

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, Martin Luther King was one of the fathers of the civil rights movement. We honor him for his courage, for his sacrifice, and for his life-long commitment to justice and equality for all.

Dr. King taught us that silence in the face of injustice only serves to fuel the fires of prejudice and hatred. He said that "in the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends." Dr. King's message has become the conscience of our country, reminding us that it is our responsibility to stand up and speak out in the face of racial, gender, and religious discrimination.

Forty years after his assassination, we are still working to ensure that Dr. King's dream of equality will one day be fully realized by all in our great Nation. On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, as we celebrate the life and legacy of a great American hero and international symbol of justice and equality, we must not forget that there is still tremendous work to be done.

Dr. King was a passionate fighter for social justice and equality. In my judgment he would be disappointed that on any given night there are 800,000 Americans living in the streets of life. He would be disappointed that there are 37 million Americans living in poverty, including 3.4 million in Texas. He would be disappointed that 47 million Americans are without health insurance, including 4.1 million in Texas. These are the offspring of the kinds of injustices that Dr. King had in mind when he proclaimed "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Together, I believe we can fight the evils of social injustice and work to create a brighter future for all Americans. It has fallen on to us to make Dr. King's dream a reality by standing up, and by all means, speaking out.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN BAIRD

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, on January 22 and January 23, 2008, I was not present for votes. I take my voting responsibility very seriously. Had I been present, I would have voted the following: rollcall vote 19—H.R. 4211 (on motion to suspend the rules and pass): "yea"; rollcall vote 20—H. Res. 866 (on motion to suspend the rules and pass): "yea"; rollcall vote 21—H.R. 3963 (on ordering the previous question): "yea"; and rollcall vote 22—H.R. 3963 (passage, objections of the President not withstanding): "yea."

CONGRATULATING LAURA
JOHNSON

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Laura Johnson of Larkspur, Colorado. Ms. Johnson teaches English as a foreign language while attending the University of Denver and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Ms. Johnson and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JILL MUETH OF ST.
LOUIS, MO

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jill Mueth from St. Louis, Missouri and to congratulate her on her nomination as 2008 School Counselor of the Year award.

Jill is a dedicated school counselor at LaSalle Springs Middle School in St. Louis, Missouri.

Out of the several hundred nominations the American School Counselor Association, ASCA, received, Jill is one of 10 finalists to be honored at the First Annual School Counselor of the Year Awards Dinner on Friday, February 1.

ASCA's School Counselor of the Year program honors school counselors who are running a superior, comprehensive school counseling program at the elementary, middle or high school level. Through a highly competitive selection process, finalists were chosen from a panel of judges representing principals, district offices, school boards and chief state school officers.

I thank Jill for her service to the community and congratulate her on her nomination.

TRIBUTE TO THE OAK RIDGE
NATIONAL LABORATORY

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), which continues to be recognized for its critical work on environmental issues. The United Nations and the World Meteorological Organization's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) are co-winner of this year's Nobel Peace Prize, "for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change," according to the Nobel announcement. The IPCC has benefited from the contributions of ORNL in several areas, from scientific research and policy studies to state-of-the-art tools and facilities.

Several ORNL researchers are co-authors, and in some cases, lead authors on IPCC studies and documents as part of a global effort to assess the realities and risks of human-induced global climate change on the basis of peer reviewed and published scientific literature. The IPCC Fourth Assessment Report produced four reports in 2007 that featured the involvement of ORNL scientists such as Corporate Fellows Tom Wilbanks and David Greene, and the Environmental Sciences Division's Paul Hanson, Virginia Dale and Gregg Marland.

A very significant portion of the IPCC's study involved modeling of how climate change will affect a variety of important human and economic factors, from temperature to electrical costs. The scientific discovery for applications such as climate change modeling and simulation would not be possible without ORNL advanced computing capabilities, due to the enormous scale and complexity of climate data collected. ORNL's Center for Computational Sciences, home of the world's most powerful supercomputer for open science, ran the extremely complex models and provided infrastructure for more than one-third of the total U.S. contribution to the IPCC report.

The climate study is the culmination of a six-year international effort. Regardless of one's views on climate change, there is no question that ORNL's computing resources and its human resources provided significant contributions to the IPCC. I am proud to honor the research that ORNL generates on an ongoing basis, but especially pleased to honor the leadership and commitment of everyone at ORNL for the efforts that contributed to the Nobel Peace Prize for 2007.

• 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.

IN RECOGNITION OF SACRAMENTO'S BUSINESS LEADERS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize many of Sacramento's outstanding businesses and business leaders that were honored at the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce's 113th annual dinner and business awards ceremony. The men and women that were honored last Friday are dedicated to the success of Sacramento and have worked tirelessly to advance the region's economic vitality. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring these fine Sacramentans.

Dave Lucchetti, president and chief operating officer of Pacific Coast Building Products was named "Sacramentan of the Year." Besides running a highly successful, multi-faceted company, Dave is a true civic leader and this award could not go to a more deserving individual. He has donated his time to a number of worthy causes, including Big Brothers, Big Sisters, the Sacramento Region Community Foundation and the Wind Youth Center, among many others.

Winnie Comstock-Carlson was named "Businesswoman of the Year" for her exemplary work as president and publisher of "Comstock's Magazine." The business magazine that she publishes was recently given the "Best of the West" award by the Western Publication Association. Tom Gagen, chief executive officer of Sutter Medical Center, was named "Businessman of the Year," as Sutter Medical Center is undergoing a major expansion that will improve medical care for local residents for decades to come. E-VentExe, a human resources firm, led by Craig Stevenson was honored as Small Business of the Year.

Other awards that were given out include "Volunteer of the Year" to David Hosely, president and general manager of KVIE, our local public television station. Allen Warren, chief executive officer of New Faze Development, received the "Al Geiger Award" for his work as a role model for others to follow in investing in disadvantaged neighborhoods. The "Peter McCuen Award of Civic Entrepreneurs" went to Jim Williams of Williams and Paddon Architects. Jim recently served as co-chair of the region-wide economic development initiative Partnership for Prosperity. Burnie Lenau, owner of Lawnman Inc., was named the Metro Chamber's "Ambassador of the Year."

At the annual dinner four local companies were also inducted into the Sacramento Business Hall of Fame. Being inducted were Harbison-Mahony-Higgins Builders, Inc., John F. Otto, Inc., Golden One Credit Union, and the Niello Company. These companies literally build, finance, and drive the Sacramento region.

Also being honored was outgoing Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce board chairman John Lambeth. I have had the privilege of working closely with John on our region's flood protection needs and his leadership was greatly appreciated. An equally talented leader, Michael Jacobson of Intel Corporation, is the incoming board chairman. Michael has been a wonderful advocate on high-tech and workforce issues and I look forward to working closely with him.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize these individuals and businesses for their eco-

nomical and civic contributions to the Sacramento Region. On behalf of the people of Sacramento and the Fifth Congressional District of California, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their unwavering commitment to our region.

CONGRATULATING AMANDA HILTON

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Amanda Hilton of Castle Rock, Colorado. Ms. Hilton teaches English as a foreign language while attending Colby College and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Ms. Hilton and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

HOPE VI IMPROVEMENT AND REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 17, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3524) to reauthorize the HOPE VI program for revitalization of severely distressed public housing, and for other purposes:

Mr. COHEN. Madam Chairman, the HOPE VI program in the Department of Housing and Urban Development is a vital program that aims to improve public housing. The HOPE VI Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2007 not only extends HOPE VI, but makes important changes to the program to ensure that affordable housing is available to more people who are in need.

The one-for-one replacement included in the bill will keep the same number of units available for public housing if an existing building is scheduled to be demolished. The reauthorization bill also includes language to allow HOPE VI participants to re-enroll in the program under the same guidelines as other public housing residents of the revitalized development.

The reauthorization bill brings the HOPE VI program into the 21st century with the provision that requires all replacement housing to meet Green Communities standards and non-residential structures to comply with LEED standards. With so much focus on climate change and energy conservation, it is only fitting for the government to address these issues through its departments, agencies, and programs.

I am proud to be a co-sponsor of H.R. 3524 and proud to support the bill today.

IN HONOR OF ROBERT ORD

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend a distinguished career of public service. On February 1, LTG Robert Ord will be retiring as the Dean of the School of International Graduate Studies at the Naval Postgraduate School.

After 34 illustrious years in the U.S. Army, culminating as the commanding general of the U.S. Army Pacific, Bob Ord joined the faculty at the Naval Postgraduate School, bringing his wealth of military experience and relationships from the halls of the Pentagon to one of the most significant graduate military education programs in the Nation. The School of International Graduate Studies addresses current and emerging global security challenges by providing U.S. military and international students with a graduate education in foreign policy, international relations and security cooperation.

Having been a former Peace Corps volunteer in Colombia from 1964–66, I have a deep appreciation for the programs in the SIGS department that focus on the need for security building. Two programs of special interest to me are the Leader Development and Education for Sustained Peace and the Center for Stabilization and Reconstruction Studies. Both of these programs address a gap I identified while serving in the Peace Corps—the need to have greater cross-cultural awareness in our security building programs; and, the importance of bringing stabilization and reconstruction stakeholders together in the classroom before they work together in an operational environment. Along with the Center for Homeland Security and Defense, the only Department of Homeland Security-sponsored master's degree program, SIGS is at the cutting edge of 21st century security and homeland defense challenges.

