

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO BISHOP EUGENE J. BLOUNT

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Bishop Eugene J. Blount. Bishop Blount has, from an early age, always placed a devotion to community betterment and a passion for Christ and his church at the forefront of every endeavor he has undertaken.

Bishop Eugene J. Blount, in 1990, joined the Elim International Fellowship, where he introduced a renewed enthusiasm for the scriptures and an appreciation for the supernatural, serving in the prophetic ministry as one of the "King's Seers" and as Chief of Staff in the full time ministry under the leadership of Archbishop Wilbert S. McKinley, where he molded and implemented the mission of the church.

Bishop Eugene J. Blount, an outstanding and well-respected member of the Brooklyn clergy, will undoubtedly prove to be a tremendous asset to the Bedford-Stuyvesant community as he is consecrated as a Bishop of the Elim International Fellowship.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Bishop Eugene J. Blount for his extraordinary accomplishments and to congratulate him on his consecration at the Elim International Fellowship.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Bishop Eugene J. Blount.

HONORING IWAN SHULJAK

### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Iwan Shuljak of Cleveland, Ohio who passed away October 6, 2008. This record stands as first published in the *Ukrainian Weekly*, November 2, 2008, written by Andrew Fedynsky. In addition to this beautiful narrative of the life of Iwan Shuljak, I fondly remember his warm smile and welcoming heart. He will be missed by his family, friends and the entire Ukrainian-American community. May his generous and loving spirit be comfortable at its final resting place.

"This is a fairytale, only the story is true. And because it's true, it ends with death, but it's a fairytale and therefore has a happy ending. It's about an elderly man who devoted his life to Ukrainian Culture and how the global village cared for him.

I first met Iwan Schuljak in the early 1960s at the Plast Scouting Home in Cleveland where he was the live-in caretaker. Twenty-five years later, he was still there when I returned to Cleveland to become director of the

Ukrainian Museum-Archives (UMA), which had purchased the building from Plast.

In 1987 the UMA was adrift. Having been in the Tremont neighborhood for a century, the Ukrainian community left for the suburbs after highway construction demolished half the houses and nearby factories were closing. UMA leaders had either passed away or retired. And so, a staggering collection of memorabilia, documents, books and artifacts was sitting neglected in an aging wooden building in a neighborhood where the major industry had become arson and insurance fraud.

Mr. Schuljak lived in a spare room on the second floor. Invariably, he sat on the porch reading or prowled the streets of Tremont to let people know the UMA was viable and someone was caring for it. In the winter he shoveled the snow; in the summer, he mowed the grass; throughout the year, he cleaned and was there to welcome the occasional visitor.

I was 39 years old and ready for a change after nearly a decade on Capitol Hill. My father had been UMA director and I felt an obligation to help preserve his legacy. And so, with old friends like Ihor Kowalysko and new ones like Vlodko Storozynsky, we started working on the collection and raising the profile of the institution.

At the age of 76, Mr. Schuljak welcomed the changes and made appropriate accommodations. He announced that he was now restricting his garlic to weekends only and told me that I was to avoid it altogether. People were noticing, he said, and we had to present a certain image.

Before long, the world around us changed dramatically: communism collapsed and Tremont began gentrifying. The arsonists went to jail, and urban pioneers were restoring historic buildings, opening art galleries, coffee shops and restaurants. Developers built townhouses and condominiums. And the UMA was part of all that, with young volunteers and board members. Throughout, Mr. Schuljak was a mainstay: not only a caretaker, but also an advisor, a confidant and a beloved figure in the neighborhood.

He had a thousand stories: you know the guy at the Friendly Bar with no fingers on his left hand? Back in the 1930s, the NKVD demanded he turn his gold over to the state. He didn't have any, he said, so they chopped off a finger and kept on until they were finally persuaded he was telling the truth . . . The macabre punch line: the joke was on them! He had the gold all along, and it's still there, buried in the ground. The guy hated the Communists so much he wouldn't give them the satisfaction.

Well, Mr. Schuljak, the son of farmers, hated them too. When communism came and with it collectivization and famine, he became a "class enemy." Arrested and brutally interrogated, he carried scars the rest of his life where a Chekist cracked his skull with a revolver, depriving him of hearing in his right ear.

Once the Terror subsided, Mr. Schuljak was released to work on the railroad. When the

Nazis invaded in 1941, he, along with 2 million other Ukrainians, was forced to work in the German economy. His blue and white OST patch identifying him as a slave is now part of the UMA collection. When the war ended, Mr. Schuljak wisely decided to immigrate to America. There, he maintained contact with his family, exchanging letters and phone calls, sending them money.

As he reached his mid-80s, Mr. Schuljak was slowing down and the village in Cleveland began to pay attention to his plight. Daria Sopka, who worked at the UMA, signed him up for the Cuyahoga County Passport Program for the elderly. Lida, a young immigrant from Lviv, assisted Mr. Schuljak with everyday needs, shopping, etc. At MetroHealth, nurses, doctors and Ukrainian interpreters knew him by name.

Then in January 2007, he slipped and broke his leg. The leg healed, but at 95, he could no longer live unassisted and Myron Pakush—also with the UMA—arranged for him to be admitted to Avon Oaks, a nursing home owned and operated by the Reidys, Ukrainian Americans from Lorain County.

Not having heard from him for some time, Mr. Schuljak's family became concerned and called. When they learned what had happened, they immediately offered to take care of him in Ukraine. Well, Avon Oaks is a gracious and caring community and he had regular visitors, especially Father John Nakonachny from St. Vladimir's Cathedral, but it was still a nursing home and Mr. Schuljak was ecstatic at the prospect of "going home."

But there was a problem: he had never become an American citizen and since Ukraine did not exist when he was born, he wasn't a citizen of that country either. So he couldn't get a passport.

I explained the situation to Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S., Dr. Oleh Shamshur, who directed his consular office to help. To establish that Mr. Schuljak had been born in what is today Ukraine, his relatives retrieved his birth certificate from 1911. He also needed an updated "green card." Alerted to the urgency of his case, the Department of Homeland Security turned things around in less than a week. Ukraine's honorary consul for Ohio, Andrew Futey, and Roman Andarak at the Embassy in D.C. did the rest and earlier this year, Mr. Schuljak became a Ukrainian citizen. In June, accompanied by Ihor Mychkovsky, he arrived in Kyiv to meet his relatives. His life had come full circle.

Because he was nobody's responsibility, Mr. Schuljak became everyone's. People all over helped out, making amends, in a way, for how brutally he'd been treated in the first half of his life and repaying him in part for his dedication and selflessness. He died on October 6, and is buried within walking distance of where he was born."

• 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.

HONORING ROBERT AYERS GOULD,  
SR.

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor Mr. Robert Ayers Gould, Sr. on the occasion of his retirement after twelve years of service on the City Council of Athens, Texas, where he has overseen many projects benefiting his community.

After graduating from Athens High School in 1957, Bob joined the United States Navy where he served aboard the USS *Coral Sea*. Following an Honorable Discharge, he returned to Athens where he opened the Gould Insurance Agency in 1962, which he has owned and operated for over forty years.

Among his many civic activities, Bob has been the Director and Vice-President of the Athens Chamber of Commerce, Co-Founder of the Texas High School Basketball Hall of Fame, and the Charter Director for the Henderson County YMCA. He has also received many awards from his community including the Roadhand Award from the Texas Highway Commission and the Athens Citizen of the Year Award in 1984.

In addition to faithfully serving his community, Bob is a husband to Mrs. Peggy Lorene Lubben Gould, and father of four children: Robert Jr., Joseph, Patricia, and Mary.

I want to recognize Bob for his service and commitment to his community. Due to Bob's leadership in the city and throughout the business community, Athens remains a strong, supportive, and vibrant community.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the 5th District of Texas, it is my pleasure to congratulate Mr. Robert Ayers Gould, Sr. on his retirement from the City Council and thank him for a job well done.

HONORING PHILADELPHIA'S  
PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM

**HON. CHAKA FATTAH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, an extraordinary win-win development has recently expanded and enriched the cultural scene in the City of Philadelphia. And it is thrilling for countless youngsters across our region.

Philadelphia has always been remarkable for its museum experiences, from the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Franklin Institute, the Academy of Natural Sciences, to museums that interpret the history and origins of our nation and liberty, museums that extol the experiences of African Americans, Jewish Americans, Polish Americans and many, many more.

But there is nothing quite like the Please Touch Museum for hands-on, visceral (and subtly educational) appeal to our youngest and most curious citizens. Please Touch has been the must-stop for youngsters and young-at-heart adults since it opened in 1976 not far from Philadelphia's museum-choked Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Its name was Rule One. Everything was up-close and available.

No longer did parents have to tell their kids, "Don't touch that!" Please Touch moved and expanded several times, but inevitably, its popularity outpaced every new location.

Meanwhile stately Memorial Hall, grand icon and last vestige of the world-shattering 1876 Centennial Exhibition, stood almost unused and slowly deteriorating in Fairmount Park, a few miles to the west.

Under the leadership of President and CEO Nancy Kolb, the search for a new home for Please Touch began in earnest a decade ago. When a riverfront plan failed to materialize, the search turned to Memorial Hall. A landmark agreement among the City of Philadelphia, the Fairmount Park Commission and Please Touch resulted in an 80-year lease signed in 2005, and the project was underway.

On October 18, 2008, the "new" Memorial Hall, fresh from an \$88 million renovation, opened its doors as home for the dramatically expanded, 38,000 square foot Please Touch Museum. At the same time, Please Touch won coveted accreditation by the American Association of Museums, one of just 775 institutions out of the nation's 17,500 museums to be currently accredited.

Please Touch now joins the nearby Philadelphia Zoo and other attractions—as well as Fairmount Park itself—in the exciting Centennial District of West Philadelphia. The October 18 official opening drew a record attendance, and the crowds keep on coming—to ride the century-old restored carousel or the monorail, to "drive" a kid-size SEPTA bus, to "shop" in a scaled down ShopRite grocery store (complete with checkout counters), to float water duckies, to visit Fairytale Garden and Alice's wonderland adventures . . .

And always, always to "Please Touch."

TRIBUTE TO SAN BERNARDINO  
VALLEY COLLEGE TRUSTEES  
CHUCK BEEMAN AND ALLEN  
GRESHAM

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I would like today to pay special tribute to San Bernardino Community College District Trustees Chuck Beeman and Allen Gresham, who over the past several decades have overseen the rapid growth and maturing of the major community colleges in my district in California.

A respected attorney in San Bernardino County, Allen Gresham was first elected as college trustee in 1971 and is now the third-longest-serving in California. Chuck Beeman, a retired pharmacist and owner of Beeman's Pharmacy, was appointed to the board in 1983. The two men are leaving the board this year after a combined 62 years of public service.

While they have been on the board, the district's two campuses have grown significantly—now serving more than 18,000 students with nearly 500 full- and part-time faculty members. Since Allen Gresham joined the board, more than 150,000 students have received degrees and certificates. The two campuses—San Bernardino Valley College and Crafton Hills College—have two of the most diverse student bodies in California.

As the student body has grown, Mr. Gresham and Mr. Beeman have led the board of trustees in meeting their needs through a continuing building program that has expanded and significantly modernized both campuses. With the help of Federal Emergency Management Agency earthquake mitigation funding, Valley College has completely remade its central facilities, building a new library, Health and Human Sciences Building, administration building and a 37,000-square-foot Campus Center. A new art building with a modern gallery—named in honor of Clara and Allen Gresham for their devotion to art—opened last year.

At Crafton Hills College, ground was recently broken for a new library and learning resource center, as well as a new swimming center. The district has also built a new central headquarters at the former Norton Air Force Base and upgraded facilities for its public-access television and radio station, KVCR—which provides the only broadcast local news for San Bernardino County. In addition, the college district has opened a nationally-recognized academy at the former air base to give firefighters hands-on training in dealing with jet fuel and aircraft fires.

Madam Speaker, wary California taxpayers have turned back construction bond measures for many cities and school districts in recent years. But thanks in large part to the leadership of Allen Gresham and Chuck Beeman, San Bernardino County taxpayers gave solid approval to a \$190 million bond in 2002 and a \$500 million bond just this year to continue the expansion of these fine college campuses.

In addition to academic excellence, the college district has won intercollegiate athletics championships in many sports. These accomplishments have especially delighted Chuck Beeman, who came within a fraction of a second of qualifying for the 1956 U.S. Olympic team and taught track at Valley College for many years. The college's track was named in Mr. Beeman's honor last year.

Madam Speaker, Allen Gresham and Chuck Beeman can look back with pride as they come to the end of their time on the San Bernardino Community College District Board of Trustees. Please join me in saluting them for their decades of service to education and our community and wishing them well in their future endeavors.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. HULSHOF. Madam Speaker, consistent with the Republican leadership's policy on earmarks, I am requesting funding for Special Operations Forces Advanced Mission Planning Tools in fiscal year 2009, in H.R. 2638, Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008, Continuing Resolution, from account 31 0603003A Aviation Advanced Technology. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Westar Aerospace & Defense Group, Inc., 4 Research Park Drive, St. Charles, MO 63304-5685. The funding would be used for the continued development of enterprise-enabled, integrated aviation tools and provide this ability to all Army aviation systems. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge this request (1) is not directed to an entity or program named or will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is not intended for a "front" or "pass through" entity; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable. I further certify that should this request be included in the bill, I will place a statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD describing how the funds will be spent and justifying the use of Federal taxpayer funds.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RONALD M.  
DAVIS

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Ronald M. Davis, who sadly passed away on November 6 after a courageous battle against pancreatic cancer. A resident of Michigan's Eighth District in East Lansing, Dr. Davis will be sorely missed. Yet his legacy of service and compassion will never be forgotten.

First and foremost, Dr. Davis was a committed father and loving husband. He will also be remembered as a distinguished public health advocate throughout his entire career, most notably during his time as president of the American Medical Association. During his tenure at the American Medical Association, he worked tirelessly to promote public awareness of healthy lifestyles, encourage health insurance reform, and push doctors to reduce medical errors and improve patient care.

Even while suffering from a terminal illness, Dr. Davis fought to advance critical public health initiatives. A staunch opponent of smoking, Dr. Davis worked every day to save lives by promoting tobacco control. Over the years, Dr. Davis served the tobacco control community in numerous ways, including as Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Office on Smoking and Health and as chief medical officer of the Michigan Department of Public Health. He was an expert witness in litigation against the tobacco industry and a National Cancer Institute-funded researcher. Dr. Davis was also the founding editor of the world's very first scientific journal dedicated to the field of tobacco control.

Through his cancer treatment, Dr. Davis continued to work diligently as a leader in the health care community. His remarks to the American Medical Association last year were particularly memorable and moving as he discussed his terminal illness, even joking about the baldness caused by his chemotherapy. In spite of the odds against someone with a diagnosis that included such a slim chance of long-term survival, Dr. Davis told his fellow physicians to "never take away someone's hope." They agreed and cheered his courage.

As a cancer survivor myself, I understand the challenges Dr. Davis faced every day, and I deeply admire his indomitable spirit throughout such a difficult battle. He will be remembered as a remarkable leader and a determined public servant. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Nadine, their sons and entire family during this difficult time.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Dr. Ronald M. Davis.

He is truly deserving of our respect and admiration for his tremendous contributions to our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO REND LAKE WARRIORS MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding group of young men attending Rend Lake College in Ina, Illinois. On November 8, 2008, Rend Lake Warriors Men's Cross Country Team placed fourth in the National Junior College Men's Cross Country Championship. After an impressive fourth place finish in 2007, the Warrior's trained hard during the 2008 season to maintain their spot in the top five cross country teams in the Nation.

The Warriors had an outstanding freshman on their team this year. Kenyan native Stephen Sambu, also an All-American, was the National Champion, or "cross country king" and helped lead the team to fourth place.

My congratulations go out to Coach Brent McLain on this great achievement. Most of all, I want to congratulate the members of the 2008 Men's Cross Country team: Dey Tuach, Bailey Bunyan, Scott Speare, James Noonan, James Gramtham, Stephen Sambu, and Clay Locke.

I congratulate them on their achievement, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF ENID SALES

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Enid Sales, a unique woman and a fierce fighter for historic preservation, who passed away at the age of 86. Born in Salt Lake City, Utah, on June 3, 1922, she moved to Carmel, California with her family when she was 10. She attended Reed College in Oregon and was married for awhile to jazz critic Grover Sales.

Enid operated a vineyard in Calistoga for 10 years. In 1962, she became the first woman in California to hold a state general contractor's license. In the mid-1970's she served as the head of the rehabilitation department of the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency. One of her most memorable accomplishments was organizing and moving 12 Victorian homes in a single night. She shut down the transit system and traffic lights and completed the entire job in time for the next morning's commute.

Enid moved back to Carmel in 1986. She was the first chairwoman of the city's Historic Resources Board and founded her own Carmel Preservation Foundation. She was also on the board of the Alliance of Monterey Area Preservationists. Her "roll up her sleeves and take no prisoners" approach is credited with saving Carmel's Sunset Center and the George Marsh Building in Monterey, as well

as many of the original cottages that define Carmel's charm.

Enid's legacy is to be seen in the recent upswing of interest in "heritage tourism." It was her vision that preserving our historic buildings would make good economic sense, and not be done just for esthetic or sentimental reasons. Enid was a giant in the world of historic preservation. Few people can maintain such fierce tenacity to fight through to the end against all odds. Enid Sales had that fighting spirit, and she will be greatly missed.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Enid Sales for her dedication to preserving history. She is survived by her daughter Rachel Lopez, her grandchildren Esther and Valley, her sister-in-law Barbara Thompson, and her nephews Peter, Matthew, and John Thompson. We will all miss her dearly.

IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY GREEN

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, every so often we encounter an individual who, wittingly or not, becomes a transformative figure—one who leaves a profound and permanent impact on countless lives and their community.

Dorothy Green, founder of Heal the Bay and one of the most influential environmental leaders in California in the last generation, was such a person.

An unlikely activist, Dorothy was a housewife and mother in the early 1970s when her brother was splattered with untreated sewage from an open drain at Ballona Creek, which runs directly into the Santa Monica Bay. Outraged, she convened a group of friends and activists in her living room to form what grew into the 15,000-member strong Heal the Bay. Under Dorothy's leadership, the organization has tackled everything from the health of marine life to oil spills to ocean water quality.

But Dorothy's vision was much broader than the view from her living room window. She also founded the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council and the California Water Impact Network to educate Californians on water policy and to redefine how we use and think of water as a precious and limited resource.

I cannot remember when I first met Dorothy Green. But I do remember being told that if I wanted to run for Congress she was the lode star on water issues. And she was! No issue was too big or too small for her, as long as it has something to do with water. From storm drains to the Peripheral Canal, she knew about it all and inspired thousands to join and support her efforts to fix dysfunctional policies.

On October 13, 2008, Dorothy lost her battle with cancer. Yet her legacy will continue to motivate many. She fought for what she believed until the end. Five days before her death, she penned an op-ed piece from her hospice bed calling for sensible plans to preserve and treat the natural resource she spent her adult life defending.

I am proud to have known Dorothy Green as a friend and colleague. She always focused on getting things done and never accepted the status quo. A brilliant grassroots organizer, her friends—and adversaries—will all tell you of

her relentless spirit, and modesty. She would probably tell me get to work rather than offer this tribute, but she deserves every bit of praise. The people of California and our price-less environment have lost a dear friend. I assure you, Dorothy, we will fight on.

GEORGE A. BEACH, PHILADELPHIA'S PIONEERING CREATIVE COMMUNICATOR

### HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in saluting George A. Beach, a pioneering African-American businessman in Philadelphia, who is being honored for a half-century of achievement in the fields of design, advertising, graphics and public relations.

George Beach is founder and chairman of Beach Creative Communications, the nation's first and oldest African-American owned advertising agency—a firm whose name and motto summarize the Beach “brand” for creativity and communication: “A full service agency providing creative solutions for today's diverse marketplace.”

George Beach has won numerous awards and commissions for his design and artistic flair, his business skills and his broad and generous reach into civic and charitable activities. Now he adds a new honor, as the African-American Chamber of Commerce in Philadelphia presents “A Golden Tribute to George Beach,” celebrating his 50 years in business, on Friday, November 21, 2008.

George Albert Beach was born in Harlem, New York City, on August 14, 1936. By the age of 10 he had moved with his family to Philadelphia, his adopted home town. His educational background stretches from Gratz High School and the University of the Arts in Philadelphia to Paris, where he studied at the L'Academie de la Grande Chaumiere and L'Alliance Francaise.

Already an artist and designer, George Beach became a young man of business in 1958 when, fresh from college, he founded the Creative Art and Design Studio as a groundbreaking minority enterprise. In another pioneering step, he was the first African American elected president of the Artist Guild of Delaware Valley, a position he held from 1964 to 1967. In 1970, he and two colleagues launched the fully illustrated African American Historical Calendar, which is marking publication of its 40th annual edition.

The Studio evolved into Beach Advertising in 1974, assuming its present name in 2001. The Beach roster of clients and accounts has included Pfizer U.S. Pharmaceuticals, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, the University of Pennsylvania, McDonald's, plus health firms, governmental agencies and public utilities.

George Beach's personal artistic work was impacted by the onset of rheumatoid arthritis. Pain and joint destruction forced him to set aside painting for a quarter century. But as with everything else in his achieving life, this became a challenge and an opportunity. Today, painting once again, Mr. Beach brings his special expertise to the Advisory Council of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculo-

skeletal and Skin Diseases (NAIMS), where he serves under appointment by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services.

And his career as an artist flourishes. He has completed a new series of oil on canvas paintings that include “Indivisible,” a haunting skeleton of the World Trade Center Towers embracing an American flag under a full moon, which has been exhibited at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

Now, as his varied, productive career continues beyond the half-century mark, with wife Mary and sons Timothy and Matthew, George Albert Beach carries forward with his varied, productive career—always communicating, ever creative. He has earned the gratitude and admiration of Philadelphians and many beyond our city. Thank you, George.

### EARMARK DISCLOSURE

### HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. TANCREDO. 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. 2638.

Defense Division of H.R. 2638—OM, ARNG—Non-foam, Special Polymer Twin Hemisphere Pad Sets for Personnel Armor System for Ground Troops Helmet Retrofit Kits—\$1,280,000.

Defense Division of H.R. 2638—OM, N—Personnel Armor System for Ground Troops Helmet Retrofit Kits to Sustain Navy IPE Pool—\$1,120,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: SKYDEX Technologies, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 12503 E. Euclid Drive, Suite 60, Centennial, Colorado 80111.

Description of Request: Both earmarks will address an unfunded requirement of the Army National Guard and the Navy to improve shock-absorption padding to retrofit helmets. The replacement material is a durable and protective polymer. This funding would build on roughly \$2 million that has been allocated for this purpose over the last two years.

### HONORING HARRY OVITT

### HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry Ovitt, a resident and community leader from San Miguel, California, for his outstanding and exemplary service and leadership to the residents of San Luis Obispo County during his tenure as County Supervisor from 1989 through 2008.

Harry has been a longtime leader in local government who has established and participated in a extensive list of civic organizations, all in the pursuit of improving the community he represents. During his 19-year tenure on

the Board of Supervisors, he served as Chairman in 1993, 1999, and 2004, and Vice-Chairman in 1992, 1998, and 2003. He also was active on various local boards, including the Children-At-Risk Task Force, the Mental Health Advisory Board, the Economic Vitality Committee, and the Resource Conservation District.

During his time on the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors, Harry devoted himself to many issues to improve the lives of the residents within the County. He worked to secure funds to help construct both the Heritage Ranch Fire Station and the Meridian Fire Station. He established the North County Government Center in Templeton, which has a Sheriff's Substation and a County Agricultural Office. He was also instrumental in bringing a new courthouse to Paso Robles.

Harry understood the importance of having adequate transportation infrastructure, and worked tirelessly to ensure residents had sufficient and safe roads as the County continued to grow. To that end, he has been a passionate advocate of making State Highway 46 safer for drivers through a widening project of this 2-lane highway as well as developing the North County Shuttle. He also worked to obtain mobile healthcare units, which visit communities around the County to provide basic medical services to residents so they do not have to incur the cost of traveling long distances to obtain medical services. Harry also worked to improve water quality and accessibility in the County. He formed the North County Water Forum, which examines the impacts of residential and agricultural development on the Paso Robles Water Basin, chaired the Lake Nacimiento Commission that has worked on the Nacimiento Water Pipeline Project, and is chairman of the North County Water Task Force.

Prior to serving on the County Board of Supervisors, Harry was a Paso Robles City Councilman, a member of the Paso Robles Airport Planning Commission, and a past chairman of the Paso Robles Planning Commission. In addition to the public offices he has held, Harry always remained active in the local community. He was the Elks Club Citizen of the Year in the late 1980s and an Outstanding Jaycee of the Year. He was also a member of the Paso Robles Historical Society, the Santa Lucia Boy Scouts Executive Council, the Paso Robles Trail Riders, and a past chairman of the United Way North County Campaign. He is also a founder of the Clark-Ovitt Foundation, a nonprofit organization that has served the County since 1992.

A true mark of leadership is the generosity of time and talents that one gives on behalf of his neighbors and community. Harry Ovitt exemplifies this time-honored tradition. I commend Harry for his service and leadership in San Luis Obispo County, and wish him well.

### HONORING WILLIAM NEUFELD

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with Congressmen RADANOVICH, to congratulate William Neufeld upon his induction into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame. Mr.

Neufeld will be honored at the 50th anniversary enshrinement dinner of the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame on Thursday, November 6, 2008.

Born third in a family of nine children in the Ukraine at the turn of the 20th century, William Neufeld moved to the United States and blossomed into a world-class track and field performer in the javelin and other throwing events. His father, a Mennonite minister, eventually settled the family in Reedley, California, where the 6-foot-2, 201-pound teenager played football, basketball, baseball and track and field in high school while earning money working in the fields. He went to Bethel College in Kansas where he played basketball and starred in track and field. Mr. Neufeld then decided to follow his brother Henry to the University of California, Berkeley. It was a perfect match, as he dominated the throwing events and led the Bears to the national collegiate title in 1923.

The following year, Mr. Neufeld won the discus title at the collegiate nationals, but he was just getting started. He won the javelin competition at the U.S. Olympic Trials in Cambridge, Massachusetts, by more than five feet, throwing for 191½ feet. Following a week-long voyage across the Atlantic Ocean, he placed fifth in the javelin in the 1924 Olympics in Paris. William Neufeld was a familiar face at many Olympics to follow.

After coaching at Riverside College and Harvard, Mr. Neufeld entered the Navy during World War II and later returned to Harvard as the Director of Physical Education. When Neufeld's competitive career ended, he traveled the globe as a coach and athletics liaison for the U.S. State Department. He served as a liaison to the 1952 Japanese Olympic team and also coached sports in Iran, Taiwan and Africa. Mr. Neufeld passed away at the age of ninety-one in Riverside, California in 1992.

