

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CHAD EVAN DALE  
ROBERTS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Chad Evan Dale Roberts, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Chad has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Chad has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Chad Evan Dale Roberts for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONSOLIDATED NATURAL  
RESOURCES ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2008*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 which includes the re-naming of the Ellis Island Library on the third floor of the Ellis Island Immigration Museum as the "Bob Hope Memorial Library."

Bob Hope is an American institution and was one of our greatest entertainers. Most Americans remember Bob Hope for his work in the entertainment business as well as for his USO shows for American soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen fighting overseas.

What few know is that Bob Hope was an immigrant from England. Like many of the other 16 million immigrants who passed through Ellis Island, Bob Hope and his family arrived in America in 1908 with little but the American dream. Bob Hope described himself upon arrival as "a 4-year-old boy in knickers who had no idea of the opportunities that lay ahead."

Bob Hope held a special place in his heart for Ellis Island and, in 1990, when the Ellis Island Restoration Commission suggested naming the third floor of the museum in his honor, he stated that it would be "one of the single most important highpoints in his career."

The library will be a daily reminder to Ellis Island's visitors of the great contributions of one of our Nation's most renowned immigrants and of the opportunities of the American dream. While Bob Hope did not live to see this

project completed after more than 15 years, we honor his memory by passing this legislation today.

It is my hope that the National Park Service and the Ellis Island Restoration Commission will work together to make the Ellis Island Museum, including the Bob Hope Memorial Library, a place to remember the 16 million immigrants who passed through Ellis Island and an interactive destination to honor the memories of and learn more about some of America's most famous immigrants, such as Bob Hope.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SALLIE  
AIJALEN MARX

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to say congratulations to Sallie Marx on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah.

In Judaism, Bat Mitzvah celebrates the coming of age of a Jewish girl. According to Jewish law, when Jewish children reach the age of majority (twelve for girls) they become responsible for their actions, Jewish ritual law, tradition, and ethics and are privileged to participate in all areas of Jewish community life. The celebrant is asked to perform a mitzvah project, providing a service to the greater community.

Sallie Aijalen Marx, 12 years old, from Bainbridge Island, Washington will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on May 17th, 2008 along with Grandmother Ruth Marx, Grandparents Gary and Phyllis Marx, Grandparents Mary Ellen and Andy Mendelsohn, Parents Josh and Stacey Marx, and lots of friends and relatives. As a mitzvah project she has raised \$5,500 for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and traveled across the state to run in the 5 K "Race for a Cure" in Spokane in April. Sallie raised more money than any other individual and all but two groups for the April event.

The Susan G. Komen for the Cure was founded in 1982 and launched the global breast cancer movement. Today, Komen for the Cure is the world's largest grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists fighting to save lives, empower people, ensure quality care for all and energize science to find the cures. Thanks to events like the Komen Race for the Cure, they have invested nearly \$1 billion to fulfill their promise, becoming the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to the fight against breast cancer.

For the past 25 years, Komen for the Cure has played a critical role in every major advance in the fight against breast cancer—transforming how the world talks about and treats this disease and helping to turn millions of breast cancer patients into breast cancer survivors. Their contributions include more

early detection, more hope, more research and more survivors.

On her web page Sallie said "One of the things that inspires me is that my grandma has had breast cancer since 1982. Unfortunately, I know many others who have been affected by breast cancer as well." Raising money for the Komen for the Cure Foundation and running in the Race for a Cure was the perfect mitzvah project given her sensitivity to breast cancer issues, her fund raising talent, and her athleticism.

Sallie is a bright young woman who excels in soccer, basketball, and lacrosse. Her middle name, Aijalen, means happiness in a Chilean indigenous language; a product of her parents' service in the Peace Corps in Chile. She enjoys cooking, loves to read Sports Illustrated, rooting for the Red Sox, and is an outstanding student. Sallie's mother Stacey joined her in the Race for a Cure while her father Josh and younger brother Nate cheered them on.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing Sallie and her family on her important day.

HONORING PAUL CODY JAMESON

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Paul Cody Jameson, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Paul has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Paul has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Paul Cody Jameson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

COMMENDING JOCKEY KENT  
DESORMEAUX FOR WINNING THE  
134TH KENTUCKY DERBY

**HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, this past Saturday afternoon, with more than 157,000 people watching from the stands and millions watching from their homes, Big Brown won the

• 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.

134th Kentucky Derby at Louisville, Kentucky's Churchill Downs. Ridden by Louisiana-native Kent Desormeaux, Big Brown proved his ability yet again, as the favorite became the seventh undefeated horse to win horse racing's most prestigious prize. Big Brown's trainer and owners now look ahead to the Preakness, the second leg of the Triple Crown.

Leading his third horse to the red roses of a Kentucky Derby win, Kent Desormeaux is no stranger to winning. Born in Maurice, Louisiana, Kent's first race was at Evangeline Downs with his first win coming aboard Miss Tavern on July 13, 1986. At 25 years old, the jockey became the youngest ever to notch 3,000 career wins. His successful career is a testament to hard work, determination and a love of his sport.

I know I join Kent's family and many in Acadiana in congratulating him on this most recent win and wishing him the best for continued success. Louisiana has a well-established record of producing winning jockeys and Kent certainly continues our legacy.

Unfortunately, Saturday's race did have sadness as second place, Eight Belles, was euthanized on the track. The filly, who ran an impressive race, collapsed after crossing the finish line. It was a tragic scene that reminds us all of the dangers of the sport.

The story Saturday though was Big Brown's big win. Desormeaux shepherded the horse from the outside gate through a crowded field and dictated the pace to give Big Brown the best shot at victory. As the lead pack rounded the final turn of the mile and a quarter race, Desormeaux gave Big Brown the signal, and the horse's effort left his competitors in the dust.

Again, congratulations to Kent Desormeaux, winning jockey of the 134th Kentucky Derby.

HONORING THE THIRTIETH QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE SLAVONIC BENEVOLENT ORDER OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Thirtieth Quadrennial Convention of the Slavonic Benevolent Order of the State of Texas (SPJST), which will be held on June 8–11, 2008. For 111 years, SPJST has served as a fraternal organization and an educational tool for Czech immigrants to learn the democratic process, the value of free speech, and the importance of voting in their newly adopted homeland.

Today, there are more than 47,000 members of the SPJST in 120 lodges throughout the state of Texas. In recent years, SPJST has expanded to include youth activities and community service programs. As a result, many SPJST projects and members have been recognized by the Texas Fraternal Congress for their service and contribution to communities throughout Texas. SPJST has provided its members with identity and support throughout the years. In lodges all over the state of Texas members are committed to helping those in need by working in hospitals, providing scholarships, and supporting drug

abuse programs and other charities. The members of SPJST have upheld the tradition of helping people to care for their families and their communities.

With its great commitment to its members, communities, and organizations that it serves, SPJST embodies the value and tradition of the great state of Texas.

HONORING JOSEPH K. JOHNSEN

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph K. Johnsen, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joseph has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph K. Johnsen for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

A TRIBUTE TO RIO LINDA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the staff and volunteers of the Rio Linda Union School District and the services they provided to local students. For 94 years, the dedicated staff of the Rio Linda Union School District has carefully selected fully credentialed teachers, involved the community in the education process and worked tirelessly to meet the needs of students. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring some of Sacramento's finest educators.

Established in 1914 as a one-room school house, the district has grown into a 22 school, K–6 district. This award winning district is now Sacramento County's largest elementary school district, teaching 10,500 elementary students in the northern Sacramento area. These communities include Rio Linda, Foothill Farms, North Natomas, North Highlands, and McClellan Park.

Rio Linda Union School District offers rigorous educational programs for all students and aligns their curriculum and textbooks to state standards with the integration of arts and sciences into the classrooms. The district prides itself on sustaining a quality learning environment, maintaining school grounds and ensuring a safe place for children to learn. Students have succeeded due to improved special education classes, expanded summer school, Reading Recovery program, family outreach workers, and before and after school activities to keep the children engaged in learning.

