

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE DAILY 45: 118 YOUNG MALES  
LOST TO GUN VIOLENCE IN D.C.

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, the Department of Justice tells us that, every day, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. In August, D.C. police were investigating the circumstances surrounding the murder of victims number 117 and 118, just two of the latest to die this year due to gun-related violence.

These murders occurred just north of Union Station in the vacant, dilapidated Temple Courts high-rise and townhouses. This is an area to be razed in the coming months, and although a new structure will rise—erasing the tragic events that lead to their deaths; these two young men, and dozens of others like them, had names and families and hopes and dreams of their own.

Victim no. 117, JohnQuan Wright, was only 18 years old. And 1 month later—victim 118's name has yet to be released. While their deaths were acknowledged in passing via the press, there remains little to no outcry that more than a hundred victims, most of them young men in the prime of their lives, have been lost to violence—most of it with a gun—this year in Washington, DC.

Americans of conscious must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will we say "enough is enough, stop the killing!"

HONORING THE LIFE AND  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LES WHITT

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of the late Robert Leslie "Les" Whitt. He will be remembered as a man with a deep love for people, music, and the Alexandria Zoo.

Mr. Whitt, of Alexandria, LA, died recently from heart complications after living 14 years with a transplanted heart. Whitt was a strong advocate for organ donation and loved speaking for the Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency whenever possible.

Moreover, Mr. Whitt was passionate about his service to the citizens and administration of the city of Alexandria. He served as the director of the Alexandria Zoo for 34 years, and received the Dunbar Award for Civil Service in 1993. Mr. Whitt was also recognized for his progressive and inventive zoo exhibit designs. At the age of 16, he joined the American Zoo and Aquarium Association as a professional fellow member and has subsequently served the organization in many capacities including

Accreditation Inspection Team Leader. Mr. Whitt served selflessly on numerous committees representing the Alexandria Zoo in worldwide conservation efforts for endangered species.

In addition, Mr. Whitt's talent as a musician, particularly a Hammond B-3 player, was celebrated. He played with many local and regional musicians, as well as with greats like B.B. King and B.B. Major. He was altruistically involved with the youth and was a mentor to young zoo professionals, teen volunteers, Boy Scouts, and musicians.

Thousands of families will never overcome this loss of a true son of Alexandria. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Les Whitt for his exceptional contributions to central Louisiana and unparalleled influence on those of us who were blessed to know him.

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL MICHAEL  
SHUPP, UNITED STATES MARINE  
CORPS

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, today, I pay tribute to Col. Michael Shupp, United States Marine Corps. His service to our country and the Corps has demonstrated true patriotism and exceptional military leadership. On September 17, I will have the personal honor of presiding over Colonel Shupp's retirement ceremony, and I want to take this moment to recognize his 28 years of dedicated service.

Colonel Shupp was born and raised in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and is a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute and Marine Corps Officer Candidate School. Since the beginning of his career, he has been a true professional in every sense of the word. His assignments have ranged from serving as a young platoon commander in Japan, to instructing our future leaders at the Naval Academy, where his performance was recognized by President George W. Bush. He served combat tours in Iraq and a peacekeeping tour in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Wherever he was, he always set the highest standards of professionalism and leadership for all those around him. His superb leadership has been evident in numerous command and staff assignments throughout the Department of Defense, including a tour as the Marine Corps' Liaison to the House of Representatives and his current duty as the Legislative Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington DC.

Colonel Shupp served this Nation twice in combat. In 1990, Captain Shupp deployed Company "A" of the 1st Light Armored Infantry Battalion to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Once the ground war commenced, his company led the advance of the First Marine Division. His unit cut through Iraqi resistance

and led the first Coalition Forces into Kuwait City. Company "A," under Captain Shupp's leadership, then participated in the capture of the Kuwait International Airport. In 2004, Colonel Shupp returned to the Persian Gulf and assumed command of Regimental Combat Team-1 (RCT-1) at Camp Fallujah, Iraq. He commanded the Regiment during counter-insurgency operations, the second Battle of Fallujah, humanitarian assistance and reconstruction efforts, and the first free Iraqi National election. After leaving Iraq, the Marine Corps and Department of Defense chose to capitalize on his experience. He was selected to serve as the Chief of Staff for the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization in Washington, DC.

For 28 years, Colonel Shupp has served this great country from locations all over the world. Whether he was training new recruits, commanding marines in combat or working with Congress, he served with both honor and distinction. He will indeed be remembered as an exceptional marine, a true patriot, a courageous warrior and a dedicated leader with the highest integrity and compassion for all who had the distinct honor of serving with him.

His loving wife, Sherrye, and daughter, Jessica, have demonstrated unwavering support throughout his time in service, and this Nation owes a debt of gratitude to their sacrifice.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SISTER  
MARGARET ANN COUGHLIN ON  
HER GOLDEN JUBILEE AS A SIS-  
TER OF MERCY

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sister Margaret Ann Coughlin, RSM, on the joyous occasion of her 50th anniversary of religious life. I am especially pleased and proud to acknowledge her Golden Jubilee as a Sister of Mercy because Sister Margaret Ann remains such an integral part of my family, celebrating with us in good times and offering herself as a steadfast tower of strength and comfort in our most challenging times. There are many families that claim Sister Margaret Ann as their own as her selfless outreach to those in need is well known and deeply appreciated.

It was also my good fortune to accompany Sister Margaret Ann to the White House ceremony honoring Pope Benedict's XVI first visit to the United States. While Sister refers to the Papal Visit as the highlight of her religious life, it was I who was honored to have shared this experience with this woman dedicated to the very principles Pope Benedict spoke of on that historic April day. Calling for a more compassionate, free and just society, Sister Margaret

• 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.

Ann's work personifies those principles as she lives a faith-filled life.

Born to William S. and Margaret McDonough Coughlin on March 13, 1940, Frances Lillian Coughlin was the youngest child of this loving and legendary South Buffalo family. She joined her only brother, William ("Yappo") and her sisters, Mary Joan, Patricia, Marjorie and Rita at the family home on Stevenson Street. She was just a teenager when her parents died within 12 months of each other and she went to live with Mary Joan, her brother-in-law, Jerry Flanagan, and their young family on Downing Street. Such would be the life story of the Coughlin's and so many other members of the "Greatest Generation"—the family would always be there in some way to take care of and take in those who needed help and a home.

These lessons clearly left an imprint on young Frances' heart as her vocation led her to join the Sisters of Mercy on September 15, 1958, the same year she graduated from Mt. Mercy Academy. Continuing education remains a cornerstone of Sister's hard work and growth as a member of this religious community. She earned degrees from Trocaire and Medaille Colleges in the 1960s and received her master's in pastoral studies from Loyola University in 1990. She earned continuing education credits from Notre Dame University and became a board certified chaplain in 2001 from the NACC (National Association of Catholic Chaplains).

In her earlier years, Sister taught at several Catholic schools in Buffalo and served as the music minister at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School in Orchard Park. She was the pastoral care minister at Mercy Hospital prior to her current work as a pastoral caregiver to the children and families of Our Lady of Victory Basilica Baker Home for Children. Sister Margaret Ann has also been recognized by her high school alma mater with the justly deserved "Spirit of Mercy Award."

Not an easy life, Sister has suffered great loss and battled life threatening illnesses which may have weakened her physical health yet has certainly strengthened her sense of empathy and her ability to listen, counsel, comfort and console. A teacher and a preacher, Sister lives her life as an example of God's mercy and love in word and action. The love, laughter and gifts of Sister's life have certainly influenced the lives of so many others who belong to her extended network of family and friends, especially her beloved nieces and nephews and their children, who lovingly call her "Aunt Sister."

Sister Margaret Ann's Golden Jubilee will be celebrated with family and friends on Sunday, September 14, 2008, at the Monsignor Nash Council Knights of Columbus in South Buffalo. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that the House of Representatives join with me and those whose lives have been lifted in hope and faith because of the life work of Sister Margaret Ann Coughlin in congratulating her on this significant anniversary. We extend our best wishes for her continued health and happiness and our deepest thanks to this woman of faith for her outstanding service to others.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
FOUNDING OF THE DANBURY  
NEWS-TIMES

### HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the News-Times of Danbury, Connecticut, on the 125th anniversary of the founding of their paper. With circulation extending to some 30,000 residents in western Connecticut, the News-Times helps us stay in touch with the people and places that make up our community.

The paper connects the citizens of greater Danbury and serves as a forum for public conversation, providing readers with an opportunity to discuss local, state, and national issues of concern. As they say, a well-informed citizenry is essential to any democracy, and the News-Times provides an invaluable link between residents and the leaders, decisions, and issues that shape their lives every day.

A hallmark of a quality local newspaper is the attention it pays to local issues that affect the lives of its readers. So I would like to take this opportunity to thank the News-Times for its excellent coverage of Candlewood Lake. I have been intimately involved in the recent negotiations with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the owner of the lake, First Light, to ensure that the environmental and property protection concerns of local residents are heard when it comes to decisions about how the lake is managed. The News-Times has covered every step of this process, and it's clear the paper takes this issue as seriously as I do.

With September 7, 2008, marking the 125th anniversary of the Danbury News-Times, I would like to extend my congratulations on the continuing success of your publication. It's my hope that today marks the beginning of another 125 years of peerless local reporting.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. VINCENT A. LAINO, JR.

### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Mr. Vincent A. Laino, Jr. of Exton, Pennsylvania, for earning accolades as Chief Financial Officer of the Year from the Philadelphia Business Journal and Drexel University's LeBow College of Business. Mr. Laino is the current senior vice president, CFO, and CIO of Weston Solutions.

Weston Solutions is an employee-owned environmental services firm based in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Joining the company in September 1988, Mr. Laino began as a manager of financial systems after receiving both a bachelor of science in business administration, accounting, and computer systems management and a master of business administration and financial management from Drexel University. By 1994, Mr. Laino was in-

roducing innovative ideas and business models to Weston Solutions, which earned him the title of vice president and simultaneously the company's chief information officer.

Through his years at Weston Solutions, Mr. Laino has brought change to Weston's business strategy with his mastery of business development and administration. The culmination of his efforts proved a success when, in 2001, he assumed the title of CFO for his continuous strategic leadership and vision. Before working at Weston Solutions, Mr. Laino was a project manager, auditor and systems analyst at E.I. DuPont de Nemours in Wilmington, Delaware, for 7 years.

On July 17, 2008, an elegant awards ceremony was held in his honor at the Sheraton City Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for earning this award in the category of Extra Large Business of 2008. In addition to his dedication to Weston Solutions, Mr. Laino is active in the community serving on the board of directors at Delaware County Community College Education Foundation and treasurer of the Society for American Military Engineers.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Vincent A. Laino, Jr., for this well-deserved honor. As a leader and role model in both the community and business world, may he continue to serve both Weston and the community with honor and distinction.

HEDRICK MEDICAL CENTER

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Hedrick Medical Center for 120 years of caring for the citizens of Chillicothe and of the Greater Livingston County community.

Hedrick Medical Center has faithfully served this community since opening in 1888 and continues this service through an affiliation with Saint Luke's Health System. They will celebrate this constant service with a celebration on Friday, September 12, 2008.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Hedrick Medical Center and its 120 years of service. It is truly an honor to serve this fine organization in the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING ADAM SHERMAN RECIPIENT OF THE NATIONAL HISTORY DAY KEN COSKEY NAVAL HISTORY SPECIAL PRIZE

### HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Adam Sherman of Scottsdale, Arizona, for his honored participation in this year's National History Day program. Adam, a student at Desert Mountain High School in Scottsdale, received the Ken Coskey Naval History Special Prize for the best naval history project in the Nation. In addition, Adam was chosen as one of only 12

students from over 2,300 to present his exhibit at the White House Visitor Center in June of this year.