The most recent jewel in this crown of programs at the School of International Graduate Studies is the Global Center for Security Cooperation. Continuing as director of the center, Bob Ord brings dynamic leadership and breadth of experience to ensure the successful coordination of DOD international education programs.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to call Bob Ord a friend and I wish him well in the next chapter of his storied life.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL JOSHUA C. BLANEY

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor CPL Joshua C. Blaney. On December 12, 2007, CPL. Joshua C. Blaney of Matthews, North Carolina, passed away. He was a member of the 173rd Airborne in Vicenza,

Italy, and was serving his country in Afghanistan when his convoy was hit by an IED.

Corporal Blaney paid the ultimate sacrifice for his country and his life should be remembered. He entered combat in northern Iraq on March 26, 2003, which opened the northern front and led to the ouster of Saddam Hussein from power. He was wounded in Iraq and received the Purple Heart. Corporal Blaney served two tours in Afghanistan and received the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He was a true patriot and is an inspiration to all of us. He fought for our freedom and we owe it to him and his family to keep his memory alive.

HONORING TOM QUINN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Tom Quinn upon being named the 2008 Conservationist of the Year. Mr. Quinn will be recognized at TuCare's Annual Dinner and Auction in Sonoma, CA on January 19, 2008.

Tom Quinn received his bachelor's degree from Rutgers University in 1977. He then went on to receive a master's degree in forest management from the University of Idaho, and a Ph.D. in natural resources policy, management and administration from Michigan State University. Mr. Quinn taught forestry at the University of Idaho until 1981, when he joined the United States Forest Service.

Mr. Quinn has served 27 years with the Forest Service. He began his Forest Service career in Oregon at the Malheur National Forest. He has also worked at Boise National Forest in Idaho, Olympic National Forest in Washington, Coronado National Forest in Arizona, Santa Fe National Forest in New Mexico and Stanislaus National Forest in California. Mr. Quinn has served in many different capacities with the Forest Service, including planning, recreation, wilderness, fire and lands staff, acting district ranger, district ranger and primary staff officer.

Currently, Mr. Quinn is the Forest Supervisor for the Stanislaus National Forest headquartered in Sonoma, CA. In this position, he has been able to work effectively with the public, various organizations, forest employees, and Government agencies in order to discuss alternatives to off-highway recreation vehicle use adjacent to urban areas. He has also worked to develop a 5-year vegetation management plan to help reduce the risk of fire. This plan will help to increase the volume of timber to local mills. He has been working with stake holders on the issue of grazing, recreation and other national forest programs. Mr. Quinn has a long history of helping the Forest Service improve customer service and program performance by working with all of those that play a role in, and around, the Forest Service. Recently, Mr. Quinn was named Forest Supervisor for the Tahoe National Forest headquartered in Nevada City, CA.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mr. Tom Quinn upon being awarded with "The Conservationist of the Year." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Quinn many years of continued success.

IN MEMORY OF MABEL CLAIRE
MADDREY

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Mabel Claire Maddrey, who passed away on Monday, January 14, 2008, at the tender age of 100. In her passing, North Carolina lost a heroine and a woman who was instrumental in her community, county, and State.

A native of Ahoskie, NC, Mabel was born on April 27, 1907, the daughter of Charlie C. Hoggard and Tulie E. Hoggard. She graduated from Meredith College in 1928 and from Columbia University with a masters degree in History in 1929. In 1931, she married Charles Gordon Maddrey. She remained active at Meredith College her entire life and was named a trustee emerita and was a recipient of Outstanding Alumna Award. She was the first chairperson of Meredith College Heritage Society—Planned Giving—and established the Mabel Claire Maddrey Scholarship Fund. She was very proud of being instrumental in the planning, design and fund-raising of Jones Chapel, dedicated in 1982. Meredith College honored her by dedicating the Mabel Claire Maddrey Parlor in the Alumnae House.

She was past president of the North Carolina Baptist Women's Missionary Union and in the 1950s was the first woman to be elected nationwide to the Southern Baptist Convention Board. She was a gifted speaker and spoke in numerous Baptist churches throughout North Carolina. She served as a deaconess in both First Baptist Church of Ahoskie and First Baptist Church of Raleigh. In July 1998, she was featured on the front page of the New York Times in front of First Baptist Church, Raleigh, in an article about Baptist churches withdrawing from the Southern Baptist Convention because of its positions on women and their role in the Baptist Church.

She was active in the N.C. Federation of Women's Clubs for over 60 years and served as State president and as a past president of the Raleigh Woman's Club. A parlor in the Raleigh Woman's Club building is named in her honor. Politically, she has been chairperson for North Carolina women for a major gubernatorial candidate, chairperson for North Carolina women for a major Presidential candidate and past president of the Democratic Women of Wake County. In the late 1960s, she initiated the highly popular annual Jefferson-Jackson Day breakfast, hosted by Democrats of Wake County, which is held annually. She was a past president and member of the Sir Walter Cabinet for over 50 years. She was a past member of the North Carolina Economic Development Board and a director of the North Carolina Museum of Natural History. Mrs. Maddrey was the recipient of the Governor's Award for Distinguished Service, inductee in Raleigh's YWCA Academy of Women and North Carolina Council for Women Distinguished Women Award. She has been featured as a News & Observer Tar Heel of the Week.

On the occasion of her 90th birthday, Governor James B. Hunt, Jr., proclaimed that day Mabel Claire Maddrey Appreciation Day and the proclamation stated in part, "Mabel Claire

Maddrey embodies the spirit of public service and neighbor helping neighbor, inspiring the best in others, and Whereas Mabel Claire Maddrey personifies dignity, grace and perfection in all her endeavors and Whereas Mabel Claire Maddrey continues to serve the people of North Carolina and cares deeply about the community and the State." Mabel was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Gordon Maddrey. She is survived by her children, Charles H. Maddrey and wife, Rose Maddrey, Joseph G. Maddrey and wife, Elizabeth Maddrey; and 4 grandchildren, Charles Gordon Maddrey II, Gregory Hoggard Maddrey, Claire Webb Maddrey and Joseph Huntley Maddrey.

Madam Speaker, Mabel Claire Maddrey had a commitment to excellence in everything she did, and she had a way of bringing out excellence in everyone around her. Mabel was a respected and a successful dedicated public servant, and a great North Carolinian. It is fitting that we honor her and her family today.

CONGRATULATING JANE
ERICKSON

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Jane Erickson of Castle Rock, Colorado. Ms. Erickson teaches English as a foreign language while attending Hobart and William Smith Colleges and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Ms. Erickson and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE 35TH
ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commemorate the 35th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade, a United States Supreme Court decision that broadened women's rights nationwide.

On January 22, 1973, three years after "Jane Roe" was denied an abortion in a Texas district court, the Supreme Court decided that the Fourteenth Amendment right of personal privacy was broad enough to cover a woman's decision whether to terminate her pregnancy. The Texas statute proscribed all abortions not necessary "for the purpose of

saving the life of the mother.” “Jane Roe”, or Norma McCorvey, desired an abortion because she was raped; however, her rights were firmly denied in the Texas courts. Her case made it to the Supreme Court by way of an appeal in 1971. The case was argued twice before the Supreme Court because Associate Justice William Rehnquist initially missed part of the arguments. After great debate and deliberation, the Supreme Court struck down the Texas statute as unconstitutional. The decision was made in favor of Roe by a vote of 7 to 2, with Justices William Rehnquist and Byron White dissenting. Justice Harry Blackmun wrote the opinion of the court declaring that it is a woman’s constitutional right to decide whether to carry a pregnancy to term. The court ordered that the performance of an abortion should not be criminalized and also ordered that access to an abortion should not be restricted, limited or unnecessarily difficult.

The 35th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade is a momentous occasion because it symbolizes the notion of liberty and justice for all people under the constitution. Women have historically been deprived of equal rights and liberty, but this court decision brought a new day for all women. I respectfully commemorate the anniversary of Roe v. Wade.

IN HONOR OF REV. DR. ROSS
OLIVIER

HON. CHARLES W. “CHIP” PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. PICKERING. Madam Speaker, as we start this New Year, I would like to recognize the service of a special and gifted man who has touched the hearts of Mississippi. On July 4, 2004, the congregation of Galloway Methodist Church in Jackson, Mississippi was blessed with Reverend Ross Olivier as he delivered his first sermon. Sunday, January 13, 2008, his tenure ended and he preached his last message. Ross will travel back home to South Africa to be with his family.

Ross Olivier came to Mississippi in 2004 through a partnership with the Mississippi Conference and the Methodist Church of Southern Africa. He entered Methodist ministry in 1980 and at the end of training received the Flowerday Memorial Award as the outstanding ordinand in the Methodist Church of Southern Africa. He was appointed parish minister to the Heidelberg Circuit and was responsible for 24 racially and culturally diverse congregations. Throughout this time of ministry he touched and healed a broken community during some of the harshest years of the Apartheid era of Southern Africa. In 1994, he traveled throughout six countries, serving the MCSA with a Journey to a New Land, an initiative to refocus the mission of the church in the post-Apartheid years. Later in 1997, he became senior pastor of Northfield Church serving a congregation of 5,000 members. Two years later he was elected to serve the MCSA as General Secretary of 4,500 congregations and 25 million Methodists in Southern Africa.

This challenging, yet gratifying career path gave him a respect for the differences in culture and the tools along with the expertise he

needed to reshape the Galloway Methodist Church community in Jackson. To Mississippi he brought an open and compassionate heart. He strived to form a more inclusive church, one where all are welcomed into the house of the Lord. Through partnerships, he taught that the church could transcend barriers and that the focus should be on economic and social interest, not the color of your skin. He brought transformation, healing, and reconciliation to the state of Mississippi by using the church as a bridge between diverse communities. Reverend Olivier was also very instrumental in bringing about a Faith and Politics Institute pilgrimage to Mississippi. This journey will be co hosted by Congressman BENNIE THOMPSON and myself in late March of this year. It is my hope that Ross will be able to join us then to experience firsthand the fruits of his labor.