Madam Speaker, we rise today to posthumously honor William Neufeld's achievements and for his induction into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame. I invite my colleagues to join me in offering my congratulations in memory of Mr. Neufeld's many accomplishments.

#### TRIBUTE TO VIRGINIA KREBS

### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Virginia Krebs, my former colleague on the Johnson County Community College Board, JCCC, who recently stepped down from that position at the age of 89.

My tenure on the JCCC overlapped with Virginia Krebs for 6 years in the 1990s. She is truly a distinguished public servant whose concern for our community has benefited her friends in neighbors, both in tangible and intangible ways, since the 1960s. Today, Sun Publications of Johnson County posted an editorial reflecting on her distinguished service and an article detailing some of the ways in which she served Johnson County and the JCCC over the past several decades. These two pieces tell her story much better than could I. I include them in the RECORD for review by the House membership and wish my

good friend, Virginia Krebs, many happy returns on her long-delayed retirement, although I am certain she will continue to find ways of being indispensable to the JCCC and Johnson County.

[From Sun Publications, Nov. 19, 2008]

#### A MODEL FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

The departure of Virginia Krebs from the Johnson County Community College Board of Trustees is a reminder of her long and distinguished service to the college. Her leadership, from JCCC's beginning, helped bring it recognition as one of the nation's most prestigious community colleges.

Actually, her dedication predates the life of the college. Krebs served on the task force, appointed by the county commission in 1963, to examine the feasibility of a community college here. That three-year chore led to establishment of the college district and, in 1967, voter approval of a tax to support it.

Rather than running for the board of trustees, as she was urged to do, Krebs signed on as the first employee, a part-time job as the board secretary. Later she became special assistant to the governing body. In that role she worked closely with the trustees in forming the mission and fundamental objectives of the college, along with the hiring of its first president.

Her career at the college mirrored the widespread entry of women into the professions and work force. She was in her late 40s and the mother of four sons, two of them elementary school age and younger, in the early years of her time at the college. She knew from personal experience the needs of working women.

As the college's director of community services—its first—in the 1970s and '80s, Krebs played a major part in creating one of the most highly respected continuing education programs in the Midwest.

Her awareness of societal and economic changes led to creation of a program for women who, having raised their families, were interested in work outside the home. It helped prepare women for a new career.

Krebs was on the leading edge of many activities that enriched our cultural and intellectual life. She helped organize the first county arts council, a JCCC "Evening With the Stars," an astronomy venture for the public, and a speakers bureau that arranged for faculty members to appear at meetings of civic, service and community groups.

A year after she retired from the college in 1984, Krebs found another way to serve. She ran for and was elected to the JCCC Board of Trustees. Voters returned her to the board six times, the most recent in 2005. She retired in mid-October.

As a trustee, Krebs drew from her experience on the faculty to bring the needs of continuing education to the board. She was known as a good listener, well-read and with the ability to analyze issues with keen insight. She was not a frequent speaker at trustee meetings, but when she spoke, her comments were considered a valuable addition to the discussion and decision at hand.

Virginia Krebs has been an imaginative, innovative force in this community. She deserves our praise and gratitude.

[From Sun Publications, Nov. 19, 2008]

#### RETIRING JCCC ICON WILL BE MISSED

(By Kristin Babcock)

The history book about Johnson County Community College is dedicated to her. As Charles Bishop, professor emeritus at the college, researched and wrote the book, one influential name appeared more than any other: Virginia Krebs.

"Dedicating it to her was a very easy decision," Bishop said. "When I looked at the

history, she was someone who was instrumental from the beginning. There was no easier choice than Virginia Krebs."

Krebs, who became the college's first employee in 1967, recently resigned from her position on the college's Board of Trustees. Krebs, who turned 89 this year, said she was ready to stop driving to meetings. She also hopes to become more involved in her retirement community, she said.

"It was not any big thing, and I still hope to do some things with the college," Krebs said.

Her desire to be involved started in childhood, Krebs said. In grade school she started her own civics clubs.

In adulthood she helped form and lead several parent-teacher associations. She served as program chair for Kansas State PTA. She served on state task forces to revise state school codes and to consolidate area school districts.

"She just always had interest in organizing," Virginia's son Fred Krebs said. "There was always an emphasis of trying to group things that brought people together in the community. The community college came along and they were born to meet."

In 1963, the board of county commissioners appointed Virginia to study the feasibility of building a community college in Johnson County. In 1967, county voters approved a taxing district to fund the college. Before the college had its own buildings, Virginia became the college's first employee as assistant to the first board of trustees.

"Community colleges were kind of the new kid on the block in the '60s and '70s," Bishop said. "She always had her ears to the community and tuned into the higher-end world as well. She did a nice job of marrying higher education and community needs."

Those marriages were seen most prominently when Virginia became JCCC's director of community services in 1969. Under her leadership, organizations formed to include senior citizens, art supporters and community civic groups. Through her efforts, students, children and adults found a place to be involved, educated and entertained at the college.

"She is kind of a matriarch of Johnson County Community College," Charles Carlsen, former JCCC president, said. "She was well-networked and promoted relationships between groups and the college."

Some groups Virginia called "among the most interesting" were programs that helped women educate themselves to enter the working world in the 1960s and 1970s.

"It helped ease the transition for literally hundreds of women in the county," Bishop said.

Virginia also helped form a speakers bureau at the college. Professors spoke to civic organizations about a variety of topics. Although it involved extra work with no extra pay for professors, they would volunteer when she asked, Bishop said.

"A lot of professors like to squirrel down in their office and read books, and she got them to get out there," Bishop said. "Her arms were long and her grip was wide. She reached out to aspects of the community, involved people and got you in there. She has a fire in her belly when she needs to."

Virginia retired from work at the college in 1984. She ran for a position on the board of trustees and was elected in 1985.

"I was not surprised when she ran for the board," Fred said. "She felt she had important things to do. She felt she was making a contribution. It was very important to her."

Fred predicted that even in retirement people will still use his mother as a resource. "She still has contributions to make," Fred said. "Lots of people still think of her as a mentor. She has a legacy we all have to follow."

Voters re-elected Virginia for six consecutive terms on the board of trustees. After her retirement, the board named her the first trustee emeritus.

"She was a stalwart throughout," Fred Logan, former JCCC board chair, said. "She is one of the founders but not just a founder. She has been an important part for 40 years. That kind of service will always be remembered."

On Nov. 20, the JCCC Board of Trustees will interview eight finalists to fill Virginia Krebs' term, which ends June 30.

The candidates are: Laura S. Byrne-Harris, Leawood; William A. Dean, Overland Park; Ronnie Metsker, Overland Park; Michael M. Morales, Olathe; Melody L. Rayl, Olathe; Kurtis M. Ruf, Overland Park; Mary R. Tearney, Leawood; and Sandra K. Willis, Overland Park.

The new trustee will begin Dec. 11. The seat is up for election in April 2009.

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ROBERT MASSEY

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, on November 8, 2008, Robert Massey died in Fair Oaks, CA. Born on November 5, 1921, "Farmer Bob" (as he is known) contributed to the community throughout his life. As a local historian, Bob frequently shared his knowledge of the area and made a habit of correcting media reports and the Fair Oaks Historical Society whenever their reports conflicted with his own expertise. Bob was a member of the Sunrise Center Toastmasters, sharing with others his great oratory skills and motivational tactics. Many families enjoyed a visit to Farmer Bob's pumpkin patch and truck farm.

While Bob made many great contributions to our region, perhaps his most important work was his strong advocacy for the Auburn Dam. The Auburn Dam Council's website describes Bob as President of the council from 1921–2008. This is an appropriate title for someone who understood the need for greater flood protection and was willing to work for the safety of so many others living nearby. Unfortunately, the dam has yet to be built, but when that day comes it will be in large part thanks to Bob's efforts.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bob's loving wife of 65 years, Beryl, and the rest of his family and friends. Bob brightened the lives of so many people, and he will be truly missed by those of us who were fortunate enough to have known him.

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PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARD OF  
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE TO  
DR. L. BRUCE SIMPSON

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the selection of Dr. L. Bruce Simpson for Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Executive for 2008. Each year, the President recognizes and celebrates no more than 5 percent of career Senior Executives

with this award. Recipients of this prestigious award are strong leaders, professionals, and scientists achieving results and consistently demonstrating strength, integrity, industry, and a relentless commitment to excellence in public service to America.

Dr. Simpson is Director of the 308th Armament Systems Wing, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida and is a 27-year veteran of the Federal civil service. He leads a wing of over 900 personnel and executes a portfolio of programs valued at more than \$46 billion. The wing's programs include the Joint Direct Attack Munition, Small Diameter Bomb, Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile, High-Speed Anti-Radiation Missile Targeting System, Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile, Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile Extended Range, Miniature Air Launched Decoy, Aerial Target Systems, P5 Combat Training System, Sensor Fuzed Weapon, Wind-Corrected Munitions Dispenser and Joint Stand-Off Weapon System. These programs are all key elements in enabling our warfighters to engage high-value targets and are vital weapons in the Global War on Terror.

Selected for Senior Executive Service in 2003, Dr. Simpson has served as Deputy Manager of the Armament Product Group, Director of the Air Armament Center Special Projects System Program Office, and Director of the Directed Energy Directorate at the Air Force Research Laboratory. Dr. Simpson has been honored as a Distinguished Fellow at Mississippi State University and received Annual Technical Achievement Awards from the Air Force Research Laboratory and Air Force Systems Command.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate Dr. L. Bruce Simpson on this most prestigious Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Executive. America and the United States Air Force depend heavily on the selfless service and leadership he provides. I sincerely wish Dr. Simpson many more years of dedicated public service to this great country.

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HONORING FRANK MECHAM

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank Mecham, a resident and community leader from Paso Robles, California, for his outstanding and exemplary leadership while serving as the mayor of Paso Robles from 2000 through 2008.

Frank has been a longtime leader in local government, reflecting the same success, enthusiasm, care, and commitment to his community as nine generations of Mecham Californians and five generations of San Luis Obispo County Mechams before him. His great-great grandfather, Don Joaquin Estrada, was a member of the first County Board of Supervisors in 1852, and his father was Fire Chief at Fort Hunter Liggett for over 20 years. Carrying on this tradition of public service, Frank served our country in the United States Navy and later began his political career on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Planning Commission for the City of Paso Robles. He was elected to the City Council in 1998 and served for two years. In 2000, Frank

was the first mayor of Paso Robles to be directly elected by the voters (in the past, the mayoral post had rotated between elected city councilmembers).

In 2003, Paso Robles felt the devastating effects of the San Simeon Earthquake. Frank showed strong leadership and composure throughout this natural disaster and guided the City through the aftermath and recovery efforts. Through his tireless efforts, the City of Paso Robles was able to rebuild faster and move forward onto the road to recovery quicker than anyone had expected. In addition, as mayor, he also oversaw the completion of the Barney Schwartz Park, the Public Safety Center, the Robert Rader Memorial 13th Street Bridge, and the Niblick Bridge expansion.

In addition to his public service, Frank has also remained active in the Paso Robles community. Frank is a member of the Twin Cities Community Hospital Board of Governors, the Nacimiento Water Commission, and the Paso Robles High School Technology Academy. He has also coached youth baseball and football for over two decades in the community, established a youth football league which continues to this day, and created the first Youth Commission for the City in 1999. In 2004, Frank was honored by the Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce as Roblan of the Year in recognition of his outstanding service to the local community.

In a City named for its strong oak trees, Frank has stood strong in times of challenge, and helped create prosperity through a commitment to fiscal responsibility and transparent and accountable government. I commend Frank for his service and leadership as mayor of Paso Robles, and wish him and his family well as he continues to serve our community as a supervisor on the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors.

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HONORING TRAVIS WEBB

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Corporal Travis Webb from Adrian, Michigan who was injured in an improvised explosive device (IED) blast in Mosul, Iraq on January 22, 2007. He lost both legs and his best friend Nicholas Brown died in his arms after the blast. The following poem is dedicated to a true American hero, Travis Webb.

A SOLDIER'S STORY

Throughout our Nation's history  
Such magnificent men of honor and glory,  
have so been seen  
Who so went, where angel's feared to tread  
Who went off to war  
All for us, the ones who so lived and died and  
so bled  
All so we could be here!  
As this is a soldier's story!  
All about Heartbreak, Faith and Glory  
All about life and death  
As he put himself in harm's way, as his best  
friend died in his arms that day  
When courage comes to crest!  
All about a young man from Michigan . . .  
Travis, and his heroic stand  
As all of us, he would so bless  
Who came out of such hell and fury!

A Hero from The 2-7 Cav . . . 11 Bravo, Corporal Webb, his soldier's story  
 A fighting force to be feared, who gave all he had so very clear  
 A Soldier's Story  
 Who, into that valley of death . . . so walked  
 All with his two fine legs, as was our freedom bought!  
 His charge, his thought's  
 The life of Travis Webb, so much to all has taught  
 All about courage and faith  
 As this mighty Michigander makes his way  
 As no other's could so take his place  
 As throughout his young life, his flow and ebb  
 Through the good and bad!  
 A work of art, to be said!  
 As it all began  
 With a young man with no direction  
 Until, he found his life's true passion . . . his reflection  
 Reaching, his greatest introspection  
 His fine reflection, in a Uniform  
 As A Soldier's Heart and soul, so proud and bold . . . so very warm  
 All for his country 'tis a thee  
 As a future Hero was born, as we would see  
 While, on battlefields of honor and death and gore  
 Charging bravely so, so ever . . . ever forth!  
 When, Looking down  
 As there it was he so found, no more  
 His two strong fine legs, which made up this most valiant force  
 While, there in that moment of truth  
 As in that moment we find the answer, the proof  
 All about what courage, and a magnificent heart can do!  
 To build where none lie left  
 To climb the highest of all mountains, no less  
 To Teach Us all . . . to so bless  
 To Reach Us . . . to so Beseech Us, all no less  
 To But Be The Best  
 When, Courage comes to Crest  
 Day by Day  
 Night after Night  
 To win the battle, to win that fight!  
 As he will not give up, will not rest!  
 As is this soldier's story, our hearts have blessed  
 As we watch him grow  
 For he has a life to live  
 And to this our world, so much more to give!  
 Could such faith and courage, we so know? Possess?  
 And, if I ever have a son  
 I, but hope and pray . . . that he could so be like this fine one!  
 Shining, all in Faith's True Son  
 A Soldier's Story, Travis Webb our hearts have won!  
 All in our Lord's Heart, that will be done  
 Amen!  
 —Albert Carey Caswell

IN MEMORIAL OF SGT. TIMOTHY SIMPSON

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, on November 17, 2008, Sgt. Timothy Simpson, a 20-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department and a constituent of the 13th Congressional District was killed by a drunk driver while responding to a robbery. He is the fourth Philadelphia police officer killed this year in the line of duty.

Sgt. Simpson, 46, left behind his wife, Catherine, and three children. His brother, Terry, is an officer on the Philadelphia Police Department SWAT team.

He was a decorated officer, having recently earned superintendant of the month in the 24th District. Other accolades included a heroism award, four merit awards, and a letter of commendation.

Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter said Simpson was "a good officer trying to do his duty."

Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey said he was "an excellent sergeant, excellent police officer," adding "you can't say enough good things about him."

Sgt. Simpson's death is a major shock to Philadelphia opening wounds that have had little time to heal. He was the partner to Sgt. Stephen Liczbinski, a 12-year veteran and former constituent, who was shot and killed on May 3, 2008 while responding to a bank robbery.

The sacrifices that the Simpson and Liczbinski families have made to protect the City of Philadelphia can never be repaid. All Philadelphia residents owe a debt of gratitude to these families and the families of the other fallen officers from Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, including Gary Skerski, Charles Cassidy, Isabel Nazario, and Patrick McDonald all of whom died in the line of duty in the last two years.

I ask that the House of Representatives extend its condolences to Catherine Simpson, her family, and the Philadelphia Police Department for yet another significant loss.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JIM SAXTON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. SAXTON. 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 FY 2009 Defense Appropriations Bill.

Project: Monmouth University's Rapid Response Institute.

Funding Amount: \$3,200,000.

Account: Research, Development, and Testing, Defense Wide.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lockheed Martin.

Address of Requesting Entity: 400 Cedar Avenue, West Long Branch, NJ 07764.

Description of Request: Project will evaluate the software's ability to improve the effectiveness of military (including National Guard) preparedness and its support to the civilian first responders.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM D. HENDERSON, JR.

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. William D. Hender-

son, Jr. who has contributed over 24,000 volunteer service hours over the course of 45 years to his local communities. Mr. Henderson was born in Wellesley, Massachusetts in 1927 and began volunteering with the Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad in 1963 and later with the Northumberland County Rescue Squad in 1995. Through this time he has served as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), as an Advanced Life Support Provider and as a Training Officer. Mr. Henderson's selfless dedication has been recognized throughout his tenure as a volunteer EMT.

First, in 1973 he was awarded the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's Citation of Merit, and in 1986 was selected for the Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad's Captain's Choice Award. As recognition of his commitment to the entire community, the Honorable Thomas J. Vandever, then Mayor of Charlottesville, VA, proclaimed "William D. Henderson Day" in 1993. Two years later Mr. Henderson would again be recognized by the Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad with the Joel Cochran Award for Outstanding Service.

Next, the Rappahannock General Hospital would recognize Mr. Henderson in 2000 as the EMT of the year. The subsequent year he would be honored by the Peninsula EMT council as the Outstanding Pre-Hospital Provider. In 2002 the Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad named its training room after Mr. Henderson. He would then be recognized by the Governor of Virginia in 2003 with the Governor's Award for outstanding Pre-Hospital Provider.

2008 has been just as busy for Mr. Henderson as he was awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award by the Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad. In December, the Northumberland County Rescue Squad will award him a second lifetime Presidential Volunteer Service Award and the Point of Light Award. Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating and thanking William D. Henderson on his steadfast service to the Commonwealth of Virginia and its citizens.

IN APPRECIATION OF MY SENIOR AND AGING ISSUES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS' SERVICE

**HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute today to the men and women of Southeastern Arizona who for the past two years have served on my Senior and Aging Issues Advisory Council.

These 35 active and engaged citizens have selflessly shared their time and expertise with me as important advisors. Each one brought considerable personal and professional expertise to the table to help me gain a greater understanding of the challenges faced by seniors and their family members. Their advice and insights allowed me to better represent my constituents in Arizona's 8th Congressional District.

The counsel they provided has been invaluable to me in making legislative decisions and delivering constituent services. I am grateful to them for the recommendations and issues

they brought to my attention during my first term in Congress and I look forward to their continued assistance.

The Senior and Aging Issues Advisory Council members are: Harry Anthros, David Braun, Marlene Bluestein, Fred Ebeling, Dr. Mindy Fain, Karen Fields, Sharon Gartner, Doris Goldstein, Mary Gomez, Craig Gordon, Clark Hay, Kathleen Heard, Felipe Jacome, Anna Jolivet, Al Kaszniak, Joe La Cava, Cress Lander, Dr. Allan Levenson, David Likness, Larry Linderman, Marian Lupu, Barbara Matteson, Dr. Fred Miller, Jim Murphy, Steve Nash, Elizabeth Packard, Gordon Packard, Anita Royal, L'Don Sawyer, Bill Santa Cruz, Mattie Stone, Jan Sturges, Helen Symes, Russ Symes, Dr. Tony Vuturo and Carol West.

I commend each of them for their contributions to our work on behalf of seniors and thank them for their service our community.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. PICKERING. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I submit the following earmark disclosure and certification information for one project request I made included within the text of H.R. 2638, the "The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009."

Requesting Member: Congressman CHIP PICKERING.

Bill Number: FY 09 Defense Appropriations Bill.

Project: Advanced, Long Endurance Unattended Ground Sensor Technologies.

Project Amount: \$3.6 million.

Account: Defense-wide; RDT&E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Special Operations Command.

Address of Requesting Entity: Tampa, Florida.

Description of Request: A significant challenge in modern military operations is the ability to achieve and maintain real-time battlefield situational awareness. Achieving battlefield situational awareness requires the ability to robustly and persistently monitor the movements of the adversary in near real-time across a wide range of operational environments including foliage, mountainous, and urban terrain.

The funding will continue the research and development of small, low power UGS technologies that support critical USSOCOM reconnaissance and surveillance missions by providing robust: (1) target detection, classification and tracking; (2) high bandwidth, covert communication of data, voice and video, and (3) data/information exfiltration via satellite communications (SATCOM) for displaying advanced visualization technologies. The proposed UGS capability will provide USSOCOM with the ability to relay critical, actionable intelligence from remote areas of interest to analysts and commanders worldwide in near real-time—ultimately allowing special operations forces (SOF) to think and react more quickly than the adversary. The proposed research program will also have applications in other areas such as border patrol.

HONORING PATRICK R. VECCHIO

### HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a public servant of rare devotion and accomplishment. My constituent, Patrick R. Vecchio is marking his 30 year anniversary as supervisor of the town of Smithtown, a historic community on the shores of Long Island Sound. His tenure as supervisor is the longest in New York State's 231-year history, and has few rivals anywhere in the Nation.

On October 23rd, I was proud to join the Smithtown Historical Society at its gala in St. James in the town of Smithtown, New York, at which it honored Supervisor Vecchio for his steadfast commitment and countless contributions to the people of Smithtown.

Mr. Speaker, Supervisor Vecchio is a life-long public servant, U.S. Army veteran and retired NYPD detective sergeant. During his tenure as supervisor, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to fiscal responsibility and low taxes while protecting vital government services. His legacy is clear: Today, Smithtown is on solid financial footing and has the lowest debt level of the 10 towns in Suffolk County.

Pat Vecchio is more than an exemplary public servant, he is a friend and a role model. You can always trust that the words that come out of Supervisor Vecchio's mouth will be the truth, to the chagrin of some. As someone who was new to public service when I was elected to Congress in 2002, I learned a lot simply by watching and talking to Pat.

In 1655, an English settler, Richard Smith, struck a unique bargain with local Native Americans where he was entitled to settle all of the area he could ride around on his bull in a day's time. Smith's ride on his bull, Whisper, formed the boundaries of modern-day Smithtown. Richard Smith's ride is the stuff of legends.

I don't know if Pat Vecchio ever rode a bull. But I know he has gotten into a boxing ring with a champion fighter; I know he has guarded the President of the United States; I know he has taken on organized crime and I know he has done it all without a hint of ego. In short, Mr. Speaker, Pat Vecchio's life is the stuff of legends. I am honored and humbled to help honor his lifetime of service to the town of Smithtown and our Nation.

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA  
DEVASTATED BY TORNADOES

### HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, families from my district in eastern North Carolina are working to recover from tornadoes over the weekend that killed two people and displaced up to 125 people.

Please join me in expressing our deepest sympathies to the families affected by this damaging storm. They should know that our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time.

Tragically, the tornado claimed the life of 11-year-old Joshua Wiggins, a bright, outgoing sixth-grader at Toisnot Middle School in his hometown of Wilson, North Carolina. He played the drums, enjoyed soccer, and sang in the chorus. The tornado also took the life of Maryland Gomez, a 61-year-old mother from Kenly, North Carolina.

The tornadoes, believed to be EF-2 to EF-3, moved northeast along the Interstate 95 corridor at 45 to 55 miles per hour with winds of 130 to 135 miles per hour.

I want to give thanks to the North Carolina Department of Transportation workers who have been clearing fallen trees from roadways and to the Progress Energy crews who are restoring power along the storm's path.

North Carolina Governor Michael Easley has requested a U.S. Small Business Administration disaster declaration for Wilson and Johnston County areas affected by deadly tornadoes.

Madam Speaker, our hearts go out to the community and especially to the families directly affected by this tragedy. Although this natural disaster may have destroyed many homes and upended the lives of many families, the people of North Carolina are generous and caring. I have no doubt we will pull together to rebuild these communities to make them stronger than ever. I look forward to working with my colleagues to assist the families in need and to helping them to move forward from this tragedy.

CONGRATULATING THOMAS SANTIAGO ON RECEIVING THE "GREEN LIVING AWARD"

### HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Thomas Santiago for receiving the prestigious "Green Living Award" from the Alley Pond Environmental Center, APEC, on November 13, 2008. APEC, located in Douglaston, Queens, is a superb educational center committed to environmental understanding and awareness. Tom's commitment to using environmentally-friendly green building techniques and protocols for Citigroup's new office tower in Long Island City is a truly groundbreaking example of "green living" in an urban environment and is truly worthy of public notice and praise.

In his role as the Managing Director of real estate for Citigroup in the Northeast U.S., Tom was the driving force behind Two Court Square, Citigroup's second 1.5 million square foot tower in Long Island City. The building is Citi's first ever Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, LEED, Gold certified green building, the national benchmark for rating green buildings. Two Court Square serves as the "green" model for corporate America, not only for being environmentally responsible, but also for demonstrating the economic value of money-saving "green" building technologies and materials.

Under Tom's leadership, Two Court Square is LEED Gold certified because it meets or exceeds stringent criteria in five categories: Sustainable Sites, Energy and Atmosphere, Water Efficiency, Indoor Environmental Quality and

Materials and Resources. Some of the amazing environmentally-friendly innovations include: Electricity requirements are met by the purchase of 100 percent wind-power energy; over half the wood used in construction did not originate from logging; low-emitting volatile organic compound materials are used for paint and adhesives; 90 percent of its structural steel contains post-consumer content; 2 million gallons of water annually are saved by recycling rainwater for building cooling and through the use of low flow plumbing fixtures; and the carpet uses backing made from recycled soda bottles. This kind of top-to-bottom environmental sensitivity is where our Nation and our planet's future lies.

I would also like to acknowledge APEC's leadership in environmental education and awareness. Every year, over 35,000 school students from all over New York City and Long Island visit Alley Pond Park. At APEC-run programs, students of pre-school, elementary school, middle and high school ages learn about the environment and conservation policy. APEC also runs wonderful teacher workshops to educate teachers in methods to enrich and improve their natural sciences curriculum when they return to the classroom. APEC restored and reclaimed Alley Pond Park in the 1970s as a refuge where New Yorkers could experience nature, wetlands and woodlands first hand. APEC features live animal exhibits and several miles of trails in both wetland and woodland areas, bird walks, nature hikes, craft sessions and workshops on environmental topics. Through the "Green Living Award", APEC continues its environmental mission by recognizing the "green" achievements of individuals throughout the New York area.

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to recognize Tom Santiago for his exemplary work in green building construction and for receiving the "Green Living Award" from the Alley Pond Environmental Center. I know my colleagues in the House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Thomas Santiago and his colleagues at Citigroup for this well-deserved honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF KENNETH OWENS UPON HIS RETIREMENT AS PRINCIPAL OF CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL IN MILTON, FLORIDA

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kenneth Owens, who is retiring after almost 40 years of service as a teacher, coach, and administrator in the Northwest Florida school system. His passion and dedication proves that teachers can truly make a difference in the lives of their students, and I am proud to honor such an admirable leader of our community.