This district is made of a diverse population of students, bridging ethnicities and backgrounds. More than 36 different languages are spoken in this district and 26 percent of students have a limited proficiency in English. This is a challenge facing educators across our Nation, and the Rio Linda Union School District has met the challenge head on.

Rio Linda Union School District is driven by community volunteers. The efforts of the volunteers that help this district run are truly admirable. Approximately 3,000 parents volunteer each year to work in classrooms, chaperone field trips and serve on committees. Two annual events that showcase the dedication of volunteers in this district are the Volunteer Luncheon and the Principal for a Day program. More than 400 parents attend the annual Volunteer Luncheon where a "Volunteer of the Year" from each school is chosen. Their Principal for a Day program attracts community leaders making the program a state model.

This school district will soon be seeing a change due to the passage of Measure B which consolidates four northern Sacramento County school districts. In July of 2008, Rio Linda Union School District, Grant Joint Union High School, North Sacramento School District, and Del Paso Heights School District will merge to become Twin Rivers Union School District. Frank Porter, who is currently the Superintendent for Rio Linda Union School District has been hired as Interim Superintendent for this new district. Mr. Porter has worked as Superintendent for more than 6 years, during which eight Rio Linda schools received California Distinguished School Awards.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the Rio Linda Union School District's commitment to education and our community. Over the past 90 years, their success stories have been truly inspiring. As members of the Sacramento community gather at the Aerospace Museum, I ask my colleagues to come together and honor the tireless dedication shown by the Rio Linda Union School District's staff and volunteers in providing quality education for our children.

CONGRATULATING THE 2008 AMERICAN JUNIOR CURLING TEAM

**HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate the American Junior Curling Team for winning the 2008 World Junior Curling Championship in Osterlund, Sweden on March 9, 2008. The Plys Team, named after its captain, Chris Plys, had previously won the United States Junior National Championship to qualify to be the American team in the world championship.

Despite strong competition from the other teams at the championship, including Canada, Norway, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, China, Scotland, Czech Republic and Sweden, which had home-field advantage, the American team persevered and took the title, the first for an American team since 1984. They defeated Sweden 7–5 for the title.

I want to commend Coach Phil Drobnick, Captain Chris Plys, Danny Plys and Aanders

Brorson, of Duluth, Minnesota, Matt Perushek of Eveleth, Minnesota, and Matt Hamilton of McFarland, Wisconsin for their outstanding accomplishments. They bring great credit upon themselves, their communities, the United States and the sport of curling. I wish them well in their future endeavors.

HONORING MICHAEL ANDREW  
GORSKI

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Andrew Gorski, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael Andrew Gorski for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

U.S.-TAIWAN ACHIEVEMENTS AND  
CHALLENGES

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, for the past 60 years, the United States and Taiwan have enjoyed a unique and vital relationship. Forged during a period of mutual confrontation with communism, our ties have flourished over the years. Indeed, what began as primarily a security-focused partnership has become one based on a wide range of mutual interests.

The growth of our relations was in no way a coincidence. Instead, the common values of freedom, democracy and prosperity have guided both our peoples over the years. During the past two decades in particular, America's support has helped Taiwan develop a vibrant democratic government and strong economy, which in turn have provided hope and inspiration to others in the region and around the world.

Today, as Taiwan prepares for yet another milestone in its democratic progression—the inauguration of a new President later this month—I would like to recognize some of the successes we have had together under the leadership of its outgoing President, Chen Shui-bian.

From President Chen's first months in office, the United States and Taiwan worked to advance its rightful role in the international community. This began with cooperative efforts to first call for and later secure Taiwan's entry into the World Trade Organization.

Our governments also worked closely together during this period of increasing global

health awareness and activity. Over the past several years, America has consistently pushed to have Taiwan included in international forums where it can convey lessons learned from its experience with SARS and the Avian flu. In addition, our senior diplomats—backed by strong congressional direction in 2003—have sought a meaningful role for Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

Our security interests have also been closely aligned during President Chen's tenure. The tragedy that befell the United States on September 11, 2001, was met with a swift response by Taiwan, which assisted with resources for coalition efforts in Afghanistan, cooperative efforts to track and shut down terrorist financial networks, participation in our government's Container Security Initiative, and many other joint efforts. Taiwan even contributed generously to the Pentagon Memorial Fund, in recognition of those who lost their lives on 9/11.

The partnership we have built with Taiwan has also served both governments well as we have been compelled to respond to hostile Chinese gestures in recent years. Perhaps the starkest example of this during President Chen's time in office occurred in December 2004, when China unveiled and subsequently enacted its Anti-Secession Law, a measure providing legal authority for the People's Liberation Army to invade Taiwan without provocation. A steady and determined response by President Chen was matched by strong statements of concern from the international community, signaling to China that hostile action would be met with strong resistance.

America has also sought ways to counter a wide range of other Chinese measures that seek to isolate Taiwan:

Militarily, China has noticeably increased its threat to Taiwan's security through the steady deployment of missiles targeting Taiwan, in numbers that have grown by more than 100 per year and now far exceed 1,000 in number.

Diplomatically, China has attempted to block at every turn Taiwan's efforts to participate in the global community. It opposed Taiwan's recent application to join the United Nations as a full member, and has repeatedly thwarted Taiwan's attempts to join the UN and its affiliate organizations—such as the World Health Organization—even as an observer.

Economically, China has sought to prevent Taiwan from expanding its role in international markets—using the dependence created by their over \$80 billion in annual bilateral trade as a means to advancing unification. At the same time, it has been working to build bilateral and regional free trade agreements (FTAs) that deliberately exclude Taiwan.

Politically, China's authorities refused to communicate with Taiwan's elected leadership during President Chen's tenure, despite repeated offers by him to engage in open dialogue.

As evidenced by the constructive efforts cited earlier, the United States and Taiwan have worked closely to address each of these threats as they have arisen. And we will continue to do so when President Ma Ying-jeou assumes office on May 20th, building on the record of achievement that our governments have amassed in just the first years of this new century. I look forward to working with President Ma's government as we seek to further advance our common values and interests.

PULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL COM-  
PETES IN NATIONAL SCIENCE  
BOWL

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join with the Pullman community in congratulating the Pullman High School Science Bowl team on being selected to compete in the 18th annual U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl.

The U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl is a nationwide academic competition that tests students' knowledge in all areas of science. Much like Jeopardy, the students put their science knowledge to the test as they are quizzed in a fast paced question-and-answer format.

Led by their coach, Barbara Harding, the Pullman High School team includes Randy Xun, Shashank Dwivedi, Suman Jandhyala, Xingyu Zhang, and Prastuti Singh. These outstanding students won their regional tournament and now join 66 other teams from throughout the nation to compete for the opportunity to travel to the International Youth Science Forum in England and a trip to visit nuclear power generation facilities in France.

The accomplishments of the Pullman High School team bring attention to the great need we have in our country to continue to encourage high school students to pursue careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. In order for our country to remain competitive, we need more young, bright students like these who will grow up to be our future doctors, scientists and engineers. I am certain these students would agree that a career in science is one that holds infinite potential.

Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending the Pullman High School Science Bowl team for their commitment to academic excellence and for their exceptional performance in the National Science Bowl.

HONORING WILLIAM S. ROBBINS  
III

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize, William S. Robbins III, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

William has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years William has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending William S. Robbins III for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

## HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, May 14th marks the 60th anniversary of the modern State of Israel. For six decades, America has stood by Israel's side as her partner in peace and defended her as a beacon of democracy in a region dominated by war, authoritarian regimes, and religious conflict.

In 1948, the United States became the first country to welcome Israel into the community of nations, and we have stood with and supported her as she has defended herself from those who seek her destruction each and every day.