Madam Speaker, Reverend Ross Olivier has been an inspiration to Mississippi and to me. He taught a love and responsibility for community; we each have a role that we must honor and uphold. His teachings will be remembered and he will be greatly missed by his congregation and all who knew him. As he journeys back to South Africa to lead a congregation in Pretoria, the lives he touched in Mississippi will remain forever changed and grateful.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, because the end of the hour grows close, I would now come before this body with a sunset memorial. We intend to repeat this from time to time to chronicle the loss of life by abortion on demand in this country.

Madam Speaker, it is January 28, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun sets today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand just today.

Exactly 35 years today, the tragic judicial fiat called Roe v. Wade was handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million children. Madam Speaker, that is more than 16,000 times the number of innocent lives lost on September 11.

Each of the 4,000 children that we lost today had at least four things in common. They were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone. And each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each of their mothers, whether she realizes it immediately or not, will never be the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever.

Madam Speaker, those noble heroes lying in frozen silence out in Arlington National Cemetery did not die so America could shred her own Constitution, as well as her own children, by the millions. It seems that we are never quite so eloquent as when we decry the genocidal crimes of past generations, those who allowed their courts to strip the Black man and the Jew of their constitutional personhood, and then proceeded to murder-

ously desecrate millions of these, God’s own children.

Yet even in the full glare of such tragedy, this generation clings to blindness and invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims to date, those yet unborn.

Perhaps it is important for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves again of why we are really all here.

Thomas Jefferson said, “The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government.”

Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here. It is our sworn oath. The phrase in the 14th amendment encapsulates our entire Constitution. It says: “No state shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law.”

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the declaration, not the casual notion, but the declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core self-evident truth. It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. It is who we are.

And yet today, Madam Speaker, in this body we fail to honor that commitment. We fail our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 innocent American babies who died without the protection we should have given them.

Madam Speaker, I believe that this discussion presents this Congress and the American people with two destiny questions.

The first that all of us must ask ourselves is very simple: Does abortion really kill a baby? If the answer to that question is “yes,” there is a second destiny question that inevitably follows. And it is this, Madam Speaker: Will we allow ourselves to be dragged by those who have lost their way into a darkness where the light of human compassion has gone out and the predatory survival of the fittest prevails over humanity? Or will America embrace her destiny to lead the world to cherish and honor the God-given miracle of each human life?

Madam Speaker, it has been said that every baby comes with a message, that God has not yet despaired of mankind. And I mourn that those 4,000 messages sent to us today will never be heard. Madam Speaker, I also have not yet despaired. Because tonight maybe someone new, maybe even someone in this Congress, who heard this sunset memorial will finally realize that abortion really does kill a baby, that it hurts mothers more than anyone else, and that nearly 50 million dead children in America is enough. And that America is great enough to find a better way than abortion on demand.

So tonight, Madam Speaker, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are numbered and that all too soon each of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on another day yet to come, may that be the day that we hear the cries of the unborn at last. May that be the day we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect the least of these, our

tiny American brothers and sisters, from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

This is a sunset memorial, Madam Speaker. It is January 28, 2008, in the land of free and the home of the brave.

CONGRATULATING JAMES LONG

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. James Long of Littleton, Colorado. Mr. Long is a student of political science at the University of California, San Diego and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Mr. Long and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF THE CENTER FOR
HOMELAND DEFENSE AND SECURITY
AT THE NAVAL POSTGRADUATE
SCHOOL, MONTEREY,
CALIFORNIA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to advise my colleagues of the 5th anniversary of the Center for Homeland Defense and Security, located at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. NPS has always been at the forefront of military graduate education for all the military Services and no more so than 5 years ago, when the School was selected by the Department of Homeland Security to fill a critical gap in graduate level education for our current and future leaders of homeland defense and security.

Since 2002, the Center has graduated nearly 200 students from the ranks of our Nation's first responders—public health, law enforcement, fire, emergency management and other disciplines that make up homeland security, and from almost every State in the country. The highly competitive application process and the rigorous academic excellence of the master's degree program ensures that Center graduates are having a significant impact on protecting the Nation. Moreover, the success of the Center in Monterey compelled the Department of Homeland Security in June 2007 to establish the DHS Homeland Security Academy in the National Capital Region. NPS was again called upon by DHS to replicate the Center's success by providing faculty and cur-

riculum for DHS employees at the second site in West Virginia. At that time, FEMA Administrator Paulson said the following, "The NPS master's program has a proven track record of building a national network of leaders who work across agency and jurisdictional lines to solve problems and protect the American people. We are very pleased to be able to leverage this successful program and offer more opportunity for DHS employees to learn in a setting that mirrors homeland security across the Nation."

Success has many fathers and I would like to pay special tribute to two former NPS leaders who were instrumental in bringing the Center to NPS—Provost Dick Elster and Associate Provost Paul Stockton. Their recognition that NPS offers a highly qualified, multi-disciplinary academic faculty, together with Dr. Stockton's willingness to do the hard work necessary to develop a Homeland Security master's degree curriculum—literally from scratch—coupled with the school's inherent relationships with the COCOMS—in this instance NORTHCOM—reinforced former Secretary Ridge's decision to select the Naval Postgraduate School for one of our Nation's most important homeland security education missions.

There are many other partners, stakeholders, and sponsors who have influenced the success of the Center and who deserve recognition, including current Center Director Glen Woodbury and David O'Keefe, who leads the DHS Homeland Security Academy in Shepherdstown, WV, along with the current president of NPS, Admiral Oliver and Provost Dr. Ferrari. All of these folks will continue to lead the Center into the future with the same success that has been achieved in these last 5 years.

HOPE VI IMPROVEMENT AND
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 17, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3524) to reauthorize the HOPE VI program for revitalization of severely distressed public housing, and for other purposes:

Ms. CLARKE. Madam Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 3524, the "HOPE VI Improvement and Revitalization Act of 2007," which eradicates severely distressed public housing.

Ever since public housing was first created, there were many obstacles that hindered its success. As time progressed, many public housing units became nothing more than a highly concentrated community containing many of society's social problems such as poverty, high crime, and unemployment. Consequently, many units became deplorable and uninhabitable. But H.R. 3524 would help transform many severely distressed neighborhoods into the livable communities that public housing was originally intended to be for many low-income families.

The HOPE VI program was created in 1992 and has been credited with eliminating and replacing some of the most dangerous and dis-

tressed public housing in the country with new mixed income communities. It has been reported that mixed-income communities have resulted in increases in per capita incomes, decreases in unemployment rates, decreases in the number of households receiving public assistance, and declines in violent crime.

Therefore, one of the reasons why I support H.R. 3524 is because this bill would require public housing agencies to create more mixed-income housing on demolished low-income housing sites. Also, these mixed-income housing units developed to replace demolished public housing would have to be built in low-concentrated poverty areas to avoid concentrating public housing in low-income neighborhoods.

Other reasons why I support this bill is because it provides more replacement housing units; ensures residents have access to revitalized sites; provides residents with more involvement in the planning and redevelopment process; and establishes green development standards for HOPE VI revitalization activities.

Therefore, Madam Chairman, I urge my colleagues for strong bipartisan support of the HOPE VI Improvement and Revitalization Act of 2007, which will redefine public housing by transforming distressed communities into new, safe sustainable communities for many families who deserve it.

CONGRATULATING NATHANIEL
CAMPBELL

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Nathaniel Campbell of Bailey, Colorado. Mr. Campbell is a literature student at Boston College and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Mr. Campbell and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

IN TRIBUTE TO ALBERT NÁJERA
AND HIS 36 YEARS OF SERVICE
WITH THE SACRAMENTO POLICE
DEPARTMENT

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to Albert Nájera, Sacramento's outstanding police chief as he retires from the department he has spent the last 36 years serving. Chief

Nájera rose through the department's ranks to become the city's police chief in 2003. As his friends, family and coworkers all gather to celebrate his farewell, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring his leadership and many remarkable accomplishments.

Chief Nájera is a native son to Sacramento. He was born and raised in Sacramento, and attended Luther Burbank High School before moving on to California State University, Sacramento, and California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. Following his studies, Chief Nájera joined the Sacramento Police Department on April 1, 1971. Nájera started his career as a community oriented police officer and distinguished himself as a reliable and dedicated officer who would work tirelessly to protect the public.

On October 22, 2003, Chief Nájera was appointed as Sacramento's 42nd Chief of Police. He inherited a department under tough circumstances and worked hard to remedy the difficulties. At the time of his installation, violent crime was on the rise, relations with the local union were strained and the department was experiencing an alarming rate of turnover. Chief Nájera's leadership provided much needed stability and the city's police department has made tremendous progress under his tenure.

Chief Nájera has often been lauded by officers for his hands-on and personable style. He has successfully rebuilt relationships between the community and the police department, while also raising the morale of his officers. Chief Nájera has been a champion of attendance centers at local high schools to deal with chronic truants who otherwise might be caught up in gang-related crime. His leadership on this issue and efforts to curb gang activity are evident by the decline in homicides during 2007. Chief Nájera led a crackdown in the previous summer that involved moving officers from other units into gang enforcement. This reorganization is evidence of Chief Nájera's ability to reinvent the department under dire circumstances.

As chief, larger issues such as emergency preparedness also were on his mind. In June of 2007, Chief Nájera was appointed to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's, FEMA, newly created National Advisory Council. The National Advisory Council was initiated to advise FEMA on all aspects of preparedness and emergency management in an effort to increase coordination with its partners across the country. Chief Nájera's appointment to this critical position is evidence of his understanding of complexities of emergency management and homeland security.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the numerous contributions made by Sacramento Police Department Chief of Police Albert Nájera during his 36 years with the department, and the last 4 as Chief. Chief Nájera accession to the department's top post is a testament to his hard work and devotion to the city of Sacramento. I wish him, his wife, Barbara, and his daughter Alesandra continued success in his retirement. On behalf of the people of Sacramento and the Fifth Congressional District of California, I ask all my colleagues to join me in thanking my friend, Chief Nájera for his public service as we wish him success in his future endeavors.