Mr. Owens began his life as a public servant almost forty years ago. He spent his entire career enriching the lives of young people as both a teacher and a coach. Seventeen years ago, he came to Central High School in Milton, Florida as an assistant principal where he has remained ever since. As principal, Mr.

Owens transformed Central High School from a "C" school to a "B" school under Florida's A+ Plan for Education. This tremendous achievement exemplifies Mr. Owens' commitment to Central's mission statement of providing an environment that encourages students to achieve their fullest potential. He has touched thousands of lives, and his devotion will never be forgotten. Although he is retiring from his position as an educator, Kenny Owens will always be a Central High School Jaguar.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, I would like to thank Mr. Owens for his years of public service to the students and community of Northwest Florida. Vicki and I wish him and his family best wishes for continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE SONS OF THE REVOLUTION

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York as they commemorate the 225th anniversary of Evacuation Day.

The Sons of the Revolution in New York is an organization which keeps alive the memory of the men who achieved American independence through military, naval, or civil service. They also promote and assist in celebrating the anniversaries of events which relate to the War of the Revolution.

November 25th is the anniversary of Evacuation Day, which signaled the end of the Revolutionary War when the last British troops departed Manhattan. Though the importance of this day is sometimes forgotten, the Sons of the Revolution have kept its memory alive. This year they are hosting a parade on November 22nd to commemorate the 225th anniversary of the British evacuation of New York.

Once again, I offer my heart-felt congratulations to the Sons of the Revolution at the time of this celebration. As representative of the 8th Congressional District of New York, I am honored to have such distinguished citizens working in my district to keep the history of America alive.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2009.

FEL Capabilities for Aerospace Microfabrication.

Account: U.S. Department of the Air Force, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation. Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Jefferson Science Associates on behalf of the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility.

Address of Requesting Entity: 12000 Jefferson Avenue, Newport News, VA 23606.

Description of Request: Provide \$1.4 million for the expansion of the Free-Electron Laser

program at Jefferson Laboratory through the USAF RDT&E Account. The FEL has delivered world-record levels of infrared light for development of defense, science and industrial applications. This joint project of the Aerospace Corporation and the Jefferson Lab in support of the Air Force Research Lab has demonstrated the use of kilowatt levels of ultraviolet light useful as a microfabrication processing tool to produce miniature satellite components. The completion of the ultraviolet processing capability will enable microfabrication techniques for production of miniature satellites at substantially lower cost and processing time than what is achievable with current technology.

\$11 million was appropriated for the UV FEL project in the FY 2001–FY 2004 period, as well as an additional \$1.6 million appropriation in FY 2008, which has allowed the hardware to be 90 percent completed. The FY 2009 request of \$1.4 million is needed to complete and commission this project. There is no matching requirement. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the U.S. Department of the Air Force, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation account.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE MARILYN MASSENGILL

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge The Honorable Marilyn Massengill, Plymouth Township Clerk, upon her retirement from the government of Plymouth Township after thirty-nine years of dedicated service.

Throughout her life, Marilyn has striven to better our community. Mrs. Massengill graduated from Plymouth High School in 1952 and went on to work in several township departments. She began her dedicated career in June, 1969 when she was hired to work in the Building Department before advancing to the Planning Department and then the Clerk's Office. Marilyn was first elected Plymouth Township Clerk in 1992, re-elected in 1996 and again in 2000. She received official recognition as a Certified Municipality Clerk in 1995 by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks following completion of specialized training.

Marilyn has participated in multiple associations during her committed service to Plymouth Township, including: The First United Methodist Church, Plymouth Business and Professional Women's Club, BPW, Wayne County Clerk's Association, International Institute of Municipal Clerks, Plymouth Study Club, and as a Charter Member of the Plymouth Canton Kiwanis Breakfast Club. Despite her numerous accomplishments and community activities, Marilyn remains most proud of her four children, all of whom attended and graduated from the Plymouth Canton Community School District, and her eight grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, after over 30 tireless years, Clerk Massengill will be retiring from her position of Plymouth Township Clerk. As she enters the next phase of her life, she leaves behind a legacy of leadership, integrity,

and devotion to the citizens of Michigan. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Honorable Marilyn Massengill, upon her retirement and recognizing her years of loyal service to our community and our country.

HONORING THE SAFETY AND EXCELLENCE OF KEITH BRUCE AND CHARLES RHYNEHART OF UNITED PARCEL SERVICE, U.P.S.

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the outstanding efforts of Keith Bruce and Charles Rhynehart of the United Parcel Service.

These two men who graciously serve Louisiana's 5th District, have been inducted in to the elite "Circle of Honor" for their 25 years or more of accident-free driving. The men and women who have achieved membership in to the Circle of Honor are the best of the best. This is an accomplishment I am proud to honor as these men have demonstrated a commitment to safety and high standards in the workplace.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Keith Bruce and Charles Rhynehart of the United Parcel Service, for their dedication to the safety of their fellow drivers and those with whom they share the roads.

SWEETWATER HIGH SCHOOL  
MAKES HISTORY!

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to recognize Sweetwater High School in National City, California, a school in California's 51st Congressional District, my district, with a statement prepared by the school which touts its remarkable success.

In the United States of the 21st Century, no single institution has received more attention, been the center of more controversy or passionately advanced as "the last best hope" of passing on the promise of national excellence than the public high school. The driving force behind the passage by Congress of "No Child Left Behind" was to create schools that reflect equity—where dynamic learning environments driven by high academic standards will promote academic, social and ethical growth for ALL students.

Schools are held accountable through a comprehensive assessment program that measures achievement and yearly progress for every student, their scores reported by gender, by ethnicity, by parent education, by economic circumstance. No child was left undiscovered, and in 2001, at Sweetwater High School, it was alarmingly clear that many had been left behind.

Census reports from 2001 reported that National City ranked as the second poorest city in San Diego County and had the fifteenth

poorest economy in the United States for a city of fewer than 59,000 residents. Located seven miles north of the Mexican border, Sweetwater High School, built in 1921, serves culturally and socially diverse low-income families whose needs place unique demands on the school and staff who serve them. Eight of ten students speak a language other than English at home. More than 80 percent of the 2500 students qualify for the free lunch program.

In its first reporting year for "No Child Left Behind," Sweetwater scored a lowly 461 out of a possible 1000 on the Academic Performance Index (API) and more telling, did not meet adequate yearly progress by its targeted populations. In the second year, while the API score improved significantly and some gains had been made, the school did not meet the goals established by the federal guidelines of "No Child Left Behind." Two consecutive years of unmet goals landed Sweetwater High on the Federal List of Failing Schools.

What followed is Sweetwater High School at its best, Sweetwater High School calling on 87 years of Spirit and Pride.

Under the leadership of new principal Wesley Braddock, administrators, counselors, resource personnel, and teachers united to develop a school-wide assault on poor and failing scores. District curriculum and instructional staff provided resources and support identified by Sweetwater teachers and administrators as key to moving ALL students to academic success, with proficiency on state exams and meeting and exceeding federal benchmarks for performance. Student data became the map staff followed in search of the keys that would unlock the treasure chest of achievement. Students who had previously missed the proficiency cut were assigned an extra support class to assist them in developing critical thinking strategies and test taking skills. Incoming 10th grade students identified as below basic—those in the lowest quartile—were given additional support. This strategy provided in-depth remediation and academic development prior to the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) to the Sophomore Class each February. Most striking was the challenge to those sophomores who were "not at risk," that they too should work hard in their core academic classes.

Principal Braddock went personally to every 10th grade English class and spoke from his heart about the importance of doing well, about the Sweetwater Tradition to rise far beyond what others think we can do. While 350 is the score required to pass the CAHSEE exam, this minimum state score was not sufficient to move Sweetwater out of the federal Program Improvement category. Principal Braddock then issued the "380 Challenge." He challenged students to do what so many said Sweetwater High would never do. He told them that together, they would accomplish great things. To accomplish those great things, all of us, students, staff, administration, parents and community would not only act, but dream, and not just to dream, but to BELIEVE! Students did believe, and many smashed the 380 goal, giving Sweetwater High the largest passing percentage in English-Language Arts in the district.

The staff and students have learned over these past three years that great things are not done by impulse, but by knowing the goal, committing to the work, and hitting the target always saying, WE BELIEVE.

Sweetwater High School has raised its Academic Performance Index (API) from 461 to 706.

Sweetwater's API growth is the 5th highest in the entire state of California.

Sweetwater High School's 97 percent Attendance Rate is the highest in the 30,000 student/23 school Sweetwater Union High School District.

Sweetwater High School, in September of 2008, made history by being one of only two schools to make it off the Federal Watch List. In fact, its achievement has surpassed the achievement of 851 of California's 855 high schools.

Sweetwater High School, stands with firm resolve, both feet planted in this 21st century. The staff and students of Sweetwater High exemplify extraordinary courage as they continue to engage in attacking and mastering the rigorous academic standards set forth by the state and the nation. Their resilience and resolve rise up from their State of the Heart Legacy and will take each generation of students into a world where they not only believe in their ability but will achieve success. For those looking for that "Last Best Hope" described in A Nation at Risk, just Google . . . 2900 Highland Avenue, National City, CA: Sweetwater High School—"Home of the Red Devils!"

As an educator, I applaud the achievements of the students, staff, teachers, administrators, parents and the community of Sweetwater High School! I was so moved by the efforts of these students that I was able to obtain \$292,000 in federal funds for students at Sweetwater High School and neighboring high schools for their Compact for Success. This Compact is a program that guarantees a place at San Diego State University for every graduating high school student who maintains a "B" average and meets the goals of the Compact. Participation in the Compact is yet one more way that the Sweetwater High School community is challenging and rewarding its students, the students who are a beacon of light and a remarkable example of what can be achieved when everyone focuses on the goal, the goal of a quality education for each and every student.

IN HONOR OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DELAWARE STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S MARVIN S. GILMAN SUPERSTARS IN BUSINESS AWARDS

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce's Marvin S. Gilman Superstars in Business Awards. For ten years, the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce has taken pride in honoring small businesses and organizations for their outstanding services, quality of management, and exemplary approach to business in our state.

Each year, winners of the Marvin S. Gilman Superstars in Business Awards are companies that have met three criteria: the companies have been established at least three years, have 150 employees or less, and are members of the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce. In addition, Awards of Excellence are

given to commendable companies, and one award is given to one outstanding non-profit organization. Over the years, corporations within the development, arts, public utilities, communications, and healthcare industries, among others, have been recognized for playing a leading role in Delaware's economic well-being. In November of 1998, the very first luncheon was held to present these distinguished awards in the Gold Ballroom at the Hotel DuPont, the very same location where many of the 40 winning companies, state and local officials, Chamber members, and other notable members of the community will gather to celebrate this milestone. In fact, I was among the guests present at the first Superstars in Business Awards luncheon, and a decade later I am pleased to join in saluting what has become a distinguished tradition.

In recognizing this program, it is only fitting to also recognize the program's entrepreneurial namesake, the late Marvin S. Gilman. Mr. Gilman served as president of Gilman Development Co. in Wilmington for more than forty years, during which time he earned the reputation of a model small business owner and leader in the community. He used his position in the housing industry to further the cause of desegregation, sponsoring the Sutton Place high-rise facility project in Baltimore—one of the first major real estate projects to welcome tenants of all races—and serving on the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing. Recognized for their service to the community, Mr. Gilman and his wife, Muriel, were the first couple to receive the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce's Josiah Marvel Cup Award.

Once again, I recognize the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce's Marvin S. Gilman Superstars in Business Awards for ten years of honoring exceptional small businesses and organizations. It is this commitment to fostering economic and community excellence that keeps Delaware one of the best environments to conduct business in the United States.

EMERGENCY ECONOMIC  
STABILIZATION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I reluctantly supported this economic rescue plan on Monday, and I will do so again today. Not because I like it. I don't. Not because it is popular. It isn't. And certainly not because I think responsible taxpayers have any obligation to bail out Wall Street. They don't. Instead, I will support this plan because I believe that acting decisively now will almost certainly mean less cost to taxpayers and less pain on Main Street than allowing this credit crisis to get worse.

In what history will record as the final verdict on 8 years of the Bush administration's failed economic policies, allowing this credit crisis to spread to Main Street would dry up existing lines of credit, cause more small businesses to fail, put more people out of work, place more retirees' pensions at risk, and accelerate the current downturn in our fragile economy. We simply cannot allow that to happen.

Let's be clear: This legislation is a far cry from the original, three-page, blank check proposal Secretary Paulson submitted to Congress. Whereas the Paulson proposal had no oversight, no limits on executive compensation or golden parachutes, no help for homeowners, no upside for taxpayers, and no requirement that the President submit a plan to Congress to recoup the full amount of the taxpayers' money from participating institutions should any amount of the initial outlay not be recovered after 5 years' time, this legislation contains all of those protections.

Additionally, as a result of the Senate's action last night, the bill we are considering today also includes a 1-year patch for the AMT to ensure 25 million additional Americans are not snared by this tax; \$18 billion in renewable energy incentives (paid for by eliminating subsidies to the oil and gas industries) to accelerate our transition to a 21st century green economy; and mental health parity legislation that will end the shameful history of insurance discrimination suffered by those whose conditions affect the brain, rather than the rest of the body. This revised package also contains bipartisan legislation I introduced to end the ISO AMT crisis affecting tens of thousands of law-abiding Americans by providing permanent relief from that universally condemned corner of our code. And it further protects our citizens' savings by temporarily increasing the cap on FDIC-insured accounts to \$250,000.

Like any legislation of this magnitude, there are provisions I do not support, other provisions I thought should be included, and still others I would have changed. For example, the renewable energy title includes several incentives that in my view fall outside the definition of "renewable," and the tax title contains a number of narrowly drawn provisions that detract from the larger purpose of this legislation. Additionally, the final bill failed to include a measure I support to allow bankruptcy judges to modify mortgages on primary residences the same way they are currently able to modify mortgages on second homes and investment properties. Furthermore, the Senate package was not fully paid for and for that reason will unnecessarily add to our national debt. And finally, I personally would have preferred that that this rescue plan include some immediate regulatory reforms, recognizing that more comprehensive reform will follow congressional hearings that begin next week. Nevertheless, our citizens can be assured that Congress is determined to get to the bottom of what caused this mess and act promptly to make sure this kind of crisis never happens again.

IN HONOR OF RAFAEL "FEYNNER"  
ARIAS GODINEZ

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of a special friend, Rafael "Feynner" Arias Godinez, on this occasion of his 20th anniversary as a steward of the UC Landels-Hill Big Creek Reserve in Big Sur, California. The Big Creek Reserve is operated by the University of California's Santa

Cruz campus. The land was part of the Circle M Ranch until the ranch was broken up and sold; private owners, including my father, the late Senator Fred Farr, later granted the land to the university's Natural Reserve System.

Feynner Arias came to the United States from his native Costa Rica. He was born near the town of Parrita, Costa Rica. His family was very poor by American standards. Feynner's life in the jungles of Costa Rica is full of stories that books and movies are made from; learning to hunt and fish from his grandmother, his abuela, Elija; battling school bullies who abandoned him in a well; overcoming deadly snake bites in the jungle; learning to survive with just a machete and his wits; and, as a sawmill child laborer having to remove saw dust from a fast moving sawmill blade. Through hard work and out of necessity, he developed a jungle reputation as a person who could track down anything; he could hunt and capture it for food or money to support his mother and seven siblings.

Feynner's vast knowledge of the land and animals drew wildlife scientists from around the world to hire him as a guide; his work helped to establish the Corcovado National Park in Costa Rica. Feynner often traded his guiding services for food. One of his clients was a woman PhD candidate at UC Berkeley. Together they lived in the rain forest studying ants. After she returned to California he received a letter asking him to come for a visit. He traded the gold that he had panned for in Panama for an airline ticket to the U.S., going from the rain forest of Cost Rica to the San Francisco Bay area. Soon married, he landed a job at the Big Creek Reserve. By a stroke of luck, the resident reserve manager at Big Creek had, many years prior, benefited from Feynner's guide services in Costa Rica and was well familiar with Feynner's wilderness experience and helped to guide Feynner through the bureaucracy of the university's hiring practices.

Today, the entire Big Sur coast and the UC Natural Reserve System have come to love and respect Feynner's knowledge of natural flora and fauna and the coast range. His stories of sleeping near the mountain lions, killing a wild boar with a small knife, rescuing lost and injured hikers, and leading fire crews to the best areas to fight raging fires are well known on the coast. Whether working with world-renowned academics or nondegreed people like himself, he is sought after like a celebrity. He is known locally as the person who can fix anything, build anything, or find anything. He is able to grow Costa Rican bushes in his home, spot wildlife and whales that others can't find, and to understand the natural world around him in ways that the more formally educated often can't. His understanding and appreciation of the world around him and us is unsurpassed.

Feynner is now celebrating 20 years with the Big Creek Reserve. Those who know and love him celebrate this uncommon immigrant who has captured their hearts and minds. We congratulate and celebrate his service to the people of California and especially to his friends and neighbors in Big Sur.

Madam Speaker, Speaker, I for one, will always treasure the Farr family good fortune to have known, laughed and learned from Rafael Arias. Gracias Amigo por todo!

THE CONCUSSION TREATMENT  
AND CARE TOOLS (CONTACT) ACT

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure today to introduce the Concussion Treatment and Care Tools (CONTACT) Act. This bipartisan legislation provides our schools and coaches with the tools needed to ensure that student athletes receive the proper care for sports-related concussions. I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation as soon as possible.

On October 16, 2008, Ryne Dougherty, a 16-year-old from Montclair, New Jersey, tragically died from a brain hemorrhage after returning to play football without fully recovering from a concussion sustained earlier in the season. Unfortunately, this is not the first story of a young athlete losing his or her life early to a head injury.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, as many as 3.8 million concussions related to sports and recreation are estimated to occur in the United States each year. After sustaining one concussion, an athlete becomes as much as four to six times more likely to sustain a second concussion, and if an athlete is allowed to return to play without fully recovering from a concussion, they may face tragic consequences.

Repeat concussions can result in cumulative neurological damage and have been shown to significantly worsen long-term outcomes including depression and other psychological problems. In rare cases, a repeat concussion can trigger "second impact syndrome" which can be marked by the swelling of the brain, permanent brain damage, or even death. Because damage to a maturing brain can be catastrophic, it is even more important to ensure that the proper care is provided to young athletes.

Fortunately, repeat concussions and "second impact syndrome" are highly preventable if sensible guidelines and procedures are adopted. Many college and professional athletic associations—including the National Collegiate Athlete Association, NCAA, the National Football League, NFL, and the National Hockey League, (NHL)—and other national provider organizations—including the American Academy of Neurology, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the National Athletic Trainers' Association, and the Brain Injury Association of American—have all adopted guidelines for the management of concussions. Despite education efforts by CDC, however, much of this information has not made its way to our local middle schools and high schools.

Furthermore, pre-season and post-concussion testing technologies are widely used in college and professional sports to provide a baseline against which coaches and providers can determine when athletes are ready to return to play. These technologies are widely available and fairly affordable at as little as \$500 a year. Unfortunately, these tests are not commonly used in middle and high school sports.

By providing coaches, athletes, and parents with the tools and information needed to identify and understand the signs, symptoms, and

implications of concussions, we can help to prevent needless deaths and countless injuries. The CONTACT Act will convene experts and stakeholders to establish a consensus set of concussion management guidelines and provide states with the resources to adopt, disseminate, and ensure the implementation of concussion management guidelines for student athletes.

Madam Speaker, Congress must act now to pass this vital piece of legislation, so that we may provide our young athletes with the safety and protections that they deserve.

HONORING THE TOP DOG ALUMNI

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate all of the 2008 Top Dog Award recipients from California State University, Fresno. All award winners were honored on Friday October 10, 2008 at the Awards Gala at the Save Mart Center in Fresno, California.

The Top Dog Award is a great tradition for CSU Fresno. It allows the University to honor alumni that continue to give back to the University. There are three award categories: Distinguished Alumnus Award, Outstanding Alumni Awards and the Arthur Safstrom Service Award.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is the highest honor given to an alumna of the University. The award is based on scholarship, leadership and service to CSU Fresno, the San Joaquin Valley and the State of California. It has been established to provide special recognition to an individual who has distinguished themselves through outstanding achievement during their post-collegiate career. The University President and the Alumni Association present the award.

For 2008 the Distinguished Alumnus Award is being given to Nat DiBuduo, class of 1972. Mr. DiBuduo has strong roots in the Central San Joaquin Valley as a vineyard and winery owner. He attended CSU Fresno where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Plant Science/Viticulture and a minor in Business. He is also a graduate of the California Ag Leadership Program, holds a Certified Pest Control Advisor's license and a Department of Real Estate sales license. He has worked as an independent consultant overseeing farm management of 24,000 acres of winegrapes, nuts and vegetables. Today, he is President of Allied Grape Growers; a local organization that works with over 500 grower members from throughout California to competitively market the crops. During his time at CSU Fresno, he was student body vice president, but his service to the community did not stop there. He generously gives to his alma mater, and serves on the boards of the Ag One Foundation and the Fresno State Alumni Association.

The Outstanding Alumni Awards recognize CSU Fresno alumna for outstanding accomplishments in their field and to present such alumni to current CSU Fresno students as examples of exceptional achievement. The Alumni Association works in conjunction with the deans of CSU Fresno's eight schools/colleges, as well as the dean of student affairs

and the athletic director to identify and select candidates for the awards.

This year there are twelve Outstanding Alumni Awards from the various schools, colleges and divisions. The honorees are:

Dr. Robert C. Cannell (class of 1986) from the College of Agriculture Sciences and Technology. Dr. Cannell is the supply chain director for McDonald's USA and is responsible for the quality and safety of the restaurant chain's beef and pork.

Brad Lewis (class of 1980) from the College of Arts and Humanities. Mr. Lewis is a Pixar Animation Studios producer, whose movie "Ratatouille" received Oscar, Golden Globe and Clio awards.

Kern Donis (class of 1991) from the Athletics Department. Ms Donis is a former Bulldog softball star; she played for two national titles. She is now deputy chief for the Fresno Fire Department.

Steve Heinrichs (class of 1968) from the Craig School of Business. Mr. Heinrichs is a managing partner of Bulldog Capital Partners, a venture fund that invests in new business ideas and companies with potential to contribute to the Central San Joaquin Valley economy.

Darlene Spano (class of 1969) from the Kremen School of Education and Human Development. Ms. Spano has been an elementary school teacher in Fresno for 32 years. She had embraced computer technology early enough to educate and assist her students and colleagues.

Dr. Vida Ilderem (class of 1982) from the College of Engineering. Dr. Ilderem is the vice president of physical and digital realization research at Motorola Laboratories, the applied research arm of Motorola.

Mabelle Selland (class of 1950 and 1972) from the Division of Graduate Studies. Ms. Selland's community service includes the preservation of the old Administration Building at Fresno City College, the Veterans Memorial Auditorium restoration and active participation in numerous organizations.

Pamela Loewen (class of 1966) from the College of Health and Human Services. Ms. Loewen has followed a career in military and public health nursing with extensive service to the University's Department of Nursing as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Kendall Manock (class of 1951) from the Henry Madden Library. Mr. Manock is a local attorney and has been instrumental in obtaining materials for the Library's Central Valley Political Archive. He has also worked on many other library initiatives.

Dr. Roy James Shlemon (class of 1958) from the College of Science and Mathematics. Dr. Shlemon has a consulting geological practice that focuses on sites for nuclear power plants, waste facilities, large dams and residential developments throughout the world.

Thomas Williams (class of 1970) from the College of Social Sciences. Mr. Williams is the chairman and CEO of Universal Parks and Resorts, part of the NBC Universal division of GE.

Ambassador Phillip Sanchez (class of 1957 and 1972) from the Division of Student Affairs. Ambassador Sanchez retired as a newspaper publisher after government services included two ambassadorships and directing the War on Poverty as the nation's highest-ranking Latino government official.

The third award is the Arthur Safstrom Service Award; it is awarded to an alumna or

friend of CSU Fresno who has given outstanding service to the Alumni Association and/or the University. This year the award is presented to Dr. Arnold and Dianne Gazarian. The Gazarians' generous donations to the university have included a gift to the Smittcamp Alumni House, the Friends of the Madden Library, the President's Fund and the Craig School of Business to establish the Arnold and Dianne Gazarian Real Estate Center. The couple has also provided incentives to attract others' gifts for the Haig and Isabel Berberian Endowed Chair in Armenian Studies. Beyond the campus, the Gazarians are benefactors of the Berberian Community Hospice Patient Services Center as well as the Homeless and Transitional Living Center in Modesto, California.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate all of the Top Dog Award recipients for their individual contributions. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing the honorees many years of continual success.

RECOGNIZING DR. JAMES NAVIN  
OF HONOLULU, HAWAII

**HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. James Navin, MD, FCAP. Dr. Navin, a resident of Honolulu, has made many valuable contributions to the field of medicine not only in Hawaii, but throughout the United States.

Dr. Navin began his medical career with the United States Army and has also served in the United States Army Reserve as well as the Hawaii Army Reserve National Guard, serving both Tripler General Hospital and Fort DeRussey. Dr. Navin is a recipient of the Bronze Star, as well as the Army Commendation Medal.

He is the current president of the Hawaii Society of Pathologists, and a member of a variety of pathology related specialties, including the Hawaii Medical Association, the Honolulu County Medical Society, the College of American Pathologists and the American Society of Cytopathologists.

I came to know Dr. Navin as a passionate healthcare advocate in the 1990s. I worked closely with him and the national pathology organizations to increase the reimbursement for a common but vital medical test. With his commitment, tenacity, and capacity to bring people together we succeeded legislatively. More importantly, we ensured that life saving medical testing was conducted according to best practice.

An accomplished author, Dr. Navin has been published in over 30 medical publications, including the Hawaii Medical Journal. He has been recognized by the American Pathology Foundation as the American Pathologist of the Year, 2000, and has been recognized several times as one of the Best Doctors in Hawaii.

Dr. Navin will be stepping down as a member of the College of American Pathologists' Political Action Committee, but we are confident he will continue to be a strong voice for pathology. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding physician for his commitment to patient care.

HONORING AND REMEMBERING  
THE LIFE OF JOSEPH R. BURNS

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of an exemplary American citizen, a friend, a comrade in arms during our service together on the frontlines of the Korean war, and a true hero—Joseph R. Burns, who passed away on November 9, 2008.

Joseph R. Burns was born on August 21, 1930, in Charity Hospital, New Orleans, LA. Joe dedicated his life to protecting the freedom of this great country through his many years of public service. Joe served in the U.S. Army during the Korean war conflict and underwent extreme hardships as a prisoner of war for 33 months and 11 days.

After his service in the U.S. Army, Joe continued to build his career in public service by obtaining a position as El Paso's Deputy Sheriff and creating programs to help children. Joe's faith in his religion and love for service manifested itself when he performed his duties and responsibilities of a deacon at the Unity Missionary Baptist Church, and when he served as a senior usher for the church.