The National History Day program is a contest that engages teachers and students from across the Nation to explore unconventional methods in learning about history. Its focus is to move beyond the traditional textbook and expand into resources such as libraries, museums, and archives. This year's theme was "Conflict and Compromise in History."

Adam's project—"Prelude to Pearl Harbor: The Panay Conflict and President Roosevelt's Compromise"—examined the scope of a little-known Japanese attack on an American gunboat years prior to Pearl Harbor and our nation's entry into World War II. In December of 1937, Japanese warplanes attacked the USS *Panay* as it evacuated American refugees ahead of the Japanese takeover of Nanking, China. The attack wounded several civilians and sailors on board, including Mr. Fon Huffman, USN Retired. Adam included a taped interview with Mr. Huffman, the only living survivor of the attack. Huffman tells of the chaotic attack and moments of heroism when, in the midst of the chaos, he gave his life preserver to a civilian who could not swim and helped others to safety.

Adam has shown his passion for history by participating in the program for the past three years, over the course of which his work has been awarded a number of honors including 1st place at the Arizona State Finals for Best Individual Exhibit in 2006. A true student of history, Adam has donated his 2008 exhibit to the Naval Historical Foundation.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Adam Sherman's accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF MILANA BIZIC

**HON. JASON ALTMIRE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Milana Bizic. Ms. Bizic is a western Pennsylvania resident who was recently honored as the Serb National Federation Person of the Year.

Ms. Bizic is known throughout the Serbian community as a person committed to preserving and celebrating Serbian culture. The granddaughter of Serbian immigrants, she is a lifelong member of the Serb National Federation, a contributing writer for the federation's magazine, *Srbobran*, and the author of a website dedicated to Serbian heritage. She has contributed time, talent, and financial resources to the Serb National Federation and the Serbian community. Ms. Bizic has said that her parents taught her to be American first, last, and always, but to remember her Serbian heritage.

Ms. Bizic's award was presented by the Pittsburgh-based Serb National Federation, which was founded more than 100 years ago to help Serbian immigrants, and now provides Serbian Americans with the opportunity to share and celebrate their background.

I am truly honored to have this opportunity to formally recognize Milana Bizic for her ac-

complishments and thank her for the role she plays in helping Serbians in western Pennsylvania and around the country remember and celebrate their heritage.

BYBERRY FRIENDS MEETING  
HOUSE—200TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 200th anniversary of the Byberry Friends Meeting House, located at 3001 Byberry Road in the far northeast section of Philadelphia.

In 1675, four adventurous Quaker brothers—Nathaniel, Thomas, Daniel, and William Walton—arrived in New Castle, Delaware, from England, in search of a new home and religious freedom. They walked nearly 50 miles along the banks of the Delaware River into Pennsylvania, arriving at Poquessing Creek. They were captivated by the region, which reminded them of their former home in Bibury, England, and so they established their home here. They had success farming and were able to establish good relationships with the Native American tribes who helped them survive their initial difficult years.

This community subsequently grew with the influx of more Quakers in the 1680s. The first Quaker meetings were held in the homes of members. As the community grew, members were able to build a log meetinghouse in which to worship. In 1808, 133 years after the Walton brothers settled here, the community built the larger meetinghouse that is still in use today. Members of the Byberry Friends Meeting were influential in the movement to abolish slavery.

Today, the Byberry Friends Meeting continues to hold weekly worship meetings. The school building, used for many years to educate the children of the Meeting, is used by a community day care academy.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the historic Byberry Friends Meeting House on this momentous milestone and honoring the contributions that the members of this community have made to the people of my district and Philadelphia.

REMEMBERING 9/11

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, as the years pass the memories will not fade, today stands as a day of mourning for those victims of the terrorist attacks of those infamous events, as well as, our nation as a whole. We must never forget as the rest of the world so eloquently put it: "We are all Americans." For all the destruction that those planes brought, they could not bring down what makes our country great, the American Spirit. In the face of adversity, we did not focus on what separates us, but

came together behind the uniting principle that we are first and foremost Americans. Taking care of those who were hurt and defending the country we love against future attacks is our charge, one that we bear with the greatest of honor, appreciation, and respect.

HONORING SERGEANT BRYAN J.  
TUTTEN

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I rise today, September 11, 2008, to once again honor and pay tribute to Sergeant Bryan J. Tutten, 33, who, like many other brave Americans, joined the military following the terrorist attacks on our homeland 7 years ago. Sergeant Tutten died in service to our country on Christmas Day, December 25, 2007, fighting insurgents on his second tour of duty in Iraq.

On Saturday, September 13, 2008, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2391 in St. Augustine, Florida, will hold a special ceremony to honor the life and service of Sergeant Tutten. The Post will be renamed the Veterans of Foreign Wars Bryan Tutten Memorial Post 2391.

On Tuesday, January 15, 2007, I included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following remarks and today I want to again honor Sergeant Tutten's life by reflecting on his service to the United States.

Prior to joining the Army, Sgt. Tutten, born in St. Augustine, Florida, graduated from St. Augustine High School and attended St. Johns River Community College. He was also a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in St. Augustine.

We should all remember Sgt. Tutten's courage and his ultimate sacrifice for our nation. The freedom and liberty we enjoy and peace in the world for others for which he fought are part of the great legacy that Sgt. Tutten leaves behind. He was laid to rest at San Lorenzo Cemetery in St. Augustine, Florida on January 4, 2008.

After the devastating events of September 11, 2001, Sgt. Tutten enrolled in the Army. His family remembers him as an avid sportsman who loved to fish and cook, and how he enjoyed the time he had playing with his daughter, Catherine. He was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division based in Fort Bragg, North Carolina which was deployed to Iraq.

With the passing of Sgt. Tutten, America has lost an outstanding citizen and a shining example of service to our nation. He will be remembered as a patriotic American, a pillar of our community and a compassionate husband and a loving father.

To his wife Constandina, his daughter Catherine, his son Gareth, his mother Ms. Sylvia Smallwood and his loving family and friends, we offer our deepest sympathy.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Sgt. Bryan J. Tutten's contributions and to ask all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives of the 110th Congress to join me in recognizing his service in our nation's Armed Forces and remembering a great American hero.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION ON  
TODAY'S JOURNAL VOTE**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise to explain my opposition to the Journal vote, roll-call vote 585, earlier today.

In my time in politics, I never thought that I would hear any candidate for political office compared to Jesus Christ. Yet yesterday, on the floor of this House, one of my colleagues did just that when he painted the work of BARACK OBAMA equal to the life of my Savior.

Madam Speaker, I know Jesus Christ; Jesus Christ is a personal friend of mine. Senator OBAMA is no Jesus Christ.

But it's not just Senator OBAMA; such a comparison is ill suited for any man, for all of us have fallen short of the standard that Christ set for us. Jesus' example was a life lived humbly and with love for all his fellow men, regardless of their background. As this campaign season sprints to the finish, I implore my colleagues and the candidates in both parties to strive for a higher, more purposeful campaign and rhetoric and to treat opponents in a manner that we ourselves would like to be treated.

## HONORING MARGIE LEE

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, as William Wordsworth once wrote, "the Child is Father to the Man."

Like all of us, from time-to-time I fondly recall those who have made a significant impact upon my life. For where would we be if not for those who made the special effort to guide the next generation, and befriend us but demand much from us, so that we may learn to demand much from ourselves?

It is because of those who touch our lives and instill the values we all hold dear as a society, those who provide guidance to our young people every day, that make us successful and our nation stronger. Some are there to deal directly with us from day-to-day. Others help set up and run the institutions that provide the networks for others to have a profound impact upon our young.

In my life, Margie Lee was one such person. Known affectionately as "Marge" and across America as the "Delta Chi Mom," Marge inspired several generations of Delta Chis while working in the Fraternity's International Headquarters since 1964. She was devoted to Delta Chi and to us all, helping to provide guidance to thousands of young men in those potentially very difficult years at college and first time away from home.

I had both the honor and the pleasure of working directly with Marge. It was while I worked as assistant to the executive director of the Delta Chi Fraternity in my first job after graduating from the University of Florida. I saw how Marge worked every day on behalf of my Delta Chi Brothers. Over the years, I witnessed first hand how she devoted her life

to bestowing the advantages of a brotherhood of college and university men to use their education "to promote friendship, develop character and advance justice." In doing so, Marge helped generations of young boys grow into successful, value-driven men.

Marge passed away yesterday morning in Iowa City at age 79. She is survived by four children and thousands of her adopted Delta Chi sons around the world.

When we are young we don't fully appreciate the time and sacrifice our elders take to shape us into successful adults. Sometimes our separate paths take us away from our mentors before we fully appreciate what they did for us. All too often they pass on before we get the chance to thank them properly.

Not many of us have the opportunity to recognize and publically say thanks. Today, to her family, to my colleagues in Congress and Delta Chi Brothers, I am honored and pleased to say—thank you Margie Lee.

HONORING STANLEY AND JOANNE  
TATE**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I wish to honor Stanley Tate and his lovely bride Joanne as they begin their 60th year of marriage.

Few people have had as major and as positive of an impact on our country and particularly on Florida education as Mr. Tate.

In 1987, the Florida Legislature created the Florida Prepaid College Program to provide Florida families an affordable way to save for their children's college education. Mr. Tate, as chairman of the board for 18 years, was instrumental in developing this landmark and innovative program and making it the success it is today.

Under Mr. Tate's leadership, more than 142,000 children used their plan benefits to attend a college or university. Today, the Prepaid College Trust Fund remains financially strong and actuarially sound.

In recognition of Mr. Tate's service, the program he put so much time and effort into shaping, was officially renamed the Stanley G. Tate Florida Prepaid College Program by law on June 26, 2006. Florida families are grateful for Mr. Tate's tireless leadership throughout his years of service.

He has always put the needs and interests of our families and students above any self-interest. I am honored to draw attention to such an admirable and decent public servant who has never sought personal accolades. On behalf of grateful Florida families across the State, I thank Mr. Tate for his dedication to our children's education and congratulate him and his wife on nearly 60 years of marriage. May they enjoy many more years together.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF  
WILLIAM BREVARD HAND**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Mobile and the state of Alabama lost a dear friend last week, and I rise today to honor Senior U.S. District Judge William Brevard Hand and pay tribute to his memory.

Mobile's Press-Register remembered Judge Hand as "a fair, thoughtful and tough jurist who did not shy away from high profile cases that might upset the powers-that-be." Certainly, one of the high profile cases for which history will most remember him was his courageous ruling in favor of classroom prayer.

A native and life-long resident of Mobile, Judge Hand attended Murphy High School and completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Alabama. His education was interrupted by the call to defend his country during World War II. He served in Europe as a combat infantry rifleman from the Battle of the Bulge through VE Day and also served with the occupation army in Czechoslovakia. When he returned to the United States following the war, he completed his education by earning his law degree from the University of Alabama.

After graduation, Judge Hand returned to Mobile and began his illustrious law career by working for the firm his father, Charles, helped found, now known as Hand Arendall. He continued with the firm until President Richard Nixon appointed him to the Federal bench in 1971, and incredibly, he was active in cases as recently as last month.

A lifelong member of Dauphin Way Methodist Church, Judge Hand served in all lay capacities of the church. He was named honorary member of the administrative board as well as lifetime steward of the church, the highest honor the church can bestow.

I had the privilege of visiting with Judge Hand just last month at the courthouse, and there is no other judge who has served with greater dignity and compassion.