HONORING FATHER VAHAN
GOSDANIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Father Vahan Gosdanian upon celebrating his 10th anniversary of service to the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church in Fresno, California. Father Gosdanian is being honored at the 107th Annual Banquet held on January 24, 2008.

Father Gosdanian was born in Beirut, Lebanon. He immigrated to the United States in 1986. After his primary and secondary education he pursued a career in graphic design. As a graphic designer he owned his own business in Beirut. Due to the civil war in Beirut, Lebanon, Father Gosdanian, and his wife, Sossie Simonian, immigrated to Los Angeles and he continued to work as a graphic designer. However, he always wanted to attend seminary school and become a Vertabed. Prior to becoming a Vertabed, his religious background included attending Sunday school, becoming a Sunday school teacher and principal and altar serving.

Father Gosdanian began taking classes through the Western Prelacy and was ordained into priesthood on March 14, 1993 in Los Angeles, California. He was appointed as the pastor of St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church in Pasadena, California. While there, he published the monthly newsletter and attended to the needs of his parish. To further his education, Father Gosdanian attended classes at the Mennonite Brothers Bible College.

In the 10 years that Father Gosdanian has served at Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church in Fresno he has implemented many new programs. The church now holds an annual graduate banquet to honor all Central Valley high school and university graduates that are of Armenian descent. The church serves a traditional dinner for Christmas Eve and Easter for those that attend the service. He also leads a Tuesday night Bible study group and regularly visits the California Armenian Retirement Home and other adult day care centers. For the Fresno community, Father Gosdanian performs prayers as needed or requested by civic leaders and attends prayer breakfasts. He is also among a group of pastors that recently joined the prison chaplain program.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Father Vahan Gosdanian on 10 years of service to the church and the community. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Father Gosdanian many years of continued success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PRIVATE
FIRST CLASS DAVID H.
SHARRETT II

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of PFC David H. Sharrett II and to recognize his service to our Nation.

Private First Class Sharrett was a true patriot who served his country with honor. Throughout his life he selflessly dedicated himself to his fellow soldiers, family and friends, and to our country.

David Sharrett grew up in Oakton, Virginia, where he attended Oakton Elementary, Cooper Intermediary, and Oakton High School. During his high school career he was a star defensive end for the Oakton football team, helping the Cougars set the school record for greatest number of wins that season.

Before joining the Army, Private First Class Sharrett worked several jobs and attended Northern Virginia Community College. Yearning to serve his country, he enlisted in the Army in August 2006, and began his first deployment shortly thereafter. PFC Sharrett was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 32nd Cavalry Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division's 1st Brigade Combat Team, in Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Tragically, he was killed on January 16, 2008, after sustaining injuries from grenade and small arms fire during combat operations in Balad, Iraq. Throughout his military career he was honored with the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Expert Weapons Qualification Badge.

Private First Class Sharrett is survived by his parents, David Sharrett and Kimberly Drummond, his two younger brothers, Chris and Brooks, and his wife, Heather Shell.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to honor the memory of PFC David H. Sharrett II. I call upon my colleagues to remember him as a man who gave his life protecting the American people.

RECOGNIZING GARY BAUMANN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Gary Baumann, of Savannah, MO. On December 31, 2007, Gary retired from the United States Department of Agriculture—Rural Development with 21 years and 5 months of Federal service.

Gary started his career with USDA in 1975 as an Emergency Loan Assistant County Supervisor working for Farmers Home Administration in the Savannah, Missouri, office. Gary

made many moves across northwest Missouri with USDA during his tenure, working in the Savannah, St. Joseph, Maryville, Bethany, and Maysville offices.

On October 15, 1995, Gary was reassigned to Community Development Manager of the USDA—Rural Development area office in St. Joseph, MO, where he worked Community Development in a 5-county region consisting of Andrew, Buchanan, Clinton, DeKalb and Platte Counties. Gary worked in the St. Joseph Office until he retired at the end of 2007.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Gary Baumann, whose dedication to USDA and northwest Missouri has been truly exceptional. In my time in Congress, USDA Rural Development has been a great resource to work with, and it is people like Gary who have made that relationship between my office and USDA Rural Development what it is today. I am honored to serve him in the United States Congress.

IN MEMORIAL OF LORETTA S.
WOODARD

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, today I use to honor the life of Loretta S. Woodard of Princeton, North Carolina, who passed on Friday, January 4, 2008 at the age of 64. In her passing, I have lost a dear friend and North Carolina has lost one of its most outstanding citizens and a woman who was instrumental in her community, county, and State.

One of the area's most beloved women, my friend Loretta S. Woodard, was a native of Johnston County and the daughter of the late Muldrow and Hilda Barbour Sawyer. Loretta was a graduate of Elizabeth City Schools and received her business degree from Hardbarger's Business College in Raleigh. She worked in the dental project at the UNC School of Public Health in the Department of Epidemiology. She was married to Carlyle Woodard in 1966, and following his graduation from the UNC School of Pharmacy, they moved to Princeton to make their home.

Loretta was a long-time member of Princeton Baptist Church and served in many capacities through the years. She was involved in all areas of life in Johnston County—educational, civic and political. She was a member of the board of trustees of Johnston Community College, the Johnston Community College Foundation, and the Paul A Johnston Auditorium on stage series board. At the time of her death she served on the Johnston County Heritage Commission and was a founding member of the Heritage Center following the Johnston County's 250th anniversary celebration, where she was a member of the steering committee.

Loretta Woodard was brought into the political arena by her mentor, the late NC House Representative, Barney Paul Woodard. She became active in the Democratic Party, on the precinct and county levels. She served as chairperson of the Johnston County Democratic Party and later as president of the Johnston County Democratic Women. She served 13 years as chairman of the Second District Democratic Party. She also served on the State Democratic Executive Committee, was a

former national convention delegate, and for a number of years was responsible for the decorations at the annual Jefferson-Jackson dinner. She successfully chaired political campaigns in the county for Representative Woodard and Jack Gardner and for numerous other candidates, including Jim Speed, Charlie Whitley, Martin Lancaster, Allen Wellons, and she also worked on my campaigns. Loretta served on the restoration committee for the Goodwin House, home to the North Carolina Demarcated party. Loretta is survived by her husband Carlyle Woodard, and her two sons Carlyle "Lyle" Woodard III and wife, Janet, and Bradford Stuart Woodard.

Madam Speaker, Loretta was an outstanding person who used every minute of her long and productive life to make the world a better place. She was a well respected and dedicated public servant, and a great North Carolinian. It is fitting that we honor her and her family today.

CONGRATULATING CECILIA
DANIELS

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Cecilia Daniels of Castle Rock, Colorado. Ms. Daniels is a teacher of English as a foreign language at Highlands Ranch High School and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Ms. Daniels and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS A MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THOSE PERSONS, GROUPS AND COMMUNITIES THAT ARE IMPOVERISHED, DISADVANTAGED OR OTHERWISE IN POVERTY

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I express my strong support for H. Con. Res. 198, a resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States has a moral responsibility to meet the needs of those who are disadvantaged or impoverished and that our country should set a national goal of cut-

ting poverty in half over the next 10 years by promoting good jobs at livable wages.

In this land of hope and opportunity, all working families should also be able to rely on the product of their labor to feed, clothe, house and provide health care for their families. Unfortunately, all too many working Americans are unable to do so. Today, 35 million Americans will go to sleep hungry. Thirty-seven million Americans still live in poverty and 47 million Americans are without health insurance. In my home state of Texas, 16,000 brave men and women who have served nobly in our Nation's military go homeless every night.

These statistics are unbecoming of the wealthiest Nation in the history of our planet. As a Nation, we must undertake all efforts necessary to end the scourge of poverty. One of the best ways to move forward in this effort is to promote good jobs and to ensure that all jobs pay livable wages.

Congress made great progress last year by passing a long-overdue increase in the minimum wage and providing that it will increase to \$7.25 per hour next year. A full-time job should be a bridge out of poverty, an opportunity to make a living through work. Unfortunately, for many Americans, especially those with families, it is not.

In our great country, it is unacceptable that poverty continues to devastate the lives of tens of millions of our fellow Americans. For this reason, I strongly support this resolution and believe that Congress must continue working to make the principles expressed in the resolution a reality. I am proud to be a co-sponsor of this important resolution and I commend my good friend and colleague, Ms. BARBARA LEE of California, for introducing the resolution.

HONORING IRVIN DYER

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. RAMSTAD. Madam Speaker, I rise to speak about an American who is making a real difference in the fight against alcohol and other drug addiction. At the same time, he is projecting a positive image of Americans among the international community.

On November 29 of last year, the National Anti-Drug Agency of Romania presented its National Excellence Awards. Honorees included the French Ambassador, the Russian Ambassador and the United Nations Representative. I'm proud to say, Madam Speaker, that an American was also recognized for his efforts, Mr. Irvin Dyer.

Born and raised in Arizona, Mr. Dyer moved to Romania for business 15 years ago. Having become a successful businessman and the father of three beautiful children, Mr. Dyer was moved to action by the debilitating effects that drug and alcohol addiction was having on the people of Romania. In 2003, he became an advisor to the president of the Romanian Anti-Drug Agency, President Pavel Abraham. Since then, he has worked tirelessly to assist the Anti-Drug Agency in its efforts to stem the tide of illegal drugs and to help and treat those who have fallen victim to addiction's awful grip.