Although Joseph R. Burns has passed, his legacy in public service will not go unnoticed. His calm demeanor and quiet spirit will never be forgotten. He was a great influence to his family, his community, and our country. Joseph R. Burns is a national hero who will be greatly missed.

He is succeeded by his beloved son Tyrone J. Burns, his family, and friends.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF VERNON A.  
LOSH II OF SONOMA COUNTY,  
CALIFORNIA

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY, to honor Chief Vernon A. Losh II, who is retiring this month as chief/department director of the Sonoma County Department of Emergency Services. He has held the position since June, 1999, and also served concurrently for over 5 years as fire chief of Rancho Adobe Fire Protection District.

Chief Losh has had a long and distinguished career in fire and emergency services, starting in 1974 with the South Placer Fire Protection District where he eventually held every rank from volunteer firefighter to full-time battalion chief. He came to Sonoma County in 1995 as deputy chief/fire marshal for the Department of Emergency Services and became Chief a few years later with responsibility for all aspects of the Department's work. He deftly managed 23 full time employees, over 350 volunteers, and a budget of \$7.5 million.

With extensive education in emergency management, including being one of the first 12 people certified in the State of California as

a fire chief, Chief Losh has shared his expertise for years as a community college fire service instructor and also as chair of the Santa Rosa Community College Fire Tech Advisory Committee. A long list of professional affiliations—from local to international—is a testament to both his spirit of community volunteerism and the high regard with which he is held by his peers. He has been president of the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association, Sonoma County Department Heads Association, and the Northern California Firefighters Association, to name a few.

Shortly after the anthrax and 9–11 terrorist attacks on our country, we met with Vern Losh and other Sonoma County officials. We were particularly impressed by the level of emergency preparedness as well as by plans to continuously upgrade and improve equipment and procedures. These efforts, directed by a coordinated leadership effort, clearly paid off when much of the County was affected by severe flooding a few years ago. The response was swift and organized, mitigating what could have been a serious disaster.

The Losh family is also a source of pride to Vern. His wife Teresa is an accountant at the Sonoma County Office of Education and marathon walker for several charitable causes; his son Allen is a Specialist in the Army serving as a combat medic ready to be deployed to Iraq on Thanksgiving Day; his daughter Whitney is a student at San Francisco State in the Public Health field. Whitney just finished her first marathon for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society.

Perhaps since, as his biography states, he "currently serves as the Grand Emperor of the Cosmic Order of Fire Gods, an honor he has held since birth," Vern Losh won't fully retire. He plans to continue as Chair of the Sonoma-Mendocino Red Cross, Chair of the Volunteer Fire Fighter Committee of the California State Fire Fighters Association, and as the California representative to the National Volunteer Fire Council. He will also become a volunteer firefighter for the City of Healdsburg. And he will continue his teaching at the California Community College.

Madam Speaker, Sonoma County will miss the skills of Chief Vernon Losh, but we thank him for helping to make our emergency services strong. We know he will appreciate having time for his family and his hobbies—photography, football and all sports, attending Giants and 49er games . . . and firefighting.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF NOEMI  
ANDERSON

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Noemi Anderson of Petaluma, California, for an unusual accomplishment. Noemi just turned 111 years old, making her the oldest person in Sonoma County, the 67th oldest person on earth, and even the oldest known member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW).

Noemi doesn't know the secret of her longevity. She has always exercised, eaten her vegetables, and quit smoking over 50 years

ago. But these activities alone cannot account for her years. That is probably why researchers are studying her life and genetics to unravel the secret.

Although her mind and body are in good shape, Noemi laments the loss of her eyesight a few years ago. Until then, she was a sharp bridge player, ardent about the game and with an astonishing memory for the cards. Today, her memory is still quick as she talks about her life and her past.

Born on September 28, 1897, Noemi Bernard grew up on a ranch in Oregon and later attended UC Berkeley. She became a history teacher and worked in various schools, marrying fellow teacher Henry "Andy" Anderson in 1928. Shortly after their daughter Janice was born, she left teaching to take care of her home, including designing a new house for the family.

Andy and Noemi led a full life in Hanford and also traveled a great deal. When Andy passed away in 1988, Noemi moved to the Bay Area to be near Janice and her family. Today she lives in an assisted living facility in Petaluma. Janice passed away in 2001.

Madam Speaker, although we know we can't all live to be 111 years old, it is fitting to honor Noemi Anderson whose life exemplifies for us the benefits of living with enthusiasm and grace. I hope she will have many more birthdays to celebrate.

CONGRESS HOLDS AN EXHIBITION  
OF THE ARTWORK OF DR.  
YUHUA WANG

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, on November 13th at the Capitol in Washington DC, several Members of Congress and the Congressional Arts Caucus held an exhibition of the artwork of Professor Yuhua Wang and an official reception honoring her. The exhibition hall was crowded with people, including numerous officials and dignitaries. Many Members of Congress, council members of the District of Columbia, ambassadors, and diplomats came to appreciate the exhibits on display. They praised the beauty of the artwork as being beyond imagination and praised Dr. Wang for bringing the light of beautiful art into the Capitol. Even after the exhibition ended, there were still Members of Congress who came to the exhibition hoping to view Dr. Wang's works of art.

Professor Wang personally attended the official reception in her honor. The hall was filled to capacity, making it a very grand occasion. Members of Congress and members of the Congressional Arts Caucus added their support by signing and presenting certificates of commendation. During the official reception, Members of Congress gave speeches expressing their respect for Professor Yuhua Wang. They praised Professor Wang for her outstanding contributions to world color painting, sculpture, oriental arts, and the development of cultural exchange. A Congressional Commendation stated that Professor Wang is a selfless person whose moral character is noble. It also stated that through her practice of Buddhism, she benefits humanity and all liv-

ing beings. Members of Congress who initiated the exhibition proudly presented that Congressional Commendation to Professor Wang as a symbol of appreciation and gratitude for her service to America and humanity. The Mayor of Washington DC, Adrian M. Fenty, presented to Professor Wang a certificate welcoming the exhibition of her artwork in the Nation's Capital and welcoming her to visit the entire area of Washington DC. Members of Congress who initiated and held this art exhibition included CORRINE BROWN, DANNY DAVIS, ELIOT L. ENGEL, ADAM SCHIFF, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, CHAKA FATTAH, DAVID WU, and others.

The exhibition displayed four of Professor Wang's hand-sculpted faux coral painted in oil colors. Those works are entitled "Glamour in Pink," "Arching Branches," "Parched Antiquity," and "Cinnabar Nectar." Another exhibit is called "Seventy-Seven Stones," which are exquisitely hand-sculpted and painted faux cobblestones. Additionally displayed were 10 ink-wash paintings called "Spiritual Air," "The Appeal of Lotuses," "Two Chicks Under the Wool Tree," "Ink Alone Excels Nature," "Auspicious Atmosphere at the Lotus Pond," "Light, Elegant Ink; Three Lovely Flowers," "Yuhua," "Lotus Fragrance Blown by the Wind," "Golden Lotuses," and "A Bit of Charming Autumn Scenery." The three oil paintings on exhibition were "Flying Object in the Night," "Heavenly World," and "Exuberant Life." All of these exhibits were authentic, and most of them were chosen by International Arts Publishing to be included in the book *World's Highest-Level Color Paintings and Ink-Wash Paintings—the Art of Professor Yuhua Wang*. At the exhibition, news reporters asked Professor Yuhua Wang which one of the works of art that she created is her favorite. Her answer, which she gave without hesitation, has profound meaning. She said, "Whichever work of art is everyone's favorite is my favorite work of art!"

Dr. Yuhua Wang was born in China and permanently resides in the U.S. She is currently a research professor at the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn University in Georgia. She has been highly commended by the president and vice-president of Auburn University and by the dean of the college where she is a visiting professor for her achievements in the study of colors.

Professor Wang's hand-sculpted faux coral on which she painted oil colors are even more genuine-looking and more beautiful in form and color than real coral found at the bottom of the sea or on islands. Such works of art are many times more beautiful than natural coral and have become rare artistic treasures. It is no wonder that her art is regarded as "treasures of the world."

The cobblestones that Professor Yuhua Wang hand-sculpted from light-weight material and painted are exquisite and were made with meticulous attention to detail. These intriguingly and unpredictably varied faux cobblestones are not only genuine-looking, they are even more beautiful than real cobblestones. Their spots, streaks, watermarks, weathered appearance, reflecting light, and hues are all lifelike and exquisite. In all of their myriad variations, these cobblestones capture the spirit and form of real cobblestones yet surpass the beauty of natural ones. None of her cobblestones duplicates any other cobblestone in form, lines, color, or extent of weathered or

aged appearance. Each cobblestone is in and of itself a meticulously and realistically painted work of art. Just like Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa and Vincent van Gogh's Sunflower Paintings, Dr. Wang's oil painting on these cobblestones has been called wondrous color application and the most superb art in the world.

The ink and wash paintings of Professor Wang are boldly arranged yet lack the slightest trace of affectation. They have an air of ease and smoothness and convey a sense of complete naturalness. They express loftiness and broadmindedness and are imbued with deep charm and liveliness. Those works of art by Professor Wang can indeed be called ink and wash paintings of the highest order.

The modern paintings of Dr. Wang have a unique style to them. Their lines flow smoothly and freely. Their diverse and unpredictable color combinations can express bold intensity, overflowing enthusiasm, traditional elegance, inspiring vitality, rustic charm, or majestic splendor. Those paintings are truly a feast for the eyes. Deeply embedded within them are feelings and wondrous skills. Her modern paintings are very sophisticated and should be carefully viewed. Actually, a magnifying glass would reveal that each of the many different parts that make up one of her modern paintings is a work of art in and of itself with its own unending appeal.

EMERGENCY ECONOMIC  
STABILIZATION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the inclusion of the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health and Addition Equity Act in H.R. 1424, and I congratulate my friend and colleague, Congressman JIM RAMSTAD, for this achievement. Without his courage and dedication to fairness, this bill would not be before us today.

It is long past time that American families have access to the care they need. This bill ends discrimination against patients seeking treatment for mental illness or addiction by requiring that benefits that are offered for physical health are also available for mental health.

Mental illness left untreated affects all facets of our society and costs our economy over \$150 billion annually. Mental illness affects 50 percent of the homeless population in Minnesota, 70 percent of those in our juvenile justice system, and those with the highest unemployment rates. Health care costs double when diabetes and heart disease patients have co-morbid depression, and patients with mental illness and substance abuse disorders are often less responsive to treatment. In addition, the burden that mental illness places upon the health and productivity of our nation has long been underestimated. One in five adults and one in ten children have a mental illness. And over one-third of our returning service members from Iraq and Afghanistan suffer from mental health problems.

We have all been affected in some way—ourselves, a family member, a friend or colleague—by mental health or substance abuse.

This is an issue I hear about in my district a lot, both from those inspired by Senator Wellstone's passion for this issue and those willing to share their stories to make change.

We all know the current system is unfair. People should not have to forego essential treatment because of cost when care could mean improvements to their quality of life and productivity.

Parents should not end up with an emergency room bill they can't pay because they rushed their daughter to the hospital after a suicide attempt, or watch their child suffer after being released from a residential center because insurance coverage ended—not because his treatment was over.

And our servicemen and women returning from Iraq should not be handed a 1-800 number to treat a mental illness.

As we look to reform our health care system, mental health and physical care can no longer be looked at as separate entities. It is morally right, and good for both our economy and our health care system. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and I yield back my time.

HONORING SPIKE O'DELL ON HIS  
RETIREMENT FROM WGN RADIO

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Spike O'Dell, retiring host of the Spike O'Dell program on WGN Radio in Chicago. Spike has brought his unique style of humor and knowledge to countless Chicagoans every morning for the past two decades. I have appeared on his morning show numerous times, and I can honestly say that it has been a pleasure working with Spike and his staff, especially his producer Jim Wisner. Spike will be sorely missed on the radio by all in Chicagoland.

A native of East Moline, Illinois, Spike graduated from York College in Nebraska before obtaining his certificate in broadcasting from a local vocational school. His first radio job was at WEMO in his home town of East Moline, Illinois, before moving on to KSTT in Davenport, Iowa. Next, he moved to WBT in Charlotte, North Carolina, then on to KLIK back in Davenport, Iowa. Spike's big break came in 1987 when he was offered the afternoon show on WGN Radio in Chicago. He flourished in this role at WGN, garnering a loyal following, and in 2000 he succeeded the late Bob Collins as the host of morning programming. Since his appointment, Spike's show is consistently rated the top morning show in Chicago.

The Spike O'Dell show did not just report the news, it was where the news was made. From exclusive interviews with everyone from entertainers to politicians, on sight reporting from across the globe and insightful editorials from Spike and a wide cast of contributors, the Spike O'Dell show was always both informative and entertaining.

The self proclaimed "worst kept secret" in radio, Spike announced his retirement nearly 2 years ago, telling listeners that on January 1, 2009 there would be a new host for the morning show. While a successor has yet to be

named, it is going to be extremely difficult to find someone as hard working and who generates as loyal a fan base as Spike.

It is my great privilege to honor Spike O'Dell for his commitment to radio in Chicago. I wish the best to Spike and his wife Karen. May his retirement be as successful and rewarding as his show.

HONORING LINDA RAWLS

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, to honor and acknowledge Linda Rawls, who has been named the 2008 Sonoma Treasure Artist of the Year, or simply the Sonoma Treasure, by the City of Sonoma. Each year the City's Cultural and Fine Arts Commission selects one of the hundreds of artists living and working in the Sonoma Valley to receive this honor. Ms. Rawls was singled out for her decade's long work in costume design.

By one account, she has fitted and costumed the stars and extras of more than 132 productions, including those of the Sonoma City Opera, the Sonoma Ballet Conservatory, schools plays at Sonoma Valley High and each of the grade schools, Vintage House Senior Center, churches and Hootchie Doo Productions, a community theatre group. Her talents have led her to create designs for productions in neighboring counties, including 42nd Street Moon productions in San Francisco.

According to Ms. Rawls, "Costumes have to do everything. A show can have no scenery, but with a woman's dress or a man's hat, you can decipher the time and place in an instant." She calls costumes the "elemental scenery of a play, telling more about character and context than anything else on stage."

Ms. Rawls stumbled into her artistic calling 26 years ago when the costume designer for a school opera in which her 8-year-old son was performing unexpectedly quit. She volunteered to step in and has been following her passion ever since.

Her peers have acknowledged Ms. Rawls work by awarding her the Best First Day Costume Award from the International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival in Buxton, England in 1996 and the Dean Goodman Choice Award for Outstanding Achievement in Theatre for Costume Design in 2003.

Madam Speaker, Linda Rawls is a true artist in every sense of the word and it is appropriate that we honor her today as the 2008 Sonoma Treasure Artist of the Year.

IN RECOGNITION OF COACH JIM  
BOEHEIM

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Coach Jim Boeheim for helping to bring home a Gold

Medal in Men's Basketball at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, and for his decades of service to Syracuse University basketball and the Syracuse community.

Jim Boeheim, an Upstate New York native from the Wayne County town of Lyons, began his career with Syracuse basketball as a walk-on player in 1962. By the time he was a senior he had worked his way to being a co-captain and helped lead his team to the NCAA tournament for the second time in school history. After graduating from Syracuse, Jim had a successful pro playing career until he turned to coaching when he joined the Syracuse Men's Basketball coaching staff in 1969. He worked his way up the ranks, starting as a graduate assistant coach to ultimately being named head coach in 1976.

For 32 years Jim Boeheim has honorably served as head coach of the Syracuse University Men's basketball team. During his tenure he has become one of the most successful and respected coaches in college basketball history. He has led all of his teams to a winning record, including 30 seasons with 20 or more wins. His 30–20 win or better seasons ties him with coaching legend Dean Smith for the most ever. Under Coach Boeheim's direction, SU has made it to the post-season 31 times, including 25 trips to the NCAA Tournament where they made appearances in three championship games. In 2003 Coach Boeheim led the Syracuse Orange to its first ever NCAA National Championship Title.

With 771 career wins, Jim ranks 11th all time in wins among Division I head coaches, 4th among active coaches. He is also the winningest coach in Big East Conference history, with 342 conference wins, which include five conference championships. In September 2005 he was inducted into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame.

In November 2005, Jim continued to add to his hall of fame resume when he was named as one of three assistant coaches for USA Basketball Men's National Team for a three year appointment. His coaching expertise helped lead Team USA to an undefeated record in the 2008 Olympics, culminating in a 118–107 victory over Spain in the gold medal game. Team USA's victory not only brought home a gold medal, but it also restored pride and respect in American basketball, and Jim's role in achieving both was instrumental. His role as part of the gold medal men's basketball team gives us all another reason to applaud him. With his Olympic success, Jim brought a piece of Syracuse to Beijing and a piece of the gold back to Syracuse.

Jim is someone that I have admired for his entire career, not only for being a great coach, but for also being a great human being. He has always handled himself with class, even in the face of adversity from critics, many of whom have never even played basketball. He has never looked for credit in his teams' successes; he just goes out and does his job and does it well. I also hold Jim in high regard for his selfless contributions to his community through numerous charitable initiatives, including Coaches vs. Cancer, for which he has been a top fundraiser, nationwide, for many years.

On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I thank Coach Boeheim for his contributions to basketball, both at Syracuse and at the Olympic games, and for being an outstanding community leader. I also wish to

thank Jim's wife Juli and his children for sharing him with us for all these years. Thank you Jim for your service and congratulations on all of your success. Best of luck in the upcoming season; I know you and your team will continue to make us proud.

DANIEL WILLIAM BYRNE

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, on October 5, 2008, Daniel William Byrne passed away at his home in Tulelake, CA with his wife, Geri, and his family at his side. Dan was one of the finest stewards of our great natural resources that I have ever known, and his contributions to northern California's agricultural community will be sorely missed.

Dan was born on Sept. 19, 1954, in Klamath Falls, Ore., to Robert A. Byrne and Elizabeth (Betty Lou) Byrne (Dalton) Shirley. He attended Newell Elementary School and graduated from Bellarmine College Prep in San Jose in 1972, then earned his Bachelor of Science degree in farm management from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo in 1977. While at Cal Poly, he met his future wife and partner, Geri Bielar, whom he married in 1978.

Dan returned home after graduation and operated the family ranch with his father and his brothers. He demonstrated remarkable intelligence and earned respect as a rancher who took great pride in running cattle while also working in partnerships to improve stewardship of the land. He and his brother, Mike, were awarded the Society for Range Management California Section Award in Excellence in Range Management in 1968 as well as the conservation award from the Klamath Soil and Water Conservation District and the Tulelake-Butte Valley Fair Farmer and Rancher of the Year Award, both in 2007. Dan was also given the California Farm Bureau Federation Distinguished Service Award in 2008. Dan was a good friend and a fine man.

His loved ones were an integral part of his life and his work, and I wish to offer my condolences to the entire Byrne family. Dan is survived by his wife, Geri, of Tulelake; sister, Elizabeth Flynn, of Danville, Calif., and her sons, Michael and Thomas; a brother, Bob, and his wife, Cory, of Tulelake and their daughters, Melissa, Gwen and Katelyn; a brother, Mike, and his wife, Bev, of Tulelake, and their son, Matt, and their daughter, Brianna; a sister, Pat Byrne, of Lodi, Calif.; his stepfather, Bob Shirley, of Chico, Calif.; and his mother-in-law, Joan Bielar, of Rocklin, Calif.

TRIBUTE TO PETER HART

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Peter Hart for his diligent and outstanding leadership as chairman of the Alleghenies Chapter of SCORE, a nationwide

organization providing free counseling to small businesses around the country. As chairman of Alleghenies SCORE from 2006–2008, Peter led a team of 45 volunteers in assisting and counseling 400 small businesses around the region.

SCORE was most fortunate to have had Peter as its chairman for the past two years. His background in the railroad and steel industries and as a college educator has served him well in the dual role of counselor and administrator. His accomplishments include providing formal training for new counselors; establishing a chapter Web site; renaming the chapter "Alleghenies" to better identify the wide region that is served; and establishing a system for providing clients with counselors who closely match their professional needs. Peter has zealously devoted many extra hours into publicizing SCORE's mission and service in the Allegheny region. He is an excellent recruiter for the chapter, and his son has followed in his father's footsteps, becoming a counselor in the Pittsburgh Chapter.

Peter has demonstrated extraordinary devotion toward providing counseling for start-ups and continuing businesses located in Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton and Somerset Counties. Peter Hart's chairmanship of the Alleghenies SCORE Chapter has inspired and enthused the volunteer members of the chapter and many others who have benefited from his selfless and tireless dedication and leadership. I and the volunteers of Alleghenies SCORE would like to thank Peter Hart for his devotion to assisting his community and for inspiring so many others to do the same.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED  
SERVICE OF RAY STEELE, JR.

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues from California Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. NUNES and Mr. RADANOVICH to pay tribute to the distinguished public service of Ray Steele, Jr. After 41 years, Ray Steele is retiring as publisher and president of the Fresno Bee in Fresno, California.

Prior to embarking on his distinguished career with the Fresno Bee, Ray worked at the Fowler Ensign and for the Associated Press Bureau in Fresno. In 1967, he began what would result in 41 years of service to the McClatchy Company. Mr. Steele worked tirelessly in various positions with the Fresno Bee, the Sacramento Bee and with corporate headquarters.

Ray started as a reporter with the Fresno Bee while he was still in college. During his time there he held several positions in the news room before moving to Sacramento in 1982 to take on the position of administrative director of the Sacramento Bee, and then later becoming publisher of community publications. In 1986, Mr. Steele returned to Fresno, California and became the General Manager of the Fresno Bee, with responsibility for all business operations. After only seven years Mr. Steele moved on to corporate headquarters where he held several different management positions. In 2001, he became publisher and president of the Fresno Bee.

Throughout his distinguished career, Ray has served on numerous boards and has given back to his community. He currently serves on the board of directors of the Fresno Business Council, the Economic Development Corporation of Fresno County and the Fresno Regional Foundation. He also serves on the board of governors of California State University Fresno Foundation as well as the advisory council of the Criminology Department. Ray has also been a lifetime member of the Fresno State Alumni Association and previously served on the board of the Metropolitan Museum of Art & Science.

His service and accomplishments were recognized by California State University, Fresno in 2005 when he received the Top Dog Award as the outstanding alumnus of the College of Arts and Humanities. In 2007, he was awarded with the Jim Tucker Media Service Award which is presented by the Mass Communication and Journalism Department at California State University, Fresno.

Throughout his career, Ray Steele has proven to be a highly effective leader who has always been committed to excellence in journalism. As he gets ready to spend more time with his wife Mary Lou, daughters and grandchildren, along with endeavors of interest to him, we thank him for his service and we wish him continued success and best of luck for the future.

HONORING RAYMOND HATTER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Raymond Hatter, as he retired from his position as Executive Director of Salem Housing Community Development Corporation. An open house was held in his honor on November 7, 2008 in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

For the past 14 years, Raymond Hatter has provided leadership to the Salem Housing organization. He has reinforced the Salem Housing commitment to provide safe, affordable housing for limited income families and to support families through education, property management, and economic development. During his tenure, Salem Housing has developed relationships with economic development organizations, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, the Genesee County Land Bank Authority, and community groups in an effort to bring re-investment into City of Flint neighborhoods. Mr. Hatter's vision became reality when the area of Wood Street, M.L. King Avenue and Garland Street was cleared, cared for and became the Metawanenee Hills neighborhood. At a cost of 4 million dollars the 24 new homes provide affordable, safe and energy efficient housing to families.

In addition to his work revitalizing neighborhoods, Mr. Hatter is a member of the Flint Board of Education, the Co-Chairperson of the University of Michigan-Flint University Outreach Department, Advisory Council Member of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis, Board Member of the Mass Transportation Authority Board of Directors, Board Member of the City of Flint Zoning Board of Appeals, and a Reader Representative of the

Flint Journal's Editorial Board. His work as Co-Chairperson of the City of Flint "Fifty Year Master Plan" Planning Committee guided the drawing up of comprehensive community development plans for the City.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and applaud the work of Raymond Hatter. His foresight with Salem Housing Community Development Corporation has laid the groundwork for thriving, vibrant neighborhoods to take root in the City of Flint and his leadership has transformed the lives of numerous families.

#### TRIBUTE TO PUI CHU YEE

### HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jinba Pui Chu Yee, the world's youngest world-class artist and English language calligrapher. When she was 12 years old, International Arts Publishing published and distributed around the world a collection of her works entitled Pui Chu Yee Sculptured Landscapes and Calligraphy—The World's Youngest World-Class Artist and Calligrapher.

Although Jinba Pui Chu Yee is still in high school, her highly creative powers in the field of art are incredible. The main theme of her hand-molded landscapes is natural scenery. Her captivating craftsmanship, which comes from nature yet transcends nature, takes the viewer into a world of fantasy.

The New York Academy of Art evaluated her in 2004; the Academy issued a certificate signed by its Executive Director, Mr. Stephen Farthing. That certificate contained the following evaluation: "It has been a great pleasure for both me as Executive Director, and my Faculty at the New York Academy of Art, to get to know the artwork of such an internationally acclaimed artist as Ms. Pui Chu Yee. Her unique approach transports the viewer beyond taste and fantasy to a point where enchantment and contemporary art meet. Her work is a great achievement."

Pui Chu Yee is also an English language calligrapher. Jinba Pui Chu Yee was invited to create signatures in calligraphic style at an assembly. Attendees of that assembly included experts and scholars from Taiwan, Tibet, Thailand, North America, and South America. Also in attendance were outstanding alumni, doctorate holders, and university professors, all of whom graduated from prestigious U.S. universities. At the assembly, Jinba Pui Chu Yee wielded her pen to the astonishment of all. Everyone expressed admiration.

Through her talent and hard work, Jinba Pui Chu Yee has opened a new chapter in the appreciation of art in this world. Under the personal guidance of Jinba Pui Chu Yee, a high-tech art studio is now producing three-dimensional artistic images never before seen in this world that are created from some of her sculptured landscapes.

Additionally, Jinba Pui Chu Yee has received numerous honors and commendations from various governmental bodies, community organizations, and entities representing all walks of life.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Ms. Jinba Pui Chu Yee, an extremely talented

and creative young lady who has excellent moral character, deeply loves the United States, cares about the public good, and takes pleasure in developing the talents of others. In her honor I ask my congressional colleagues to join me in honoring her accomplishments as a premier artist around the world.

#### IN HONOR OF TURBOMECA MANUFACTURING

### HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, the Safran Group Company, Turbomeca Manufacturing, celebrated its grand opening on September 25, 2008. This company proudly manufactures the engines that power the U.S. Coast Guard HH-65 Search and Rescue Helicopter fleet and that of the U.S. Army Light Utility Helicopter fleet.

Turbomeca Manufacturing provides resources, jobs and business growth to the city of Monroe, North Carolina, and has shown tremendous commitment to the community. This 100,000 square foot factory plans to reach a production capacity of 200,000 hours per year by 2010, and will encompass a team of approximately 180 employees.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I honor and recognize this company in my district for the economic opportunities that they create and the outstanding community presence they provide.