Earlier this week, over 1,000 people filled Dauphin Way Methodist Church to honor the life of Judge Hand. Rev. Stephen F. Dill, pastor emeritus of the church said, "His friendship reached across the boundaries of wealth and status." The Rev. Gorman Houston III, senior pastor at Dauphin Way, provided a poignant tribute, noting "How grateful we are for the life of William Brevard Hand."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader, a friend to many throughout south Alabama, as well as a wonderful husband, father, and grandfather. Judge Brevard Hand will be dearly missed by his family—his daughters, Jane Hand Dukes, Virginia Hand Hollis and Allison Hand Peebles; his grandchildren, Brevard Dukes Hinton, Ann Chandler Dukes Shuleva, David Dewitt Dukes, Jr., Elizabeth Alan Hollis, Katherine Hollis Taylor, John Connor H. Peebles, and William Battle Peebles; his great-grandchildren, Tom, William and Jane Hinton; and his brother Dr. James Albert Hand—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

## EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JACK KINGSTON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. KINGSTON. Requesting Member: Congressman JACK KINGSTON (1—GA).

Bill Number: H.R. 6599.

Account: MILCON, Navy.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: NSB Kings Bay, Kings Bay, GA, USA.

Description of Request: Provide \$6.37 million to construct a 5,000 square feet Communication Addition to the Limited Area Reaction Force Facility in support of the National Weapons Security Program. This high security facility will serve as a command and control center, exercise and recreation spaces, and extended housing for United States Marines and Navy personnel while on duty. This project will provide required ballistic protection for security forces and vehicles as well as the monitoring of perimeter sensors.

## TRIBUTE TO JOHN GRUNDEN

**HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great patriot from Georgia's Third Congressional District who died September 9 at the age of 66.

I have known John Grunden of Fayetteville for many years as a fellow foot soldier fighting for the Republican Party and conservative causes in our community, our State and our Nation.

As the owner of two small businesses, an insurance consulting firm and the Classic Cue pool hall in Fayetteville, Mr. Grunden had firsthand knowledge of how taxes and regulation affect our Nation's job creators. His strong stands on business and his conservative values made him a great leader for the Fayette County Republican Party when he won the chairmanship in the 1980s. Under his leadership, the county party experienced such success that the State Republican Party soon began citing it as a model for other counties.

Mr. Grunden was a behind-the-scenes operator who did the hard work that enable candidates such as me to succeed at the ballot box. I'm lucky to have had his support through the years, and I am not the only Member of Congress who called on him for help. Mr. Grunden was an early supporter of a young upstart congressman from Georgia who at the time was the only Republican in our State's delegation. As my colleagues here in the House know, that member, Newt Gingrich, went on to lead our party to the House majority for the first time in decades and ascended to the speaker's chair.

In addition to his volunteer activities on behalf of his party, Mr. Grunden also wore his nation's uniform. From 1961 to 1964, he served in the U.S. Army 101st Airborne Division.

I was honored to call John Grunden a friend. On behalf of the people of Georgia's Third Congressional District, I would like to express my condolences to his wife, Pat, who

stood by his side for 45 years, and to the rest of the Grunden family.

## THE BONE MARROW FAILURE DISEASE RESEARCH AND TREATMENT ACT

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act. For hundreds of thousands of bone marrow failure disease patients across our country, this is a day filled with the promise of a cure.

For their families, this is a day infused with the hope that the power of medical inquiry and research can conquer these deadly diseases.

For those of us in this chamber who knew, respected, and loved colleagues whose lives were taken by these diseases—including my late husband Bob—this is a day to reflect on their legacies and to renew our commitment to the research that will generate treatments and cures.

For medical researchers with ideas about new and innovative ways to combat these awful diseases, this is a day characterized by the certainty that the U.S. House of Representatives stands with them in their quest to beat bone marrow failure diseases.

The legislation I am introducing today is designed to ensure that families in the future will not have to suffer the agonizing uncertainty that my family endured when Bob was diagnosed with myelodysplastic syndrome, MDS.

Between 20,000 and 30,000 families receive a bone marrow failure disease diagnosis every year in the United States. Their lives are changed instantly when they learn that a loved one's bone marrow has malfunctioned.

Blood is such a delicate balance of different kinds of cells, and when the marrow that produces our blood stops working properly, the foundation of a human's physical health is sorely undermined. Death is often the end result.

The research produced by this bill will point the way toward a future where a diagnosis of aplastic anemia, MDS, acute myeloid leukemia, or any of the other bone marrow failure diseases is but a hurdle to overcome instead of a likely death sentence.

This is the future that I envision as a result of the Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act.

I thank all of my colleagues in this chamber who have supported, and who will support, this critical legislation. I look forward to working toward its passage, for the sake of bone marrow failure disease patients in every city, town, and community in our great country.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE PRESIDENTIAL HISTORICAL RECORDS PRESERVATION ACT

**HON. BOB GOODLATTE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Presidential Historical

Records Preservation Act of 2008. I introduce this as a companion bill to legislation being introduced today by my colleagues in the Senate, Senators JOHN WARNER and JIM WEBB.

Mr. Speaker, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, NHPRC, is a statutory body affiliated with the National Archives and Records Administration, NARA. NHPRC was established by Congress in 1934 to promote the preservation and use of America's documentary heritage essential to understanding our democracy, history, and culture.

Currently, NHPRC is authorized to administer grants to promote preservation and use of America's documentary heritage. The NHPRC supports projects that preserve and make accessible records and archives, and research and develop means to preserve authentic electronic records.

The Presidential Historical Records Preservation Act of 2008 would allow NHPRC to make grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to promote the historical preservation of, and public access to, historical records and documents relating to any President who does not have a Presidential archival depository currently managed and maintained by the Federal Government, pursuant to the Presidential Libraries Act of 1955.

Mr. Speaker, in order to be eligible to receive these grants, an entity must qualify as a 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and be exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code, or be a State or local government. In order to maintain the integrity of the grant program, NHPRC shall only approve grants to those entities that possess historical works and collections of historical sources that the Commission considers appropriate for preserving, publishing, or otherwise recording at the public expense. The entity must also have appropriate facilities and space for preservation of such historical works and ensure public access to these collections.

Finally, to maintain the fiscal integrity of this Act, the receiving entity must have raised funds from non-Federal sources in support of the grant efforts. In addition, grants may not be used for the maintenance, operating costs, or construction of any facility to house the historical records to any President who does not have a Presidential archival depository currently managed by the Federal Government. Mr. Speaker, as you can see, the focus of the bill is preservation and access to documents, not constructing new buildings or monuments.

This is important legislation that will preserve our Nation's documentary heritage, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

## 2007 NATIONAL MEDAL OF TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of David Cutler, an employee of the Microsoft Corporation and a recipient of the 2007 National Medal of Technology and Innovation. His accomplishments, and the accomplishments of the other winners, are reason to celebrate the technological innovation happening in the United States. It is also a reminder that our national well-being

depends on the technological advancements made by future American innovators in a global marketplace.

The National Medal of Technology and Innovation honors America's leading innovators of technology products, processes and concepts. Mr. Cutler and the other winners deserve our heartfelt congratulations and thanks for inspiring future American innovation.

The 8th District of Washington, the district I represent, includes the headquarters of Microsoft, a corporation at the forefront of technological innovation and the push for educating our young people in the intricacies of science, technology and mathematics. No doubt Mr. Cutler, a senior technical fellow at Microsoft and an enduring figure in the world of technology and innovation, also recognizes the importance of educating our young people to compete in a global marketplace. Nothing can replace a world-class math and science education; an invaluable key to our Nation's economic success and our Nation's national security.

Once again, congratulations to Mr. Cutler for his prestigious honor. His work and the work of others like him inspire brilliant young minds around our country to do great things in math, science and technology. It is the job of this body and Americans everywhere to ensure those young minds have all the tools necessary to achieve greatness.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE VOTING IRREGULARITIES OF AUGUST 2, 2007

**HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, Mr. PENCE and I submit for the RECORD the following statement on behalf of the Select Committee on the Voting Irregularities of August 2, 2007:

The Select Committee to Investigate the Voting Irregularities of August 2, 2007, was created by House Resolution 611 to investigate the circumstances surrounding the record vote on the motion to recommit on H.R. 3161. That resolution required that the Select Committee submit its final report not later than September 15, 2008. While the Select Committee will not be able to file its report by that date, we expect to file the report shortly thereafter.

WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT,  
*Chairman.*  
MIKE PENCE,  
*Ranking Republican Member.*

HONORING THE LIFE OF GENE UPSHAW, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYERS ASSOCIATION

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory and accomplishments of Gene Upshaw, a tremendous athlete and upstanding individual who had a successful ca-

reer both on and off the football field. During his 16-year career as a National Football League player, he was an 11-time All-Pro offensive guard for the Oakland Raiders and was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1987, his first year of eligibility. He played in 217 league games and appeared in six Pro Bowls. He was named Lineman of the Year in the AFC in 1973 and 1974. In 1977, he was voted top lineman in the NFL, and runner-up for that honor in 1980. Upshaw is the only player in NFL history to play with the same team in three Super Bowls in three different decades—in the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s.

Not only did Upshaw have an outstanding career on the field, but he also had a distinguished career off the field serving 38 years with the NFL Players Association. Upshaw worked as a player representative and officer for 13 years. He served as alternate representative or player representative for the Raiders from 1970 to 1976 and was a member of the executive committee from 1976 through 1980 when he was elected president of the NFLPA, a post he held until 1983.

Upshaw served as Executive Director of the NFLPA from June 1983 up until his death on August 20, 2008. As the first African-American labor leader in a major sport, Upshaw was a forceful advocate on behalf of professional football players. During his tenure, Upshaw skillfully negotiated several collective bargaining agreements and extensions that have been credited with enhancing the rights and compensation of NFL players.

Upshaw's career was best summed up by his close friend Art Shell, who played next to him on Oakland's offensive line and in 1989 became the first African-American coach of the modern era when he took over the Raiders. "Gene was a true pioneer as one of the few African-American leaders of a major union. He was the equal of owners in negotiations and made the league a better place for all players. Playing alongside of Gene was an honor and a privilege. He was a pillar of strength and leadership for our great Raider teams."

I extend my heartfelt condolences and prayers to his wife, Terri, his three sons, Justin, Daniel, and Eugene, Jr., and the entire National Football League community.

THE 9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, on September 11, 2001, America and the world watched in horror as our Nation came under ruthless attack. At the World Trade Center and at the Pentagon, thousands were killed by the cowardly deeds of terrorists. We heard the stories of those heroic passengers aboard United Airlines Flight 93 who gave their lives so that they might save the lives of others by thwarting an attack on the United States Capitol.

In lower Manhattan, part of my congressional district, New York's finest and bravest rushed to the disaster site. In the days and weeks after, countless Americans would also come to New York to offer their assistance.

Nearly 3,000 people were killed at the World Trade Center, and countless others were wounded.

Since then, we have made tremendous progress in rebuilding. But we still have work left to do. One of our greatest national responsibilities right now is to aid those people who are still suffering from 9/11—our first responders and rescue workers, local area workers, residents, students, and others who have become sick from the environmental aftermath of 9/11.

When the buildings of the World Trade Center came crumbling down, nearly half a million pounds of lead, asbestos, glass fibers, steel, and concrete formed a massive cloud of toxic dust and smoke that blanketed parts of New York City and New Jersey. Fires burned for months, emitting a whole host of deadly substances. Scientists have said that this dust was as caustic as Drain-o, and that the air quality was worse than during the Kuwaiti oil fires.

From the beginning, we warned that the air wasn't safe and that our courageous first responders were not being afforded the proper protection from dangerous toxins as they were toiling on the pile to rebuild. We spent years working to try to convince public officials that the asbestos, fiberglass and other toxins had travelled far and settled into the interiors of residences, workplaces and schools, and that a proper testing and cleanup program was required to eliminate the health risks to area residents, workers and students. We demanded that the Federal Government acknowledge the fact, supported by a mountain of peer-reviewed research, that thousands of our Nation's citizens are today sick from 9/11 and that many more could become sick in the future. We explained to whoever would listen that our 9/11 heroes were struggling to pay health care costs because they could no longer work and no longer had health insurance, and we have argued vigorously that the Federal response to date has been dangerously limited, piecemeal and unstable.

