debris and made it to shore, rescuing others along the way. Once on land, L.C. was given a rifle and helped fight against the Nazis. During World War II, he served both in naval and ground combat in both the Pacific and the European theatres. SFC Rice also participated in the Pacific Island campaigns and was part of the atomic bomb tests at the Bikini Atoll in 1946. For his service to our nation, SFC Rice was awarded the Purple Heart.

After his service in the Navy, SFC Rice joined the Army's 82nd Airborne and became a master parachutist, drill sergeant and jumpmaster, completing more than 1500 jumps. He served two combat tours in Korea and won a bronze star for bravery. SFC Rice was instrumental in forming the Army's "Golden Knights" official parachute team, and was one of the first military advisors sent to South Vietnam during the Vietnam War to train their soldiers. SFC Rice also trained soldiers at Fort Jackson and Fort Bragg.

SFC Rice retired from active duty in 1963 and from reserve duty in 1973, after 32 years of military service during three separate wars. SFC Rice is York County's most decorated soldier. After retirement, L.C. devoted nearly all his time to the Rock Hill VFW, the American Legion, the Honor Guard, and to veterans in general.

SFC Rice was interred with full military honors on February 15, 2013, in Rock Hill, SC. L.C. Rice was the widower of Jeanie Rice and Edna "Jan" Biles Rice. He was the last survivor of 11 children, six sisters and four brothers. He is survived by 11 nieces, 10 nephews, and many loyal friends and devoted caregivers.

L.C. Rice was an American Hero. He was truly on the front lines of the generation that saved America and the World. We will remember L.C. not only for his bravery and service to our country, but more importantly, as a dear friend. My thoughts and prayers are with L.C.'s family and for all those who knew him and share in the pain of his loss.

HONORING JERRY BARBER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a courageous volunteer firefighter, Mr. Jerry Barber.

Aside from being a volunteer firefighter, Mr. Barber is a member of the Leland High School Class of 1978, the cook for the Leland High School Booster Club, and also a carpenter.

Mr. Barber got his inspiration to be a volunteer firefighter from former Chief James Hasting of Leland, Mississippi. Mr. Barber thought he was brave and wanted to be like him. So, he started asking Chief Hasting about being a firefighter. Chief Hasting told him, "it's not about the money, it's about the life and property you save for others".

In 2006, Chief Michael Johnson of the Leland Fire Department hired Mr. Barber as a volunteer firefighter, where he is still employed. Since then he has taken great pride in being a fireman through training and certification. He is certified in Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). He is also trained and licensed to drive fire trucks along with mechanical knowledge and equipment maintenance of the truck. In addition to that, Mr. Barber has undergone training in other fire equipment operation and safety. Mr. Barber has climbed the ranks since 2006 to become the Assistant Chief of the Leland Fire Department.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Jerry Barber for his dedication and passion to serving the city of Leland, Mississippi.

CONGRATULATING INAUGURATION
OF MADAM PRESIDENT PARK
GEUN-HYE, SOUTH KOREA'S
FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join millions of people across the world in congratulating Madam President Park Geun-hye as she ascends to the Presidency. This historic occasion of swearing in a female to the head of government reflects the tremendous leaps that The Republic of Korea has made to become a shining example of one of the most successful democracies in the world. South Korea has emerged from the ashes of war into a giant in Asia and throughout the international community.

As we commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Armistice and the mutual military treaty, I am pleased to reaffirm my commitment to strengthening the bloodshed U.S.-Korea alliance in my capacity as a Member of the U.S. Congress. South Korea is among the closest allies of the United States, having contributed troops in support of United States operations during the Vietnam war, Gulf war, and operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, while also supporting numerous United Nations peacekeeping missions throughout the world.

In addition to being a major military ally to the United States, South Korea is our nation's seventh-largest trading partner. As the Ranking Member of House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade, I look forward to working with President Park's Administration to implement the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement.

As a Korean War Veteran, I could not be more proud to witness today's Dynamic Korea. Seoul's skyscrapers, booming businesses and rising apartment buildings are a testament to the resiliency and determination of the Korean people. I send my best wishes to President Park and applaud the people and country that will always hold a special place in my heart.

TRIBUTE TO LLOYD ANDRE ROLLINS

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Lloyd Andre Rollins of Columbus, Ohio. A true American hero, Mr. Rollins' service here on earth came to a close on January 30, 2013. An Ohioan and veteran of the United States Air Force, he is among the countless number of fearless warriors and veterans who have devoted their lives to serving our great nation.

In 1957, Mr. Rollins began his service in the United States Air Force. He was later transferred to the Department of State and sworn into the U.S. Foreign Service, where he served for 27 years. Mr. Rollins was awarded a Medal of Valor after he was taken hostage during the 1979 siege of the United States Embassy in Tehran, Iran.