#### A TRIBUTE TO THE FLOWERS OF MEMORY

### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I have for many years had the benefit of learning from Jack Authelet, a journalist and the town historian of the town of Foxborough—an important town in my district known for a number of things, including being the home of our New England Patriots.

Recently, Mr. Authelet wrote to me about a group that he accurately describes as "very appreciative and dedicated French citizens who have . . . made a solemn vow" that the Americans who gave their lives in the defense of freedom in France will not be forgotten. The organization of French citizens who have dedicated themselves to this is Les Fleurs de la Memoire, or The Flowers of Memory.

Madam Speaker, what they have done and are doing is an inspirational example of international cooperation, and I ask that the very thoughtful and informative letter from Jack Authelet describing the work that they do be printed here, along with the essay entitled "A Tribute," written by Claude Lavielle, who is president of Les Fleurs de la Memoire. This essay was written for Memorial Day 2002.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Authelet asked that I do this on Veterans' Day, but since we were not in session on that day, I have chosen the next day in which it is possible to insert this into the RECORD as an appropriate way of acknowledging their great work.

FOXBOROUGH HISTORICAL COMMISSION,

Foxborough, MA.

Congressman BARNEY FRANK,  
Newton, MA.

DEAR BARNEY, thank you for your dedication and leadership role in resolving the fiscal crisis that grips this nation. In the midst of all the uncertainty, I would like to call to your attention a living tribute to the fallen of World War II that I pray will move you to call for national recognition of this unique volunteer effort on Veterans Day.

In the aftermath of World War II, some 15,000 American military personnel who made the Supreme Sacrifice remain on French soil in the Normandy and Brittany Cemeteries where their families seldom—if ever—have an opportunity to visit their graves.

We as a nation have honored the pledge we would never forget their sacrifice in part by properly maintaining the military cemeteries there and around the world.

There are some very appreciative and dedicated French citizens who have also made a solemn vow: these brave Americans will never be forgotten because they know that every day they live in freedom, they become even more indebted to those who lie buried in the countries they came to liberate. They belong to the organization Les Fleurs de la Memoire (The Flowers of Memory) and each volunteer is assigned the grave of an American to decorate at every opportunity and especially on the American Memorial Day. Many volunteers adopt more than one grave, and also make every attempt to locate family members of the deceased that they might know someone is there looking over the grave of their loved ones.

I became aware of The Flowers of Memory when Vincent Robillard, the French volunteer assigned to the grave of Airman Clinton Davison (Class of 1939, Foxborough High School) was finally able to contact Clinton's brother, 93-year-old Lewis Davison of Walpole, himself a World War II veteran. I have been handling the correspondence for Lewis, for whom contact with the French volunteers has brought the comfort of knowing there are many who appreciate the family's loss. Through Vincent, the family now has had many of its questions answered about the death of Clinton, even to an eye witness account of what happened that fateful day at the height of the war when his plane failed to return following a bombing run over Germany. I have attached a story I published in The Foxboro Reporter about the French volunteers and what this has meant to the Davison family.

The commitment by these French volunteers to honor those brave Americans is both heartwarming and extraordinary. However, most Americans don't even know the group exists.

I have provided background on The Flowers of Memory in hopes that you would use your considerable influence by taking the initiative to afford this group and its volunteers some national exposure this Veterans' Day that the people of America would know about this magnificent tribute being paid every day to those who gave their lives when their Nation called.

The attached information provides background on The Flowers of Memory and their mission and I think it would bring comfort to the American people to know that so many people in France living in freedom today attribute that gift to those whose graves they decorate as an outward symbol of an inner vow that they will never be forgotten.

Thank you for your consideration and again, my personal appreciation for your inspired leadership in a time of crisis.

JACK AUTHELET,

Town Historian.

[From fleursdelamemoire.free.fr]

A TRIBUTE

(By Claude Lavielle)

Worse than death, is to be forgotten . . . So that this never happens to those to whom we owe so much, the association "Les Fleurs de la Memoire" (Flowers of Remembrance), came to life. It happened on December 15, 2000, in Saint Lo, a city which, after the June 6, 1944, bombing raids, was called the Capital of Ruins.

Since that day, along with our members, we have paved the way along memory's roads. These paths of memory lead to the American military cemeteries where those, swept along by the Star-Spangled banner, listening only to their courage, came to offer their life, so that we could reclaim our freedom.

At the core of Les Fleurs de la Memoire, the 720 members, put aside their differences, religious beliefs, and their origins, share the same gratitude towards the GI's who repose at Colleville-sur-Mer or Saint James.

Together, on Memorial Day or individually on any other day of the year, we come to meditate, in silence, or in prayer. Then, in an affectionate gesture, as would a godparent for their godchild, allowing the heart to speak, we place flowers at the base of the headstone.

It is not uncommon to see grandparents, at times moved to tears, accompanied by their children and grandchildren moving along the rows on the way to find "the" grave.

Once at the gravesite, their heads filled with images. . . . All listen, all meditate.

Is it the sound of the breeze? . . . Rather, isn't it the sound of the souls, the living memory of the dead speaking to our subconscious? . . . Then the terrible sounds of combat invade the mind . . . those unbearable sounds of bombs which explode . . . the whining cry of diving planes . . . the agonizing cries of the suffering. All the horrors of war assault our memories.

Finding the spirit of those who died for that we may live in a better world, kneeling in front of the headstone, placing these flowers, is this not a profound appeal for peace?

That is, I believe, what each person feels when coming to execute their pledge towards our association, "Les Fleurs de la Memoire". A humble pledge always accomplished with the infallible faith and immense fraternity with those whom we honor. It is true we have so much to say to you who sleep forever in our Normandy soil. Yes, so many things, which however must be resumed in one word: "Merci." Yes, "Thank You. Always!"

TRIBUTE TO MARY FRANCES  
HILLLOW

**HON. WM. LACY CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mary Frances Hillow, a distinguished student at Visitation Academy located in Town and Country, Missouri. Mary Fran continues to excel in and outside of the classroom.

Mary Fran is an outstanding student. She shows a passionate drive to achieve academic excellence. Mary Fran is also a member of National Jr. Honor Society. The national junior honor society is one of the Nation's premier organizations established to recognize outstanding high school and middle level students. More than just an honor roll, NJHS

serve to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character (and Citizenship for NJHS).

Aside from her academic endeavors, Mary Fran is also an established varsity golfer at Visitation Academy. She dedicates at least 10 hours every weekend to improving her golfing techniques. Mary Fran began playing her first 18 holes of golf in December 2007, just 10 short months later, she finished 10th in the Missouri State Golf Tournament. Mary Fran again excelled on the golf course by winning her second tournament after beating the second place player by 11 shots.

Mary Fran's athletic achievements as a golfer have landed a varsity position for Visitation Academy, something unusual for a freshman to achieve. She is one of five players on the varsity team. Her team was undefeated for the 2008 season and won the state district tournament by 56 shots.

Again, Mary Fran excelled at the State District golf tournament with a 17 hole lead and ended in a tie for first place at 3 over, 75. Her team's score was an impressive 309 at the State District tournament. This is the lowest score ever recorded in Missouri history.

Mary Fran played in the Missouri State Golf Tournament October 20–21, 2008. She was one of the few freshman players in the tournament. Her team won the tournament by 55 shots and Mary Fran was the number 2 player on her team. Individually, Mary Fran finished the tournament in 10th place out of an astonishing 120 players.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Mary Frances Hillow has my absolute highest recommendation to be honored today. I admire her demonstrated commitment to academic excellence and her accomplishments as a golfer and team player. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring such a wonderful Missouri student athlete.

HONORING THE HOLY ROSARY  
CHURCH OF ANSONIA, CON-  
NECTICUT AS THEY CELEBRATE  
THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Holy Rosary Church, its staff, and congregation as they commemorate their 100th Anniversary. This is a remarkable milestone for this community treasure and certainly cause for great celebration!

In the late nineteenth century, Italians began to settle in the City of Ansonia and within a few short decades the Italian population had risen to the hundreds. Families began to seek their own religious center and so they approached the Assumption Parish to request the use of the church and it was graciously granted. The first mass was celebrated on October 4, 1908 and as this was the first Sunday of October, it was also Rosary Sunday—and so the title was found, the Holy Rosary Church.

The Holy Rosary Church has not only been a center for religious worship, but a vehicle through which their members could give back

to the community. The St. Ann's Society for women, the St. Joseph's Society for men, and the Children of Mary Sodality for young women were all quickly founded following the establishment of the church and they were later joined by the Catholic Men's Club, the Catholic Women's Club, the Rosary Guild, and the parish's Catholic Youth Organization. The societies can be credited with bringing the annual feasts honoring patron saints to their neighbors as well as succeeding in raising the capitol funds needed not only to purchase the property on which the church resides, but also to completely renovate the church several times throughout its history.

Our churches play a vital role in our communities— providing people with a place to turn to for comfort when they are most in need. The members of the Holy Rosary Church have also given much to the City of Ansonia. Throughout the years, as their membership grew so did its commitment to the enrichment of this community. By strengthening our bonds of faith, the Holy Rosary Church gives its members a place to find their spiritual center and to solidify and support their values.

In its 100 year history, the Holy Rosary Church has built a strong foundation and its success is due to the dedication and commitment of each and every member of its congregation. Through their ministry and outreach efforts, they have left an indelible mark on our community and continue to enrich the lives of others. That is why I am so pleased to stand today to offer my sincere congratulations as they mark this very special centennial anniversary. The families, parishioners, and staff have much to be proud of as they celebrate this 100th anniversary year.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION  
FOR MILITARY ADVISORY COUN-  
CIL MEMBERS

**HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to five retired United States Generals who, for the past two years, have served as members of my Military Advisory Council.

These distinguished Americans have served the Nation as leaders of our Armed Forces. They continue their service in our community. I am fortunate to have the benefit of their advice on military affairs.

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I have often turned to my Military Advisory Council as we considered legislation and appropriations to meet the needs of our Armed Forces. I have benefited immeasurably from their knowledge and experience.

I commend them for their commitment to our men and women in uniform and thank them for making their expertise available to me. They are: General John Wickham Jr., former Chief of Staff, United States Army, General Donald Shepperd, former Director, Air National Guard, General John Cronin, former Deputy Commander, Fleet Marine, General Bill Van Dyke, former Adjutant General, Arizona National Guard, and General Ronald Shoopman, former Commander Arizona 162nd Fighter Wing.

They all have proven themselves to be true patriots. It has been my privilege to have them as advisors on military issues. On behalf of our Armed Forces I thank them for their continued service.

HONORING THE WORK OF CHIEF  
VERNON A. LOSH II

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, to honor Chief Vernon A. Losh II, who is retiring this month as chief/department director of the Sonoma County Department of Emergency Services. He has held the position since June 1999, and also served concurrently for over 5 years as fire chief of Rancho Adobe Fire Protection District.

Chief Losh has had a long and distinguished career in fire and emergency services, starting in 1974 with the South Placer Fire Protection District where he eventually held every rank from volunteer firefighter to full-time battalion chief. He came to Sonoma County in 1995 as deputy chief/fire marshal for the Department of Emergency Services and became chief a few years later with responsibility for all aspects of the department's work. He deftly managed 23 full-time employees, over 350 volunteers, and a budget of \$7.5 million.

With extensive education in emergency management, including being one of the first twelve people certified in the State of California as a fire chief, Chief Losh has shared his expertise for years as a community college fire service instructor and also as chair of the Santa Rosa Community College Fire Tech Advisory Committee. A long list of professional affiliations—from local to international—are a testament to both his spirit of community volunteerism and the high regard with which he is held by his peers. He has been president of the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association, Sonoma County Department Heads Association, and the Northern California Firefighters Association, to name a few.

Shortly after the anthrax and 911 terrorist attacks on our country, we met with Vern Losh and other Sonoma County officials. We were particularly impressed by the level of emergency preparedness as well as by plans to continuously upgrade and improve equipment and procedures. These efforts, directed by a coordinated leadership effort, clearly paid off when much of the county was affected by severe flooding a few years ago. The response was swift and organized, mitigating what could have been a serious disaster.

The Losh family is also a source of pride to Vern. His wife Teresa is an accountant at the Sonoma County Office of Education and marathon walker for several charitable causes; his son Allen is a specialist in the Army serving as a combat medic ready to be deployed to Iraq on Thanksgiving Day; his daughter Whitney is a student at San Francisco State in the public health field. Whitney just finished her first marathon for Leukemia Lymphoma Society.

Perhaps since, as his biography states, he "currently serves as the Grand Emperor of the

Cosmic Order of Fire Gods, an honor he has held since birth," Vern Losh won't fully retire. He plans to continue as chair of the Sonoma-Mendocino Red Cross, chair of the Volunteer Fire Fighter Committee of the California State Fire Fighters Association, and as the California representative to the National Volunteer Fire Council. He will also become a volunteer firefighter for the City of Healdsburg. And he will continue his teaching at the California Community College.

Madam Speaker, Sonoma County will miss the skills of Chief Vernon Losh, but we thank him for helping to make our emergency services strong. We know he will appreciate having time for his family and his hobbies—photography, football and all sports, attending Giants and 49er games, and firefighting.

HONORING LINDA RAWLS OF  
SONOMA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY, to honor and acknowledge Linda Rawls, who has been named the 2008 Sonoma Treasure Artist of the Year, or simply the Sonoma Treasure, by the city of Sonoma. Each year the city's Cultural and Fine Arts Commission selects one of the hundreds of artists living and working in the Sonoma Valley to receive this honor. Ms. Rawls was singled out for her decade's long work in costume design.

By one account, she has fitted and costumed the stars and extras of more than 132 productions, including those of the Sonoma City Opera, the Sonoma Ballet Conservatory, school plays at Sonoma Valley High and each of the grade schools, Vintage House Senior Center, churches and Hootchie Doo Productions, a community theatre group. Her talents have led her to create designs for productions in neighboring counties, including 42nd Street Moon productions in San Francisco.

According to Ms. Rawls, "Costumes have to do everything. A show can have no scenery, but with a woman's dress or a man's hat, you can decipher the time and place in an instant." She calls costumes the "elemental scenery of a play, telling more about character and context than anything else on stage."

Ms. Rawls stumbled into her artistic calling 26 years ago when the costume designer for a school opera in which her 8-year-old son was performing unexpectedly quit. She volunteered to step in and has been following her passion ever since.

Her peers have acknowledged Ms. Rawls work by awarding her the Best First Day Costume Award from the International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival in Buxton, England, in 1996 and the Dean Goodman Choice Award for Outstanding Achievement in Theatre for Costume Design in 2003.

Madam Speaker, Linda Rawls is a true artist in every sense of the word and it is appropriate that we honor her today as the 2008 Sonoma Treasure Artist of the Year.

HONORING FRANK C. TROTTA

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Long Island's finest public servants, Frank C. Trotta, who recently left office after serving for a quarter century as mayor of the village of Bellport—a historic community, which, thanks in no small part to Mayor Trotta's leadership, has successfully preserved its character and identity.

On October 30, I was proud to join the Bellport Chamber of Commerce in honoring Mayor Trotta for his steadfast commitment and countless contributions to the people of Bellport. This tribute was celebrated at the Bellport Country Club, which could not have been a more appropriate location considering that it was losing \$35,000 a year when Mayor Trotta entered office.

Today, the golf course generates more than \$1 million a year in revenue for Long Island's economy which is one of the main reasons that village taxes are among the lowest on Long Island.

During his tenure, Mayor Trotta demonstrated a strong commitment to fiscal responsibility and low taxes while protecting vital government services. His legacy is clear: Today, Bellport is on solid financial footing and has been recognized by CNN and Money Magazine as one of the best places to live on the east coast and is 1 of the 10 "hottest" Zip Codes in New York State.

I have been privileged to know Frank Trotta for nearly 35 years, long before either of us entered public service. We attended graduate classes together in the summer of 1974 at Southampton College and I am proud to say that we have been friends ever since. I watched with great pride as Frank's career blossomed. As someone who was new to public service when I was elected to Congress in 2002, I learned a lot simply by watching and talking to Frank.

Although Frank and I do not belong to the same political party, we share a common philosophy, which is that you always put the needs of the community first. There must always be a place in public service for a man like Frank Trotta who understands that political partisanship has no place in village government and we should all treat one another with courtesy and civility.

For anyone who has ever walked with Frank during Bellport's Fourth of July parade, it is plain to see how much he loves his community and how much that community loves him. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to help honor my friend, Frank Trotta, for his years of service to the village of Bellport and our Nation. On behalf of New York's First Congressional District, I wish him continued success, happiness and good health in his future endeavors as a private citizen and one of Long Island's favorite sons.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION  
FOR MEMBERS OF THE SOLAR  
ENERGY ADVISORY COUNCIL

**HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the forward-thinking men and women of Southeastern Arizona who for the past two years have served as members of my Solar Energy Advisory Council.

Arizona is known throughout the world as a place of abundant sunshine. Harnessing the power of the sun and putting it to use as a source of energy has been among my top priorities as a member of the United States House of Representatives. Great strides have been over the past two years in advancing this goal, the most significant of which has been the extension of the investment tax credit.

Many individuals across our country played a role in this achievement. Among them are the twelve determined members of my Solar Energy Advisory Council. Each and every council member played a crucial role in helping expand the availability and use of solar energy in our nation.

The Members of my Solar Energy Advisory Council are:

Tom Alston, Roger Angel, Kendall Burt, Dennis Dickerson, Prabhu Dayal, Richard Elias, Steve Farley, Tedra Fox, Michael Gering, Britt Hanson, William Harris, Scotty Johnson, Katharine Kent, Leslie Liberti, Mayor Paul Loomis, Jacquie McNulty, Tom Peterson, Bruce Plenk, Luther Probst, Valerie Rauluk, Denise Richerson-Smith, David Rousseau, Joaquin Ruiz, Shirley Scott, Joe Simmons, Denise Smith, Mayor Bob Strain, Leslie Tolbert, Nina Trasoff, Karin Uhlich, Mayor Robert Walkup, John Waszczak, John Wesley Miller.

I commend them for their hard work and dedication and look forward to their ongoing advice and counsel as we continue to make solar energy more available to the citizens of my District, the state and the nation.

TRIBUTE TO THE KANSAS CITY,  
KANSAS, CHAMBER OF COM-  
MERCE'S CONGRESSIONAL  
FORUM

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Congressional Forum luncheon group sponsored by the Kansas City, Kansas, Area Chamber of Commerce. Forty years ago in 1968, this group was founded to be a link between the elected congressional representative and the business community served by the Third District of Kansas. It has continued to the present day, and shows no signs of slowing down any time soon.

At that time, Congressman Larry Winn represented the Third Congressional District of Kansas in the United States House of Representatives. Budgets for travel between Washington and Kansas were limited. Con-

gressman Winn and his chief of staff, Dick Bond, wanted to find a way for Congressman Winn to return more often to his home district. The Congressional Forum luncheon group was founded to help cover those travel costs, and to give its members a monthly report from their Member of Congress.

Even after Larry Winn retired, the group and its traditions have continued. For 40 years, the scheduled speaker at Congressional Forum has been the Member of Congress for the Third Congressional District, unless he or she was unable to attend. If that was the case, then the Member of Congress made arrangements for a substitute speaker.

Although the representation of the Third District has changed over the years, the Member's commitment to this unique group has not. Every Member of Congress elected since 1968 has agreed to attend and speak to this group on a regular basis.

Those Members of Congress include:

Congressman Larry Winn, who served in Congress from 1967 to 1985;

Congresswoman Jan Meyers, from 1985 to 1997;

Congressman Vince Snowbarger, from 1997 to 1999;

And me, Congressman Dennis Moore, from 1999 to the present.

For some time, the group actually held their meetings across the state line at the Golden Ox Restaurant in Kansas City, Missouri, because a portion of the parking lot of that venerable restaurant was actually in Kansas City, Kansas. At the present time, the group meets once again in the heart of downtown Kansas City, Kansas, at the Reardon Convention Center.

It is a testament to this group that an organization founded by Republican business leaders has continued even when a Democratic congressman like me was elected. I have found that this group gives me a great sounding board on the thoughts of my home district. While not every member of Congressional Forum supports me at the ballot box, I know they will express their views to me with candor and courtesy.

For most of its history my good friend, Dr. Fred Bosilevac presided over the Congressional Forum luncheons as its President. For most of us, Dr. Fred remains the heart and soul of the Congressional Forum luncheons. Now age 92, Dr. Fred is still an active and interested member of Congressional Forum, although Bill Eppenheimer has taken over the gavel (or rather the cowbell) as President since Dr. Fred's retirement in 2006.

It is a distinct honor for me to express my affection and high regard for this unique group. A copy of my remarks will be presented at the Congressional Forum's December meeting, which hopefully will include many former Members of Congress from the Third District, as well as Dr. Fred; Bill Eppenheimer; Cindy Cash, the current President of the Kansas City, Kansas, Area Chamber of Commerce; and many other important leaders to this group and our community.

Madam Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to share the story of the Congressional Forum with our colleagues.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS WOLFF

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, for nearly 6 decades Thomas Wolff built a legacy in Connecticut that included a prolific business career, leadership in academic and political communities, authorship of countless books and articles, and extensive philanthropic endeavors. His legacy has touched countless lives and will continue to inspire generations to come. While his passing brings great sadness to our community, reflecting on the memories of this extraordinary man brings solace to those in mourning.

Thomas was born in New York City in 1928. In 1949, he moved to Vernon, Connecticut, and married his high school sweetheart, Bette. Following service in the Korean war, Thomas attended the University of Connecticut and graduated cum laude with a degree in economics. Shortly after, he would translate these studies and an uncanny business sense into a lifelong, successful business career.

In the late 1950s, he launched Wolf-Zachin and Associates, a successful insurance firm that has remained a fixture in Connecticut's business community. The firm, now called the Wolff Group, is currently headed by his three children, Gary and Greg Wolff and Debi Davis, as well as his grandson, Keith Wolff. In 1969, Thomas launched Vernon Publishing Services, Inc., a publishing company that created training manuals and presentation binders for professionals in the insurance industry.

His work in the insurance industry would define him as one of the most respected and knowledgeable leaders in the field. Highlights of his career include president of the Connecticut Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, president of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advdors, chairman of the board of Life Insurance Underwriters Training Council, and recipient of the International Insurance Society Gold Medal for Excellence.

Additionally, Thomas served on the Vernon Board of Education, UConn's University Foundation Board, and was a member of Vernon's Town Council. He also brought the Big Brothers and the YMCA to Vernon, was the president of the Rockville Rotary Club, and endowed countless UConn programs and campus amenities.

Beyond these numerous accolades, contributions, and achievements, Thomas was a devoted family man and friend to many in our community. His wife, Bette, whom he married in 1949, was his closest confidant for nearly 6 decades. The outpouring of love and support from his wife, children, grandchildren, and extended family reflects the strong bond that they shared.

Thomas lived an extraordinary life, filled with personal and professional vigor and he will be greatly missed. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in honoring his life and offering condolences to his family.

RECOGNIZING EAST MT. ZION  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ON  
ITS 180TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of East Mt. Zion United Methodist Church on its 180th Anniversary.

For the past 180 years, East Mt. Zion has continued to inspire people throughout the Northwest Florida area. The church has withstood the societal, geographical, and archeological changes that have occurred over its long history, thus authorizing its member's constant faith and enduring dedication.

Opening amidst humble beginnings, East Mt. Zion was initially a rudimentary structure built out of logs. After fire destroyed the building, its members rebuilt the church with whatever materials were available. Logs from a nearby forest were used for the walls and slabs from a local sawmill were made into the pews. In the early twentieth century a more modern church was constructed. Services were held in that location until 1956, when the present church began construction. Since then, the congregation has continued to grow exponentially as worshippers throughout the Northwest Florida area travel to East Mt. Zion.

Over the years, East Mt. Zion has served as a great source of inspiration for its members, who have always helped participate in the betterment of the church. Bake sales, quilt sales, and various other fundraisers were held by the members to raise costs for the various construction projects that the church has held over the years. Their enduring dedication serves as testimony to the excellence of East Mt. Zion and this milestone anniversary is evidence of the greatness the church has achieved.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize East Mt. Zion on this outstanding achievement.

TRIBUTE TO MELVIN MCCREE

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Melvin Phillip McCree. Melvin passed away on November 12th following a long illness and a tribute will be held tomorrow in remembrance of his life and work.

After graduating from Flint Northern High School, where he was the Student Council President, Melvin went on to graduate from Mott Community College. He continued his studies at Western Michigan University and the University of Michigan-Flint. In 1981 he was elected to the Flint City Council for the Fifth Ward. During his service on the Council, he was elected to a record-setting 5 consecutive terms as Council President.

Appointed to the position of Register of Deeds in 1990, Melvin was re-elected for 4 more terms. During the 18 years he served as

Register of Deeds, Melvin sought to bring the office into the 21st century. He was diligent in implementing new technologies to provide better service to the public. Melvin developed an office website, a system to scan and store all documents digitally, and the ability to provide documents to the public in a variety of media. Through his foresight, the Genesee County Register of Deeds office is a model for other county offices to image and store records.

Melvin McCree was an enthusiastic, conscientious public servant, an insightful innovator, and a thoughtful humanitarian. I knew Melvin since he was a child and I watched him grow and develop into a good man, and a kind friend. I valued his counsel, his sense of humor, and his community spirit.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and honor Melvin Phillip McCree. The people of Genesee County have lost a dedicated public official and I mourn his passing.

IN CELEBRATION OF DENIS  
O'SULLIVAN'S 75TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 75th birthday of Mr. Denis O'Sullivan, a wonderful brother-in-law, husband, and father. He is married to Elizabeth O'Sullivan, and has made his home in Moun-tain Lakes, New Jersey for the past 35 years.

Denis was born December 2, 1933 in New York City at Lennox Hill Hospital. He was educated in New York State Schools and was founder-owner of O'Sullivan Menu Publishing. His company started small, with a staff of less than 10, and grew to employ over 200 people in the United States and England.

O'Sullivan Menu Publishing had a groundbreaking impact on the airline industry by providing the first comprehensive service for the creation and production of printed menus. These international menus were translated into 84 different languages.

Since retirement in early 2008, Denis has been intently working for charitable and philanthropic causes. He currently serves on three individual boards in various capacities, including President. For many years he supported the fundraising activities of St. Clare's hospital in Denville, New Jersey. He is currently Vice-Chairman of the Board of the Visiting Nurse Association of Northern New Jersey, and maintains special interest in their Alzheimer's disease support facility.

Denis is a loving and generous father of three as well as a step-father of three. His unstinting support of education for all of these children has produced six college educations and three post-graduate degrees. Denis' six grandchildren are an enduring source of love, pride, and pleasure in his life.

I thank Denis for the countless lives that he has touched through his many accomplishments. It is for these reasons that I join Denis O'Sullivan's family and friends in wishing him a blessed 75th birthday and continued health and happiness in the years to come.