Irvin Dyer's actions in Romania serve not only the people of Romania, but the whole world. The goodwill he spreads reflects well on Americans and our belief in caring for those less fortunate, protecting the future for our children and making the world a better place for all people.

We should all be grateful for the wonderful example of Mr. Dyer, and like him, reach out to help the millions of people suffering the ravages of addiction.

HONORING THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF AGENCIES SERVING THE BLIND

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a wonderful organization in my State of Florida, the Florida Association of Agencies Serving the Blind (FAASB).

FAASB has an honorable mission to serve as a united voice and be the organizational support empowering private agencies serving Floridians with blindness and visual impairment to provide state of the art professional vision rehabilitation services which enhance the quality of individual and community life.

I would like to praise FAASB for its successful initiative to create the first-ever state license plate benefiting the blind. Additionally, I must commend them for creating a vision caucus in the Florida State Legislature, similar to the Congressional Vision Caucus, which I co-chair. This State Vision Caucus will educate members of the State Legislature so they comprehend the scope of eye problems in our country and will ensure adequate resources are directed towards the research, prevention and treatment of eye disease.

FAASB has also created an annual Florida Vision Summit, where they look to create a statewide vision strategy to raise awareness about the increasing number of Americans with vision loss and provide better understanding of the importance of necessary steps to preserve and protect eyesight.

Once again, I would like to thank FAASB for their continued commitment to prevention, better eye care, and services to those who already live with low vision and blindness. I congratulate them on their achievement and service to the community.

HUNTING IN THE NEW RIVER GORGE NATIONAL RIVER

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, the New River Gorge National River in southern West Virginia was designated as a unit of the National Park System in 1978. At times referred to as the 'Grand Canyon of the East' we in West Virginia refer to the Grand Canyon as the 'New River Gorge of the West.' The national river is comprised of over 70,000 acres of mostly rugged terrain and is renowned as a

destination for its world-class whitewater recreation, rock climbing and other outdoor activities. But it is also a place where generations of West Virginians have hunted and fished. Unfortunately, the ability to hunt in the gorge is now being drawn into question.

As the Congressman from New River County, today I am introducing legislation to ensure that hunting remains a purpose of the New River Gorge National River.

I view it as a God given right for West Virginians to hunt in the New River Gorge. This area is not immune from activities such as housing developments that are placing a premium on lands where hunting by the general public may take place.

Unfortunately, the National Park Service, as part of the development of a new general management plan for the park unit, has included a no hunting alternative. It is doing so because the legislation which established the New River Gorge National River states that hunting "may" be permitted. The enabling statute for the nearby Gauley River National Recreation Area, on the other hand, states that hunting "shall" be allowed. In fact, this is the case for the vast majority of the 62 units of the National Park System in which hunting is permitted.

The bill I am introducing today simply changes the "may" to a "shall" in the law which established the New River Gorge National River. While there is no doubt in my mind that the current Superintendent of this park unit will do the right thing and allow hunting to continue in the final general management plan, this is too important of an issue to remain at the discretion of future managers of the park unit.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF METROPOLITAN FAMILY SERVICES

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Metropolitan Family Services on its 150 years of service to individuals and families of the Chicago metropolitan area.

Metropolitan Family Services, MFS, was launched on February 15, 1857, as the Chicago Relief and Aid Society, renamed as United Charities in 1909, and then renamed again in 1995 as Metropolitan Family Services.

MFS was assigned by Chicago Mayor R. B. Mason to help citizens recover after the Chicago Fire. It assisted more than 18,000 families, constructing more than 7,000 temporary homes and administering more than \$10 million, in 1871 dollars in aid donated around the world.

MFS was one of the Nation's first organizations to provide free legal services for the poor through the Legal Aid Society.

A leader in meeting the needs of thousands of people through the Great Depression, World War II, and postwar years, MFS provided a range of services including mental health counseling, elder care, and early childhood education.

MFS successfully advocated for State legislation enacted in 2005 that protected poor and

lower-income families from predatory lending practices.

Presently, Metropolitan Family Services employs 559 professionals serving close to 55,000 families and individuals. It has seven community centers that provide a full range of services, including child and youth development, mental health services, child welfare, employee assistance programs, legal aid, services for older adults and their families, social policy and community development, and violence prevention and intervention.

I congratulate MFS on its success in providing and mobilizing the services needed to strengthen Chicago area families and communities.

CONGRATULATING KIRSTEN AMBORS

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Kirsten Ambors of Parker, Colorado. Ms. Ambors is a mathematics student at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Ms. Ambors and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

HONORING THE UNITED STATES ARMY'S RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE UPON ITS 10TH YEAR

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tenth year of a unique program in the annals of our Nation's proud military heritage. On January 28, 1999, the Honorable Mahlon Appgar, IV, then Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Logistics and Environment, first presented the Residential Communities Initiative, known as RCI, in a briefing to the Urban Land Institute. Few in that distinguished audience of real estate developers, financiers and public officials appreciated the far-reaching impact that RCI would have on the Army, on industry, and, most importantly, on improving the quality of life for thousands of military families.

At that time, the Army faced a monumental challenge in its Government-owned housing and infrastructure. Seventy-five percent of the family housing on Army posts was substandard, and the poor conditions were hurting

recruiting and retention. Military communities lacked amenities that most other Americans enjoyed. The Army's construction and maintenance backlog exceeded \$6 billion, with no predictable funding sources in sight. Complicated, cumbersome business processes caused significant delays in planning and executing housing programs.

Today, as we start RCI's tenth year, it is a major success. In fact, the Bush Administration calls RCI the "most important military housing improvement program in our Nation's history." I am honored to have played a leadership role in RCI from its start. Despite numerous challenges in policy, organization and execution, RCI has achieved high satisfaction rates among military families, lower development costs and faster construction, better housing, neighborhoods and community facilities, and more responsive maintenance and management. RCI encompasses over 88,000 new and renovated multi-family housing units—97 percent of the Army's U.S. housing stock—located on 45 installations in 20 states. RCI communities are purposefully and profitably built and managed by nine major real estate development groups and are financed with \$10 billion of new private capital, achieving 10-to-1 leverage of public investment—an exceptional result for the taxpayer. RCI projects are pioneering the use of manufactured housing, solar-powered and "green building" techniques, and "new urbanism" design concepts for safe, walkable neighborhoods, with community centers and leisure facilities that are especially important to military spouses and children during long deployments. RCI has spawned other military privatization programs for Army lodging, unaccompanied housing, retail and "lifestyle" centers, office parks and warehouse developments. RCI has become one of the Federal Government's largest public-private partnership programs.

I was proud to help Secretary Apgar steer RCI through four Congressional committees and a skeptical Army leadership. With no prior Washington experience but a clear vision of the future, a gracious manner and a pragmatic approach, he bore the brunt of considerable criticism and built coalitions among numerous stakeholders across the political and commercial spectrum.

Many saw RCI as a dilution of control, a diversion of resources, and a haven for profiteering. But Secretary Apgar saw it as a means of expanding the Army's military construction budgets with private capital, enlisting the entrepreneurship and capabilities of American business, and reforming the Army's approach to meeting infrastructure needs.

Madam Speaker, RCI has progressed from the vision and persistence of a single official, through the minefields of committee oversight and staff reviews and the complexities of our vast military organization, to a mature, sustainable, bipartisan, public-private partnership effort. At a time of enormous sacrifice by our soldiers and their loved ones, we can be proud of a program that provides military families with the quality housing and communities they so deserve. And in an era of economic stress, we should look to RCI for lessons that may help to meet our national challenges in rebuilding infrastructure and managing resources.

ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE
MURDER OF JOURNALIST HRANT
DINK

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, it is with a mixture of anger and sadness that I rise today to honor the 1-year anniversary of the murder of Hrant Dink, the courageous Armenian-Turkish journalist, who was murdered by a Turkish extremist.

Mr. Dink founded the bilingual newspaper *Agos* in 1996, giving a voice to Turkey's Armenians. He acted on his beliefs of building community and acknowledging the past, for which he was persecuted, prosecuted and eventually forced to pay the ultimate price. Clearly, however, his life's work was not in vain; at his funeral, approximately 100,000 people marched behind his coffin, chanting, "We are all Dink. We are all Armenians."

Before Mr. Dink's untimely death last January, the Turkish government constantly tried to limit his freedom of speech. It confiscated copies of *Agos* on many occasions and on the flimsiest of pretenses. In 2004, Mr. Dink wrote an article stating that Turkey's first woman pilot was an Armenian orphan adopted after 1915. The government convicted him of insulting "Turkishness" under Article 301 of the Penal Code, a law specifically designed to prevent discussion of the Armenian Genocide. He received a 6-month suspended sentence. This was just one of several such prosecutions against Mr. Dink.

Mr. Dink's courage to confront the historical facts of the Armenian Genocide cost him his life. He continually received threatening telephone calls, e-mails, and letters. He reported this terrorization to the police, but they failed to protect him. On January 19, 2007, an extreme nationalist teenager shot Mr. Dink three times outside the *Agos* offices in Istanbul, killing him. Court hearings continue, but Mr. Dink's family stated that the investigation of his murder was conducted in secrecy and is incomplete.

Turkish prosecutions under Article 301 increased in 2007 and continued to affect Mr. Dink's family. Arat Dink, his son, published an interview in which Mr. Dink said that the 1915 to 1917 Armenian massacres constituted genocide. Last October Arat Dink received a 1-year suspended sentence for publishing this interview. Punishing Mr. Dink's son for publishing his murdered father's words is a travesty and exposes the lengths to which Ankara will go to hide the truth about the Armenian Genocide.