Israel has been our staunchest ally in the Middle East, as well as a full partner in the global war against radical jihadists—individuals who attack our Nation, our children, our values, and the very existence of Western civilization.

The Old Testament teaches us the foundation of Israel's storied past. For three thousand years, the Jewish people have created a cultural, religious, and national identity, a connection rooted in their unbroken ties to the Holy Land. When the modern State of Israel was created 60 years ago, that Jewish heritage was renewed.

Madam Speaker, Israel has a legal, moral, and historical right to exist in peace with secure and defensible borders.

Make no mistake, Israel's challenges are vast. Each day Israelis face the verbal and physical threat of annihilation looming on the horizon. From Tehran. Damascus, and Hebron come unrelenting calls for the destruction of the State of Israel. Meantime, rockets from Gaza rain down on the homes and schools of Sderot. Ashkelon, and other Israeli cities, all the while the United Nations sits idle and echoes anti-Israel, anti-Semitic proclamations. Israel remains a nation under siege.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, today I come to this floor, our own altar of democracy, to celebrate a nation that has turned adversity into triumph and took a dispersed population and made them whole. Like America, Israel is a country of immigrants and has opened its doors to every Jewish immigrant to become a citizen. This story has now united people from over 70 countries and has turned Israel into a society of multi-ethnic communities living side by side with one another.

As the world's oldest democracy, today we celebrate the success of a democratic relative. Israel exists in a part of the world that knows little democracy, yet Israel has displayed the hope and dignity that accompanies rule by the people and personal freedom. Although blessed with few natural resources, this young nation has seen the fruits of its labor pay off through an incredible amount of economic prosperity and cultural creativity.

Yet as Israel works for peace with security, we must not forget that peace can never be achieved by asking Israel to put at risk its sovereignty and the safety of its people.

We must constantly reaffirm our own ties to this democratic society in a part of the world so desperately in need of democracy. This is vitally important to our own security. And we must all realize this.

Thus, I will continue to support Israel and pray she one day will live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force.

I am honored to come to the floor today to celebrate the 60th anniversary of our ally, the nation of Israel.

## IN RECOGNITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH HONOREES

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the everyday heroes in Sacramento whose commitment in the areas of business, education, and community involvement are unparalleled. The men and women being honored this afternoon are dedicated to a diverse Sacramento and their tireless efforts have made a substantial difference in our neighborhoods. As they gather to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring these fine Sacramentans.

With the month of May being Asian Pacific American Heritage month, it is important that we take time to honor individual members of the Asian Pacific Islander Community who go above and beyond in their commitment to community service. One such individual is a Moses Auwae, a retired Army serviceman. Upon his departure from the military, Mr. Auwae dedicated himself to improving the lives of future generations. Mr. Auwae's work with developmentally disabled children at the Laurel Ruff School helped him win the Outstanding Service to Children and Adults with Developmental Disabilities Award in 1991 from the Association for Retarded Citizens. Additionally, Mr. Auwae has been an active community volunteer, making a difference in many lives.

Over the last few decades, Tom Fujimoto has been a diligent advocate for preserving the heritage of Japanese Americans. Working as the trustee to the Wakamatsu Tea & Silk Colony, Mr. Fujimoto has been instrumental in safeguarding this historical landmark, one of the first Japanese settlements in the United States. In addition to his efforts in ensuring Japanese American's proper place in history, Mr. Fujimoto has lent his expertise and knowledge to numerous Sacramento groups. He has served on the Board of the Sacramento Regional Historical Project, the National Japanese American Historical Society, the Tule Lake/Linkville Cemetery Project and was President of the Sacramento Japanese American Citizens League. Mr. Fujimoto has served the community admirably and his efforts have made significant strides for the betterment of our region.

Throughout the years, Ms. Aeyon Lee has been a leader in the Sacramento community helping to promote healthy living to ensure that the concerns of the neediest among us are heard by policymakers. From her work encouraging civic participation to her volunteering at the WIND Youth Services, Ms. Lee recognizes the importance of giving back to the community. Serving on the board for the Placer County American Cancer Society and

currently as the President of the Sacramento Korean American Cancer Support Group, Ms. Lee has been a fundamental link in connecting community organizations with the resources they need to succeed.

Ms. Linda Ng has actively worked to ensure the civil rights of all Sacramentans and has strived to end discrimination in our neighborhoods. From her work with the Satendar Singh Justice Coalition to her appointment by Governor Schwarzenegger to the Fair Employment and Housing Commission, Ms. Ng has provided a steady and unwavering voice for every ethnicity. As President of the Organization of Chinese Americans, Sacramento, Ms. Ng organized Chinese New Year celebrations and the Pacific Rim Street Festival, both which have helped raise cultural awareness and encouraged community participation. Ms. Ng's leadership also accounted for a very successful OCA National Convention this past summer in Sacramento.

As the only Vietnamese American to attain the rank of captain in all law enforcement in California, Captain Trang Tro has been an inspiration to Asian Pacific Americans everywhere. As a community leader and member of the Sacramento County Sheriffs Department, Captain Tro understands the need to protect and serve all of Sacramento's neighborhoods. Working as a public safety liaison, Captain Tro has been involved in many worthy endeavors such as OCA's Hate Crime Conference and the District Attorney's Citizens Academy. I thank Captain Tro for his efforts to strengthen the ties between law enforcement and Sacramento's diverse neighborhoods.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize these worthy honorees who have worked tirelessly and often behind the scenes to ensure that Sacramento is a better place to live. As we celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, I applaud the spirit embodied by these local heroes. On behalf of the people of Sacramento and the Fifth Congressional District of California, I ask all my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the efforts and important role these individuals have played in helping Sacramento flourish.

## HONORING DAVID JAMES KING

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize David James, King a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 900, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

David has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years David has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending David James King for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF DR. THELMA EVELYN GOODRICH-HILL, PHD

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise with great sadness as I pay tribute to Dr. Thelma Evelyn Goodrich-Hill an outstanding daughter of Harlem who recently passed away at the age of 85. As I speak with profound sorrow, I ascend to celebrate a life well lived and to remember with fondness the accomplishments of a remarkable woman who, over her many years and under much adversity, was a leader in the sphere of business.

Thelma was born on April 19, 1923, in the City of New York. She was one of four daughters born to James E. Daniel Goodrich. Thelma was a life-long resident of Harlem and was a product of New York City's public school system, graduating from Wadleigh High School. She received her professional training at the Harlem Academy of Business, City University of New York's Baruch School of Business, and the College of Insurance.

As a daughter of a real estate entrepreneur, Thelma inherited her father's interest in the world of business becoming one of the first women in Harlem to own and operate her own brokerage firm, Thelma E. Goodrich Real Estate & Insurance Inc.

In January 1960, she united with Lawrence Dudley Hill in holy matrimony. Their marriage was a loving and committed union, lasting 45 years until his passing in September 2005.

Over the years, Thelma emerged as a stabilizing force in the Harlem community in addition to blazing many new trails as a female entrepreneur. In 1982, after many years of the company's growth, Thelma E. Goodrich Inc., merged with the firm of Ernest E. Johnson Insurance Inc., forming Goodrich Johnson Brokerage. This company, a full service insurance brokerage business, continues to effectively handle the needs of businesses and churches throughout the State of New York.

Throughout her busy and involved career, Thelma shared her knowledge of the insurance business by serving on corporate boards and in corporate leadership positions. In 1988 she was elected chair of the board of directors of the United Mutual Life Insurance Company, the first African-American woman to hold that position. She was also the first woman to serve as president, of the Council of Insurance Brokers of Greater New York, Inc.

Thelma was also involved with many different organizations. She was an active member of the Iota Phi Lambda Sorority and a life long member and past president of the New York Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs Inc., a former chair of the board of the Greater Harlem Real Estate Board, and a founding member and past president of the Harlem Business Alliance. In April 1986 she was elected to the board of trustees at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina, and in 1998, she was awarded a Doctorate of Humane Letters by Shaw University.