ROBERT CRIBBS

**HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, on October 30, 2008, Robert Cribbs passed away in the presence of his loving family. Bob was a true innovator who successfully developed five high technology companies. He was also deeply committed to his personal interests, most notably in the area of Egyptian culture. Bob was recognized throughout his life for his great work, and his presence as an entrepreneur, professor, scientist, father, husband and friend will be sorely missed.

Bob came to California after graduating from the Carnegie Institute of Technology with a degree in physics. He arrived with his wife, Donna, and two infant boys, Mark and Bob, to work at Aerojet General Corporation. Soon after, Bob and Donna's daughter, Sherry, was born. In 1967, Bob left Aerojet to form Electra-Physics Laboratories (EPL), located in Folsom. After General Electric became interested in EPL and purchased the rights to work with part of the company, the remaining division was named Folsom Research Inc. (FRI) and moved to Rancho Cordova. FRI was bought by Barco, and soon after Bob formed SoniPulse, Inc., in El Dorado Hills. Bob also co-founded a medical company, LipoSonix, Inc.

Bob was an expert in ultrasound technology. He used this knowledge not only to further important medical research, but also for discovery as he explored the pyramids in the Valley of the Kings in search of the burial chamber of pharaoh Seti using ultrasound and RF equipment to locate the tomb. Bob's keen interest in Egyptian music also led him to prove that Pythagoras actually stole the musical scale from the Egyptians.

Bob's life was full of accomplishments, and those of us who were fortunate enough to know him will miss him dearly. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife of 51 years, Donna; his children Bob, Mark and Sherry; his grandchildren Tensor Chen, Weijing Chen, Jason, Sommer, Royce, Anneleise and Gretchen; and his great-grandchild Adam.

HONORING MANCINI'S CHAR  
HOUSE ON THE OCCASION OF ITS  
60TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise to pay tribute to the Mancini family and all employees of Mancini's Char House and Lounge in Saint Paul in honor of their 60th anniversary year. Mancini's restaurant has earned a legendary reputation for hospitality, serving a gathering place for generations of Saint Paul families, friends, as well as quite a few local and national sports stars and celebrities. Anybody who comes to Mancini's looks forward to having a great meal and a special occasion.

It all began with Nick Mancini, who opened his first small tavern on Saint Paul's West 7th

Street in 1948, with strong support from his family—especially his mother's famous spaghetti. It was not long until Nick met his wife Maryann, who was with him every step of the way, until he passed away in 2007.

Throughout his entire life, Nick's generous and friendly presence personified Saint Paul hospitality. Nick's greatest pleasure was greeting his customers and making them feel at home. Nick also delighted in serenading diners with his beautiful accordian music. Nick's sons Pat and John now own the restaurant, continuing the tradition of hospitality with the help of the whole family, including their mother, children and Nick's sister Bertha. Their many loyal employees feel like they are part of the family.

Hospitality was the cornerstone of Nick's business success, growing through the years from a tiny bar to a 600-seat steakhouse. Mancini's has been a crossroads of who's who in sports, Hollywood and politics. Nick's son John estimates that 300 photographs of notable patrons line the walls of the lounge. Mancini's 1986 major expansion even attracted the attention of singer Tony Bennett, who lent his voice and star power to the celebration.

Despite Mancini's great success, the family restaurant has remained focused on its neighborhood roots. Among their most loyal customers are the families who grew up with Nick and his family. Mancini's Sports Hall of Fame pays tribute to nearly 150 Saint Paul athletes who are leaders in teaching, coaching or supporting amateur or professional athletics in Saint Paul.

Hospitality continues to be the biggest draw at Mancini's—but their fantastic steaks don't hurt either. In recent years, their famous 12-ounce Mancini's sirloins have been enjoyed worldwide. Through an ambitious effort called "Serving Our Troops," Mancini's has partnered with several other family-owned Saint Paul restaurants, other local businesses and hundreds of volunteers to stage several major picnics for Minnesota National Guard troops and their families. Since 2004, they have donated their time and thousands of steaks to bring Saint Paul hospitality to troops and their families in Mississippi, Oklahoma, Kosovo and Iraq. "Serving Our Troops" truly speaks to the community spirit and hospitality epitomized by the Mancini family. Many people talk about supporting our military families, but the Mancini family has gone above and beyond the call of duty in sharing Saint Paul hospitality.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the Mancini family and all employees of Mancini's Char House and Lounge on the first 60 years of a remarkable Saint Paul institution. We look forward to many more.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION  
FOR MEMBERS OF THE VET-  
ERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL

**HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute today to the men and women of Southeastern Arizona who for the past two years have served as members of my Veterans Advisory Council.

These former members of our Armed Forces live throughout my 8th Congressional District, they come from all walks of life and they represent every branch of military service and every military conflict from World War II to the present time.

They are a very diverse and multi-talented group and yet they all have one important thing in common. They all willingly contributed their time, experience and knowledge as advisors to me on issues concerning veterans.

Their wise counsel and insights have been invaluable to me. By serving on my Veterans Advisory Council, they have continued to serve their country and the men in women who have put on the uniform. We owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude.

The Members of my Veterans Advisory Council are: Stan Abrams, Sergio Arellano, Bob Berry, John Cronin, Jim Ellars, Johnny Fajardo, Mary Figura, Terrie Gent, Dale Halstead, Frank Hartline, Amy Hartline, Thomas Heaney, Mike Klier, Mel Kloor, Col. Joey Strickland, Pepe Mendoza, Tommy Mendoza, Able Moreno, Pam Murphy, Norma Navarre, Chuck Larry Ohara, Bob Parson, Dan Ross, DuWayne Smith, John Soltero Sr., Mary Pat Sullivan, Christian Vasquez, Bob Walton, Barbara Williams, Don Williams, and Bob Winchester.

I am grateful to them for their advice and their advocacy on behalf of our veterans and I look forward to their continued assistance in the next two years.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican earmark guidance, I am submitting the following project that was included in H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2009:

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Project Name: Lafayette Escadrille Memorial.

Account: American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Air Force.

Address of Requesting Entity: HQ USAF/CC, 1670 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, DC 20330.

Description of Request: Provide \$500,000.00 to conduct an updated engineering study of the Lafayette Escadrille Memorial to determine the long term recurring costs to preserve and maintain the memorial at ABMC standards.

HONORING CESILIA LOMELI-  
PEREZ, FNP, MPH

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cesilia "CeCe" Lomeli-

Perez upon being awarded with the "Community Health Champions Award" at the 2008 West Fresno Health Care Coalition's 4th annual "This is Your Life of Service" dinner and award ceremony. This year the ceremony will be held at the Radisson Hotel Conference Center in Fresno, California on Friday, October 24th.

CeCe Lomeli-Perez grew up in Patterson, California. She attended Patterson High School and Modesto Junior College where she received her Associate's of Science and Registered Nurse degrees. She moved to Fresno, California to further her education and earned her Bachelors of Science degree in nursing (BSN) from California State University, Fresno. After completing her Bachelors degree she started working at Valley Children's Hospital in the neo-natal intensive care unit. She worked there for five years and decided to continue her education. She returned to California State University, Fresno to earn her Masters in nursing with a specialty in family practice, a Masters in public health and is currently working on her Ph.D. in public health.

Mrs. Lomeli-Perez is a nurse practitioner for the Holy Cross Clinic in Fresno, a community outreach clinic of Saint Agnes Medical Center located within the Poverello House. The clinic provides free medical and dental services to the poor and homeless; the only eligibility requirement is that patients cannot have medical insurance. Throughout her career she has run health fairs, health screenings for schools, eyeglass programs and taught classes on diabetes and prenatal care. She has also served as Chair of the Adult Task Force to help secure funding for mental health services for Fresno County. She is very involved in her church, the Poverello House, the Rescue Mission, the Salvation Army and the Youth Orchestra of Fresno. She has organized the "Mujeres de Valor," a group of women of color who walk annually in the Komen Foundation's Walk for the Cure. In 2005 she received a "Top 10 Business and Professional Women of the Year" award from the Marjaree Mason Center, and the University of California, San Francisco Fresno Latino Center Award for medical education and research. She has also received the annual Leadership Award in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month. In 2008 she was a presenter at the annual Veritas Forum at California State University, Fresno. Mrs. Lomeli-Perez has been a champion in reaching out to those who are poor, homeless and uninsured. She has served the community for over fifteen years.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Cesilia "CeCe" Lomeli-Perez upon being awarded with "Community Health Champions Award". I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Lomeli-Perez many years of continued success.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
MICHAEL PAULK FOR 25 YEARS  
OF SERVICE IN THE U.S. MARINE  
CORPS

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a fellow Georgian, LTC Michael

Paulk. Lieutenant Colonel Paulk is retiring after more than 25 years of service in the United States Marine Corps. He was raised in Stone Mountain, Georgia, where he graduated from Tucker High School in 1982 before attending the University of West Georgia.

Lieutenant Colonel Paulk has served in a variety of assignments throughout his distinguished career beginning at Parris Island, South Carolina, where he attended basic training in 1983. He then went to his military occupation school, MOS, at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, California, where he was one of the top candidates at the school, earning the field radio operator MOS.

Private First Class Paulk was then assigned to the 4th Forward Area Air Defense Battery, Detachment Alpha, Marietta, Georgia as a field radio operator with 2nd Squad, 1st Platoon, Alpha Company. In 1986, Corporal Paulk was selected to participate in the Platoon Leaders Class and attended Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia. He graduated from the University of West Georgia in Carrollton, Georgia in April 1987, with a bachelor of arts degree in history, and then received a commission as a Marine Corps second lieutenant.

From April through November 1987, Lieutenant Colonel Paulk attended the Basic School, graduating in the top third of his class. Upon completion of The Basic School he attended Aviation Maintenance Officer's School in Pensacola, Florida.

From May 1988 through June 1999, Lieutenant Colonel Paulk served with Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533, in Cherry Point, North Carolina, deploying to Norway, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, Guam, and Wake Island. He also served in Marine Aircraft Group 42, in Marietta, Georgia, deploying with Marine Observation Squadron 4 and Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 773 to a multitude of counter-narcotic missions throughout the United States and the Caribbean. Lastly, during this time he also served in the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, serving as the rotary wing class desk officer and as the executive officer for Headquarters Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Reserve in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In June 2000, Lieutenant Colonel Paulk graduated from the U.S. Naval War College with a master of arts, National Security and Strategic Studies, degree and transferred to U.S. Marine Corps Forces Atlantic in Norfolk, Virginia. He served in the Operations and Plans Division overseeing the deployment of marines to Central and South America, as well as to the Caribbean.

From April 2002 until May 2008, Lieutenant Colonel Paulk served on recruiting duty in Marietta, Georgia and Quantico, Virginia. During this tour he deployed to Fallujah, Iraq, participating in Operation Al Fajr and supporting Iraq's first free elections. He earned the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in connection with combat operations while serving as the plans officer and operations officer for the 4th Civil Affairs Group.

Lieutenant Colonel Paulk served as a congressional liaison officer with the Office of Legislative Affairs, Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, DC, during his last 8 months of service. In his position, Lieutenant Colonel Paulk carried the Corps' message to these hallowed halls, providing Members of

this body the information necessary to determine how best to equip, maintain, and support the United States Marine Corps.

Lieutenant Colonel Paulk has made a lasting contribution to the capability of today's Marine Corps' and the future shape of tomorrow's Corps. His superior performance of duties highlights the culmination of more than 25 years of honorable and dedicated Marine Corps service. My home State of Georgia and our country are proud of Lieutenant Colonel Paulk's exemplary professional competence, sound judgment, and total dedication to duty. He has reflected great credit upon himself and has always upheld the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps. I wish Michael, his wife, April, and their daughters, Mallory and Maggie, all the best in their future endeavors as they return to life together in Georgia.

ROBERT C. FISHER

### HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a minute and pay tribute to an old friend and former staffer, Robert C. Faber. Bob is a man of strong ideals and integrity.

I first met Bob when we were in our first year of law school at McGeorge Law School in California. Our friendship began then and has been strong ever since. After law school, Bob and I went our separate ways. Bob worked first at the State Lands Department and then had a private law practice. I went to work in the California State Senate in Sacramento. Ten years later I was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, and when I became Chairman of the Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power, I encouraged Bob to become the staff director of the committee. He graciously accepted the position, and he and his lovely wife, Joyce, moved to the Washington area.

Bob was born in Kansas City, Missouri and grew up in Oregon, Michigan, Indiana and California. He attended high school in La Sierra, California. While in high school, Bob showed his talent of teaching in his early years. He would often help tutor his fellow students at his home, and eventually the group got so large that the class asked their teacher if Bob could teach the class, since he was able to better relate to his peers. The teacher allowed Bob to teach the class for about 2 weeks under his supervision.

After high school, Bob attended Andrews University in Southwestern Michigan where he majored in journalism. He earned his undergraduate degree in 3 years after successfully testing out of 1 year of classes. While at Andrews, he met Joyce in the communications department, and the two have been married for 35 years now. They have one son, Robert Jr., who is 14 years old.

Bob has the gift of being able to teach people in both personal and professional situations. When he was living in California, Bob taught Sunday school at his local church and has been involved with it ever since. He currently teaches the adult group at his local church in Leesburg, Virginia and has recently started writing about Jesus and the New Testament.

I am very grateful for Bob's friendship, and I look forward to the many years ahead we have as friends. I wish him and his Family much happiness and success.

### HONORING ST. DOMINIC'S PARISH IN BREESE, ILLINOIS

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Dominic's Parish in Breese, Illinois. For 150 years, St. Dominic's has represented the spread of Catholicism in rural America and has also acted as one of its community's cornerstones. The first church building was used from 1858 to 1868 and measured 40 feet by 60 feet. In 1858 Father August Reineke was called to act as the first pastor of St. Dominic's and served until 1909. A larger church was needed due to the growing number of settlers in the area. The parishioners donated the land as well as the stone and limestone for construction of the present church still in use today.

The original parish began with 70 Catholic families and today has grown to 867 families. One of St. Dominic's largest accomplishments was the establishment of Mater Dei High School. The men and women of St. Dominic's help by reaching out to their community and world with the parish's volunteer efforts. St. Monica's Altar Sodality and St. Joseph's Men's Sodality donate money to the parish's Vacation Bible School, food pantry and youth ministry. The ladies of the parish are currently sponsoring a child in Guatemala, while the men have donated over \$20,000 to the new multi-purpose room.

I join with my fellow Representatives to congratulate St. Dominic's on 150 years of faith and service.

### CONGRATULATING THE HONORABLE HELEN MARSHALL ON RECEIVING THE "GREEN LEADERSHIP AWARD"

### HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Queens Borough President Helen Marshall for receiving the prestigious "Green Leadership Award" from the Alley Pond Environmental Center (APEC) on November 13th, 2008. APEC, located in Douglaston, Queens, is a superb educational center committed to environmental understanding and awareness. Helen's dedication and support of environmental education, public parks and responsible zoning and land-use in Queens is a great example of how we can promote "green living" around the nation through local political leadership.

Thanks to Helen's aggressive efforts, over \$60 million has been allocated to maintain, improve and expand the parks and playgrounds of Queens. Recently, Helen was instrumental in procuring resources to help begin construction of APEC's new environmental educational

facility. APEC had a staggering 40,000 New York City area school students visit Alley Pond last year. During APEC-run programs, students of pre-school, elementary school, middle and high school ages learn about the environment and conservation policy. APEC also runs wonderful Teacher Workshops to train teachers in methods to enrich and improve their natural sciences curriculum when they return to the classroom. Demand for APEC's educational programs is so high that over 8,000 students had to be placed on a waiting list to visit Alley Pond.

Borough President Marshall, recognizing APEC's need for space, led the way for the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation to allocate resources for APEC's future environmental educational facility. Utilizing the \$1 million in funds that Helen helped to get, APEC will soon start construction of a new green facility that will make student waiting lists for APEC's programs a thing of the past. For Helen, this kind of action is nothing new. From her time as a teacher, to her service as a member of the New York State Assembly and the New York City Council, to being the Queens Borough President; she has been the most tireless advocate for children's educational and environmental resources. From libraries, to remedial programs, to playgrounds and parks, no one has done more to make certain that the children of Queens receive the help they need for the best education possible.

Madam Speaker, I highly commend Borough President Marshall for her extraordinary dedication to environmental education and for receiving the "Green Leadership Award" from the Alley Pond Environmental Center. Helen embodies the spirit of the award, having devoted herself to ensuring that children experience the world's natural beauty in America's greatest city. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to please join me in congratulating Helen Marshall as a recipient of this well-deserved honor.

TRIBUTE TO RECOGNIZE MR.  
NORRIS O. CHANDLER

**HON. Wm. LACY CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Norris O. Chandler, former WWI and WWII veteran who has demonstrated an unyielding commitment to the service of others through 60 years of civilian service.

Chandler enlisted in United States Army at Jefferson Barracks and was soon assigned to a special amphibious engineering unit activated for World War II—the 149th Engineer Combat Battalion. As a Demolition Specialist for the 149th, he joined the invasion of France on Omaha Beach in 1944.

The 149th was responsible for destroying enemy bridges, probing and destroying mines and other obstacles, both on land and underwater, and for building Bailey Bridges.

Following World War II, Mr. Chandler returned to Fort Polk, Louisiana to await discharge. His unit was deactivated in December of 1945 and he became part of the newly activated Organized Reserve Corps (Individual Stand-By) until 1951.

In 1951, Mr. Chandler entered the Civilian Service with the Missouri Military District (MMD), 11th Army Corps, St. Louis, and Missouri as a warehouseman. During this time the MMD was renamed the U.S. Army Support Center. Mr. Chandler continued his services at the center, holding various positions including stock control clerk, general supply clerk, and Publications Supply officer among other things before the agency moved to Fort Sheridan, Ill.

Mr. Chandler opposed relocating to Fort Sheridan and joined the staff at the U.S. Army Adjutant General Publications Center as a packer, for over 40 years, turning down General Schedule (GS) opportunities in favor of his Wage Grade (WG) packer position.

Chandler's WWII unit received four campaign ribbons: Normandy (with bronze arrowhead), Northern France, Rhineland, and Central Europe. Mr. Chandler's civilian awards include the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service in September 1996. In addition, he currently has over 3300 hours of sick leave and usually forfeits almost all of his annual leave, except when he generously donates to other employees through the leave donation program.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. Chandler, an American hero, for 60 years as a civil servant and for his noble sacrifice and courage to the United States Armed Services. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Norris O. Chandler for his service and commitment to put country first.

IN RECOGNITION OF WARNER  
GLENN'S DEDICATION TO THE  
SOUTHWEST

**HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to acknowledge the extraordinary accomplishments of Mr. Warner Glenn, a dedicated steward of our fragile lands and a champion for endangered species of the Southwest.

Mr. Glenn is a rancher who lives near Douglas, Arizona, a small city on the United States-Mexico border that traces its roots back to the early 20th century. The desert lands surrounding Douglas are an environmental treasure. They are abundant in wildlife. These beautiful areas face serious threats and many citizens in my district have taken action to address these issues. Warner Glenn is a leader in this movement.

Warner and his family are part of the Malpai Borderlands Group, ranchers and conservationists who are dedicated to preserving the open spaces that are in danger of disappearing.

He was recently named by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as a "Regional Recovery Champion" for his tireless efforts in protecting the endangered jaguar. Mr. Glenn's photographs of jaguars were the first taken of the animal in the United States.

Mr. Glenn's photographs were more than mere documentation of the jaguar. In honoring Mr. Glenn, Benjamin Tuggle, the director of the Fish and Wildlife's Southwestern Region, noted that Mr. Glenn's "stunning photographs, along with his written and oral accounts, have

ignited a passion for jaguars and borderlands conservation."

He took his photographs in 1996 and 2006. Since then, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has granted the jaguar protection under the Endangered Species Act. The agency also funds monitoring efforts in Arizona and has contributed to local and international programs to help conserve the jaguar and aid in the species' recovery.

Mr. Glenn embodies the true spirit of the Southwest. Born and raised in the fabled Chiricahua Mountains, he makes his living from the land as a rancher, guide and outfitter for hunters. When he is in the wild, he typically carries a .357 Magnum on his belt. Yet as he has said that he "never felt danger" when he encountered the jaguars! His only thought as he first saw the jaguar that day was how can we protect this beautiful animal and maintain its ability to roam the deserts and mountains?

Not all of us have Mr. Glenn's vision but all of us can learn valuable lessons from him with regard to the jaguar. As he put it, "When you see one of those in the wild, you can't help but admire and respect those cats, and they deserve it."

I commend and thank Warner Glenn for all he has done to preserve the land and the wildlife that lives on it.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 2638.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 2638.

Project: Eglin Air Force Base Range Operations Center (ROCC) Initiative.

Account: RDT&E, Air Force.

Earmark Received: \$800,000.

Justification for use of taxpayer funding: Considering the effects of BRAC, emerging Joint Test and Training missions, and increased operations tempo, this initiative will address the current Eglin AFB shortfalls in infrastructure to provide safe, efficient, effective control of range resources. Eglin AFB initiated a phased approach (Super ROCC) to address these shortfalls, and this project will initiate the action by addressing movement and control of people and equipment and relevant security issues. This initiative will help the Air Force increase the operations tempo at the Eglin Range by addressing the movement and control of people and equipment as well as relevant security issues. Through this initiative, the Air Force will greatly improve its ability to track all players on the Eglin Range thereby significantly increase its efficiency in an increased ops tempo environment. Driven by BRAC and safety imperatives, this further provides for more effective control which will better optimize range scheduling and increase flexibility in meeting test and training missions. Simply by knowing the locations of all entities

on the range, more flexibility in reassigning missions to ground and air space previously underutilized will be achieved.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 2638.

Project: FPS-16 Radar Mobilization Upgrade.

Account: RDT&E, Air Force.

Earmark Received: \$2,800,000.

Justification for use of taxpayer funding: This enhanced, mobile radar tracking capability will provide AAC the flexibility required to support testing of current and emerging weapon systems and platforms. This new capability will attract test programs to the AAC test range that cannot presently be supported, provide expanded instrumentation coverage for the range, reduce encroachment concerns, and provide more comprehensive coverage and support to all test programs. This added instrumentation asset will result in more cost effective and timely test support for the U.S. Air Force and ultimately in fielding systems for the war fighter in a more timely manner.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 2638.

Project: Moving Target Strike.

Account: RDT&E, Air Force.

Earmark Received: \$2,000,000.

Justification for use of taxpayer funding: The ability to extend the capability of GPS guided weapons to moving targets will significantly enhance the effectiveness of weapons platforms that use GPS guided systems. The enemy knows that currently if he keeps moving he is safe from many of our current weapon systems. The ability to strike movers from a variety of platforms with GPS guided weapons will greatly reduce the enemy's ability to avoid our weapons.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 2638.

Project: Gulf Range Mobile Instrumentation Capability.

Account: RDT&E, Defense-Wide.

Earmark Received: \$800,000.

Justification for use of taxpayer funding: By developing a GR-MIC we will be able to integrate the simultaneous employment of many advanced weapons/platforms into a single test or exercise/training events. This effort connects test and evaluation ranges that use many communication and data requirements to interact between geographically separated ranges, making valuable information available to everyone who requires it. The result is ranges becoming interconnected and consequently creating a greater training experience.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 2638.

Project: Joint Gulf Range Complex Upgrade.

Account: RDT&E, Defense-Wide.

Earmark Received: \$1,200,000.

Justification for use of taxpayer funding: The upgrade will result in improved and more accurate testing which will improve training effectiveness and mission readiness.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 2638.

Project: Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) for AFSOC AC/MC 130 aircraft.

Account: RDT&E, Air Force.

Earmark Received: \$4,400,000.

Justification for use of taxpayer funding: The funding will be used to provide aircraft protection from infrared and small arms threats.

HONORING NAPA VALLEY HOSPICE AND ADULT DAY SERVICES OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Napa Valley Hospice and Adult Day Services on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of their Adult Day Services program. The Adult Day Services program has done visionary work serving the unique needs of the elderly, younger adults with mental and physical impairments, and those suffering from Alzheimer's and other dementias.

In 1979, Hospice of Napa Valley opened as a program of St. Helena Hospital. They became an independent non-profit in 1997, and opened their acclaimed Adult Day Services program in 1998. ADS is the only program of its kind in Napa County and is one of 54 official Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Centers in California.

Since its inception 10 years ago, the Adult Day Services program has served more than 1,000 people. Last year alone, they served 80 people with Alzheimer's or other dementia, gave family training to 129 people, provided 165 hours of support groups, 200 hours of counseling for 143 people, 30 hours of community education for 327 people, and 166 consultations for 133 people.

These incredible achievements would not be possible without their dedicated staff, led by Executive Director Catherine Poliak and ADS Program Coordinator Celine Regalia. Catherine and Celine lead a team that is second to none in their creativity and enthusiasm.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we thank everyone at Napa Valley Hospice and Adult Day Services for the remarkable work they have done for our community. Through their hard work and generous contributions this program has thrived for the past 10 years, and I know that we will see much more progress in the years to come.

HONORING ST. MARY'S PARISH IN TRENTON, ILLINOIS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Mary's Parish in Trenton, Illinois. St. Mary's has represented Catholicism for 150 years in the community of Trenton.

During the 1820s and '30s the local Catholics of Trenton gathered at the railroad station once a year to take the train to St. Louis to fulfill their Easter duty. In 1858 Fr. Peter Peters began holding mass with a small group of Catholic families in Trenton. The first church was built in 1864. Yet, it was not until 1868

that St. Mary's Parish of Trenton had its first permanent pastor, Fr. Anthony Brefeld. Just two years after Fr. Brefeld took the position as pastor, St. Mary's built a small school where the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ came to teach. By 1950 it was evident that a larger church was needed. In 1953 the new church was completed and by 1955, about 1,500 parishioners called St. Mary's home.

To help celebrate the 150th anniversary, the St. Mary's family placed a "time capsule" into the ground at the parish. The capsule contains materials related to the parish celebration. The time capsule will be opened in 2058, 50 years from now.

I join with my fellow Representatives to congratulate St. Mary's on 150 years of faith and service.

JIM MARTINO

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, Jim Martino was born in 1929 in eastern Pennsylvania. He graduated from Lafayette College and soon after married his lovely wife, Nancy, and joined the army. Jim served in Korea from 1951 to 1953, which was an experience that had a profound effect on his life. In 2000, the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, Jim searched for his comrades and organized reunions to bring together the men he served with and to share their memories and experiences. Their wives also enjoyed the experience, and the group developed into a close family.

After returning from Korea, Jim began a successful career in direct mail marketing. Beginning in Valley Forge, PA, Jim's achievements took him to Dayton, OH, southern California, and eventually Cameron Park, CA. Jim was an accomplished private pilot who flew for business and pleasure, making many trips with his wife across the country between their homes. Jim was also an avid participant in government and politics, supporting candidates he believed in and authoring numerous "Letters to the Editor" to express his views.