Thankfully, we have achieved a much more widespread recognition of many of these problems. Now, 7 years after the attacks, it is imperative that Congress do what is right for our heroes and our living victims by passing H.R. 6594, the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act.

Though the devastating 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center occurred within the bounds of my congressional district, we know that these were really attacks on our Nation as a whole—figuratively and literally. Every member in New York's downstate delegation represents hundreds, if not thousands, of people who live, work, attend school, or were otherwise present in the affected areas, and were exposed to a toxic brew of contamination. Indeed, every member in this House represents a State that has people in the World Trade Center Health Registry who were exposed and are concerned about their health.

And as this is unquestionably a national problem, it has always required a national response. But despite our sustained efforts to get the Administration to develop a comprehensive plan to deal with this growing public health problem that they themselves now finally acknowledge, the New York delegation has instead found itself, year after year, coming to Congress with its "hat in hand" to test its luck at the annual appropriations process. Thankfully, with the outstanding bipartisan

support of my colleagues for that funding, we have had some key successes. But this is simply no longer a tenable course of action.

Passage of the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act would mark an end to this unpredictable approach and ensure that a consistent source of funding is available to monitor, and if necessary, treat, the thousands of first responders, community members, and others already affected by WTC-related illnesses as well as those who are most likely to become sick in the future. And it would make sure that no matter where an affected individual were to live in the future, he or she could get care. Building on the expertise of the existing Centers of Excellence, the bill would fill key gaps in how we are currently providing treatment and monitoring. And finally, this legislation would provide an opportunity for compensation for economic damages and losses by reopening the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund.

On this anniversary of one of the most devastating days in our national consciousness, I thank members of Congress and the American people for coming to our aid after September 11th and in the years that followed. And once again, I implore you to pass the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act.

#### INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH RESOLUTION

**HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Ms. CLARKE. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the National Preparedness Month Resolution, which recognizes that the month of September is designated as National Preparedness Month. This measure applauds the public servants at Department of Homeland Security for their outstanding contributions to our Nation's homeland security and encourages citizens around the world to continue to prepare themselves and their families for acts of terrorism, natural disasters and other emergencies.

It has been 7 years since the horrific terrorist attacks against the United States and its people on September 11, 2001. Our Nation continues to heal from the terrible losses that we suffered and our Government remains vigilant against those who attacked us.

Yet, while our Nation is fortunate that law enforcement agents and emergency response providers have successfully worked hard to prevent any further attacks, we are still vulnerable. We know that precious lives and critical infrastructure continue to be targeted across the world as evidenced by various suicide bombings in recent years. Terrorism remains prevalent and we must always be prepared both at home and abroad.

I am pleased to have so many members serving as cosponsors to this bill. As we all know, preparedness is not a partisan matter—terrorists do not select their victims by political party. Therefore, we must all support the message that families be prepared for emergencies should they occur.

If a disaster—whether large or small—occurs in a community, local responders and disaster-relief organizations will be there to help, but citizens need to be ready as well. That is why the Department of Homeland Security has

designated the month of September each year as National Preparedness Month. The Department and its key stakeholders will spend the month promoting the importance of being prepared and, most importantly, how to be prepared in our communities across the country. As we all know, when individual citizens, families and communities are prepared, the fear, anxiety, and loss that accompany disasters is substantially minimized.

It is imperative that citizens know what to do in the event of an emergency and be ready either to shelter in place or to evacuate their homes. People must be ready to care for their basic needs for a minimum of 72 hours should they be displaced for a period of time.

And as our Nation continues to glean lessons from catastrophic events such as the September 11th terrorist attacks and Hurricane Katrina, the Federal Government must ensure that preparedness efforts help our Nation's most vulnerable populations. Recent wildfires, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes have given us the opportunity to observe whether those lessons have since been corrected.

In closing, let me say that I applaud the hard work and dedication of the public servants within the Department of Homeland Security in their effort to protect our Nation. Further, I encourage our citizens to make sure their families are vigilant, alert, and prepared for emergencies, and recommend visiting the Web site [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov), which might greatly assist them in this process. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

#### CONGRATULATING THE MICHIGAN COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND, FLINT OFFICE

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Michigan Commission for the Blind, Flint Office for celebrating 30 years of service to the blind and visually impaired. The office will gather to commemorate this anniversary at a party on October 30th in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

The Michigan Commission for the Blind was created by Public Act 260 of 1978. The Commission operates its central office in Lansing, 8 field offices and a training center in Kalamazoo. As one of the field offices, the Flint Office provides service to clients throughout the Flint and Thumb areas of Michigan.

In carrying out their mission, the Michigan Commission for the Blind provides in-home services, mini-adjustment seminars, business services for employers, a vocational rehabilitation program, independent living for seniors over the age of 55, deafblind services, youth services and the business enterprise program. Their motto is "Changing Lives, Changing Attitudes" and their goals are for the blind and visually impaired to lead productive, independent lives as well as educating the general population about the capabilities of the blind.

The Flint Office plays an integral part in providing service and education to the community. For the past 30 years the 7 person staff has been committed to promoting the welfare

and ability of the visually impaired so they can live and function in our society and in the workplace.

Madam Speaker, I am glad to have the opportunity to congratulate the employees, volunteers and clients of the Michigan Commission for the Blind, Flint Office as they celebrate 30 years of assistance to the blind and visually impaired of mid-Michigan. May they continue their service for many, many years to come.

RECOGNIZING MR. NORMAN L. MEBANE, JR.

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, Mr. Norman L. Mebane Jr., was born in Merry Hill, North Carolina. He graduated from high school in Bertie County before earning an associate's degree from Pitt Community College. After 2 years of honorable service in the U.S. Army, Mr. Mebane returned home and worked at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company.

He attended Thomas Nelson Community College, and then earned a bachelor of science degree from St. Augustine's College where he was also inducted into Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society and received special recognition as a Presidential Scholar.

Mr. Mebane then worked as a crop and livestock farmer before moving on to the trucking business. He founded N.L. Mebane Trucking Company, Inc. and later founded Mebane Rural Initiative Institute, Inc. and Mebane Investment Properties LLC. His entrepreneurial successes were recognized by North Carolina Department of Transportation with the Minority Business Enterprise Award of the Year.

Mr. Mebane currently serves on the RBC Centura Bank Region II Advisory Board and the Economic Development Council, and he previously served as part of the Historical Hope Foundation, Transportation Development Council, North Carolina Governor's Conference on Small Business and the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Minority Business Expansion Council. Mr. Mebane also serves as a board trustee for Elizabeth City State University and Martin County Community College.

It is certainly fitting that Elizabeth City State University would honor Mr. Mebane because he fully understands the importance of community involvement and he truly dedicates himself to serving others. He is an outstanding member of our community who deserves our highest thanks and praise.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great North Carolinian and American, Mr. Norman L. Mebane, Jr.

MOVING FORWARD FROM 9/11

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, America must move from the errant, retributive justice

of 9/11 to a healing, restorative process of truth and reconciliation.

Before the Congress adjourns, I will bring forth a new proposal for the establishment of a National Commission on Truth and Reconciliation, which will have the power to compel testimony and gather official documents to reveal to the American people not only the underlying deception which has divided us, but in that process of truth seeking set our Nation on a path of reconciliation.

We suffer in our remembrance of 9/11, because of the terrible loss of innocent lives on that grim day. We also suffer because 9/11 was seized as an opportunity to run a political agenda, which has set America on a course of the destruction of another nation and the destruction of our own Constitution. And we have become less secure as a result of the warped practice of pursuing peace through the exercise of preemptive military strength.

It is not simply 9/11 that needs to be remembered. We also need to remember the politicization of 9/11 and the polarizing narrative which followed, locking us into endless conflict, a war on terror which has wrought further terror worldwide and which has severely damaged our standing worldwide as an honorable, compassionate nation. As we were all victims of 9/11, so we have become victims of the interpretation of 9/11.

Our government's external response to 9/11 was to attack a nation which did not attack us. Indeed on the first anniversary of 9/11, the Bush administration issued a well-publicized stern warning to Iraq which was part of a campaign to induce people to believe Iraq had something to do with 9/11.

The deliberate, systematic connection of Iraq with 9/11 has led America into a philosophical and moral cul-de-sac as over one million Iraqis and over 4155 U.S. soldiers have died in a war which will cost over \$3 trillion. Additionally, soldiers from 23 other countries have died in the Iraq war.

We attempt to unite Iraq by further dividing it. We talk about restoring Iraq while taking steps to place control of its vast oil wealth in the hands of U.S. oil giants. And we intend to impose upon the Iraqi people the cost of rebuilding a country which our government ruined, keeping a once prosperous nation lashed to debt and poverty for a long, long time. Iraq has paid for 9/11. We all continue to pay for 9/11.

The heartbreaking loss of the lives and injuries to America troops further binds us to the Administration's illogic of the Iraq war: We remember our troops' sacrifice by demanding more sacrifice; we support our troops by continuing the war.

The dominant color of our new national security since 9/11 is neither red, white nor blue. Every day is orange. Everyday reminders of fear of 9/11 become banal. Yet we no longer hear the airport announcements nor see the orange-colored warnings because they have commonplace standards in our new national security state, as is the PATRIOT Act, wire-tapping, and a host of invasions of privacy and diminution of civil liberties. The Constitution has been roundly attacked by the very people who took an oath to defend it.

There is a powerful desire across America for change, not necessarily from control by one political party to another, but a change from living with lies to living with truth.

Over two dozen nations, facing peril within and without, deeply divided by politics and war

have travelled down a path of restoring civil society through a formal process of reconciliation. At some point within each of those countries it was understood that the way forward is shown through the light of truth. This process is not without pain because it requires a willingness to study evidence to which eyes had been averted and ears had been closed. But in the process of truth and reconciliation, nations found new strength, new resolve, and new commitment.

The South African Truth and Reconciliation enabled that nation to come to grips with its past through a public confessional, bringing forward those who committed crimes and having the power to grant amnesty for full disclosure of crimes against the people. Of course, our path may necessarily be different: High U.S. government officials stand accused in impeachment petitions of violating national and international law. Our continued existence as a democracy may depend upon how thoroughly we seek the truth. I will call upon the American people to join me in supporting this effort.

The truth can move us forward, as a unified whole, so that we can one day become a re-United States. September 11 is the day the world changed. It is the day America embraced a metaphor of war. If we are open to truth and reconciliation, we may one day be able, once again, to embrace peace.

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HONORING MARY HIGLEY'S 110TH BIRTHDAY

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HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Mary Higley, a Southeastern Pennsylvania resident who recently reached a very special milestone.

Mary celebrated her 110th birthday on Aug. 10, 2008 during a ceremony with her fellow residents at Meadowood Retirement Community in Worcester Township, Montgomery County.

Mary was born in Burrville, Rhode Island in 1898. She was the first of five children in her family. She pursued a career in the sciences after graduating from Mount Holyoke College with a degree in biology. Mary worked as a Bacteriologist for the State of Rhode Island in the Public Health Department testing water systems until she married. She and her late husband have three children, two boys and one daughter who lives nearby in North Wales, Pennsylvania.

Mary stays active at Meadowood, rising each morning at exactly 6 A.M. She is an avid reader and enjoys walks through the gardens. Known for her jigsaw puzzles, she always has one in the works in her room. Mary has been a resident at Meadowood since 1996 and continues a very busy and stimulating life there.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Mary Higley a very happy 110th birthday. She is an inspiration to all.

IN MEMORY OF SEPTEMBER 11TH

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I would like submit the following editorial published today in the Times and Democrat newspaper of Orangeburg, South Carolina on September 11, 2008. It eloquently conveys the dedication we all feel on this seventh anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11th. I appreciate their sentiment, and believe that we must never forget those who lost their lives on that terrible day, never forget the enemy we face, and never lose faith that our nation will prevail in this Global War on Terrorism.