Over the years, Thelma was recognized by the business and religious communities for her professional achievements and volunteer work to improve the quality of life for others, includ-

ing the NAACP, United Insurance Brokers of Greater New York, Harlem Commonwealth Council, Shaw University School of Divinity, The YWCA, and most recently, the Council of Insurance Brokers of Greater New York, Inc.

Thelma leaves behind a wealth of family and friends to honor her memory. She will be greatly missed by her sister, Irene McKenzie; 2 nephews, 1 niece, and a blessed abundance of cousins, friends and colleagues.

Madam Speaker, rather than mourn her passing, I hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating the life of Dr. Thelma Goodrich-Hill by remembering that she exemplified greatness in every way.

HONORING CHERYL PETTY

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, this weekend at its State convention, Alpha Delta Kappa, an international honorary organization of women educators dedicated to educational excellence, honored my dear friend Cheryl Petty with its Distinguished Teacher Award. I ask my colleagues to please join me in extending sincere congratulations.

Cheryl is a native of Franklin, Tennessee, and has given back to that community by educating its children—first at Johnson Elementary for 21 years, and now at Moore Elementary for the past 18. Cheryl began her teaching career after receiving a bachelor's degree in education from Vanderbilt University. She would later add a master's in education from Middle Tennessee State University.

Not content with her service to the Franklin Special School District and raising a family, Cheryl has become a cornerstone of our community through her membership in not only Alpha Delta Kappa, but also the Williamson County Cultural Arts Commission, Williamson County Republican Career Women, the Woman's Club of Nashville, the Professional Educators of Tennessee and the Heritage Foundation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of my friend Cheryl Petty and congratulating her and her family on this wonderful occasion.

HONORING CHRISTOPHER SAVING

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Saving, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Christopher has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher Saving for his

accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2008*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support H. Res. 1079, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month 2008. With the economy in its current state, and with the anticipation of more hardships to come, it has become increasingly important for all Americans to have a basic understanding of financial systems and resources. Many of the challenges that we face today could have been avoided if more Americans were financially literate and able to make informed decisions while protecting themselves from abusive financial practices.

A recent 2008 Financial Literacy Survey prepared for the National Foundation on Credit Counseling and MSN Money highlights the growing need for quality financial literacy education. According to the report, over 50 million Americans have no money set aside for their own retirement, and roughly 76 million Americans have no savings outside of their retirement fund. Over 30 percent of Americans do not know their own credit score, and over 60 percent have not requested a free copy of their credit report in the past year. Approximately 40 million Americans make little or no effort to budget their finances or keep track of their own spending, and around 15 million Americans are being called by collectors and have seriously considered filing for bankruptcy. In the state of Texas, there were more than 184,000 prime and subprime mortgages in delinquency at the end of 2007, a situation that was closely linked to the lack of financial literacy among consumers. The problem is only worsened by the fact that one in four Americans say they would not consider buying a home at this time because they do not know enough to feel comfortable doing so.

By designating April as Financial Literacy Month, we are recognizing the importance of financial literacy and making an active effort to encourage and support quality financial literacy education programs. The American Dream cannot be obtained by those who suffer from dangerous consumer habits, poorly managed finances, unsustainable levels of debt, and barriers to mainstream financial services and institutions. Financial Literacy Month is a reminder for all of us to continue working so that every individual will have the tools and knowledge they need to attain financial security and strengthen our Nation's economy.

TRIBUTE TO DALLAS COMMUNITY MOTHERS AND THE LEGACY THEY LEAVE BEHIND

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to

eight beloved mothers of the Dallas community who passed away this year. These women made a lasting impact not only in the lives of their own families but in their churches, neighborhoods and throughout the Dallas community.

Mrs. Bessie Nash will be remembered as the full-fledged "church mother." She was active in driving the church bus, in charge of the primary Sunday school and primary choir. Children were truly her heart. She devoted her life to children not only in her actions but in her words by offering her wisdom and guidance to make sure they stayed on the right path in life.

Mrs. Lillie Fuller will be remembered as the "neighborhood mother." Known for being kind, gentle, and generous, her love extended beyond her own children to anyone in need. Her heart and door were always open to help others. She especially loved children, and her life reflected it well.

Mrs. Ruby Page will be remembered as the "feisty mother." As the unofficial neighborhood crime watch captain, she kept a watchful eye on crime. She also looked out for her guests. When anyone visited, her culinary skills not only produced food for their body, but the warmth and care she prepared it with was food for the soul.

Mrs. Barbara Hogg will be remembered as the "mother whose love traveled across great distances." Despite the many miles between her and her children, her love went beyond borders and boundaries to the hearts of those that loved her most. Her compassion for her children could not be contained. Her love knew no limits.

Mrs. Ruthie Davis will be remembered as the "mother that held out hope in the midst of impossible odds." The love she exhibited exemplified the biblical scripture "love covereth all things." Whether it was her children or anyone else's, her motherly eyes saw beyond the crust of contrary behavior, to the core of humanity.

Mrs. China Randle will be remembered as the "gentle-hearted mother." Although gentle, her resilience allowed her heartstrings to be stretched by those she loved the most, yet still return to original shape. Her love never failed. Her gentleness was her strength.

Mrs. Peggy Washington will be remembered as the "mother who forged a path through life for her children to follow." She led by example in hopes that her children would follow. Along the way, she planted seeds of values and principles. May the seeds that she planted bring a fruitful harvest.

Mrs. Florine Anderson will be remembered as the "mother with enduring strength." The love she had for her children endured throughout her lifetime. Through the stresses and strains of motherhood, her strength and love were steadfast and unmovable. Her life reflected the quote that true character is shown under pressure. Her strength stands a pillar for all to see.

On behalf of the 30th Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to pay respect to these honorable women. Individually, they were invaluable members of the Dallas area.

HONORING AARON PAUL PRICE

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aaron Paul Price, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 205, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aaron has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Aaron has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Aaron Paul Price for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAVID DREIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2008*

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the gentleman from Texas, Mr. HINOJOSA, and the gentelady from Illinois, Mrs. BIGGERT, for introducing H. Res. 1079, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month 2008. As a co-sponsor of this resolution and a member of the Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus, I am proud to support this measure.

Almost a decade into the 21st century, we are finding that more Americans have access to financial services and products than ever before. With the click of a button, consumers can perform a variety of financial activities over the Internet, from paying bills to managing investments. Technology has allowed more people to enjoy the benefits of access to capital and today, half of all American households own equities. This growing number of "investor class" Americans are participating in financial markets through retirement plans, investment vehicles or Internet trading accounts.

Yet, many Americans are concerned about our economy. Uncertainty has not only had a big impact on housing markets, but has also resulted in a great deal of volatility in stock markets both in the United States and abroad. The need for financial literacy has never been greater than it is right now. While sound financial and investment decisions are necessary for creating economic booms, they are absolutely essential in weathering the busts. As working Americans, small-business owners and the ever-growing investor class address these current economic challenges, they must have the right tools to make the best decisions for their own financial security.

Therefore, it is fitting that this resolution reaffirms the important role that financial literacy plays in helping individuals evaluate the complex financial choices that they encounter and further recognizes the need to begin teaching financial management skills at an early age.

By educating our youth to understand money, savings, credit, debt and risk, we will not only be providing lifelong skills, but also can ensure that individuals will have the tools necessary to make informed decisions in this evolving 21st century economy.

It is also important to note that efforts to enhance financial literacy are not confined to our own country. Earlier this month, governments throughout Europe declared their commitment to promoting financial education. The private sector is also actively engaged in enhancing economic literacy throughout the developing world. For example, Citigroup and the Citigroup Foundation have provided more than \$22 million in support of financial education programs that have reached millions of people in more than 40 countries. These activities include community development projects to support the expansion of thrift and credit-based cooperative groups in India and the development of a microfinance industry in China. As we strive for expanded trade and investment with our global partners, it is clear that growth in world markets is increasingly linked to growth in our own economy. In other words, financial literacy abroad allows us to reap the benefits here at home.