On August 7, 2008, Jim passed away. He is now buried in the Sacramento Valley Veterans National Cemetery, where he is recognized as a "Defender of Freedom." I was honored to have been one of Jim's many friends. My thoughts and prayers are with Jim's wife, Nancy, their three children and four grandchildren.

EMERGENCY ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, our country is facing an economic crisis and America's families are living with it everyday. If proof is needed, today, the Labor Department released new employment statistics revealing that 159,000 American jobs

were lost in September. So far this year more than 750,000 American jobs have been lost. In September alone, more than 1.5 million Americans are working part-time jobs because they cannot find full-time work. The wages of American workers are stalled and with inflation at 5 percent it means most working Americans have effectively taken a pay cut. These are hard times for working families.

This report translates into real pain not just for Main Street, but for every family that sits around the kitchen table deciding how to make ends meet. We are seeing jobs at risk, credit frozen, business activity stalled, and the pensions and college funds of hard working Americans at risk. This is an economic crisis and the time for Congress to act is now.

On September 29th, the House failed to pass the economic rescue package. I voted for that bill and I have no regrets. As a result of the failure of that bill to pass, the stock market went into an immediate free-fall resulting in a \$1.2 trillion loss of value. That translated into seniors losing their retirement, workers losing their jobs, and confidence being lost in the American economic system which exacerbates the downward economic spiral.

What Congress is once again attempting to do today is pass an emergency package that will provide \$700 billion to the Treasury Department to buy mortgage-backed securities, sometimes referred to as "toxic paper," that is strangling the credit market for companies, small business, and families. This credit crisis is real and we are seeing it manifest itself in the inability of consumers with good credit to get auto loans, banks refusing to lend to banks, and municipalities unable to access financing for needed projects like roads, hospitals and water treatment plants. The entire credit system is frozen and it will require action by Congress to salvage our economy after years excess, abuse, and corruption by Wall Street.

The American people, seeing this rescue package with a \$700 billion price tag, should be angry. I am angry. My office has received thousands of calls from constituents who are furious, but anger should not be an excuse for inaction. Many of these calls, even the majority, have warned me of the evils of what they call a "socialist intervention." Many advocated that a better solution would be to keep government out of the crisis and let the market solve its own problem even if the outcome is a complete economic meltdown. In my estimation, such an argument is both irrational and irresponsible.

The bill before the House today is a critical first step towards stabilizing the economy and preventing financial disaster for millions small businesses, families and seniors. I support this rescue package because Democrats, Republicans, and the Secretary of the Treasury, along with the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, came together and worked tirelessly, putting politics aside, and put the people's needs first in addressing this serious crisis.

This bill provides \$700 billion to buy mortgage-backed securities. These are assets with value bundled with distressed assets that will be purchased by the government so they can be taken off the books of financial institutions, restoring confidence and trust in the institutions, and allowing for liquidity to return to the credit market. This is not an ideal solution, but it is not a giveaway either. This \$700 billion is a Federal investment that will buy assets that

possess value and many experts say taxpayers could break even or earn a profit in the end. In the meantime serious oversight, accountability, and government regulations have been added to protect the taxpayer. There is strong language to help homeowners in financial distress to prevent home foreclosure which again makes this bill very important and relevant to American families in trouble. Also, I am very pleased that prohibitions on golden parachutes for executives from companies benefiting from this legislation have been put in place.

Finally, this legislation is not the end of Congress's efforts to address the causes of this crisis, only the beginning. Next week I will participate in Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearings to explore the root causes of this economic disaster. Where there is identifiable malfeasance recommendations for criminal investigation and prosecution should be made to the Justice Department. Wall Street's high flyers whose excesses and corruption violated the law must be held accountable.

While this package is not perfect, it is Congress's best effort to address this economic crisis. A new provision in this bill that I support is a temporary increase for insured deposits under the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation from \$100,000 to \$250,000. This increase in deposit insurance is intended to allow for additional liquidity in lending and restore confidence for depositors that their money is safe.

There are other aspects of this bill that were added by the U.S. Senate which I strongly object to because they are giveaways to special interests. Tax breaks for special interests like NASCAR, the rum industry, and the manufacturers of children's arrows is an egregious abuse of the legislative process to pass out favors. These giveaways result in a \$107 billion reduction in revenues to the Federal Government meaning more deficit spending.

My preference would have been to strip these provisions from the bill. These pork barrel provisions, if absolutely necessary, should have been offset and paid for to eliminate deficit spending. The Senate's irresponsible inclusion of these earmark tax giveaways is an example of how the other body is out of touch with the needs of ordinary Americans.

This week, concluding with today's vote, the Congress—Democrats and Republicans—will take action not seen since the Great Depression to intervene to restore confidence in the markets. If successful the result will be to avoid dramatic and damaging pain for America's families of every income level and geographic location. Doing nothing to address this emergency situation would be a decision to condemn the U.S. economy and the American people to years of stagnation and hard times.

Following the passage of this bill and its signing into law, there must commence a new era of government responsibility, oversight, accountability, and, when necessary, regulation of the financial markets. The Reagan era of deregulation for markets and labeling government as the problem is over. We have seen how this philosophy has mutated into the grotesque excesses of Wall Street's elite and their massive concentration of wealth. It has infected our economy with a financial pathogen that is now destroying small businesses as well as the lives of families and the communities they live in.

The next Congress—the 111th Congress—will have a duty to institute unprecedented and tireless oversight of not only this rescue effort, but all the excess in the market place, from Wall Street to the pharmaceutical industry, and beyond. The Bush administration's abdication of its duty to regulate and its endless campaigns of misinformation on innumerable issues has eroded the trust American's once had in their Federal leaders. From the falsehoods that led this Nation to war in Iraq to the current corruption scandal in the Justice Department, this White House has destroyed the American people's confidence in government. This administration's failure to regulate Wall Street and protect taxpayers is just another example of misplaced priorities and a costly lack of leadership.

My vote for H.R. 1424 is a vote to protect the jobs, pensions, college accounts, and the savings of millions of hard working Americans. This important step must be followed with a new commitment to accountability and government oversight. I will be working to make sure this rescue package not only helps restore our economy, but returns every dollar we invest back to taxpayers.

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AMERICA'S TABLE: A THANKSGIVING READER CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSE ROOTS AND SHARED VALUES

**HON. JOHN LEWIS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Thanksgiving, a uniquely American holiday, I rise today to remind this Congress that we are all one people, one family, one America. We all come from different backgrounds, but in millions of homes across the country, our celebrations look very much the same. We will gather around our dinner tables with family and friends giving thanks. This day is a reminder that we are all together in this American experiment, that we should celebrate our diversity, but also recognize our shared values.

I commend to every family the publication called America's Table: A Thanksgiving Reader. The pamphlet is short and simple, and it is meant to be read at the Thanksgiving meal or as people contemplate the meaning of Thanksgiving. This booklet tells the story of American people by sharing profiles of men and women of diverse backgrounds. I am honored to be one of the people profiled in this year's publication.

The American Jewish Committee began publishing America's Table annually on the Thanksgiving after the 9/11 disaster. They partner with ten human relations organizations, including the NAACP, the National Urban League, and the National Council of La Raza to distribute this wonderful pamphlet.

We all have our stories of how we came to this great land. We must use this opportunity to celebrate our differences and our oneness as Americans. I submit a copy of this year's America's Table for the RECORD, and I hope and pray that Americans will continue to use it as a way to help build the Beloved Community, a nation at peace with itself.

## AMERICA'S TABLE

## A Thanksgiving Reader

## CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSE ROOTS AND SHARED VALUES

You are holding the eighth annual edition of America's Table.

As in past years, the brief narrative on the white pages is intended to be read aloud at the Thanksgiving meal. It helps us express gratitude for living in a nation where each of us, regardless of background, is entitled to a place at the table.

The facing pages contain profiles of eight accomplished Americans. These profiles can be read at the Thanksgiving meal or whenever you have time. Five of the profiled individuals arrived in America recently. Another is descended from slaves. All are deeply engaged in helping America fully achieve the promise of opportunity and mutual respect.

By reading America's Table on Thanksgiving, we add new meaning to our most beloved and universal holiday as a time to celebrate our diverse roots and shared values. In some homes, a leader designates the parts to be read. At other gatherings, people simply go around the table, switching readers at each sentence, paragraph, or page. Do whatever feels right for you and your family and friends.

And enjoy a warm and peaceful holiday.  
November 2008

Adams Costa Spencer Lind Tanaka Carney  
Schultz Pucinski Leibowitz McLaren  
Gonzales Szymankiewicz Giannini Humphreys  
Zimmer Poulos Tinley Kahn Trugglio  
Singh Sandbuig Jackson Kogovsek Smith Rivera  
Acosta Demetrios Nemeč Schwartz  
Nwaguru Rosenbaum Kimura Peck Teters  
Foulks Koproski

## WE ARE EACH ON A JOURNEY

These are the names of the generations that came to America.

They reveal individual lives that represent the story of our nation.

These are the names of the generations that built America.

They recall our parents and grandparents and mirror ourselves.

These are the names of the generations that will care for America.

They remind us why we gather at this Thanksgiving table.

Calderon Lew Durlay Branovan Sharma  
Hassan Montalto Paterson Jordan Cheng  
Gioia Noriega Ellison Josephs Kassab Phillips  
Pun Letona Linares Brooks Gilchrist  
Mineta Levine Patel Tsosie Yuo Meghani  
Verdeja Aoun Parens Al-Suwaij Morris Rangel  
Hong Lafley Nganji Ahuja Totenberg  
Lewis Shamim Padron

Chung-Wha Hong "We were watching the presidential debates with Jimmy Carter, and I remember my mother saying, 'He's going to be the president and he does the dishes'"

Growing up in South Korea, Chung-Wha Hong gained her impressions of the United States from black-and-white TV.

## AMERICA IS HEAVEN FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Hong was eleven when the family arrived in St. Louis, in 1977. Local people were welcoming, she recalls, but the schools offered no programs for students like Hong who spoke no English. "I went to school and slept all day."

Her immigrant experience and the influence of her parents, both religious leaders and social reformers, shaped her career choice. After graduation from the University of Pennsylvania, Hong returned briefly to Korea, where young activists inspired her.

Back in the United States, she worked in Washington, D.C., for Korean and Asian organizations before moving to New York to engage at the grassroots level "on work that flows from my identity as a Korean-American immigrant."

As head of the New York Immigration Coalition, Hong now helps immigrants of all backgrounds cope with what she describes as a convergence of issues facing new arrivals, including: poverty, lack of English language skills, and limited access to government services. These challenges, says Hong, are compounded by anti-immigrant sentiment.

"Part of my job is to challenge people that this is not what this country is about, to tap into people's better instincts of generosity and justice."

The insightful questions of our children, innocently asked, compel us to reconnect with our past.

When our families came to America.

How they got here.

What they found.

Why they came.

At every table the answers are different, but much the same.

Many of us were immigrants and refugees from all regions of the world, fleeing the afflictions of poverty and oppression.

Drawn by the promise of a better life, we chose America and she took us into safe harbor.

Not every journey was easy.

The first arrivals sometimes shunned those who followed.

Not every journey was voluntary.

The first African slaves landed in Jamestown a year before the Pilgrims settled in Plymouth.

Not every journey was righteous.

Native Americans were devastated by a new nation's need to conquer, cultivate, and build.

A.G. Lafley knows something about diversity.

On his father's side, Lafley is descended from a French Canadian man who migrated to New England in the 1850s and married a Native American woman. A few decades later, his mother's family arrived in Boston from County Cork, Ireland.

"My mother was adamant about understanding the world and people who are different from you," says Lafley. "She was a card-carrying member of the League of Women Voters. I remember being dragged around in the '52, '56, and '60 presidential elections in neighborhoods we didn't live in."

Lafley enrolled as a Ph.D. student in history before a hitch in the Navy overseeing retail supply shifted his career goals. After Harvard Business School, he joined Cincinnati-based Procter & Gamble in 1977, becoming CEO in 2000 and chairman in 2002.

For Lafley, diversity is a competitive advantage at a company that employs 138,000 people from 140 nationalities and ethnicities, and provides household and personal care products for more than three billion consumers.

Lafley recalls a recent conversation with a young mother and her family in a modest home on a hillside above São Paulo, Brazil. "We sit around the kitchen table," he says.

## I LEARN THROUGH HER STORY

"It may take a little longer to work across cultures and languages," says Lafley, "but we're going to come up with more ideas and create something that will make a difference." Sometimes the difference is big.

"We developed a unique and proprietary product that can render any source of water anywhere in the world potable."

Jean Nganji "Are you Hutu or Tutsi?"

The question was raised by a teacher when Jean Nganji was a seven-year-old schoolboy in Rwanda.

"Go home and ask your parents," the teacher commanded.

The next day, he recalls, "I said, 'I am Tutsi.'" Nganji's parents then pushed him hard to excel academically.

"Why?" he asked.

"Just listen," they said. "Don't ask questions."

The answer soon emerged, as Nganji was forced to repeat grades, despite his competence, because he was Tutsi. When he realized that a Tutsi admissions quota made it difficult to attend college in Rwanda, he was accepted at a small school in Massachusetts with the help of his friend Andre, who had moved to America.

The two young men became college roommates soon after Nganji arrived in the United States, in October 1989. But Andre was Hutu, and a year later, with the outbreak of war, the friendship ended.

The genocide started on April 6, 1994. On April 15, Nganji learned that his parents and youngest brother were killed. The daughter of his eldest brother, who perished, was saved by her nanny, a Hutu woman who claimed the four-year-old was her little sister.

Today, Nganji lives near Boston. He tells his story at schools in America and travels regularly to Rwanda on a project that helps Tutsi and Hutu youth tell their stories through film. "I have found therapy and peace talking to young people."

## DO NOT FALL INTO THE TRAPS OF IGNORANCE, BIGOTRY, AND RACISM

## WE ARE EACH PART OF AMERICA'S JOURNEY

We did not leave history behind, like unwanted baggage at immigration's door.

Our particular pasts and our shared present are wedded in hyphenated names:

African-American,  
Irish-American,  
Italian-American,  
Korean-American,  
Polish-American.

We are not always on a first-name basis with one another.

But we quickly become acquainted in playgrounds and classrooms, in college dorms and military barracks, and in offices and factories.

We feel at home.

In some parts of the world, our differences would be threatening.

We feel enriched.

In America, our differences resonate in our names, language, food, and music. They inspire art and produce champions and leaders.

We feel free to disagree.

We are a family, and what is a family gathering without debate?

Gurpreet Singh Ahuja was completing his residency in New Delhi, in 1984, when Indira Gandhi was assassinated.

Reports that the prime minister was shot by Sikhs set off reprisals throughout India. "As a physician in the hospital, I saw the charred bodies of those young men and women."

The violence contradicted his experience growing up. "As a Sikh, we're reminded to respect all faiths. They're all paths to the same central truth."

He and his wife, Jasjit Singh, also a doctor, moved to New York, in 1986, where they continued their medical training before moving to Washington, D.C., and then to Southern California. They visited family in India annually.

"Every time I stepped foot back on American soil it would give me a great sense of exhilaration and liberation."

That feeling was tested in the aftermath of 9/11 and the rash of hate crimes that began with the murder of a Sikh living in Arizona. The events evoked memories of 1984. Says Ahuja,

## I NEVER LOST FAITH IN THE SYSTEM IN AMERICA

He helped establish the California Sikh Council to promote tolerance and educate

people about the Sikh faith, and now serves as president of the council. Jasjit Singh is vice president of the Central Orange County Interfaith Council.

"As a relatively recent immigrant, I am very appreciative of the opportunities that this country has given me," says Ahuja. "Our value system must remain steadfast. That's what distinguishes us from most any other country in the world."

Nina Totenberg "Ninotchka, we're proud of you."

Nina Totenberg still cherishes her father's words. She had just endured a period of intense scrutiny after her reporting led to testimony by law professor Anita Hill, during the confirmation hearing of Justice Clarence Thomas.

Her father, Roman Totenberg, a world-renowned violinist, performed across Europe by age eleven. A Polish Jew, he left Europe in 1935. "He saw the rise of Hitler," says his daughter, "but he came to America because it represented a kind of equality and meritocracy that did not exist in Europe."

Nina Totenberg's mother, Melanie, shared her interest in American politics. "I remember my mother watching the Army-McCarthy hearings on TV all day every day, explaining to me what was going on," says Totenberg. "I knew who all those senators were and I was eight years old."

At 16, reading *The Making of the President*, the classic book about the 1960 election, Totenberg confirmed her childhood desire to be a witness to history. "I wanted to be a reporter from the time I realized that I couldn't be Nancy Drew."

For the past three decades, Totenberg has reported for National Public Radio and is best known for her coverage of the Supreme Court. "There are a lot of injustices in the world and in this country," she says. "The ones that I can do something about—I will try to do something about." She credits her father, who still teaches at age 97.

YOU CAN'T GET MY DAD TO DO SOMETHING HE THINKS IS NOT RIGHT

We believe in fairness.

In America, the loudest voice does not always have the last word, and every voice has a right to be heard.

We act with hope.

Not because life is perfect, but because we are free to face life, and all its imperfections, on our own terms.

We rely on faith.

In a sturdy and tested framework of law and government that works because of the confidence we place in it and in each other.

WE ARE EACH RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING AMERICA ON COURSE

"Are we there yet?" the children ask.

We know the answer.

We pursue justice.

But still have a way to go.

We celebrate freedom.

But endlessly debate what it means to be free.

Our table is brimming.

But not everyone receives a fair portion.

John Lewis Growing up in a large family on a small farm in rural Alabama, John Lewis cared for the chickens.

When his parents wanted to sell or trade chickens, or have one for dinner, "I would protest," Lewis recalls. "They were creatures of God, and we didn't have a right to abuse them."

Lewis was fifteen in 1955, when Emmett Till, a black teenager, was brutally murdered in Mississippi. Rosa Parks refused to move to the back of the bus, and Martin Luther King, Jr., organized the Montgomery bus boycott. Listening to King on the radio, "It was like he was saying, 'John Lewis, you can do it,

YOU, TOO, CAN MAKE A CONTRIBUTION

Lewis went to Nashville, to study non-violence and become a minister. He participated in sit-in demonstrations, Freedom Rides, and the creation of a campus group called the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

"Even when I was being beaten, I saw these individuals almost like the chickens," he says. "They were innocent creatures and something happened to them."

As chairman of SNCC, at 23, Lewis stood with King and other civil rights leaders on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington in August 1963, preaching, "Wake up, America." He has exerted leadership in Congress since 1986, representing the district around Atlanta. "We've made progress," says Lewis. "The world is so different from the world I grew up in."

Still pursuing his vision of a "beloved community," Lewis asserts, "We need to turn toward each other to create a greater sense of community and belonging."

Tasneem Shamim. In the late 1990s, at about age 40, Tasneem Shamim began to feel spiritually empty.

She missed a sense of compassion and universality, which she remembered from her childhood in India and could not find in the mosques in New Jersey, where Shamim, a doctor, lives with her husband and three children.

"One of my early memories is going with my grandmother to the small villages. My grandmother started organizations to help women out of poverty and oppression."

To help reconnect with her feelings, Shamim visited the holy sites in Mecca and Medina, and she decided to cover her hair. Her mother and sister were concerned about potential antagonism, and one friend asked, "Do you have to go to chemotherapy?"

For Shamim, the head scarf is an opportunity to prompt and answer questions about Islam. Most important, it makes her more conscious of her roles in life.

"You become a doctor mostly to please God. God says, 'You cannot help Me, but help the creatures that I have created.'"

Shamim also began studying Sufism, a spiritual strand of Islam. At the urging of a Sufi leader that she express her religion in good works, Shamim established the Muslim Women's Coalition, a national organization devoted to community service and mutual respect.

PEOPLE ACCEPT THAT AMERICA IS A QUILT

Progress can be slow as we propose and protest, argue and advocate.

But we are grateful to be part of this vigorous democracy.

We enjoy its unparalleled privileges and accept its obligations:

To pursue our dreams while helping others.

To advance our convictions while respecting others.

To prepare our children for the gift of the American journey.

## EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I wish to make the following disclosure in accordance with the new Republican Earmark Transparency Standards requiring Members to place a statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for a bill that includes earmarks they

have requested, describing how the funds will be spent and justifying the use of Federal taxpayer funds.

Requesting Member: Congressman STEVE KING

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009.

Account: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army.

Project Name: Battlefield Plastic Biodiesel.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Renewable Energy Group and General Atomics.

Address of Requesting Entity: West Central, 406 First Street, Ralston, IA 51459. General Atomics, 3550 General Atomics Ct., San Diego, CA 92121.

Description of Request: \$1.6 million is provided in the bill to continue a 3-year partnership with the U.S. Army to develop a technology providing a cost effective way to recycle military plastic waste into a useable biodiesel fuel with enhanced energy yield, for use in field power generation and other applications. This technology has the potential to save taxpayers millions per month in military waste disposal costs, and enhance the viability of increased use of biodiesel by both the military and civilian sectors to achieve greater energy independence. The \$1.6 million FY09 appropriation is needed to complete the development phase of this multi-year project and demonstrate the technology.

## RECOGNIZING THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

### HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize five students in my district that have received national honors from Future Farmers of America. These young people—Ryan Highsmith, Jordan Culpepper, Nicholas Worley, Jacob Schindler, and Courtney Curlin—have surpassed many other students to earn top honors for their work in local Future Farmers of America. All of these students excelled though challenging assessments at State and National level against their peers before being awarded these top accolades.

Ryan Highsmith of Lake Park, Georgia, won first place in the nation for Specialty Animal Production for his four year work with honey bee cultivation.

Jordan Culpepper of Lake Park, Georgia, won second place in the nation for Diversified Agriculture Production. Jordan dutifully worked with both livestock and crop production in a wide range of operations for over 5 years.

Nicholas Worley of Valdosta, Georgia, was named National Agriscience Student of the Year. Using clean wood chips and leftover biomass from Georgia forests, Nicholas found that a large amount of ethanol can be produced from these two sources.

Jacob Schindler of Valdosta, Georgia, won second place in the Junior Individual Botany Division. Jacob's project involved research on the effects of inert gases on kudzu. Jacob researched the uses of gases on kudzu, which enabled him to eradicate several large infestations of kudzu in the Valdosta area.

Courtney Curlin of Valdosta, Georgia won third place in the senior individual Engineering

Division. Courtney designed a filter using urea, which was able to filter out over fifty percent of particulate emissions from a tractor exhaust.

Agriculture plays an important role in the Georgia economy and it is wonderful to see our young people taking an interest in developing our resources. Their projects not only show their innovative thinking, but also prove that this generation recognizes the need to get involved. I am proud to recognize these five students today and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I am submitting the following earmark declaration:

Requesting Member: Mr. ALEXANDER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Air Force.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Barksdale Air Force Base.

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 625, Shreveport, LA 71162.

Description of Request: Construct a new Security Forces Squadron Complex at Barksdale Air Force Base. Security forces command and operations functions are currently housed in a 1930's vintage hangar on the aircraft parking ramp. The Law Enforcement Desk and associated offices (including confinement) and storage of mobility equipment/personal bags are located across the street in one of our historic facilities. The majority of security operations occur in the Weapons Storage Area (WSA) which is over four miles by road from the current facility. The hanger facility is inadequate in functional layout to accommodate existing requirements. The facility is incompatible with existing land uses as the facility should house a function supporting flight line operations. Delays in construction of this facility will prevent compliance with the base comprehensive plan established land use policies. Already strained base resources will continue to be spent on an inadequate and inefficient facility.

Requesting Member: Mr. ALEXANDER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: FEMA State and Local Programs.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana State University.

Address of Requesting Entity: 156 Thomas Boyd Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.

Description of Request: Louisiana State University's (LSU) National Center for Biomedical Research and Training (NCBRT), Academy of Counter-Terrorist Education is a founding member of the Consortium which consists of LSU, New Mexico Tech, Texas A&M University, U.S. Department of Energy's Nevada Test Site, University of Hawaii, Transportation Technology Center, Inc., and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Center for Domestic Preparedness. The National Domestic Preparedness Consortium shall identify, develop, test, and deliver training to State, local, and tribal emergency response providers, provide on-site and mobile training at the performance and management and planning levels, and facilitate the delivery of training by the

training partners of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The current mission of the Consortium is to enhance the preparedness of federal, state, local, and tribal emergency responders/first receivers and teams, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to reduce the Nation's vulnerability to incidents involving weapons of mass destruction, terrorism and all-hazard high-consequence events by developing, delivering and assessing plans, training, technical assistance and exercises.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. ROB BISHOP

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure and certification information for a Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Request that I made and which was included within the text and/or report to accompany H.R. 2638, the "Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2009." I certify that neither I, nor my spouse, have any financial interest in this request, and certify that, to the best of my knowledge, this request is (1) not directed to an entity or program named or that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is not intended for a "front" or "pass-through" entity; and (3) meets or exceeds statutory requirements for matching funds (where applicable). Please note that while publication of this disclosure information prior to the floor vote was intended, such was not possible because House Democratic Leadership chose to circumvent regular order under the House Rules last September when the bill was voted upon in the House by waiving the normal layover period between the time of filing of the report and a floor vote on the same in order to rush the bill through to a vote with minimal public scrutiny.

Requesting Member: ROB BISHOP (UT-01).

Bill Number: H.R. 263—The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2009.

1. Project: Distributed Environment for Critical Infrastructure—Decision Making Exercises for Increasing Cyber Security.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the "Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2009."

Project Amount: \$3 million.

Account: Science & Technology; Research, Development, Acquisition, and Operations.

Requesting Entity: Utah State University Space Research Foundation.

Receiving Entity: The Cyber Conflict Research Consortium (CCRC); an affiliation of academic and non-profit institutions, including Miami University, Norwich University Applied Research Institutes, Potomac Institute for Policy Studies, University of Nevada at Reno, and Utah State University Space Research Foundation.

Address: CCRC Team Leader, Norwich University, Applied Research Institutes, 57 Old Freight Yard, P.O. Box 30, Northfield, VT 05663-0030.

Project Description and Justification: Funding would continue work begun in FY'08 with

the Department of Homeland Security on completing full-scale development of the Web-distributed Environment for Critical Infrastructure Decision-making Exercises (DECIDE). This project is the only high-level governmental program designed to minimize threats and risks of cyber attacks against the U.S. Government and key economic sectors which rely on electronic data bases, such as financial markets and banking institutions. Funding would continue development of core software components and demonstration to government entities and private-sector institutions concerned about following a coherent and coordinated plan to counter the serious and growing cyber-attack threat.

Matching Funds: Not applicable.

Detailed Spending Plan: Not applicable.

#### COMMENDING THE SOUTHERN GUAM LITTLE LEAGUE FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE 2008 LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL WORLD SERIES

### HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I join the people of Guam in commending the Southern Guam Little League, a team comprised of players from the villages of Agat, Inarajan, Merizo, Naval Station, Santa Rita, Talofoto, and Umatac who competed in the 62nd Little League Baseball World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. The Southern Guam Little League represented the Asia-Pacific Region.