SEVEN YEARS LATER: "WE WILL NOT FORGET"

Today is Sept. 11, 2008, seven years after the worst attack against America in its history. Second District Congressman JOE WILSON has since that day made a point of referencing remembering 9-11 in every speech before lawmakers. He's offered more than words, too, with his children serving in the war on terrorism and the congressman being an active supporter of the war and the military waging it.

The Times and Democrat's continuing series of memorial posters today focuses on 9-11. "We will not forget." The message has not changed.

Innocent people in the World Trade Centers and the Pentagon, and aboard an airliner in Pennsylvania, died when terrorists brought their hatred for our nation and its people to our shores. The images of airliners crashing into the very symbols of our Nation are forever etched into Americans' minds.

On this anniversary date, our Nation remains under attack. We continue to be the target of terrorists, either directly or through attacks on our allies. Extremists contending they are acting in the name of Islam continually vow to punish our nation for its perceived evil role around the world.

Defeating the threat, on the surface, appears impossible. We cannot score definitive military victories against forces that are committed only to recruiting soldiers to die while killing as many Americans as possible. There seemingly always will be another recruit.

Our forces fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan face constant threats. Our enemies boast of killing the American invaders who have come to seize holy lands. Thousands have died. Their deaths must not be in vain. The sacrifices of the thousands on Sept. 11, 2001, must not be forgotten. Our nation will stand tall, we will determine where and how to continue the fight against terrorism. Just as older generations passed the test in World War II and wars before, the generations of our time are facing their tests. We cannot afford to fail.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was delayed in reaching the floor yesterday and missed rollcall vote No. 581. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

## SUNSET MEMORIAL

## HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

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

It is September 11, 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 13,016 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, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

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 capsulizes 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.

So Madam Speaker, let me conclude this Sunset Memorial in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard it 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 13,016 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children

in America is enough; and that it is time that we stood up together again, and remembered that we are the same America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust; and we are still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

Madam Speaker, as we consider the plight of unborn America tonight, 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 September 11, 2008, 13,016 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.

IN HONOR OF MR. PAUL WEYRICH

## HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Mr. Paul Weyrich for his many contributions to the cause of freedom and liberty. Mr. Weyrich is the proud son of Racine, Wisconsin—a city that I have the privilege to represent in the U.S. House of Representatives. Wisconsin has a long tradition of challenging the prevailing political sentiments, and producing intellectually-curious, reform-minded leaders. Paul Weyrich is one such leader.

As a pioneer of the modern conservative movement, Mr. Weyrich has consistently served as a vocal defender of our economic and religious freedoms. On September 10, 2008, I had the unique opportunity to show my respect and admiration at the Paul Weyrich Legacy Dinner in Washington, D.C. On behalf of those I represent in Racine, Wisconsin, I extend my gratitude to this great American.

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS  
PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SERVICES  
AND DESERVE FAIR COMPENSA-  
TION

## HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the good people at Woodfords Family Services and the other members of the Maine Association for Community Service Providers who have come to Washington, D.C. this week to take part in the American Network of Community Options and Resources

Governmental Activities Seminar and the "DSPs to D.C." events.

In Maine, these agencies are working with hundreds of Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) to provide assistance to individuals with disabilities. DSPs help men, women, and children with aspects of daily living, rehabilitation, training, and other tasks, seven days a week, 24 hours a day, enabling Americans with mental and physical disabilities to live and work in their communities. This highly trained, skilled, and committed workforce supports individuals in my Congressional District. The same is true throughout the State of Maine and the rest of the country.

Years ago, the Maine Legislature decided to provide residential support to its most vulnerable citizens with developmental disabilities and other special needs. This community-based system consisted of a network of private providers who had a long history of offering services to individuals with special needs through local organizations that were created just for that purpose.

Maine's decision was an historic step forward, for it allowed my State to achieve two major goals. First, the residents of Maine's only state institution for people with developmental disabilities, Pineland Center, were transferred to small, homelike settings in local communities. This resulted in the closing of the infamous Pineland facility in 1996. The second achievement was to permit people with disabilities to remain in their home communities instead of unfamiliar locations. The work of countless Direct Support Professionals was crucial to the success of Maine's initiative.

DSPs are able to help their clients not only by lending them physical support, but by building a relationship of trust. They help individuals with communication issues convey their thoughts, enable people with physical disabilities explore the world beyond their homes, and help individuals establish friendships that allow them to give as well as receive from their communities. The success of these services is the direct result of the personal relationships that DSPs build with their clients.

Thanks to the care and support of skilled DSPs, the quality of life of many Americans with special needs has improved significantly. However, this progress is threatened by expanding need and shrinking resources. In particular, we now face a critical DSP workforce shortage because, as the cost of living rises, the low wages associated with this career are driving employees out of the field.

Despite today's high unemployment rate, members of the Maine Association for Community Service Providers struggle every day to hire and retain quality staff to work as DSPs in their residential facilities. To reverse this trend, many providers across the nation support H.R. 1279, the Direct Support Professionals Fairness and Security Act of 2007, introduced by Representative LOIS CAPPAS (D-CA). This measure would provide states with funds to increase the wages paid to DSPs who provide services to individuals with disabilities under the Medicaid program.

It is time to recognize the dedication, commitment, and sacrifices DSPs make to ensure the safety and well-being of the people they serve, providing a critical safety net for our disabled citizens. This care is often physically and emotionally demanding. DSPs deserve fair compensation. Accordingly, I ask my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring the bipartisan Direct Support Professionals Fairness

and Security Act (H.R. 1279). Our health care workforce must include a sufficient number of trained Direct Support Professionals to provide these critical services. Investing in fair compensation for DSPs is the right thing to do.

**BILL TO AMEND EXPEDITED  
FUNDS AVAILABILITY ACT**

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, this bill amends the Expedited Funds Availability Act, EFAA, to provide a 1-time adjustment in certain dollar amounts to account for inflation over the 21 years since the enactment of such Act, to provide for future adjustments of such amounts on a regular basis, and for other purposes.

In reviewing the effects of the Check 21 Act, it came to the attention of many observers, including the Federal Reserve, that the amounts specified by the EFAA as available for immediate withdrawal had not been increased in over two decades and no provision had been made for indexing those amounts for inflation. This bill accomplishes those two goals with respect to some of the amounts specified in the statute.

The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve approved an earlier version of this legislation which also contained provisions increasing the amounts immediately available under the large deposit and new account sections of the EFAA. Those provisions have been removed from this legislation due to industry concerns, but no provisions have been added that were not approved by the Board.

This legislation is long overdue and will adjust basic banking regulations for inflation.

**HONORING TANNER BOYNTON**

**HON. RUSS CARNAHAN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent, Tanner Boynton, who tragically died, Friday, August 1, 2008, at the far too young age of 13, playing baseball, a game that he loved dearly.

Tanner was warming up by playing catch before tournament play when he became distracted and was tragically hit in the back of the neck with a baseball.

I did not have the opportunity to get to know Tanner before learning of his death, but like much of the community I learned a great deal about him after he was suddenly taken away from his teammates, friends and family.

Tanner played first base and outfield for the De Soto Express, which ended the season in first place. He was preparing to enter the eighth grade at De Soto Junior High.

Friends and family describe Tanner as mature beyond his age.

After his coach approached him about playing for the traveling team, Tanner had one condition: "I can't play during the week past 8 p.m. because I have to go to school the next day, and I'm really into my school situation."

When Tanner's grandmother gave him \$5 to spend for himself he instead chose to drop it into a Salvation Army bucket.

At the age of 13, Tanner already had big plans in life including starting his own business using heavy equipment, making his sudden death even more tragic.

This young boy has brought together a team and community like no one could have ever imagined; he will not be forgotten. Tanner will be memorialized in an Arnold Athletic Association baseball diamond named in his honor as well as the De Soto Express Tanner Boynton Scholarship Fund awarded to De Soto High School graduating seniors who excel academically and play baseball.

I extend my deepest condolences to Tanner's family.

**MISSISQUOI AND TROUT RIVERS  
WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY  
ACT OF 2008**

SPEECH OF

**HON. PETER WELCH**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 10, 2008*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3667) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers in the State of Vermont for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System:

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Mr. Chairman, the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers are located in my home State of Vermont. The Missisquoi begins in Western Orleans County just north of the beautiful mountain town of Eden and heads up through the Green Mountains. From Eden, the river leaves the U.S. and winds through southern Quebec before returning to the small Vermont town of Richford.

If you paddle south along the Missisquoi from Richford you can find pristine clay deposits along the banks. Outside of the town of East Berkshire the Trout River feeds in from the East and slightly cools the temperature of the water. From here, the two rivers run as one all the way to Lake Champlain.

From Eden to Lake Champlain the rivers run through scenic northern mountains, rolling farm hills dotted with dairy cows, and small Vermont towns. Both rivers are highly valued by the surrounding towns and communities for swimming, fishing, and boating. Parents who grew up swimming in these rivers take their children back to the same places to teach them how to swim. In the summer you can find these swimming holes filled with families, enjoying the water and taking in the sunshine along their banks.

These rivers are bordered by the largest and perhaps the highest quality silver maple floodplain forest remaining in the State. They are also home to diverse animal life including brook trout, rare freshwater mussels and spiny soft-shell turtles. The surrounding marshes host migratory birds such as the great blue heron and black terns.

This bill will provide for a study of these two rivers and represents the first step toward protecting Abenaki Indian archeological sites along the floodplains, scenic waterfalls and

gorges, and a way of life in the communities surrounding these two rivers.

I urge support for this bill.

**STEVEN PEARLSTEIN TO THE  
RESCUE**

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, a great deal has been written and spoken, understandably, about various efforts by the Bush administration—with and without Congressional authorization—to rescue major financial institutions. Unfortunately, a great deal of that analysis has been distorted, inaccurate, and ill-informed. In the Washington Post, Wednesday, September 10th, Steven Pearlstein once again provides a thoughtful, balanced analysis of the public policy issues involved here. I urge all Members, Madam Speaker, to read Mr. Pearlstein's analysis and keep it in mind as we deliberate going forward on these issues. As he very sensibly puts it, "In the end, the right way to think about these rescues is not to simply ask how much they are likely to cost, but how the rescue compares to the cost of doing nothing." Mr. Pearlstein's insightful approach to the current economic crisis is one of the most important assets we now have, and it is one that is not being impaired by current trends.

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 10, 2008]

**DON'T LIKE BAILOUTS? CONSIDER THE  
ALTERNATIVES**

(Steven Pearlstein)

First came the rescue of Bear Stearns and the Fed loans to cash-strapped investment banks. Then the government stepped in to fill the financing gap left when private lenders retreated from the college loan business. Last weekend brought the takeover of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. And now the Not-So-Big Three are headed our way looking for \$50 billion in retooling loans.

When is this going to end?

The honest answer: With stock markets swinging 300 points a day and the economy diving into recession, not anytime soon.

Indeed, the chances are pretty good that by year's end, Washington will have to bail out another big bank or investment house along with a bond insurer or two. And taxpayers will be called on to replenish the coffers of the federal agencies that insure private bank deposits and private pensions.

Already, there's been plenty of grumbling from editorial writers and market-oriented conservatives that the country is on a slippery slope toward socialism. They also fear that these rescues will encourage reckless risk-taking in the future, creating the expectation that if bets go bad, Uncle Sam will always be there with a bailout.

From the left, meanwhile, come populist complaints that government has committed enormous amounts of taxpayer money to bail out corporate fat cats and rich investors while ignoring the plight of millions of Americans facing personal bankruptcy and foreclosure.

While there is validity to these concerns, they are also based on a number of false assumptions, chief among them that vast sums are expended on these rescues.

History shows that rather than costing taxpayers, the rescues have often wound up making money.