Ultimately, expanding access to the financial system and knowledge of its workings provides individuals with greater choice and lower costs when managing finances, building wealth and making investments. These activities in turn lead to increases in economic activity and growth that benefits our entire Nation. I urge my colleagues to recognize the importance of financial literacy and support this measure.

HONORING ALESIA HAMILTON

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ms. Alesia Hamilton, an exemplary individual and first grade teacher at Edison Elementary in St. Joseph, Missouri.

In 2004, Ms. Hamilton, in accordance with her character of compassion and service, invited Mr. Alferd Williams, 70, into her class of 25 students in order that he may finally learn to read. Her generous nature and commitment to the task of working with Mr. Williams demonstrates her willingness to go above and beyond what is required as a public school teacher. Ms. Hamilton was also recently recognized as the St. Joseph School District Teacher of the Year.

In accordance with my Resolution to recognize the roles and contributions of America's teachers through National Teacher Appreciation Week, I would like to take a moment to individually recognize Ms. Hamilton as an educator selflessly committed to the development of our nation's students.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alesia Hamilton for her service to America's students and for her efforts put forth in working with Mr. Williams. It is an honor to serve both of these individuals in the United States Congress.

SENSE OF HOUSE ESTABLISHING A  
NATIONAL LETTER CARRIERS  
APPRECIATION DAY

SPEECH OF

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2008*

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in favor of H. Res. 49, supporting the establishment of a National Letter Carriers Appreciation Day.

As the son of a rural letter carrier, I understand the hard work and sacrifice of our nation's letter carriers. Letter carriers deliver billions of pieces of mail to millions of homes and businesses each year. Working six days a week, letter carriers fulfill a great need in this country.

Inscribed at the New York City General Post Office is the United States Postal Services' unofficial motto: "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

Our nation's letter carriers are entrusted to carry out a vital service, and they do so with dignity. Many carriers, like my father, serve the same communities for their entire career. These carriers develop invaluable relationships with their customers and become an important part of their community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the establishment of a National Letter Carriers Appreciation Day.

IN HONOR OF ELEANOR GELFAND

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Eleanor Gelfand as she and her family celebrate her 90th birthday.

Eleanor Gelfand, the daughter of immigrants from Hungary, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on May 2, 1918. She grew up along with her two siblings in the Glenville neighborhood of Cleveland during the great depression. Her parents, Zigmund and Mary Adler, worked as a union baker and a homemaker and were active in the Glenville community. Their activism and ability to work with fellow community members on social issues during a time of economic strife instilled a strong sense of social consciousness in their young children.

Mrs. Gelfand attended Glenville High School and later went on to earn her degree in cosmetology, becoming a licensed beautician. She continued to work in local salons until World War II. Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, she married Ernest Gelfand who was drafted into the Navy after U.S. involvement in the war. Mrs. Gelfand left her career as a beautician and began working at the Fisher Body plant in Cleveland making airplanes for the war. Shortly after her husband returned from serving his country in the war, they started a family and she stayed home to raise their 3 children. In 1969, she returned to her first career in cosmetology, where she would continue to work until her retirement in 1980. She and her husband were active together in the

Jewish War Veterans Post 44. She continues to work closely with them by raising money to help other veterans in the community. Just as her parents instilled strong values of social activism in her, she too continues to serve as an example to her 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Eleanor Gelfand as she celebrates her 90th birthday party. May her story and continued activism in the Greater Cleveland community serve as an example for all of us to follow.

COMMEMORATING THE 93RD ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN  
GENOCIDE**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the survivors of the Armenian Genocide and their descendants. This year marks the 93rd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

The genocide of the Armenian people by the Ottoman Empire during World War I represents a major tragedy of the modern age. Carried out between 1915 and 1923, the Armenian Genocide was a systematic and deliberate campaign by the Turkish Ottoman Empire to destroy its Armenian minority. While there is no consensus as to how many Armenians lost their lives, there is general agreement among western scholars that between 500,000 and 1,500,000 Armenians died and that nearly all Armenians were exiled from their homeland.

The date of the onset of the genocide is conventionally held to be April 24, 1915, the day that Ottoman authorities arrested some 250 Armenian intellectuals and community leaders in Istanbul. These Armenian political, religious, educational, and intellectual leaders were arrested, deported, and mercilessly put to death. Over the next few years, many Armenians were murdered outright or were deported via forced marches under such agonizing conditions that they died from exhaustion or starvation before they reached their destination.

At that time, the word "genocide" had not yet been coined. Nonetheless, many governments decried the mass murder of the Armenians as extermination of a people, a crime against humanity, and the murder of a nation.

We must honor the truth of the past because denial makes it more likely that genocide will happen again. We must recognize and condemn the atrocities that took place against the Armenian people. The time has come to pass the Armenian Genocide Resolution. I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation and give the Armenian people the respect and recognition they deserve.

KOREAN FREE TRADE  
AGREEMENT**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent the Eighth District of Washington State, which is the most trade dependent state in the Nation. We have a growing and vibrant economy based on technology and small business. Opening new global markets gives these businesses incentives to improve their products, produce more goods, and ultimately employ more American workers.

The Korean Free Trade Agreement will benefit Washington State. We cannot afford to lose South Korea as a trade partner; in Washington State, one in three jobs relies on trade. In these uncertain economic times, we need to open markets, not reduce them. Congress must act now to preserve our trade relations and preserve American jobs. I respectfully submit the following article from the Seattle Times for the record:

[From the Seattle Times]

KOREAN FREE-TRADE PACT IMPORTANT FOR  
WASHINGTON

(By Kathleen Connors)

Two years ago, government and business leaders from across the state welcomed U.S. and Korean officials to Seattle for a week of trade negotiations. Seattle was chosen for a reason: Washington is the most trade-dependent state in the country, and there are already strong ties between Washington state and Korea.

The U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement is now signed and awaits congressional consideration. Last week, President Bush welcomed to Washington, D.C., for the first time, newly elected South Korean President Lee Myung-bak, who brought with him an important present: an agreement to fully reopen the Korean market to U.S. beef.

South Korea had been the third-largest export market for U.S. beef until 2003, when U.S. producers were effectively shut out of the market. Washington state exported \$50 million of beef products to Korea that year, so the resumption of exports beginning in May will be a welcome boon to local producers.

Lee's visit comes at a time when American trade policy is again at a crossroads. Our continued ability to open foreign markets and expand trade opportunities through trade agreements is seriously at risk.

There has been a long debate about the impact of trade on America's economy. Despite political challenges, presidents of both parties—supported by Congress—have consistently promoted trade.

Despite 95 percent of America's potential customers being outside our borders, the era of trade cooperation may be over. Trade has become a presidential campaign issue, with candidates suggesting they would consider pulling the United States out of the North American Free Trade Agreement. And congressional leaders are threatening to defeat all pending trade agreements, including agreements with Colombia, Panama and Korea.

Does the Korea agreement matter? It does for Washington state. The Korea agreement is part of a broader Asia-Pacific strategy for Washington, and Asian nations welcome their relationship with the state. In 2007, Korea was Washington's fifth-largest export

market. The U.S.-Korea FTA would allow nearly 95 percent of U.S. consumer and industrial exports to become duty free within the first three years of the agreement, and two-thirds of U.S. agricultural products will become duty free immediately.

Microsoft and Washington's many high-tech companies will benefit from Korea's eliminating duties on all products in this sector, as well as Korea's commitment to treat digital products equally regardless of whether they are transmitted in physical form or electronically. The agreement locks in and improves an open trade regime for technology-related services, such as telecommunications, computer and related services, and audiovisual and recreational services. It also strengthens protections for intellectual property by deterring piracy and unauthorized sharing of music, video, software and other content over the Internet.