Mr. Dink's death was devastating to the democratic principle of a free and unfettered press and to the efforts of a handful of Turkish intellectuals who have been fighting to expose the crimes of Turkey's Ottoman predecessor. Denying the Armenian Genocide harms Turkey and imperils the future of this important nation. As the world marks the anniversary of Dink's murder, I reiterate my call for Turkey to honor the memory of Hrant Dink by repealing Article 301, and to acknowledge the truth of the Armenian Genocide.

Together with his family and colleagues, the Armenian community in Turkey, and his admirers around the world, we remember Hrant

Dink, heroic defender of speech and human rights, on the 1-year anniversary of his murder.

CONGRATULATING LESLIE
ANDERSON

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Leslie Anderson of Longmont, Colorado. Ms. Anderson is a political science student at the University of Florida and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Ms. Anderson and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE
PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2007—VETO MESSAGE
FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge a "yes" vote on overriding President Bush's veto of the urgently needed reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program. Over the last several months, President Bush has had an opportunity to work with a bipartisan majority of Congress and provide health insurance to over 10 million low-income children. However, he decided instead to place himself on the wrong side of the history of health care and play politics with the health of American children.

The Children's Health Insurance Program is a highly successful program with a proven track record that is supported by an overwhelming majority of the American public. We need to reauthorize and build on the success of this program and override this ill-timed and unconscionable presidential veto.

A recent Joint Economic Committee report estimated that between 700,000 and 1.1 million additional children will enroll in Medicaid and CHIP programs each year due to slowing employment growth.

In fact, the JEC report notes, "The association between poor economic conditions and children's enrollment in Medicaid/CHIP is large, consistent, and statistically significant." So what does the president do as working families strain to make ends meet in the face of a looming economic crisis? He vetoes health care for poor children! This is unacceptable.

To my Republican colleagues, who are considering how to vote on this bill today—given the current economic landscape, I urge you to reject the President's radical stand against poor, sick children and join the overwhelming majority of the American public who support this important program.

It has been said that "Health is the first wealth." Well, what does it say about our country when many families that work hard to make ends meet are forced to choose between providing health care for their children and putting food on the table? If we are to give low-income families a chance to succeed in our society, we must give them access to the health care that they need and deserve.

We have known for some time that our nation has 9 million uninsured children, with the vast majority coming from families that cannot access affordable coverage. This number will only grow, as more and more families feel the squeeze of the increasing costs of living and unemployment rates.

Sadly, most of our Republican colleagues turned their backs on these families by voting to sustain President Bush's veto in October. Health coverage for all of our Nation's children should be a priority. Worsening economic conditions only reinforce the need to cover children from low-income families, in which parents are forced to choose between health care and necessities like food and shelter. No parent should have to choose between caring for a sick child and putting food on the table.

I urge an "aye" vote to override this veto.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I was in the Chamber when votes were cast on H.R. 3524, the HOPE VI Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2007. I listened to the debate, voted on all the amendments and the Motion to Recommit. However, due to circumstances beyond my control, I was unable to cast a vote of "aye" on the final passage of H.R. 3524.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, today the House took up a second vote to override the President's veto of bi-partisan, bicameral legislation to reauthorize and expand the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

This bill, H.R. 3963, would maintain coverage for the 6.6 million children currently enrolled and expand coverage to 3.8 million children who are currently eligible but unenrolled.

In the face of a weakening economy, with unemployment rates on the rise, it is becom-

ing more and more difficult for parents to find affordable health insurance for their children. We know that when fewer Americans are employed, the number of uninsured in our nation will grow.

The vast majority of the American people believe in the value and necessity of the SCHIP program in providing access to health care for low-income children. This bipartisan SCHIP bill is supported by: 81 percent of the American people; 64 Senators (including 17 Republicans); 43 Governors (including 16 Republicans); and more than 270 organizations, including AARP, AMA, Catholic Health Association, and Families USA.

We live in a country where nearly 1 out of every 110 people is a millionaire. Unfortunately, this is the same country where more than 1 out of every 10 children lacks health insurance coverage. In these difficult and uncertain economic times, access to affordable health care for low-income children is more critical than ever.

The children who are enrolled in Texas SCHIP and CHIP programs around the country are from hard-working families. They deserve the opportunity to have access to affordable, accessible, and consistent health care. Healthy children become healthy, productive adults.

Children cannot work and children do not choose to be poor. Children do not choose where they live or the circumstances they are born into. But, as Members of Congress elected to serve all people young and old, we do have a choice. We can choose to improve access to health care for our children and make an investment in the future of our country.

CONGRATULATING FRANCES TRUJILLO

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Frances Trujillo of Littleton, Colorado. Mr. Trujillo is a leadership and management administrator at Colorado Academy and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Mr. Trujillo and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARK TULCHINSKY OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. DONNELLY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Mark Tulchinsky, a leader in the South Bend Community School Corporation, a mentor, father, educator, and beloved member of the community. Mr. Tulchinsky passed away while working in his office at Tarkington Traditional School on January 22, 2008.

Tulchinsky's peers describe him as "a good friend and an excellent principal." He was the perfect example of an empathetic and kind-hearted principal as well as a tremendous friend and mentor. Whether it was taking part in school sports or activities or dealing with serious situations and discipline issues within his school, Tulchinsky was able to handle his position as a leader with poise and compassion.

Former students and colleagues said he had an uncanny ability to remember the names and faces of students, even decades after he taught them. We should all return this favor, by remembering and thanking him for his service to the young people of his community. There is no doubt that he positively impacted the lives of countless individuals. Throughout his life, he dedicated himself to bettering the community through volunteering and mentoring.

After graduating from Adams High school in South Bend, Tulchinsky attended the University of Chicago where he earned a bachelor's degree in history. He then returned to his hometown and began his lifelong career in education. Through the South Bend Community School Corporation, Tulchinsky began teaching at Perley Elementary in 1968. He taught for a few years as a fourth grade teacher, and in the process furthered his education by earning a master's degree in 1974 from the University of Notre Dame. Later, Tulchinsky gave back to the Notre Dame community by operating the shot clock for Notre Dame men's and women's basketball teams as well as timekeeping at Notre Dame home football games.

In 1979, Tulchinsky began his lengthy career in administration, first serving as assistant principal for Jefferson School. He went on to serve as a principal for McKinley, Perley, Jefferson, Monroe, and Tarkington Schools. Throughout his 39-year career in education, students called him by the affectionate nickname of Mr. T. In addition to his service in education, Tulchinsky was a big supporter of local athletic teams. He officiated for both basketball and football games, including the IHSA Class 2A football championship in 1983. His dedication to both athletics and education was evident in 1994 when he suffered a heart attack while officiating for basketball; he returned to teaching after his recovery.

Tulchinsky is survived by his wife of 38 years, Nan; three grown children, Peter, Daniel, and Sarah; four grandchildren, Abbey, Emma, Payton, and Jacob; as well as a myriad of students whose lives he touched. He will be greatly missed for his dedication to teaching, his devotion to the community, and his warm love for all those around him.

RECOGNIZING LIBBY WATSON FOR HER YEARS OF DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO THE CITY OF FORTH WORTH, TEXAS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Fort Worth Assistant City Manager Libby Watson and her years of dedication and service to the City of Fort Worth, Texas. Ms. Watson has been with the City of Fort Worth for almost 20 years, since 1989, and has recently decided to retire.

Ms. Watson began her career with the City of San Diego in their Financial Management Department in 1974, and was later appointed the Financial Management Director of the City in June of 1982. In 1986 she moved to Austin, Texas, where she became Assistant City Manager. Then, in 1989, she moved back to her hometown of Fort Worth to become the Assistant City Manager.

Outside of her job, Watson is very active in her community. She participates in various activities such as assisting with Girl Scouts, and she is the Treasurer for the Circle T Council Board of Directors.

Under Ms. Watson's leadership, Fort Worth has become a model city for the surrounding area. I know that the decision for retirement was not an easy one for her to make. I join the City of Fort Worth and all those who are fortunate enough to know Ms. Watson in wishing her all the best as she looks forward to spending more time with her family. The City of Fort Worth will truly miss her experience and leadership.

It is with great honor that I recognize Libby Watson for her years of hard work and selfless dedication given to the citizens of Fort Worth, Texas. I am proud to represent her in Washington, and her service will set a standard of devotion and true leadership, one that will never be forgotten.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. AND MRS. JEFFREY HUNT ON JANUARY 20, 2008 WEDDING

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, on Sunday, January 20, 2008, my legislative assistant, Nicole Schouten, married Jeffrey Hunt in San Diego, California. Nicole met Jeff at Westmont College in the bookstore on campus. She was a store clerk and he was looking for an excuse to get to know Nicole so he frequently stopped in for a soda. Although they were both intrigued with each other the timing for their relationship wasn't right and they parted ways. Six years later, Jeff and Nicole reconnected in Washington, DC, while working on Capitol Hill.

Nicole and Jeff perfectly compliment each other not only in their political views, but in their desire to make their community and world a better place. Jeff devotes his time and talents to serving the people of Vienna Presbyterian Church and the youth of Arlington, Virginia as a Young Life leader. In addition to

her busy job and law school obligations, Nicole volunteers with the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Big Sister/Little Sister program.

In August 2007 Jeff surprised Nicole with a week long trip to Holland. They spent 4 days exploring Amsterdam and the surrounding countryside, giving Nicole an opportunity to connect to her Dutch heritage. On August 11, 2007, in the Oude Kerk, Amsterdam's first parish, Jeff asked for Nicole's hand in marriage. Nicole, of course, accepted with enthusiasm.

I send Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Hunt best wishes for a lifetime of happiness and offer them the inspiring words of Wilfred Arlan Peterson's poem, The Art of a Good Marriage, as a guide in their new life together.