That was the case with the Home Owners Loan Corp., a New Deal agency that bought

mortgages from banks and wound up with a small profit by the time all the loans were paid up in the early 1950s. The same was true of the controversial loan guarantees made to Lockheed and Chrysler in the 1970s. More recently, following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the government set up an Air Transportation Stabilization Board that offered loans and loan guarantees to a handful of cash-strapped airlines. The agency now expects to close out its books in the black.

In the case of the \$29 billion that the Federal Reserve loaned J.P. Morgan Chase to take over Bear Stearns, the final cost won't be known until the Fed sells the asset-backed securities it took as collateral for the loan. So far, so good: As of June 30, those assets had an estimated market value of \$29 billion.

It's anyone's guess what the Fannie and Freddie rescue will cost, but at this point it looks to have been structured on terms quite favorable to the government. Although the government is yet to put a dime into the companies, it has received \$1 billion worth of preferred stock and warrants for 80 percent of both companies' common stock simply for agreeing to provide backstop financing.

Over the next few years, however, the Treasury will almost surely have to invest tens of billions of dollars to keep Fannie and Freddie adequately capitalized, and how much of that money will ultimately be recovered depends on how things turn out with the millions of mortgages the companies hold or have guaranteed. But if it is willing to wait until housing markets finally recover, there's a good chance the government will recoup most of its investment, along with a 10 percent annual dividend and a hefty guarantee fee.

In the end, the right way to think about these rescues is not to simply ask how much they are likely to cost, but how the rescue compares to the cost of doing nothing.

It's not hard to imagine, for example, that if nothing had been done, Fannie and Freddie would have been forced by nervous bondholders to hunker down and throttle back its housing-finance activities, further destabilizing financial markets and accelerating the housing market's downward spiral. Those, in turn, could have easily turned a short recession into one that was longer and deeper—one that cost Americans an extra \$200 billion in lost income, several hundred thousand additional lost jobs and a net loss to the Treasury of \$80 billion. Suddenly, a Fannie/Freddie rescue begins to look like a bargain.

Aside from the money, of course, there is also the problem of moral hazard—the concept that unless markets are allowed to inflict the full measure of punishment on investors and executives for their bad judgments and undue risk-taking, it will only invite bad judgment and undue risk in the future. But using moral hazard to argue against the carefully structured rescues of Bear Stearns or Fannie and Freddie is a bit likely arguing that any sentence short of capital punishment is insufficient to deter bank robbery.

Remember that even with the rescues, top executives at Bear Stearns, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac lost their jobs, their reputations and most of their net worth, while long-term investors lost all but a tiny fraction of their money. It's hard to imagine that anyone will look back on those experiences and see anything but a cautionary tale.

PORT OF SEATTLE AND SEA-TAC  
AIRPORT ENVIRONMENTAL RECOGNITION

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, Sea-Tac, as the winner of the 2008 Environmental Achievement Award from Airports Council International—North America, ACI-NA. Sea-Tac, operated by the Port of Seattle, was recognized by ACI-NA for their Comprehensive Stormwater Management Program, CSMP.

The CSMP focuses on surface-water runoff quality, regional basin planning, and endangered salmon. According to officials at the Port of Seattle, not only did the CSMP at Sea-Tac strengthen the environmental sustainability of the communities surrounding Sea-Tac and the Pacific Northwest as a whole, it also saved taxpayer's an estimated \$250 million. The Port of Seattle and Sea-Tac also worked cooperatively with local cities and government agencies to implement a \$4.2 billion capital improvement program at Sea-Tac to adhere to storm water regulations and show the type of environmental leadership that reflects the values of the people of the region.

The Port of Seattle's determination to be the greenest port in the Nation should be commended. I applaud port CEO Tay Yoshitani and the five port commissioners for their innovative leadership in lessening their environmental impact and showing conclusively that green policies and economic stimulation are not divergent values. I urge the port to continue on their conservation path and I pledge to also continue pushing pro-environment legislation and ideals in the House of Representatives.

THE RECOGNITION OF 25 YEARS  
OF SERVICE AWARDS FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICERS AND INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize outstanding employees of the Officers, Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms and Chief Administrative Officer, and Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives who have reached the milestone of 25 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Our most important asset in the House is our dedicated employees, and their work, often behind the scenes, is vital in keeping the operations and services of the House running smoothly and efficiently. The employees we recognize today are acknowledged and commended for their hard work, dedication, and support of House Members, their staffs and constituents, and for their contributions day-in and day-out to the overall operations of the House. These employees have a wide range

of responsibilities that support the legislative process, assure the security of the institution, and maintain our technology and service infrastructure. They have accomplished a great many things in a wide range of activities, and the House of Representatives and its Members, staff, and the general public, are better served because of them. The individuals we honor today have collectively provided over two hundred seventy-five, 275, years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives:

Matthew P. Agee—Chief Administrative Officer

David S. Bogan—Chief Administrative Officer

James A. Bowles—Chief Administrative Officer

Mary B. Engler—Clerk of the House

Stephen R. Johnson—Chief Administrative Officer

Mary M. Kelley—Chief Administrative Officer

Arnette M. Person—Chief Administrative Officer

Robert V. Rota, Jr.—Clerk of the House

Michael H. Starnes—Clerk of the House

Nathaniel L. Tolson—Clerk of the House

Deborah J. Turner—Clerk of the House

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend congratulations and once again recognize and thank these employees for their commitment to the U.S. House of Representatives as a whole, and to their respective House Officers and Inspector General in particular. Their long hours and hard work are invaluable, and their years of unwavering service, dedication and commitment to the House set an example for their colleagues and other employees who will follow in their footsteps. I celebrate our honorees, and I am proud to stand before you and the nation on their behalf to recognize the importance of their public service.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. DAVE WELDON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 6599, The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for FY 2009.

I have requested that the committee provide the full \$122,000,000 requested by the Administration for construction of the East-Central Florida (Orlando) New Veteran's Medical Facility under the Department of Veterans Affairs Major Construction account. The committee provided \$220,000,000 within the bill.

The Medical Center will consist of a 134-bed hospital, a large medical clinic, a 120-bed Nursing Home, a 60-bed domiciliary, and full support services, utilities, and infrastructure on a new site. It will provide VA Acute Care, complex Specialty Care and advanced Ancillary/Diagnostic services for approximately 92,000 veteran enrollees. The site selected is in the Lake Nona development in Orlando, Florida.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF OHIO

SPEECH OF

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2008*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our departed colleague the Honorable STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

Many have attested to STEPHANIE's contagious smile and fierce loyalty to her friends. I always respected and admired her. I can honestly say that she was a nice and professional colleague. We spoke for the last time a couple of weeks ago at the Congressional Black Caucus's Annual Retreat in Tunica, Mississippi. I feel a sense of gratitude for our meeting. We talked. We embraced. STEPHANIE expressed her congratulations for my success as a freshman legislator. She spoke fondly of her time in Memphis as she visited her family there.

Over the past decade, STEPHANIE was an undeniable force in Congress. She broke barriers in 1998 by being elected the first African American woman in Congress from Ohio. She persisted over the years and was appointed to the powerful Ways and Means Committee. She served with a sense of pride as the chairwoman of the House Ethics Committee.

STEPHANIE and I co-sponsored a great deal of legislation together. On July 29, 2008, we unified as Members of Congress and passed H. Res. 194: the formal apology for government's involvement in slavery and Jim Crow. STEPHANIE was one of my earliest co-sponsors. She was a community conscious legislator. She fought for the people and sponsored legislation on issue areas ranging from community economic development to enfranchisement and retirement security.

I am forever grateful that my last interaction with STEPHANIE concluded with a deep and meaningful hug. My only regret is that STEPHANIE and I will not have the opportunity to work together in the future.

HONORING NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS DAY

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, we celebrate National Grandparents Day on the first Sunday after Labor Day every September. In honor of the 2008 National Grandparents Day, I wish to recognize the contribution of the millions of grandparent caregivers who raise their young relatives. In the United States, more than four and one half million grandparents are raising over six million children. These grandparents have embraced the role of full-time caregivers—juggling car seats, monitoring homework, and stretching fixed-incomes—to protect young children whose parents cannot provide them safe, permanent homes. This is not the vision of retirement that

most of us hold, but it is a reality for millions of Americans.

In Illinois, approximately 80,000 grandparents head households that include young children. Indeed, my Congressional District has the highest percentage of children living with kinship caregivers in the Nation, followed by the First District of Illinois with the second highest percentage and the Second District with the tenth highest percentage in the nation. I know the sacrifice and dedication of these grandparents. I know the lengths they go to identify the resources and obtain supports for these youth, foregoing their own needs to provide for their grandchildren.

I am pleased that Congress is advancing legislation to support these grandparent caregivers. In June, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 6307, the Fostering Connections to Success Act. This bill includes important provisions that I have championed for 4 years that will support kinship caregivers. Specifically, the bill includes the three core elements of my bill, H.R. 2188, the Kinship Caregiver Support Act, which I introduced with Representative TIM JOHNSON: It allows states to use Federal funds to support family caregivers' raising relatives who were in the foster care system; it provides funding to establish kinship navigator programs; and it requires notification of relatives when a child enters the foster care system. The Senate Committee on Finance is advancing related legislation this week. It is important that Congress acts quickly to support grandparent-headed families. Research clearly shows that kinship foster care families are safer, more stable placements that are more likely to keep children connected with their siblings and communities than non-relative placements. Further, these placements are cost effective. In Illinois, cost studies found a projected savings of approximately \$48 million over 10 years. We know that millions of grandparents care for grandchildren who never entered the foster care system, and we need to include supports—such as kinship navigator programs—to help these families identify and access services as well.

National Grandparents Day reminds us to care for our seniors. It is a fact of nature that all of us will turn grayer. I hope that Congress will succeed in implementing key supports for kinship caregivers who have done so much to protect and care for some of our most vulnerable citizens.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE HOSPICE PROTECTION ACT

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Medicare Hospice Protection Act to help preserve Medicare beneficiaries' access to hospice services. I am pleased to be introducing this legislation with my colleagues JIM RAMSTAD and MAURICE HINCHEY.

Established as a Medicare benefit in 1983 to ensure that all beneficiaries could access high quality end-of-life care, hospice is a comprehensive model of care that encompasses the physical, spiritual, emotional, and practical

needs of the patient. Considered to be the model for quality, compassionate care at the end of life, hospice care involves a team-oriented approach of expert medical care, pain management, and emotional and spiritual support expressly tailored to the patient's wishes. Hospices around the country provide invaluable services and care by enhancing the quality of life for the terminally ill.

The Medicare hospice benefit has significant cost savings. A Duke University study showed that patients receiving hospice care cost the Medicare program about \$2,300 less than those who did not.

Unfortunately, the Bush Administration and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently issued a final rule that would eliminate the budget neutrality factor in the Medicare hospice wage index. This will result in a \$2.18 billion reduction in Medicare hospice reimbursement over 5 years and threatens the ability of hospice providers to care for the terminally ill. This legislation seeks to prevent CMS from implementing this shortsighted rule until October 2009.

I initiated a letter in April 2008, signed by 49 House members, to Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt urging him to reconsider issuing this rule that phases out the current budget neutrality factor in the Medicare hospice wage index. That letter was ignored as the Administration has moved forward and issued this misguided regulation.

Madam Speaker, as our nation faces the continuing challenges of meeting the health care needs of an aging population, now is not the time to cut back on Medicare reimbursement for hospice services, which is cost effective and saves Medicare money. I invite my colleagues to join us to pass the Medicare Hospice Protection Act to ensure access to hospice services for the patients and families who need it.

HONORING SGT RYAN BAUMANN

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise in memory of a Maryland native who died last month in our country's service: SGT Ryan Baumann of Great Mills. I know how small a difference any words of mine can make for those who loved and lost him; but still, he deserves all the honor we can give.

Ryan Baumann grew up in Great Mills, Maryland, where he excelled in sports and was an award-winning photographer. He met his fiancée, Lauren Smith, soon after graduating from high school; tragically, he was killed in action before they could marry.