Mr. Rollins is survived by his wife, Judy, and his two daughters, Patricia and Terri. As I pray

for the family and friends of Mr. Rollins, I ask that all Members of Congress join me in offering our deepest appreciation and gratitude for his life and service to this country.

TRIBUTE TO DEAN DANIEL JOHN MEADOR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a distinguished Alabamian who made many valuable contributions to the study of law both in his home State and in the state of Virginia. Daniel John Meador, a retired University of Virginia law professor and former dean of the University of Alabama Law School, recently passed away at the age of 86.

Professor Meador was born in Selma, Alabama in 1926. He attended The Citadel and later graduated from Auburn University and the University of Alabama Law School. He pursued graduate study at the Harvard Law School where he received the degree of Master of Laws in 1954.

During the Korean War, he served in the U.S. Army, first in the artillery and then in the Judge Advocate General's Corps in Korea. From 1954 to 1955, he was law clerk to Justice Hugo L. Black of the U.S. Supreme Court. He then entered law practice in Birmingham with the firm of Lange, Simpson, Robinson, and Somerville. In 1957 he joined the law faculty at the University of Virginia. From 1965 to 1966, he was a Fulbright Lecturer in England.

His deanship at the University of Alabama Law School from 1966 to 1970 came at a time of transition in the School's development. With the backing of the University president, Dr. Frank Rose, he was successful in greatly increasing financial support for the school from its alumni and others. Under his leadership the law library collection was doubled, the curriculum expanded, new faculty recruited, and a program of visiting professors and lecturers inaugurated. He was instrumental in obtaining for the school a chapter of Order of the Coif, the national legal honor society. He initiated plans for a new law school building, completed a decade later.

In 1970, he rejoined the University of Virginia law faculty as James Monroe Professor of Law, a position he held until his retirement in 1994. At the University of Virginia he received the Raven Award, Alumni Association Distinguished Professor Award, and the Thomas Jefferson Award, the University's highest honor.

From 1977 to 1979, he was an Assistant Attorney General in the U.S. Department of Justice, heading a new office entitled the Office for Improvements in the Administration of Justice. One of his most significant accomplishments there was the development of the bill that Congress enacted to create the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the Court of Federal Claims.

Dean Meador was the founding president of the Cahaba Foundation, a non-profit corporation dedicated to securing private financial support for the state historical park at Cahaba, Alabama's first State capital. He took a deep personal interest in Cahaba because his mother's family lived and conducted extensive

farming operations there for three generations, and he spent much time there in his childhood. He recounted all of this in a memoir, *At Cahaba—From Civil War to Great Depression*. For his preservation efforts in Cahaba he received the distinguished service award from the Alabama Historical Commission.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, I wish to offer condolences to his wife, Alice, and their three children—Barrie Meador Boyd; Anna Meador Palms; Daniel J. Meador Jr., seven grandchildren, and a brother, Dr. Clifton K. Meador, former dean of the University of Alabama Medical School.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 27

10 a.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine animal drug user fee agreements, focusing on advancing animal health for the public health.

SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the assault weapons ban of 2013.

SH-216

Committee on Rules and Administration

Business meeting to markup the Omnibus Budget for Senate committees.

SR-301

2 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Jane Kelly, of Iowa, to be

United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

SR-328A

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the power of transparency, focusing on giving consumers the information they need to make smart choices in the health insurance market.

SR-253

3 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine strengthening Medicare for today and the future.

SD-106

FEBRUARY 28

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Alan F. Estevez, of the District of Columbia, to be Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Frederick Vollrath, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Readiness and Force Management, and Eric K. Fanning, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine addressing the Federal Housing Administration's (FHA), financial condition and program challenges, part II.

SD-538

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 150, to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, S. 54, to increase public safety by punishing and deterring firearms trafficking, S. 374, to ensure that all individuals who should be prohibited from buying a firearm are listed in the national instant criminal background check system and require a background check for every firearm sale, S. 146, to enhance the safety of America's schools, and the nominations of David Medine, of Maryland, to be Chairman and Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, Shelly Deckert Dick, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Louisiana, William H. Orrick, III, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California,

Nelson Stephen Roman, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Sheri Polster Chappell, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, Kenneth John Gonzales, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico, Michael J. McShane, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon, and Nitza I. Quinones Alejandro, Luis Felipe Restrepo, and Jeffrey L. Schmehl, all to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

SD-216

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine a legislative presentation of Military Officer Association of America, Retired Enlisted Association, Non Commissioned Officers Association, Blinded Veterans Association, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Wounded Warrior Project, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and American Ex-Prisoners of War.

SD-G50

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the state of the United States economy, focusing on economic growth and job creation, and what Congress can do to boost them.

SH-216

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine delivery system reform, focusing on a progress report from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

SD-215

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

MARCH 7

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Sarah Jewell, of Washington, to be Secretary of the Interior.

SD-366

POSTPONEMENTS

FEBRUARY 28

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the future of passenger rail, focusing on what's next for the Northeast Corridor.

SR-253