Korea is a long-term customer for Boeing. In April 2005, Korean Air placed an order for up to 20 Boeing 787 Dreamliners in a deal worth approximately \$2.6 billion at list prices.

For Starbucks, this agreement will reverse a very bad trend. Coffee exporters had been excluded from previous trade agreements, including NAFTA and the Central American Free Trade Agreement. Under the Korea agreement, the bound tariff of nearly 30 percent will go immediately to zero.

Many of these products will be shipped through the ports of Seattle and Tacoma, which already benefit from strong relationships with Korean shippers Hanjin and Hyundai.

But it's not just large businesses and their workers that will benefit. In 2005, 89 percent of U.S. companies exporting to Korea were small or medium-sized. Washington beneficiaries include companies like Kaiser Aluminum in Spokane, and Trinity Glass International in Tacoma.

For Washington's farmers, the current 24-percent tariff on cherries would be immediately eliminated in the industry's top overseas growth market. The state's wine producers would finally have a fair chance to compete for Korean consumers. And Washington potato growers would immediately benefit from an 18-percent tariff reduction in a market that generated \$23 million in sales in 2006.

So what's next? This agreement will not pass without our active support. And we simply cannot take for granted the votes of our congressional delegation. Those who oppose trade have consistently been louder and more organized. And now they use a stagnant economy as their latest argument for voting down any trade agreement, despite export figures being the bright spot in our current economic data.

Washington state knows better. This agreement will have clear benefits for our region. But we must overcome a tough political season and an effective opposition to make this agreement a reality.

For Washington state, the agreement is a clear winner.

IN HONOR OF THE U.S. CHAMPION  
MOORPARK HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC  
DECATHLON TEAM

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Moorpark High School Academic Decathlon Team as the United States Academic Decathlon Champions.

This is the third time in 9 years that Moorpark High School's team has won this premier scholastic contest. Prior to its win in 1999, no team from Ventura County, California, had even competed in the nationals.

This year's team made history, scoring 53,119 points, the highest ever scored in the decathlon's 40-year history. In winning the national title, the Moorpark team broke the record it set as California champions by 240 points.

Team members Angela Chen, Jonah Buck, Christie Calle, Colin Calle, Anaamika Campeau, Justine Levan, Chrissa Rutkai, Kris Sankaran, and Paul Watanabe are now recognized as the best and the brightest in the country. They are the pride of their school, their community and their country.

These youngsters won by literally dedicating their lives to the challenge. For 9 months they put in up to 40 hours a week beyond their school days to study and hone their skills. They gave up weekends, vacations, part-time jobs, and time with their families.

Their hard work paid off. Moorpark came home with more medals than any of the other 41 teams from throughout the country, including 36 for individual subjects.

Special honors go to Colin Calle, the top-scoring varsity student; Chrissa Rutkai, top scorer in the scholastic division; and Kris Sankaran, the second-highest individual scorer in the honors division.

Their coach, Larry Jones, worked as hard, if not harder, than his students and is as deserving of high praise. Coach Jones has coached all three U.S. Championship teams. He is a man of outstanding strength, patience, and perseverance.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in applauding nine outstanding students who made history while achieving a very prestigious goal—Angela Chen, Jonah Buck, Christie Calle, Colin Calle, Anaamika Campeau, Justine Levan, Chrissa Rutkai, Kris Sankaran, and Paul Watanabe—the 2008 U.S. Champion Moorpark High School Academic Decathlon Team.

WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, April 28, 2008, was Workers Memorial Day. The day is dedicated to remembering those who have lost their lives or have been injured as a result of unsafe health and safety conditions. However, it is also a day for us to recommit to the fight for safer working conditions for all who go to work every day.

On April 23, 2008, the Workforce Protections Subcommittee, which I chair, held a hearing on strengthening OSHA enforcement at companies with multistate facilities. Specifically, we examined the tragedies that have occurred at the Cintas industrial plants across the country and focused on the heartbreaking and preventable death of Eleazar Torres-Gomez, a 46-year-old washroom employee in Cintas's Tulsa, Oklahoma plant. His son, Emmanuel Torres, testified at the hearing about his father and his senseless death.

OSHA has fined Cintas \$2.78 million for the tragedy in Tulsa, the largest OSHA fine ever

assessed in the service sector. And Cintas has also been cited by OSHA for hazards at a handful of their other facilities in Columbus, Ohio, Central Islip, New York, and Mobile, Alabama.

However, as Randy Rabinowitz, one of our witnesses, testified, OSHA fails to address these hazards on a "company-wide" basis. In addition, she said that: "these large companies have the organizational resources to make health and safety improvements." Sadly, many companies choose not to make such improvements.

What we discovered at the hearing is that Cintas as a company has failed to address deadly hazards that it was aware of, and OSHA has failed to adequately enforce safe working conditions beyond the facility level until after a terrible tragedy occurs.

The subcommittee will be following up our hearing with actions to ensure that no other families have to go through what the Torres-Gomez family did. We must end these tragic and preventable accidents.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I regrettably missed a number of votes to attend to a family emergency. Had I been present for these votes I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall No. 224, Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 1079, I would have voted "yea".

On rollcall No. 225, Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H.R. 4332, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 226, Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to S. 2739, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 227, Ordering the Previous Question for H.R. 5522, the Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Prevention Act, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 228, Providing for the consideration of H.R. 5522, the Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Prevention Act, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 229, Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to the Senate Amendment to the SAFETEA-LU Technical Corrections Act, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 230, the George Miller of California Amendment, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 231, the Wilson of South Carolina Substitute Amendment, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 238, the Flake Motion to Instruct Conferees, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 239, to Suspend Rules and Agree to Senate Amendments, I would have voted "yea."

CINCO DE MAYO

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Cinco de Mayo, a date which is

celebrated by Americans, Mexicans, and many others around the world.

The victory of the Mexican army over the French at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862, came to represent unity and patriotism for the Mexican people, which is now celebrated today as Cinco de Mayo. That same spirit of unity and patriotism exists in this country, and sharing it with as many as possible is an honorable and notable goal.

Millions of Hispanic Americans thrive and contribute in our country, with over 18 million residing in the Western United States, 65 percent of them of Mexican descent. These citizens bring their unique culture to communities throughout the United States. This is the epitome of what this Nation is all about—having the freedom to come together and celebrate so many different cultures.

On Cinco de Mayo, we reflect on the contributions of the country of Mexico, the battle for unity and patriotism, and that our freedom to celebrate is not something we can take for granted.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I was not present on April 30, 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on the following rollcall votes: rollcall 227, rollcall 228, rollcall 229, rollcall 230, rollcall 233.

I would have voted “nay” on the following: rollcall 232.

#### CONSOLIDATED NATURAL RESOURCES ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

### HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2008*

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support S. 2739, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008. S. 2739 includes the text of many important House-passed Federal lands bills, including H.R. 1100, my legislation to ensure the preservation of the beautiful natural surroundings at the Carl Sandburg Home Historic Site in Western North Carolina.

Carl Sandburg is one of America's finest and favorite poets. In 1945, Sandburg moved to Flat Rock, North Carolina, where he would spend the rest of his life.

The Sandburg Home is an important part of both our heritage and our economy in Western North Carolina. It is imperative that we protect the integrity of the Sandburg Home Site so future generations can fully appreciate its tremendous natural beauty. Expanding this site will also allow Western North Carolina to attract more tourists to the area, further driving the economy of the region.

I thank my colleagues in the House for the overwhelming bipartisan support they demonstrated in passing H.R. 1100 last year, and I thank Senators DOLE and BURR for their support of this legislation in the Senate.

I ask my colleagues to join me once again in preserving this national treasure.