Sergeant Baumann was a veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan, a highly decorated soldier. His awards included the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, two awards, the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Overseas Ribbon. He was also posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star.

Sergeant Baumann's death typified his outstanding service. Traveling on Route Alaska in

Khost Province, Afghanistan, Sergeant Baumann spotted an improvised explosive device from his Humvee. As his fiance explained, "They were going downhill and he saw the land mine and he was telling them to stop, and you can't stop a Humvee going downhill, and he told them to veer to the left, which made him take the brunt of the explosion. He wouldn't have had it any other way." Sgt. Baumann died of his injuries; every other serviceman in the Humvee survived.

In the wake of his death, we honor his commitment to our country, his tremendous sacrifice, and his devotion to his comrades-in-arms. As they mourn their great loss, our thoughts are with his family: his father Robert; his mother Cindy; his stepfather Gary Lohman; his sister Christina; and his fiance, Lauren Smith. I pledge to them all the support a grateful nation can give.

HONORING THE 95TH BIRTHDAY OF  
ROBERT SIDNEY CLOTFELTER

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Sidney Clotfelter, who is celebrating his 95th birthday this week. Sidney Clotfelter is a life-long Georgian who has spent the majority of his 95 years enriching lives of citizens in the heart of my district—Marietta, Georgia. Born in Fulton County, Georgia on September 14, 1913, Sidney was one of five children to Charles Thomas and Era Northcutt Clotfelter.

Growing up in Marietta during the Great Depression, Sidney sold vegetables from the back of a Model T Ford to help make ends meet for his family.

Sidney attended Marietta High School and graduated in 1932, where he was voted Best All-Around Senior. After high school, he attended a local business college, and then studied two years at Georgia Tech. During World War II, he served his country as an officer in the Army with the Corps of Engineers.

Sidney has been an active member of the First Presbyterian Church since 1928, where he has served as Deacon and has been on the Property Committee for twenty years.

He has owned and operated a number of businesses, including a contracting company for commercial and industrial construction. He built schools, churches and various commercial buildings around Marietta, and did construction work for Southern Bell and AT&T in every state in the Southeast. For several years he worked for Lockheed Martin in maintenance and construction.

In 1992, he was honored with the Marietta High School Distinguished Alumni Award. Sidney Clotfelter has been a member of the Marietta Rotary Club since 1946 and served as the Club's president from 1962 to 1963.

Sidney Clotfelter has contributed much to the communities of Marietta, Cobb County, and the entire state of Georgia during his 95 years. His donations of time, work and money to a wide variety of organizations and causes have been substantial, continual and selfless—often giving anonymously. He is a dedicated family man who is blessed to have all four of his children living near him on the

property where he was raised. Sidney has spent thirty-two wonderful years married to Barbara Porter Clotfelter and, along with his four children, has eight grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing Robert Sidney Clotfelter a happy and healthy 95th birthday and thanking him for a lifetime of service to his community.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARIAN HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Marian High School in Bloomfield Hills, MI as they celebrate their 50th anniversary on September 14, 2008. The school continues to be a beacon of academic excellence that nurtures future generations of leaders.

Marian High School is a Catholic, college preparatory high school for young women founded by the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in 1959. The congregation continues to sponsor the school and is still an active part of the administration. The school's mission is to ensure, within a Christian environment, an excellent education built on a strong academic curriculum, which will enable young women to value human diversity and live responsible lives of leadership and action based on gospel values.

Marian's philosophy of melding Christian values with scholastic achievement has proven to be one of success. This is exemplified by the fact that Marian students have consistently performed above the state and national averages on the SAT and ACT. In addition, Marian offers 20 honor level courses and 12 advanced placement courses, which allow students to earn college credits. The faculty has also shown a commitment to improving the quality of the education students are receiving with over 60 percent of them holding an advanced degree.

Madam Speaker, Marian High School continues to be one of the finest educational institutions in Michigan. I wish to congratulate the administration, faculty, students, and alumni on their 50th Anniversary and hope for many years of prosperity.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRI-COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Tri-County Mental Health and Mental Retardation being designated as the MHMR center for Montgomery, Liberty and Walker counties in southeast Texas. I ask my colleagues and those visitors in the House Chamber to join me in congratulating Tri-County MHMR and applauding the work they've done over the past quarter century.

Twenty-six years ago, a small group of community leaders joined together to make the dream of local MHMR services a reality—the dream they shared became a reality on September 1, 1983. What initially was only an outpatient service center grew to have a budget of \$1.5 million and 46 employees by the end of the first year. Tri-County MHMR grew from these humble beginnings into a \$22 million system that serves nearly 7,000 people and has more than 350 employees.

It is only through the dedication of the founders, the continued work of the employees, and the support of the community that Tri-County MHMR has seen such tremendous success and been able to make such a positive impact on the community.

If you name the service chances are Tri-County MHMR offers it; from outpatient psychiatric services, nursing and counseling to supported employment, habilitation and vocational training for both adults and children. The impact they've had has been felt locally and with the help of Federal grants, they continue to offer new services and provide better care. Only last year, they received over \$1.3 million to build additional supported apartment housing in Montgomery County. Tri-County MHMR continues to grow and identify new areas where they can contribute and, with the help of the State of Texas, the Montgomery County Hospital District, and the Montgomery County United Way, Tri-County MHMR will open a much needed Crisis Stabilization Unit in 2009.

It is an honor to recognize such an impressive group of individuals and such a noble organization. I hope all Americans can learn from the example Tri-County MHMR continues to make and step forward to fill a need in their local community, help other people, and in a small way help make life better for someone else.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ICHJI TASAKI

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements of my constituent Dr. Ichiji Tasaki. Dr. Tasaki has worked at the National Institutes of Health for 54 years, since November 1953, and has made invaluable contributions to the scientific community.

Dr. Tasaki was born in Japan in 1910 and attended medical school at Keio University Medical School. Upon earning his medical degree, Dr. Tasaki began a career in research. After completing a Rockefeller Fellowship in Switzerland and England, Dr. Tasaki immigrated to the United States in 1951, where he began work at the Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis, Missouri, helping to develop the field of audiology, which serves as a foundation for diagnosing and treating numerous hearing disorders.

Dr. Tasaki began his career at the National Institutes of Health as a Section Chief in the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Blindness. He went on to become a Laboratory Chief and later a Senior Research Scientist at the National Institute of Mental Health, where he remained for twenty-two years. Most recently, Dr. Tasaki was associated with the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Dr. Tasaki has made countless contributions to scientific understanding. He is well known for discovering the insulating function of the myelin sheath, the salutatory feature of nerve conduction, and the rapid swelling of nerve fibers in association with their excitation. He also developed an important method of intracellular perfusion and the new method of detecting heat production associated with nerve excitation. Dr. Tasaki's work is referred to in biology textbooks, and he is recognized as the most senior author of "Scholarpedia."

Madam Speaker, I am honored to commend Dr. Ichiji Tasaki for his significant contributions to scientific understanding. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the advances he has made to improve the quality of life throughout the world.

RECOGNIZING BAKER CHAPEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH UPON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Baker Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church on its 100th anniversary.

Baker Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in 1908 as a place of worship and institution of service to its community. The Reverend Walter McDonald, current Pastor, and the church membership have sought to minister to the spiritual, intellectual, physical, and emotional needs of the people of the surrounding area. For a century, BCAMEC has stood as an esteemed religious institution, serving as a beacon in Tarrant County to reach out to its neighbors and serve the misfortunate.

I recognize Baker Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church for their accomplishment of a century of service to the Fort Worth community. It is my privilege to represent the members of Baker Chapel in the 26th district of Texas.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM BYRD SPENCER

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of William Byrd Spencer of Washington, DC. William Byrd Spencer, known to most as Bill, is considered one of Washington, DC's preeminent labor/management specialists and political strategists. Bill has worked in the government affairs division at the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), one of the Nation's largest construction trade associations, for 19 years, serving as ABC's chief political strategist for the last 8 years. During his time at ABC, Bill has covered all aspects of their government affairs activities and policy making, including legislative, political, legal and regulatory affairs. Many on Capitol Hill credit Bill's hard

work and tireless dedication to free enterprise and merit shop construction as a primary reason ABC is considered one of the most influential organizations in Washington today. Bill is widely respected by his peers, and counsels many Members of Congress on a variety of issues.

Bill received his bachelor of arts in International Relations from the University of Southern California and his juris doctor from the University of the Pacific's McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento. Bill came to Washington in 1987 to serve in the Reagan Administration where he worked in the Office of the Secretary at the United States Department of Commerce. In addition Bill has served in high level positions in numerous campaigns around the country.

Above all Bill is a consummate family man. He always finds the time to attend his daughter Kelsey's dance recitals and his son Will's baseball games with his wife Allison.

I know I am not the only Member of the United States Congress who wishes Bill all the best and to thank him for everything he has done.

HONORING CARL DICKERSON

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the life and contributions of Mr. Carl Dickerson as his family and friends join together to celebrate the joyous occasion of his 70th birthday. An innovative entrepreneur, community advocate, and tireless champion for civil rights and equality, Mr. Dickerson has contributed immensely to our society.

Carl Dickerson was born in McKeesport, Pennsylvania on September 12, 1938. Born into a loving family, Carl established a deep value system centered on hard work and close relationships which he has carried with him through his many lifetime accomplishments.

After graduating from high school, Carl served his country and pursued his education with an endless voracity and thirst for knowledge. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army College of Emergency Administrative Analysis in Battlecreek, Michigan, as well as of the U.S. Army Staff College of Nuclear Science in Sheeps Head Bay, New York. In 1960, Mr. Dickerson received his degree from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania and went on to complete graduate work at Temple University.

Carl Dickerson's life has been filled with groundbreaking business ventures, community contributions, and accomplishments both as a recognized leader and astute businessman. For four years, Mr. Dickerson served our young people as a dedicated educator, teaching at West Philadelphia High School in Pennsylvania and at the University of California, San Francisco. In the business world, he served as the president of Echo911 and the Principal at IGP Tech.

Carl has always been relentlessly devoted to his community, and has spent the majority of his life donating his time and efforts to countless professional affiliations where he has served in numerous capacities and board positions. Just a small example of his many commitments includes being a member of

both the National and California Associations of Health Underwriters, founding member of the Academic Council of Insurance Planners, and Associate of the Black MBA Association. He has held myriad board positions for such community benefit organizations as the Los Angeles Community Lending Corporation, the Los Angeles Urban League, the Black Business Association, and the Center for Non Profit Management.

In light of all of these impressive accomplishments, however, Carl's most notable contribution has been as the creative and supportive president of Dickerson Employee Benefits, which he founded in 1965. As a result of Carl's activities, both political and civic, Dickerson Employee Benefits has maintained strong roots in minority communities throughout Southern California. The mission statement of Carl's business closely emulates the mission of Carl's life, which he lives up to everyday: "the belief that all people should have equal access to affordable healthcare."

Carl Dickerson is a successful entrepreneur who has never forgotten his roots, has always fought on behalf of those most in need in his community, and has remained acutely aware that equal opportunity and equal access for people of color is a cause still very much alive and in need of leaders like him. Most importantly, Carl has used his personal success to bring others up behind him.

Fortunately, I have had the honor of witnessing this man at work many times. His positive outlook, energetic spirit, and warm humor are always present no matter what task he has before him. Carl is constantly coming up with creative new ideas and inspiring people to soar to new heights and attempt things they never thought they would be able to do. Carl Dickerson is a man who can produce a sense of self-confidence and adventure in others which they would never find within themselves without his encouragement and guidance. In this way, not only is he a talented and successful person himself, but he has the incredibly rare ability to drive others to realize their full potential.

On behalf of the 9th Congressional District, it is my great pleasure to join Carl Dickerson's mother, wife, children, grandchildren, in-laws, and a host of loving family and friends as we celebrate the 70th birthday of this great man. Congratulations, and I wish you all the best in the coming years.