Happiness in marriage is not something that just happens.

A good marriage must be created.

In marriage the little things are the big things.

It is never being too old to hold hands.

It is remembering to say "I love you" at least once a day.

It is never going to sleep angry.

It is at no time taking the other for granted; the courtship should not end with the honeymoon, it should continue through the years.

It is having a mutual sense of values and common objectives.

It is standing together facing the world.

It is forming a circle of love that gathers the whole family.

It is doing things for each other, not in the attitude of duty or sacrifice, but in the spirit of joy.

It is speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways.

It is not looking for perfection in each other. It is cultivating flexibility, patience, understanding and a sense of humor.

It is having the capacity to forgive and forget.

It is giving each other an atmosphere in which each can grow old.

It is a common search for the good and the beautiful.

It is establishing a relationship in which the independence is equal, dependence is mutual and the obligation is reciprocal.

It is not only marrying the right partner, it is being the right partner.

Congratulations Nicole and Jeff.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation.

I request that the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD reflect that had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

(1) Rollcall No. 19: "yes," On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 4211.

(2) Rollcall No. 20: "yes," On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H. Res. 866.

HONORING THE UPPER MERION SENIOR CENTER

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Upper Merion Senior Service Center. The Center has worked tirelessly and diligently to serve the senior citizens of Upper Merion over the past 10 years. The UMSSC has been successful in helping our seniors and our communities make choices for a healthier future.

The Upper Merion Senior Service Center offers critical healthcare services:

A nurse from Bryn Mawr Main Line Health visits the UMSSC twice a month in order to take blood pressure, weights, and respond to health inquiries from members.

The UMSSC offers free Stroke Risk Assessments.

Flu vaccine shots are offered each year to help ensure the health security of the members and surrounding community.

The UMSSC provides popular exercise programs, with trained instructors, three days a week.

Professional staffers offer free hearing screenings, free eyeglass maintenance, and informational presentations on hearing and vision.

They offer educational and informational packets concerning Medicare, Medicare Part D, and any other issue that is of importance to members and the surrounding community.

I applaud the Upper Merion Senior Service Center for providing all of these critical services to the community. I would also like to recognize the fact that the Upper Merion Senior Service Center works hand in hand with local community businesses by providing employment opportunities for members in office and clerical positions. All of these services are of the utmost importance for preserving and protecting the health security of the members, families, and communities living in Upper Merion, and I encourage the Center to continue to extend its profound, positive influence to those in need.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL MARCY

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank a committed staffer of mine, Michael Marcy.

Michael has been with my office for 4 years now. These past years he administered my office and maintained my hyperactive schedule with a clear and precise head and a generous sense of humor. Michael's life-long commitment to public service started with a term in the Clinton White House and continued into Senator CHARLES SCHUMER's office. From there he moved into my office—a clear step up from his previous two positions.

Michael is returning to his home city of Buffalo, New York with his wife, Jenn, and his son, Sean. My office will not be the same without him—I thank him for his dedication and he will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOE LAMANTIA,
JR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Joe LaMantia, Jr., on being the recipient of the Golden Eagle Award from the McAllen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce during the 9th Annual Noche de Gala.

Joe has shown exemplary leadership in his civic service to the south Texas community with his extensive involvement in the Lions' Club, American Heart Association, Rio Grande Cancer Treatment Research Foundation, South Texas Communities for Youth Service, and the Special Olympics. Joe is also the founder and chairman of the preeminent South Texas Academic Rising Stars, STARS, organization, which gives opportunities to the youth in south Texas in pursuing their dreams of higher education. He has made their dreams possible, and it is for this reason alone, that he truly deserves the Golden Eagle Award from the McAllen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Today, STARS partners with hundreds of local and national businesses, organizations, colleges, and universities to raise over \$12 million in scholarship funds. This is truly a hallmark of Joe's success as a businessman, and as a committed husband to his wife, Derrelene, father to his seven children, and grandfather to his 26 grandchildren. Joe has come a long way from his initial start in farming in Carrizo Springs with produce operations in Chile and Mexico. The Rio Grande Valley became home for his family, and the base of his business, L&F Distributors, which has allowed him to deepen his ties to the south Texas community through his philanthropic work with STARS.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the dedication and commitment of Mr. Joe LaMantia, Jr., and his organization, STARS, to the children in communities all across south Texas. I thank you for this time.

**HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring the contributions of Catholic schools as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

I want to recognize both the teachers and administrators of Catholic schools across America who devote their lives to providing students with a strong moral and academic foundation.

Catholic institutions prepare 2.3 million young men and women for college and many of these students participate in volunteerism and other programs that help to improve the community.

The benefits of a Catholic education go far beyond the classroom. The moral and intellectual growth fostered in America's Catholic

schools prepare our young men and women with a sense of social responsibility that lasts a lifetime.

I know firsthand the positive value that a Catholic education can have in an individual's development. My wife and I are both products of Catholic schools and we chose to send our two children to Catholic schools based on the significant impact Catholic instruction has had in each of our lives.

It is with great pleasure that I stand before the House of Representatives and the American people today to commend the dedication of Catholic schools to the academic excellence of our young men and women.

**RECOGNIZING THE OPENING OF
THE OHLONE COLLEGE NEWARK
CENTER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES
AND TECHNOLOGY**

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the opening of the Ohlone College Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology in Newark, California. The Center will be officially dedicated on January 31, 2008.

Ohlone College is looking to the future with a new green campus that will prepare students for jobs in the burgeoning health, biotech and environmental technology industries.

Ohlone College President Douglas Treadway said the Newark Center, in addition to being the first green college campus in the Nation, will be the first community college campus in California to have a thematic emphasis. The Center will specifically support the growing fields of health care, biotech and environmental technology.

The Ohlone College Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology was completed in December 2007 and could be certified at the LEED platinum level—the highest U.S. Green Building Council certification for sustainable construction and design.

The 135,000 square-foot campus is constructed on 80 acres on Newark's Cherry Street and will be an addition to the college's main campus in Fremont, California. The Newark Center will serve some 3,500 students attending day and evening courses.

The Newark campus houses 26 miles of underground piping which is part of a geothermal system that will result in a 25 percent improvement in energy performance. There are some 38,000 square feet of solar panels employed at the Newark campus, which provide energy savings the equivalent to taking 1,000 cars off Bay Area freeways every day. The effects of the alternative energy features could reduce the campus' utility bills by as much as \$400,000 to \$500,000 a year.

The building employs three different alternative energy systems, and a long list of other green features, from recycled blue jeans for insulation to sustainable produced furniture.

I join the community in applauding the opening of the Ohlone College Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology, the first green community college campus in the United States. This leadership and commit-

ment to quality education, energy and the environment, as demonstrated by Ohlone College, is exemplary.

CHARLES "CHUCK" ROBINSON

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, sail boat racers, mining companies and Henry Kissinger don't have much in common. But they share this: all have relied on the passion and ingenuity of Chuck Robinson.

Chuck has been finding solutions to tough problems for most of his 88 years. He has received more than 30 patents for ideas ranging from better ways to transport iron ore to better ways to build a sailboat. His ideas have made him a leader in business and government. Even his home displays Chuck's brilliance and commitment to his community. His home features the world's largest heating system in a private home. And after all these accomplishments, Chuck has not slowed down.

I rise today to honor Chuck for receiving New Mexico's first Visionary Designer Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognizes that Chuck has already put in a lifetime's worth of work tackling tough problems, but those who know him recognize that Chuck's work is far from over. I look forward to admiring Chuck's incredible abilities for years to come.

HONORING HRANT DINK

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, one year after the tragic killing of Hrant Dink, his loss remains acutely felt by many communities throughout the world. To observe this anniversary, I resubmit for the record my statement made at the time of his death, which calls for comity and peace in a time of such sadness.

I supported H. Res. 102 and I condemn in the strongest possible terms the cowardly murder of journalist Hrant Dink in Istanbul on January 19, 2007. I find particularly contemptible the actions of those who seemingly chose a 17-year-old youth—the alleged killer—to commit this appalling crime. This despicable act should not, however, obscure the inspiring solidarity of tens of thousands of secular, Muslim, and Armenian Christian Turks who filed past Mr. Dink's bier and marched in his funeral procession. Western news media have estimated the crowds between 50,000 and 100,000. Important Turkish officials, such as Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Ali Sahin; Interior Minister Abdulkadir Aksu; the governor of Istanbul, Muammer Guler; the head of the security forces, Celalettin Cerrah; and two generals joined Arman Kirakossian, the deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia, and other Armenian officials at the funeral service.

Everyone in the world who cherishes freedom and brotherhood must take heart when signs proclaiming "We are all Armenians" are carried through the streets of Istanbul. I wish

to express my condolences to the family and friends of Hrant Dink. I want also to express my profound respect for all his fellow citizens who protested his murder and mourned his death.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SPEECH OF

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to celebrate the life of one of the greatest leaders in our Nation's history, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. Martin Luther King is revered and respected throughout the world for his commitment to unite humanity by working to end segregation and racial discrimination and to create social and economic justice for all.

Martin Luther King, Jr. brought the issues of racism, segregation, and inequality to the forefront of the United States' and the world's moral conscience. He willingly sacrificed his life for humanity in the hope of helping our Nation fulfill its promise of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" for all Americans. He vehemently expressed that America could not be true to its vision unless these inalienable rights expressed in its founding documents could be applied to all.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. envisioned a world-wide community where all forms of discrimination and prejudice would cease to exist. He advocated peaceful methods of conflict resolution instead of brute force and violence. To King, his dream was not a utopian ideal, but a reality that could be actively sought. King stated that, "It is this love which will bring about miracles in the hearts of men."