#### HONORING JENNIFER AND JAMES GRIFFIN ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR MARRIAGE

### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor two of my constituents who were married Saturday, March 8, 2008. Jennifer Lewis Fowlkes and James Sean Griffin celebrated their commitment to each other at a wedding ceremony held at the Griffin home in Land O'Lakes, Florida. A couple firmly dedicated to the Pasco County region, Jennifer works for Verizon and James is an entrepreneur.

As George Eliot once said, “What greater thing is there for two human souls than to feel that they are joined together to strengthen each other in all labour, to minister to each other in all sorrow, to share with each other in all gladness, to be one with each other in the silent unspoken memories?” Having known the Griffin family for many years, Jennifer and James will have a lifetime of wedded joy ahead of them. I can only hope that their marriage is as long-lasting and full of love as that of James' parents, Danielle and Jeff Griffin.

Madam Speaker, we should all be jealous of newlyweds like Jennifer and James. Their life-long journey began with the first step of a marriage ceremony, and they have yet to see the ups and downs and joys and sorrows that come with every union of man and woman. Their commitment to each other is one to be celebrated and commended and one in which I offer my congratulations and wish them well as they begin their new life together.

#### HONORING RYAN HOPKIN AND JAMES ETIER

### HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mrs. CUBIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ryan Hopkin and James Etier, Wyoming's State Honorees for the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. These students were selected in a highly competitive, nationwide program, recognizing their outstanding acts of volunteerism.

Ryan Hopkin, a senior at Powell High School, installed crosswalk flags for younger children at dangerous intersections around the town's elementary schools. This innovative idea placed canisters on either side of the street, with cans provided for picking up and depositing the flag after use. That way, each student has a neon orange flag to carry, alerting drivers of their presence, and increasing their safety on the trip to school.

James Etier, an eighth-grader at Rock Springs East Junior High School, did a variety of volunteer activities at an after-school program. He helped out at the Humane Society shelter, worked at an elementary school with young children, and volunteered with the Salvation Army. James also assisted a group of senior citizens with yard work, in addition to visiting the local nursing home to meet residents.

Volunteerism is a community activity that is important to instill in our youth and these two individuals embody the spirit of service. I applaud them for their hard work and dedication to helping others. I hope they serve as role-models for their fellow students, leading by example.

In addition, I would like to recognize Wyoming's Distinguished Finalists, Elizabeth Whetstone of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Walter Wilson of Albin, Wyoming, for their commendable efforts.

#### CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA HAWKEYES WRESTLING TEAM ON WINNING THE 2008 NCAA DIVISION I NATIONAL WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

SPEECH OF

### HON. DAVID LOESACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2008*

Mr. LOESACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an amazing team from the 2nd District of Iowa, which I represent. I'm proud to stand before my colleagues today and commend the University of Iowa Hawkeyes wrestling team for winning the 2008 NCAA Division I National Wrestling Championship. As many wrestling fans know, the University of Iowa has a celebrated history of exemplary wrestlers and coaches that have allowed the University of Iowa, the city of Iowa City, and the entire State of Iowa to boast numerous Big Ten Titles and NCAA championships.

In total, the University of Iowa Hawkeyes wrestling team has won 32 Big Ten Conference Championships, and since 1975, a total of 21 NCAA Division I National Wrestling Championships. The current team has kept the Hawkeye record strong and it's my privilege to congratulate them on the 32nd Big Ten Title and 21st national championship for the school.

The University of Iowa Hawkeyes wrestling team is led by Head Coach Tom Brands who, in addition to this championship win, was named Big Ten Coach of the Year and the National Wrestling Coaches Association Coach of the Year. Under Coach Brands' leadership, along with his assistants and strength coaches, the team also had two individual national champions.

Mark Perry won his second national title while overcoming a knee injury during his match, and was also awarded his fourth all-American honor. Brent Metcalf won his first national title. He was also awarded his first all-American honor, the Dan Hodge Trophy, was named as the Big Ten Wrestler of the Year, was crowned a Big Ten Champion, finished the season with a 32-match winning streak, was named Outstanding Wrestler at the NCAA and Big Ten Championships, and was named Outstanding Wrestler at the Division I NWCA/Cliff Keen National Duals. Including the two individual national champions, the team had a total of seven all-Americans and six Academic All-Big Ten wrestlers.

With the wrestling program starting in 1911, the current University of Iowa Hawkeyes Wrestling Team has built upon past successes to continue the teams and schools winning tradition. As wrestling fans know, much of this

past success was made possible by the leadership of former head coach, and Olympic Gold Medalist, Dan Gable, who continues to provide guidance and leadership to the program.

Congratulations to the entire University of Iowa Hawkeyes wrestling team, the University of Iowa, the city of Iowa City, and to my home State of Iowa for this great victory.

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE: RAY-  
BURN "RAY" KNABE PASSES AT  
AGE 90

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, death pulls hard at our heartstrings, whether it comes after a long, full life or one cut tragically short. Rayburn "Ray" Knabe lived a life mature in length and rich in contribution.

Ray Knabe embodied the values and ambition of his generation, commonly referred to as the greatest in our Nation's history. His hard work, military service, and the large, loving family that survives him are testaments to a remarkable life.

Born and raised in Mackinaw, Illinois, with his five siblings, Ray married Lucille Hermann. The couple lived in Illinois, California, and finally Idaho, and produced three children—one of whom, Don, is a dear friend and Los Angeles County supervisor. The couple celebrated their 67th anniversary in November.

Ray served admirably in the United States Navy during World War II.

Ray had a knack for precise craftsmanship, a skill he honed during his career which began at the J.I. Case Tractor Company in Illinois through his tenure at Western Gear Corporation in Southern California, where he ultimately retired. Ray was a registered professional engineer, mason, and member of the American Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

In his later years, Ray finally decided to relax, and dedicated more time to golf, travel, and the occasional trip to the casino with Lucille. Sunday mornings in Idaho were spent at the Eagle Christian Church, where the pews now feel a little emptier.

My heart goes out to Lucille, Don, and the rest of Ray's wonderful family.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

**HON. TRENT FRANKS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this House with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is May 5, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today, Madam Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,887 days since the tragedy called *Roe v. Wade* was first

handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Madam Speaker, died and screamed as they did so, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, no one could hear them.

And all of them had at least four things in common. First, 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 one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves 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." 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." Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion 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. Madam Speaker, it is who we are.

And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

Madam Speaker, let me conclude in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard this Sunset Memorial tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies; that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express; and that 12,887 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that the America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust is still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

So tonight, Madam Speaker, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each one 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 yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of innocent unborn children. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny, little American

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

It is May 5, 2008, 12,887 days since *Roe versus Wade* first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children, this in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF H.R.  
493, "THE GENETIC INFORMATION  
NONDISCRIMINATION ACT  
(GINA)"

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2008*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 493, "The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA)". I would like to thank my colleague Congresswoman LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER, from New York, for introducing this important legislation. I would also like to thank my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Education and Labor committees for their leadership in this highly contentious and complex health issue.

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) would restrict health insurers' Title I, and employer's Title II, acquisition and use of genetic information in several ways. It is also supported by consumer groups, the medical profession, researchers, the medical products industry and pharmaceutical companies.

Since the first bills were introduced in the 103d Congress, many of the arguments and positions supporting and opposing genetic nondiscrimination legislation have remained largely unchanged. The simple fact is without protection, people are apprehensive about seeking potentially beneficial genetic services or participating in much needed clinical research.

Alex Haley, the gifted author of *Roots*, stated on the front page of his book that "In all of us there is a hunger, marrow deep, to know our heritage—to know who we are and where we have come from. Without this enriching knowledge there is a hollow yearning. No matter what our attainment in life, there is still a vacuum, an emptiness and the most disquieting loneliness."

When author Alex Haley revealed his *Roots* in the late 1970s, everyone in the Nation, it seemed, wondered about their own great-great-grandparents. As a result, the genealogical quest fever spread, particularly among African Americans.