ON THE INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATIONAL EQUITY MADE BY JAMES KETELSEN

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of James Ketelsen, the founder of Project GRAD, an education reform model that is transforming the hopes of tens of thousands of students and families across the country. Mr. Ketelsen has announced his intention of resigning as chair of the Project GRAD USA board of directors, and will become chair emeritus later this fall.

Mr. Ketelsen is the former CEO and chairman of Tenneco. Under Mr. Ketelsen's leadership, in 1988 Tenneco began to fund a 4-year

scholarship program for eligible graduates of Davis High School, at the time Houston's lowest-performing high school. By 1992, the number of Davis graduates entering college had more than quadrupled. Still, Mr. Ketelsen was not satisfied because high school graduation rates and college matriculation rates continued to fall short of his expectations. He knew, given the right investments and the right commitment, that Davis students—and all students from economically disadvantaged communities—were capable of much more. As Mr. Ketelsen is inclined to insist, "It's not the kids!" Armed with that belief, Mr. Ketelsen has dedicated the last two decades to making an enormous difference for America's highest needs students.

I have been a longtime supporter of Project GRAD in Congress and was pleased to be able to get a provision into the recently-enacted Higher Education Opportunity Act to expand Project GRAD so that more low-income and minority students can attend college and earn degrees. Today, Project GRAD has expanded to 13 communities and reaches more than 120,000 students and families from California to New York, Alaska to Georgia. In the longest-served group of schools, GRAD scholars are completing college at a rate 92 percent above the national average for students from similar demographic backgrounds. A statistically significant sample of GRAD scholarship recipients who have completed college shows that the proportion who graduated with majors in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics—concentrations of dire need for the national economy and national security—exceeded the national average for minority students by 71 percent. In the coming academic year, more than 7,500 students will be in college, funded by a Project GRAD scholarship. GRAD has already sent high school graduates to more than 100 institutions of higher education, including many of the most highly selective colleges and universities in the Nation. At the beginning of high school, many Project GRAD students would never have dreamed of attending Harvard, Yale, MIT, Cornell, Emory, Georgetown, Rice, Texas, Virginia, or Amherst, yet because of Mr. Ketelsen's vision, determination, and remarkable leadership, Project GRAD has altogether altered those expectations.

I am honored to know James Ketelsen personally and I am grateful for the tenacity and passion with which he has served America's children and families. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing the gratitude of the U.S. Congress for the extensive contributions to education and our society that he made during his lifetime.

VETERANS' COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 10, 2008*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the House is considering today S. 2617, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) Act of 2008. If enacted, this bill would require the Secretary of Veterans Af-

fairs to provide a COLA to veterans receiving disability compensation and other select VA beneficiaries that matches the cost-of-living increase rates of Social Security beneficiaries. The increase would take effect December 1, 2008.

I am pleased that this Congress has kept its promises to America's veterans. Last year, we passed the largest single funding increase in the history of the VA, and I am hopeful that we will continue to increase funding for key VA programs over the coming year. In the meantime, it is necessary for us to meet some other basic challenges facing our veterans, and the bill before us addresses one of those challenges.

Many veterans live on fixed incomes, and thus have been very hard hit by recent increases in prices for food, gasoline, and other essentials. By passing this COLA, we will give veterans across America the additional financial assistance they need to care for themselves and their families. The Senate passed this bill in July 2008. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I urge the President to sign it as soon as it reaches his desk.

HONORING MARK TEETERS OF  
NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mark Teeters, who is being honored as the Napa County 2009 Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Teeters is entering his ninth year as Director of Choral Activities at Vintage High School in Napa. He also serves as chair of the Vintage High Visual and Performing Arts Department.

Under his leadership, the Vintage High School choir has ascended to elite status, winning gold medals at competitions around the world. They are a fixture at community events and contribute greatly to the cultural and artistic vitality of the Napa Valley. During the past 4 years, they have performed two extremely well-received musicals: *Les Miserables* and *Miss Saigon*.

As a lifelong Napan, Mr. Teeters not only uses his considerable talents to serve his students, but the community at large as well. He serves as Music Director at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Napa and co-conducts the Napa Valley Chorale, a local community choir.

A great teacher can have an impact on a young person that lasts forever. All of us can remember a teacher that has had a profound influence on our lives. Mr. Teeters has had this impact on hundreds of his students and is a sterling example of the best his profession has to offer. Under the constant specter of budget cuts to art and music programs, Mr. Teeters works tirelessly to ensure music education continues to play an important role in the life of his students.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Mark Teeters for the leadership, guidance and inspiration he has provided to hundreds of young people throughout his career. I join the entire community in thanking him for his service and wishing him continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE WORKFORCE  
MOSAIC AND THEIR ROLE IN  
THE ANCOR 2008 GOVERNMENTAL  
ACTIVITIES SEMINAR

**HON. LEE TERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize all the good people at Mosaic, who have come to Washington, D.C. to take part in the American Network of Community Options and Resources, ANCOR, 2008 Governmental Activities Seminar.

Mosaic, a disability advocacy organization based in my Congressional district, has a long history of providing direct support and services to individuals with disabilities of all ages. It employs more than 5,000 employees nationally who provide a range of supports 7 days a week, 24-hours a day. In Omaha, Mosaic's highly skilled and committed workforce support more than 250 individuals, making Mosaic one of the largest providers in the metropolitan area.

Throughout this week, people from Mosaic, along with the attendees at ANCOR's events are meeting with their Congressional offices to raise awareness about the need for an adequately paid, trained and dedicated workforce. Most direct support professionals are women with families working 40-hour work weeks at an average of \$9.47 an hour. That amounts to an annual salary of \$18,182, a figure below the \$21,200 poverty level for a family of four. Low wages have been a prime obstacle in maintaining a qualified workforce. Unlike other sectors of the private market, the formal long-term supports system is almost entirely dependent upon public financing—particularly Medicaid funding.

Demand for direct support professionals continues to grow and is estimated to increase by about 38 percent over the next 12 years. We must ensure that qualified and reliable people are recruited as caregivers so that they in turn can help individuals with disabilities participate and contribute to their communities.

Madam Speaker, there is no better way to recognize this workforce's contribution to the Nation than to ensure that these dedicated direct support professionals are fairly compensated. I urge my colleagues to join with me in cosponsoring the bipartisan Direct Support Professionals Fairness and Security Act, H.R. 1279.

REMEMBER THOSE KILLED ON  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, As our Nation reflects upon the day of the terrorist attacks 7 years ago this week, I cannot forget my friends who were killed by terrorists that day.

Some 7 weeks before September 11, 2001, I spent several days in New York City with Neal Levin, executive director of the Port Authority New York and New Jersey. I met Neal when he was the legislative director to Senator Al D'Amato of New York and when I was

chief of staff to Senator Paula Hawkins of Florida. In early 2001, he became director of the Port Authority, just as I became chairman of the U.S. House Aviation Subcommittee in Congress.

With New York area airports under his authority, he called on me as an old friend to come to New York, review the air congestion problem and conduct a hearing on the matter. I obliged my friend Neal and after visiting John F. Kennedy International, Newark Liberty International and LaGuardia Airports, held a hearing in the Port Authority Hearing Room in the World Trade Center. After the hearing, Neal hosted me and several other guests in the Port Authority's Dining Room adjacent to the Windows of the World Restaurant at the top of the World Trade Center. It was in that same room where I left Neal and the others who assisted me that they all met their deaths on Tuesday, September 11th.

On the morning of September 11, 2001, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld invited me and several other Members of Congress to a breakfast meeting at the Pentagon. Our discussion that day was how to rebuild our Nation's military capability that had been downsized under the outgoing Clinton Administration. Specific to the conversation was how our stretched and limited military could muster the resources to deal with a future engagement.

As the meeting concluded near 9 a.m., I was speaking with the Defense Secretary at the end of the conference table as word of the first plane to hit the World Trade Center reached us. Then we were told of the second attack. While the Secretary stepped into his adjacent office, I conferred with several of his top aides about the situation. Missing my ride back to Capitol Hill, I sought a ride to the House Office Building and arrived just as the plane hit the Pentagon.

Killed in the Pentagon, where I had departed just minutes before, was Terry Lynch who worked as a U.S. Senate staffer for Alabama Senator RICHARD SHELBY. Terry and I were friends from our U.S. Senate staff days. On Flight 93, was Barbara Olsen who worked with me on the House Government Reform Committee. She was a brilliant and most capable professional and a dear friend who was killed by fanatic terrorists.

While 7 years have passed, I can never forget these friends or the manner in which they were taken from us and their families. As Americans, we are blessed with a life most of the world can only dream about. While we go about our lives, we should not and can not ever forget those taken from us on September 11th.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WHITPAIN—FRANKLINVILLE ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE 150TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I come before you today to congratulate the Historical Society of Whitpain on the 150th anniversary of the Franklinville School. The Franklinville School, a one room schoolhouse, was originally constructed in 1858 to serve the small area of Franklinville and served in that capacity until 1916. After its closure, Ralph Beaver Strausburger, a Naval Academy Graduate and aide to President Theodore Roosevelt, purchased the schoolhouse as part of a small estate when he married into the Singer family, of the Singer Sewing Machine Company.

Mr. Strausburger modeled his estate after a French manor house and named it Normandy Farms. The Franklinville School was an integral part of Strausburger's estate, serving as a school not only for Strausburger's children but also for the children of the employees of the estate.

In the following years, the schoolhouse was abandoned and fell into a state of dilapidation and disrepair. In 1983, The Historical Society of Whitpain was founded for the purpose of restoring the old schoolhouse. Over the next 14 years, volunteers tirelessly worked to raise money to restore the schoolhouse and in 1997, the Historical Society gained title to the Franklinville School.

The Society has worked tirelessly to finish the restoration of the schoolhouse, including replacing the building's unsafe flooring. Prior to the completion of the restoration, the Society commissioned an archeological dig and recovered a number of artifacts that exemplify America of the 1850's, including medicine bottles, inkwells and an 1876 Liberty Head quarter.

Madam Speaker, once again I congratulate the members of the Historical Society of Whitpain on their tireless efforts to reclaim and restore the history that has made our country what it is today. It is through such efforts that we can hope to learn more about our Nation's past and ensure that our extraordinary history is accessible to future generations.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. CHARLES A. SARDO, SR.

### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2008*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Charles A. Sardo, Sr., a Southeastern Pennsylvania resident who dedicated himself to proudly serving his community, country, church and family.

Before his passing on January 21, 2008, Mr. Sardo served his community for 22 years as chairman of the Planning Board and Zoning Hearing Board in Lower Providence Township, Montgomery County. His service also included holding the posts of Building Inspector, Zoning Officer, Road Master, and Township Manager in Worcester Township, Montgomery County. His most recent post was Borough Manager in Trappe, Montgomery County. During his 22-month tenure, Mr. Sardo secured grants through the Kaboom program, which financed the construction of a playground at Waterworks Park. This playground will always stand as a symbol to Mr. Sardo's tireless commitment to the communities that he served.

In addition to giving his all to enhance communities, Mr. Sardo answered the call to serve his country as a Marine. It was during that service that an injury led to his honorable discharge.

While public service demanded a large portion of his time, Mr. Sardo always had time to faithfully serve his church. He was an active member of Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary for 35 years where he attended mass and hosted an annual roast beef dinner for his congregation. As a member of the Knights of Columbus, he was recognized for great leadership as Knight of the Year and as Grand Knight for the Pope John Paul I Council.

Mr. Sardo's devotion to his family was about the only thing that surpassed his long list of good works in his public life. He was a proud father who was always involved in his children's activities, including Little League Baseball and Cub Scouts. He was a faithful and conscientious father, grandfather, and husband.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the life of Mr. Charles A. Sardo who was a shining example of what all of us strive to be, a dedicated citizen and loving family man.