Those who released attack dogs at him, sprayed him down with firehoses, threatened him, and even bombed his house ultimately learned to respect him and his vision because of his unequivocal embrace of humanity for all. He looked past the evil he faced and the ignorance many held firmly close at heart with an empathetic vision of hope for social and economic justice. That is, he believed righteousness and love could overcome the greatest evils. I quote his vision, "Yes if you want to say that I was a drum major, say that I was a drum major for justice; say that I was a drum major for righteousness. And all of the other shallow things will not matter. I won't leave the fine and luxurious things of life to leave behind. But I just want to leave a committed life behind."

In his last sermon, Dr. King stated, "If any of you are around when I have to meet my day, I don't want a long funeral, and if you get somebody to deliver the eulogy, tell him not to talk too long.—Tell him not to mention that I have a Nobel Peace Prize; that isn't important. Tell him not to mention that I have three or four hundred other awards; that's not important. Tell him not to mention where I went to school. I'd like somebody to mention that day that Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to give his life serving others. I'd like for somebody to say that day that Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to love somebody—I want you to be able to say that day that I did try to feed the hungry. I

want you to be able to say that day that I did try in my life to visit those who were in prison. And I want you to say that I tried to love and serve humanity."

On behalf of the people of the 11th Congressional of Ohio I join with the rest of the Nation, and the world to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The torch has now been passed on to us to carry on his commitment for social and economic justice. There is still more work to be done. We must continue to strive towards making the dream Dr. King dreamt for us into a reality. May his legacy live on.

HONORING THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD ON ITS SELECTION AS A RECIPIENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S 2007 CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PERFORMANCE AND INNOVATION AWARD

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 832, Honoring the Texas Water Development Board on its selection as a recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's 2007 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Performance and Innovation Award, introduced by my distinguished colleague from Texas, Representative EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON. This important legislation recognizes the exceptional work done by the Texas Water Development Board in its efforts to be an environmental innovator and for its vast contributions to the great State of Texas.

On November 5, 2007 the Texas Water Development Board was honored at the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities annual conference in Denver, Colorado. Subsequently, this mark of distinction produced a major environmental victory. The Texas Water Development Board agency is distinguished for its exceptional regional water planning activities, finest administration practices in nonpoint source pollution endowment, the instream flow program, and funding of water reuse projects amongst other notable achievements.

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund in Texas has lucratively granted communities nearly \$4,300,000,000 in low-interest loans to finance 472 water infrastructure projects across the State of Texas. This initiative serves about one-half of the population of Texas and provides direct environmental and public health benefits.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I urge that Congress recognize the magnitude of the Texas Water Development Board's satisfactory investment and management of water resources in sustainable development, including environmental integrity, human health, and overall quality of life in the United States.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, January 23, 2008, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 21: "yes." On motion to pass H.R. 3963, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on 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, January 29, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 30

- 10 a.m.
Budget
To hold hearings to examine the economic stimulus, focusing on budget policy for a strong economy over the short- and long-term budget outlook. SD-608
- Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the threats and protections for the polar bear. SD-406
- Finance
To hold hearings to examine private fees for service in Medicare Advantage plans. SD-215
- Judiciary
To hold oversight hearings to examine the Department of Justice. SH-216
- Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold hearings to examine the Small Business Administration's accountability, focusing on the efficacy of women's contracting and lender oversight. SR-428A
- 11 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of James K. Glassman, of Connecticut, to be Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy with the rank of Ambassador, Goli Ameri, of Oregon, to be Assistant Secretary for Educational

and Cultural Affairs, and David J. Kramer, of Massachusetts, to be Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, all of the Department of State.

SD-419

11:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider S. 86, to designate segments of Fossil Creek, a tributary to the Verde River in the State of Arizona, as wild and scenic rivers, S. 127, to amend the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve Act of 2000 to explain the purpose and provide for the administration of the Baca National Wildlife Refuge, S. 128, to amend the Cache La Poudre River Corridor Act to designate a new management entity, make certain technical and conforming amendments, enhance private property protections, S. 189, to decrease the matching funds requirements and authorize additional appropriations for Keweenaw National Historical Park in the State of Michigan, S. 327, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life of Cesar Estrada Chavez and the farm labor movement, S. 783, to adjust the boundary of the Barataria Preserve Unit of the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in the State of Louisiana, S. 868, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 1039, to extend the authorization for the Coastal Heritage Trail in the State of New Jersey, S. 1143, to designate the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and the surrounding Federal land in the State of Florida as an Outstanding Natural Area and as a unit of the National Landscape System, S. 1247, to amend the Weir Farm National Historic Site Establishment Act of 1990 to limit the development of any property acquired by the Secretary of the Interior for the development of visitor and administrative facilities for the Weir Farm National Historic Site, S. 1304, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Arizona National Scenic Trail, S. 1329, to extend the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission, to provide improved visitor services at the park, S. 1341, to provide for the exchange of certain Bureau of Land Management land in Pima County, Arizona, S. 1365, to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements with any of the management partners of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, S. 1377, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the City of Henderson, Nevada, certain Federal land located in the City, S. 1433, to amend the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act to provide competitive status to certain Federal employees in the State of Alaska, S. 1476, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct special resources study of the Tule Lake Segregation Center in Modoc County, California, to determine suitability and feasibility of establishing a unit of the National Park System, S. 1522, to amend the Bonneville Power Administration portions of the Fisheries Restoration and Irrigation Mitigation Act of 2000 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years

2008 through 2014, S. 1634, to implement further the Act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, S. 1740, to amend the Act of February 22, 1889, and the Act of July 2, 1862, to provide for the management of public land trust funds in the State of North Dakota, S. 1802, to adjust the boundaries of the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness in the State of Idaho, S. 1921, to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act, S. 1939, to provide for the conveyance of certain land in the Santa Fe National Forest, New Mexico, S. 1940, to reauthorize the Rio Puerco Watershed Management Program, and S. 1941, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Wolf House, located in Norfolk, Arkansas, as a unit of the National Park System, and any other pending legislation.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Finance

Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "The Economic Stimulus Act of 2008", and to consider changes to the rules of procedure of the Committee on Finance.

SD-215

3:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To receive a closed briefing from members of the intelligence community.

S-407, Capitol

JANUARY 31

9:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Afghanistan, focusing on a plan to turn the tide.

SD-419

Armed Services

Personnel Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine military recruiting.

SR-232A

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine strengthening our economy, focusing on foreclosure and neighborhood preservation.

SD-538

Budget

To hold hearings to examine the long-term outlook and sources of growth in health care spending.

SD-608

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 2323, to provide for the conduct of carbon capture and storage technology research, development, and demonstration projects, and S. 2144, to require the Secretary of Energy to conduct a study of feasibility relating to the construction and operation of pipelines and carbon dioxide sequestration facilities.

SD-366

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine a report of the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission.

SD-406

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 1638, to adjust the salaries of Federal justices and judges, S. 352, to provide for media coverage of Federal court proceedings, S. 2450, to amend the Federal Rules of

Evidence to address the waiver of the attorney-client privilege and the work product doctrine, S. 2304, to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide grants for the improved mental health treatment and services provided to offenders with mental illnesses, and the nominations of Mark R. Filip, of Illinois, to be Deputy Attorney General, Ondray T. Harris, of Virginia, to be Director, Community Relations Service, and David W. Hagy, of Texas, to be Director of the National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice.

SD-226

10:05 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider S. 2146, to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to accept, as part of a settlement, diesel emission reduction Supplemental Environmental Projects.

SD-406

10:30 a.m.

Aging

To hold hearings to examine elderly voters, focusing on opportunities and challenges for the 2008 election.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine eliminating agency payment errors.

SD-106

FEBRUARY 1

9:30 a.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook.

SD-106

FEBRUARY 5

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To continue oversight hearings to examine veterans disability compensation.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Intelligence

To hold hearings to examine the world threat.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine the world threat.

SH-219

FEBRUARY 6

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009, the future years defense program, and for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Energy.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

Closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SH-219

FEBRUARY 7

10 a.m.
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert A. Sturgell, of Maryland, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and Simon Charles Gros, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Transportation. SR-253

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
 To hold hearings to examine weathering the economic storm, focusing on helping working families in troubling times. SD-430

Judiciary
 To hold hearings to examine the Founding Fathers papers, focusing on ensuring public access to our national treasures. SD-226

2:30 p.m.
 Armed Services
 Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine business transformation and financial management at the Department of Defense. SR-222

Intelligence
 To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219

FEBRUARY 12

10 a.m.
 Judiciary
 To hold hearings to examine the nominations of James Randal Hall, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Georgia, Richard H. Honaker, to be United States District Judge for the District of Wyoming, Gustavus Adolphus Puryear IV, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee, and Brian Stacy Miller, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas. SD-226

FEBRUARY 13

9:30 a.m.
 Veterans' Affairs
 To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for veterans programs. SR-418

9:45 a.m.
 Energy and Natural Resources
 To hold hearings to examine the President's budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of the Interior. SD-366

FEBRUARY 14

9:30 a.m.
 Energy and Natural Resources
 To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget estimates for

fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Agriculture Forest Service. SD-366

10 a.m.
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 To hold hearings to examine one year to digital television transition, focusing on consumers, broadcasters, and converter boxes. SR-253

FEBRUARY 27

2:30 p.m.
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Space, Aeronautics, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the National Space and Aeronautics Administration (NASA). SR-253

FEBRUARY 28

9:30 a.m.
 Armed Services
 To hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009, for the Department of the Navy, and the future years defense program; with the possibility of a closed session in SR-222 immediately following the open session. SH-216