It took Haley more than a decade to trace back several generations, but as most Black people realize, not many of similar heritage will be able to unearth their lineage even that soon. That's because few, if any, reliable records of the centuries-long Atlantic slave trade remain to help in the search. That's what became all too apparent to rheumatologist Dr. Paul Plotz in 1992, when "a chance occurrence" pointed his research on a rare muscle disorder to West Africa and "the greatest undocumented migration of modern times."

As Haley pointed out, people have an inherent interest in knowing their heritage. Our investment in modern science, specifically the

Human Genome Project, is poised not only to reveal medical truths about ourselves and our potential for health, but also to help us make that connection to our past.

While some of my colleagues are focused that GINA will provide further incentives and additional opportunities for litigation against employers, they seem to forget the very real concern of individual protections. In an age where electronic databases are easily tampered with and private information is passed around like a bad cold, we must focus on the rights of individuals and their families when dealing with such a complex and contentious issue.

At a time when we want people to seek out preventative care and gain greater health literacy, we want to ensure them that they are safe and big brother is not selling their detailed information to the highest bidder.

Researchers at Penn State University have stated that from a medical viewpoint, African genetic diversity is important in understanding genetic diseases of African Americans and for finding treatment methods for contagious diseases that originated in Africa. These researchers have said that if they could identify the genetic changes that provided this protection, then they might be able to find treatment methods for the diseases.

These revolutionary discoveries are due to a diverse group of people feeling secure enough with their doctors, nurses, and health insurance companies that they participate in genetic testing and research studies.

We exclaim that we want better health care, greater incidence of prevention, better understanding of current diseases, and most importantly more cures to the illnesses of Americans. This is what genetic testing and research can do. If we allow employers and health insurance companies manipulate the data to further restrict Americans' access to quality care, then we should not support this bill.

However, if we are for access to quality health care, if we are for greater understanding of infectious diseases and mutations, if we are for privacy protections in medical records and payment systems . . . then we must give our full support to this bill.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for your leadership in the area of health care access. This is yet one more area that allows us to support an individual's right to care without fear of retribution by increased health insurance payments or even worse, denial of care altogether. Vote in support of Access, Understanding, and Privacy.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY, JR., TO INTELLECTUAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL DISCOURSE

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, last month the Senate of Alabama including Alabama Senators Pittman, French, Griffith, Brooks, Marsh, Glover, Butler, Waggoner, Bedford, Mitchem, Barron, Bishop, Lindsey, Benefield, McClain, Preuitt, Orr, and Mitchell, passed a resolution recognizing the contributions of William F. Buckley, Jr., to intellectual and philosophical discourse.

Today, I rise to ask that this resolution be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in its entirety:

Whereas, the death of William F. Buckley, Jr., on February 27, 2008, brings to a close a public career of enormous productivity and significance in the United States and around the world; and

Whereas, educated by private tutors in Connecticut, in European Catholic schools, and at Yale University, he was an intellectual giant with an intimidating vocabulary, finely tuned debating skills, and a fearless pen; he was at the forefront of the coalescence of a conservative movement in the 1960s, introducing a rhetoric still relevant today; and

Whereas, Mr. Buckley founded a magazine, the *National Review*; wrote some 55 books, both fiction and nonfiction; authored editorials published around the country and abroad; entered into debate on the public stage; and hosted *Firing Line*, a long-running television interview and debate program; and

Whereas, as chief spokesman for a conservative philosophy which found favor with such political figures as presidential candidate, Barry Goldwater and then-California Governor, Ronald Reagan, Mr. Buckley rode the wave of public support to prominence at home and around the globe, luring converts in his wake; and

Whereas, described by his son, the novelist Christopher Buckley, as not leaving any stone unturned, Mr. Buckley also directed his attention to religion where he applied his conservative mind-set to the tenets of Anglican and Roman Catholicism, writing expositions in defense of a traditionalistic theology; and

Whereas, rarely does an individual of the modern era succeed in being heralded as a philosopher of immense influence in his lifetime; Mr. Buckley's prolific work will continue to bear scrutiny as western thought evolves; now therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the Legislature of Alabama*, that we recognize and applaud the contributions of William F. Buckley, Jr. to the intellectual and philosophical discourse of the twentieth century, and we offer this resolution in tribute to an accomplished and distinguished American.

RECOGNIZING TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

**HON. BILL SALI**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Teacher Appreciation Week, May 4–10, 2008.

This week we take a moment to thank educators who are committed to enriching the lives of the children they teach.

I want to thank the teachers in Idaho dedicated to paving the road for the next generation's success. Educators have a unique opportunity to play a vital role in the lives of Idaho students and provide a powerful role model through their patience, dedication and knowledge.

Several teachers from my youth left a lasting impression that has shaped who I am today. I want to express my gratitude to those teachers who taught me life long lessons. I am in debt to them for their wisdom and vision.

Benjamin Franklin once said, "Genius without education is like silver in the mine." I'm confident in the ability of Idaho educators to

cultivate the minds of our youth and inspire them to greatness.

Idaho teachers face a unique challenge in that the Gem State includes 63 percent Federally administered land and this has left many of our counties and schools without an adequate tax base. In light of this, I will continue to dedicate my time in Congress to ensure Idaho's rural counties get a fair shake and the Federal Government meets its responsibilities to them fully.

It is through the innovation and hard work of parents, teachers, local administrators and the community as a whole that the educational needs of all children will be served. I remain confident that Idaho's students will reap all the benefits that our teachers have to offer.

THE ABOLISHMENT BY THE CITY OF EDCOUCH, TEXAS, OF A 1931 CITY ORDINANCE "ESTABLISHING A LINE SEPARATING RESIDENTS OF MEXICAN OR SPANISH ORIGIN FROM AMERICAN RESIDENTS"

**HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, on this Cinco de Mayo, it is quite appropriate that the City of Edcouch, in my Congressional district, is repealing a 1931 city ordinance that should have never been approved. This ordinance segregated the city into two portions based strictly on racial and national origin. It was this type of prejudice, sanctioned by local government, which created fear and insecurity among the residents of Edcouch and the surrounding region. It was this type of discrimination that caused my family to move from Edcouch to Mercedes, Texas.

I recall how my brothers and I had to attend segregated schools in Edcouch. It did not matter that my parents and family were upstanding citizens of Edcouch or that my father started and ran a business. It didn't matter that we were hardworking and wanted to help the community grow, and it did not matter that we were U.S. citizens. No, it was our last name and family lineage that defined who we were and where we could live. That type of treatment stays in your mind forever. That is why this Nation has to constantly strive to improve civil rights for everyone in 2008 and beyond.

The struggle for civil rights by Mexican-Americans and other Hispanics throughout the southwest is well documented. In my district, it was the 1968 Edcouch-Elsa high school walkouts that sent a loud message that justice had not yet been achieved for all. Those walkouts eventually led to a Federal court declaring the ban on Spanish speaking in schools to be unconstitutional. That demonstration and legal action led to the establishment of bilingual education in public schools.

Back in the 1930s and 1940s, little did anyone expect that a Mexican-American, born in Edcouch, would one day be the U.S. Congressman representing the Edcouch community. But, we should not focus completely on the past. We must look forward, because many challenges remain.

The ugly head of prejudice still shows itself, especially against immigrants. My parents

were immigrants and many others like them are greatly responsible for much of the Nation's economic growth. That is why comprehensive immigration reform is so important.

At the local level, much remains to be done to help Edcouch and the surrounding Delta re-

gion reach its potential. Projects such as the Mercado Delta and the future Gran Parque will raise the quality of life in this community to another level.

I congratulate the City of Edcouch for being a full partner in these projects and for seeing

a greater future for itself. Today, it has taken a very symbolic and significant step to correct an injustice from its past. For that, I commend the community and its city leaders and am confident that Edcouch will become a model of success in the Rio Grande Valley region.