After a seven to six comeback victory over the European champions from Italy, Team Guam played two hard-fought games against teams from Mexico and Curacao. A three run loss to Curacao on August 19, 2008, at Volunteer Stadium allowed Curacao to advance to the elimination round. I congratulate the players, parents, and coaches on their winning the Little League Asia-Pacific Region Championship and their representation of Guam in the 2008 Little League Baseball World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

I would like to commend Dominick San Nicolas and his parents Paul Paulino and Josephine San Nicolas; Austin Paulino and his parents Jesse Meno and Debbie Paulino; Brielle Meno and her parents Ben and Madonna Meno; Fernando Rabago and his parents Thomas and Tammy Rabago; Mark Blas and his parents Mark and Lucy Blas; Brian Bunag and his parents Benjamin and Gina Bunag; Johnny Quenga and his parents Johnny and Lani Quenga; Parish Reyes and his parents Fred and Ester Reyes; Andrew Quintanilla and his parents Jesse and Marie Quintanilla; Austin Sablan and his parents Rocindo Alforque and Mary Sablan; Nicholas Cruz and his grandparents Felix and MaryJane Cruz; Nicholas Hernandez and parents Guillermo and Nancy Hernandez; Southern Guam Little League Coaches Paul Paulino and Johnny DeJesus; Manager William Meeks; President William Sarmiento; Vice President Donna H. Santiago and Mr. Stephen J. Guerrero, the District Administrator, Guam Little League for their work and accomplishments in the 2008 Little League Baseball World Series.

The players, parents, and coaches of the Southern Guam Little League represented Guam with pride throughout the 2008 Little League Baseball World Series competition. I commend the parents and coaches for their hard work and dedication to the players in their road to Williamsport. Most of all, I join with all the people of Guam and baseball fans everywhere in commending the Southern Guam Little League players who inspired us with their skills and their sportsmanship.

Congratulations and thanks for the memories.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SUPERVISOR JOHN F. SILVA IN THE COUNTY OF SOLANO IN CALIFORNIA

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise with the support of my colleague, the Hon. GEORGE MILLER, in the House of Representatives to recognize Supervisor John F. Silva, as he retires after 53 years of public service with the County of Solano.

Supervisor Silva's career with Solano County began as a police officer in the Benicia in 1956. In 1978, he was appointed Benicia city manager. Following his time as city manager, he was elected to two terms as a city councilmember. Supervisor Silva was elected to the Solano County Board of Supervisors in 1997.

Supervisor Silva's outstanding service in Solano County also includes several achievements that significantly impacted the quality of life of the residents of Solano County. As supervisor, he was dedicated to representing his community and exemplified a strong work ethic. To address Solano County's escalating crime levels, he pushed hard for the successful development of a county-wide Gang and Drug Task Force. In addition, he was involved in the construction of the juvenile hall, the probation building, an award-winning new county administration center and parking facility.

One of Supervisor Silva's biggest achievements was his involvement in the program, Inure All Kids. Through the relentless fundraising efforts of supporters, the county was recognized by the State of California for achieving an astounding level of 96 percentile of health insurance for Solano County children.

The honors and awards Supervisor Silva has earned over the years are a testament to his hard work and dedication. This year, he has received the prestigious Circle for Service Award from the California State Association of Counties, as well as the Solano Transportation Authority's Outstanding Leadership in Transportation Award.

As Supervisor John Silva retires from his seat on the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I would like to thank him for his leadership and dedication to improving the quality of life for the residents of Solano County. I wish him and his wife Jan the best of luck in their future endeavors.

THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 15th Anniversary of South Texas College to congratulate them for enrolling 22,000 students, the highest amount enrolled in South Texas College's history.

The South Texas College was created by the Texas legislature in 1993 and signed into law by former Governor Ann Richards. They are only one of three community colleges in Texas accredited to offer bachelors degrees and the only community college in the state to offer two Bachelor of Applied Technology Degrees. Their faculty and staff of over 1,500 have been leaders in higher education by not only providing education to college students, but by providing unique workforce training programs and the College Express dual enrollment high school program. Partnered with sixteen school districts in Hidalgo and Starr Counties, these programs help minority students find a pathway to higher-paying careers in math and science.

In recent years, South Texas College received the MetLife Foundation's 2008 Community College Excellence Award for promoting educational and economic advancement, thirty-one Excellence Awards from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development in 2008, and the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 2003 through 2007.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize South Texas College for their record enrollment in 2008, and I thank you for this time.

IN MEMORY OF MARILYN LACEY  
McMULLEN

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Mrs. Marilyn McMullen of Mission Hills, Kansas, a lovely person and dear friend.

Marilyn, whom I affectionately called "Lace," was a proud graduate of Webster High School, Webster Groves, Missouri. She attended Milliken College and the University of Missouri, Columbia, where she graduated in 1954 with a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Education and where she was a member of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority. She established scholarships at the School of Education in honor of her mother.

Marilyn taught second grade at LaDue Elementary School in St. Louis. She was a member of the Grace Bibb Society in support of the MU School of Education and a member of the Friends of the MU Library and MU Kansas City Alumni Club. She was also a member and a past Director of the MU Jefferson Club.

At Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral Marilyn had served in the choir and vestry. She was a long-time member for over 40 years and Director of the Altar Guild at the Cathedral.

Marilyn was a Cub Scout Den Mother and President of the Boy Scout Mother's Club. She also served on the Board of Bishop Spencer Place to whom she was very grateful for the wonderful care provided to her mother.

Madam Speaker, I know the members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to her family: her husband, Larry McMullen; her two sons and daughters-in-laws, Michael, Andrew, Bonnie and Yvette; and her grandchildren, Matthew, Hannah, Sarah, Rachel, Abby and Sophie.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MRS. PATRICIA M. BOYLE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Patricia M. Boyle of the Department of the Navy, who is retiring after more than 36 years of faithful service to our Nation, culminating in her service as the Legislation Specialist in the Department of the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs.

Mrs. Boyle started her federal service in 1972 with the Office of Legislative Affairs as a Legislation Assistant. She was responsible for researching, routing legislation for comment throughout the Department of the Navy, and for maintaining all working files on current or past legislation of interest to the Department of the Navy. She worked in this position until July 1974.

She then worked in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Legal and Legislative Office, as a Legal Technician. She served in that position from July 1974 to December 1981. In that position, she helped coordinate comments on items of legislation and executive orders for the Chief of Naval Operations staff.

In 1981, Mrs. Boyle returned to the work at the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs in Washington, DC, where she has remained since December 1981.

Mrs. Boyle has provided superb support as the Legislation Specialist to the Chief of Legislative Affairs within the Office of Legislative Affairs. This position marks the culmination of 36 years of Federal service in which she has continued to serve the Department of the Navy's legislative agenda. She has had a major impact on the identification of high-interest legislative items and the coordination of complete and thorough Navy positions to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the White House Office of Management and Budget, and Congress.

Responsible for acting as central coordinator for the Department of the Navy for more than 300 legislative proposals per year, she has consistently provided timely and thoroughly vetted Navy positions, thereby ensuring the Navy's interests were furthered. She monitored the progress of legislation critical to the Department of the Navy and communicated the status and any outstanding requirements to ensure that Navy leadership was fully informed of important legislative initiatives. Her diligent, thoughtful, and timely coordination ensured that the Navy's message was effectively communicated to Congress.

In addition, she managed the coordination of all legislative items, approximately 1,000 per fiscal year, which included House and Senate Bills, executive agency proposals, testimony and executive orders. She provided consolidated Navy positions on these legislative items to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Office of Management and Budget, and Congress, while successfully meeting all deadlines and suspense dates. Her effective coordination and thorough review consistently ensured a concise and well thought out Navy message to Congress.

It is through the commitment and sacrifice of Americans like Patricia Boyle that our Nation is able to continue upon the path of democracy and strive for the betterment of mankind. I am proud, Madam Speaker, as a fellow Virginian, to thank her and her family for her honorable service to our Nation with the United States Navy. I wish her fair winds and following seas as she concludes a distinguished career of public service.

#### VETERANS DAY

### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of Veterans Day. This national holiday serves as reminder of the enormous sacrifices that brave men and women have made for the ideals and beliefs that all Americans value. Veterans Day is also an opportunity to give thanks to the hundreds of thousands of armed forces personnel serving our country to protect our Nation and to secure the peace around the world.

To mark this special holiday, I had the honor of attending both a ceremony for Mexican American Post 5, where I learned of the hardships faced by American soldiers of Mexican descent, and the Minnesota State Veterans Day program to pay tribute to the men and women serving our country in uniform. This year, I also had the privilege of visiting our troops in Afghanistan and Pakistan to witness the tremendous sacrifice they and their families make each day.

On the battlefield, the U.S. Armed Forces pledge to leave no soldier behind. As a nation, it must be our promise that when they return home, we leave no veteran behind. Fully preparing our troops, and providing the necessary healthcare, education, and disability benefits to meet the needs of our veterans, is our responsibility and moral obligation.

The 110th Congress has honored our commitment to veterans by making their needs a priority. This Congress passed the largest funding increase in the history of the Department of Veterans Affairs, which ensures that our veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan receive the quality health and mental health care they deserve. This year, we have also provided tax relief for military families, increased pay for members of our armed services, established a suicide prevention program, improved housing assistances for homeless veterans, and helped military families avoid home foreclosure. Lastly, this Democratic led Congress passed a GI bill for the 21st century that fully restores four-year college scholarships for Iraq and Afghanistan

veterans, on a par with the educational benefits after World War II.

The men and women of the armed forces who have served this country with honor during times of war and peace deserve the best this country can afford. I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress and President Obama to ensure veterans receive the highest level of care and compensation they have so bravely earned serving this country. This is a commitment to which I hold fast on Veterans Day and everyday.

To all veterans, you have my thanks and that of a grateful nation.

IN HONOR OF THE SERVICE OF  
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR  
THE ARTS CHAIRMAN DANA  
GIOIA

### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and laud Dana Gioia's service as Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. Since 2003 when he began his service, Chairman Gioia has played a vital role in advancing America's cultural vitality and economic prosperity by promoting and expanding access to the arts. As a co-Chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I am grateful for Chairman Gioia's efforts and look forward to his future contributions to the arts in America after he leaves the NEA in January 2009.

Chairman Gioia has launched a handful of national initiatives that have spread the reach of the NEA across the country and expanded arts education in schools and communities. One favorite program of mine, The Big Read, provides citizens with the opportunity to read and discuss a single book within their communities. The initiative includes innovative reading programs in selected cities and towns, comprehensive resources for discussing classic literature, an ambitious national publicity campaign, and an extensive Web site providing comprehensive information on authors and their works. The NEA inaugurated The Big Read as a pilot project in 2006 with ten communities featuring four books. The Big Read continues to expand to include more communities and additional books. By 2009, approximately 400 communities in the U.S. will have hosted a Big Read since the program's 2007 national launch.

Chairman Gioia has democratized the arts. Last year, the NEA awarded over twenty-two hundred grants totaling over \$100 million in 435 congressional districts. The National Endowment for the Arts is the largest national source of arts funding in the United States and supports local arts programs in every congressional district across the country. While the NEA's budget represents less than one percent of total arts philanthropy in the United States, Chairman Gioia has successfully leveraged NEA grants to have a powerful multiplying effect, with each grant dollar typically generating seven to eight times more money in matching grants.

Chairman Gioia is a Renaissance Man. As an artist himself, he recognizes that the arts are more than just a cultural or emotional enterprise. With his background in business, he

knows that the arts have immense financial and social impact. Creativity, innovation, and imagination fuel today's global economy, and America's artists are a large source of that investment. Chairman Gioia led the NEA with this always in mind. When Chairman Gioia visited my congressional district, he brought not only great enthusiasm and energy to all of the arts organizations he toured, but imparted valuable guidance and advice to these organizations on how to increase their membership, spur local investment in the arts, and expand their presence in the community.

As a blues singer myself, I can empathize with Chairman Gioia's decision to return to his artistic craft. But despite his departure from the NEA, Chairman Gioia will continue to enrich the arts community. Art transcends barriers of language, time, and generation, translating cultural differences, breathing life into history, and bridging experiences across cultures. Chairman Gioia's exceptional writing and poetry no doubt enrich the lives of all Americans. Chairman Gioia will leave big shoes to fill, but I am confident that his leadership has trickled down in the NEA over the years. The NEA will continue to drive excellence in the arts with his spirit always in mind.

THE BUSINESS CLIMATE IN RUS-  
SIA AND THE STATES OF THE  
FORMER SOVIET UNION

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, after the summer recess, the Helsinki Commission, which I chair, was preparing to conduct a hearing on United States and Western businesses at risk entering markets in Russia and the former Soviet Republics without the protections guaranteed by the rule of law and government adherence to market principles. The hearing had to be postponed due to the invasion of Georgia, but it is our intention to take up this issue in the next Congress.

The Helsinki Commission, and the OSCE, is fully committed to the development of democracy, civil society, the rule of law and free markets in the Russia Federation and in other states of the former Soviet Union. We trust that Russian President Medvedev shares that commitment when he proclaims that "my most important task is to further develop civil and economic freedoms."

Yet we see evidence that Russian authorities continue to selectively prosecute and harass human rights advocates, prominent business leaders and journalists by employing arbitrary and extralegal means to achieve state and political ends. This is often accomplished through a manipulated court system, thus denying its citizens and foreign investors the impartial application of the rule of law and equal justice.

In June, 1992, the United States and Russia negotiated and signed the Bilateral Investment Treaty, which grants investors the protections and safeguards necessary to conduct business in a fair and transparent environment. Unfortunately, Russia has failed to ratify this important measure that would ultimately serve the economic interests of both our nations.

Along the same lines, it is regrettable that Russia refuses to ratify the Energy Charter

Treaty. This measure insures the rights and protections of private and public sector interests against a government taking arbitrary action that would disrupt or threaten global energy security. The thousands of United States investors who became shareholders in the Russian oil company, YUKOS, lost everything when the Russian government seized the company's assets.

Finally, Russia has not honored its pledge to amend its federal laws to guarantee protections of intellectual property rights and enforcing such laws consistent with international standards. I would note the frequent Western media reports on cases where Russian authorities have seized the assets of certain companies, many with foreign investors, utilizing executive decrees, court orders, and extradition requests to assume ownership or control over Russian enterprises. Some foreign investors have been compelled to surrender their equity shares in Russian companies without proper due process and compensation only to have Western courts, in a series of cases, issue rulings in favor of such companies.

Madam Speaker, we appreciate that our economy is truly global and American and Western investments are essential in Russia and throughout Eurasia, given their abundant natural resources, and urge that all countries can mutually commit to an economic relationship that is based on mutual trust, the rule of law and market forces that are free of arbitrary or capricious government activity.

#### RAISING CAIN

### HON. STEVE KAGEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, this poem was written by Albert Carey Caswell, a member of the Capitol Guide Service in honor of SSG Michael Cain of Berlin, WI.

Staff Sergeant Cain is a disabled veteran currently undergoing treatment at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. I met Staff Sergeant Cain at Walter Reed on November 18, 2008, while visiting another wounded soldier. I am proud and happy to submit this poem, written in his honor.

#### RAISING CAIN

A young man lies face down . . .  
Right between life and death, as found . . .  
Clinging to life, as now . . . with one leg  
lost . . .  
When, we hear a sound . . .  
For it's his heart, as we watch what is lost,  
as now is found . . .  
Which will not let him go, which will not let  
him down . . .  
As all inside of his fine soul, is so is now . . .  
As he raises his head up high, Raising  
Cain . . .  
As he brings such tears to eyes . . . as he  
astounds!  
What will we raise in these our days?  
To what heights and mountains, will we so  
climb?  
All in our lives and times . . .  
All in what we've so lost, and gained . . .  
All in that great heartache and pain, has  
made . . .  
To lie face down . . . upon battlefields of  
honor . . .  
As Michael you were bound . . .

While, all in the midst of hell . . . as the  
dark evil lie all around . . .

As your fine heart so chose, so chose to  
swell . . . swell somehow . . .

To cheat death, with what you have so  
left . . .

All in uniform, so brilliant now . . .  
When right there, on that edge of death . . .

As you so looked down . . .  
To see what you had so left . . .

As your once strong leg was gone . . .  
As your life so hung in the balance now . . .

As you were the one who so raised his  
head . . .

Whose fine heart so began to pound!

Raising Cain . . .

His Daddy raised a Hero, his Momma did the  
same . . .

All in their hearts of love, which now so re-  
mains!

A Wisconsin Man . . .

Who love's his Packers . . .

County music, and his Momma understand!

There's a lot of Brett in this man . . .

And there's a lot more of Michael, in Brett  
which stands . . .

As a winner . . .

And a simple man . . .

Who wears his heart on his sleeve, time and  
again . . .

With a heart of courage full . . .

This American Jewel . . .

Beating proud, for that old red white and  
blue . . .

And most of all, he's a family man . . .

As we watch, and see . . .

All that a heart can be . . .

As he fight's the good fight . . .

As Michael's Raising Cain . . .

Building where not lies left . . .

As our world he'll bless . . .

To come back from the dead . . .

Back from that dark abyss, abyss of  
death . . .

To go off to war . . .

As one fine fighting machine sure . . .

As an Army man . . .

Who to courage ran . . .

All in what he gave up . . .

All in what he must endure . . .

And if I ever raise a son . . .

I but hope and pray . . .

That he could but be, like this fine one . . .

The kind who will teach us, who will reach  
us . . .

Who to hearts will all so beseech us . . .

All in how life is won . . .

As Michael Cain, was raised this one . . .

In honor of Michael Cain on your 27th  
birthday . . . your friend Bert—Albert Carey  
Caswell ©2008

#### RECOGNIZING FIRE SERVICE SPECIALIST RODERICK R. MENO, GUAM'S 2008 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

### HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize, congratulate and commend Fire Service Specialist Roderick R. Meno on being named Guam's Firefighter of the Year for 2008.

Roderick, a native son of southern Guam, grew up in a family of outstanding firefighters: his father, retired Deputy Fire Chief Frank C. Meno; his brothers, Fire Specialist Frank R. Meno, Fire Captain Kurt R. Meno, Fire Fighter II Brian R. Meno; and nephew Fire Fighter I Joshua R. Meno. This exposure, from his

early youth, to a family of dedicated public servants imbued in Roderick an instinctive desire to serve the public, and protect life and property as his father and siblings did before him.

Roderick's upbringing in the closely knit village of Inarajan also inculcated in him the spirit of community and volunteerism. From his father, a recognized Chamorro master builder, he learned skills as a general overall handyman, a skill he unhesitatingly used to assist his fire precinct in the operations and maintenance of its fire station. He used these skills to perform renovations of the station control room, improving working conditions for his fellow firefighters. His skills as a carpenter and do-it-yourselfer enabled him to perform modifications to the sleeping quarters of his fellow firefighters, rendering those quarters more comfortable and organized. When he saw a need and he knew he had the skills to accomplish the work, he did not hesitate.

And just as his spirit of volunteerism motivated him to apply his skills to work he could perform, Roderick did not hesitate to use his own resources to accomplish these tasks. Roderick would begin projects knowing that financial support from the government may not be available. He used his own tools and when he needed materials and parts, rather than waiting for the cumbersome government procurement process, he used his own finances to purchase parts and materials.

And Roderick did all of this, ever mindful of, and never neglecting, his duties and responsibilities as a firefighter. As his father and brothers before him, Roderick Meno was always ready to serve and protect. For these attributes that have characterized our Nation's outstanding firefighters, Roderick Meno joins his father and brothers, and America's firefighters whose dedication to purpose and spirit of community make them outstanding role models for all citizens in all roles of life. Fire Service Specialist Meno, thank you very much.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARTHA FRANCO

### HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, in my years of public service, I have benefitted from the efforts of many capable employees on my staff who have come and gone. Yet there has always remained one constant in my office, Martha Franco, and for that I am truly grateful.

Martha was born in Mexico and grew up in Colusa, California. As a naturalized citizen, she is a model example of someone who made the efforts required to become a U.S. citizen and has gone on to contribute to our country through public service.

Martha first came to work for me in 1984 when I served in the California State Senate. When I was elected to Congress in 1990, Martha became my Executive Assistant and Office Manager. She has worked for me in Washington and in California, and this year I named her as my Deputy Chief of Staff.

Martha's loyal presence has meant so much to my wife, Julie, to me, and to our entire organization. The people who call upon our office have appreciated seeing a familiar face

through the years, and I have appreciated having someone who knows the many people who have been important to us throughout my career. Martha's unsurpassed character and dedication have allowed me to trust her with confidential and sensitive materials and to do so with great confidence.

Martha's spirit is demonstrated by her commitment to family as well. She cares for her father at home and is a wonderful aunt to her many nieces and nephews. I know she is looking forward to spending even more time with her large family as she begins a new chapter in her life.

While our work together will soon end, Martha will always remain an important person in our lives. As she looks to new opportunities, I wish Martha all the best, and look forward to her continued friendship in the years to come.

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#### THE LOSS OF LES HIRSCH

### HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the death of Les Hirsch. Mr. Hirsch made an indelible mark on my community in Tampa Bay.

Over the 50 year period that Mr. Hirsch lived in Tampa, he took on a few different roles. In 1960 he became a stockbroker. Many of the brokers still practicing in my community got their start when Mr. Hirsch hired them. Former employees describe him as "upbeat, with a very sharp mind" and "a mentor, inspiration and a role model." And through his love of politics, he inspired one of them to seek public office. Mr. Hirsch helped on his successful campaign for City Council in 1991.

In the late 1970s, Mr. Hirsch was appointed to the Tampa Port Authority and then to the Tampa Sports Authority. When Tampa hosted its first Super Bowl in 1984, Mr. Hirsch contributed to the effort to secure our city as the location. As we ready our city to welcome Super Bowl fans again this season, I regret that we won't have his expertise this time around.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Hirsch's death on October 31st marked a great loss to his wife Gail, his sons, Rabbi David Hirsch and his wife, Margot, and Andrew Hirsch and his wife, Tricia, his daughter, Beth Hirsch, and his six grandchildren, as well as the entire Tampa Bay area.

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#### A TRIBUTE TO THE EXEMPLARY HISTORY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN THE TOWN OF KILLINGLY, CONNECTICUT

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the exemplary history of public education in the town of Killingly, Connecticut.

This year, the town of Killingly celebrates the 300th anniversary since its incorporation in 1708. Equally inspiring, it celebrates the 150th anniversary of its public education system. The development of public education in Kill-

ingly has been a microcosm of the region, the state of Connecticut, and country as a whole—it is a model of progress.

From a time when providing free education to the public was a visionary innovation to a time when teacher shortages plagued the country when teachers were drafted to serve in World War II, Killingly's education system persevered and thrived.

The mission outlined by the town of Killingly for its school system includes as a high priority fostering citizenship in our Nation's next generation. Moreover, Killingly's contribution to citizenship is not confined to the classroom. I was proud to see pictures of the high school marching band in a Veterans' Day parade. Killingly's commitment to community and progress is certain to continue to energize its education system for another 150 years.

I am pleased to see Killingly's strong commitment to education, evolving over many generations. I know Connecticut will continue to benefit from Killingly's progress for generations to come.

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#### RECOGNITION AND THANKS TO MICHAEL J. CRONIN

### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. LARSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to thank Michael Cronin for his three years of dedicated service to the House as Office Director of the Office of the Historian. Michael first came to the House in 1986 as an intern and then upon graduation from college, joined the office of former Rep. Timothy J. Penny of Minnesota. He left Capitol Hill in 1990 but returned in 2005 to serve as Office Director for the reestablished Office of the Historian, under the direction of Dr. Robert Remini and Dr. Fred Beuttler. This month, Michael will continue his service to the People's House as the Administrative Director of the Office of the Inspector General.

Madam Speaker, we, as Members, are indeed fortunate to have the services of talented individuals like Michael Cronin. I know I join the Historian of the House, Dr. Robert V. Remini, and the staff of the Office of the Historian in wishing him my best as he begins this new position.

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#### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF KENNETH T. JONES, JR.

### HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the people of Guam in mourning the death of a great son of America and community leader in the Pacific where, for the last sixty three years, he lived, worked and built a business empire. Born in the small town of Willow Springs, North Carolina, on November 22, 1917, Kenneth T. Jones, Jr. will be remembered for his contributions to our community.

"Ken", as he was fondly known to his family, friends and associates, was the consum-

mate business adventurer, always searching for new opportunities and always willing to venture into new endeavors where he sensed success was certain. That business sense convinced him that prospects would arise on Guam, a small Pacific island he temporarily visited as a Navy Chief Petty Officer with the 25th Seabees during World War II. Hearing the slogan, "Guam, Crossroads of the Pacific", Ken instinctively saw great future potentials for those who were willing to work hard and had the spirit to succeed.

Ken befriended Segundo "Sy" Leon Guerrero, a young Guamanian he met during his short stay on the island. Ken and Sy had many discussions about the future and planned for Ken's return to Guam when they would become business partners. But even while he was waiting for the opportunity to return to the island, Ken would purchase small items to send to Sy who sold them from his small Quonset hut in Sinajana, which would eventually become the first Town House Department Store under the partnership called Jones and Guerrero Company Incorporated, immediately coined "J & G" throughout the Pacific.

Under the Chairmanship of Ken Jones, J & G rapidly expanded into several areas where Ken felt there was a need on island. After Town House and upon his return to Guam in 1946, J & G Repair Shop opened, a natural fit for Jones who was an automotive mechanic in the Seabees. Other businesses quickly followed: from companies which supplied construction materials, built modular homes and a residential subdivision (Jonestown) to the bottling of soft drinks (Pepsi Cola Bottling Co.) and J & G Payless Supermarkets. To supply his many companies, Ken established Pacific Navigation Company, agents for ocean going freight liners calling ports in Australia, Asia, the Philippines, China and other islands in Micronesia.

Ken's business acumen motivated him to build Cliff Properties Development, one of the island's first hotels; and the Guam Hilton Hotel, Guam's first major chain hotel. Ken Jones' business interests and ventures were not confined to Guam. Ken built and operated the Royal Taga Hotel, the first hotel in Saipan, CNMI, as well as the Bar K cattle ranch in Tinian, CNMI. He operated thoroughbred race horse ranches and stables in Australia and the bluegrass country of Kentucky. He also built and operated a considerable shopping mall in his home state of North Carolina. Ken Jones' success as a businessman created within him a sense of philanthropy to which he devoted much personal time, effort, energy and considerable financial resources. These include leadership roles and membership in such organizations as the American Red Cross; the American Cancer Society; the Guam Chapters of the American Boy and Girl Scouts; the Guam Vocational Rehabilitation Workshop; the Boards and Trustees of several private schools, including St. John's Episcopal School, the Academy of Our Lady of Guam; the Guam Lytico-Bodig Association; the Make-a-Wish Foundation; and the American Heart and Lung Association.

Ken's efforts and successes as a premier businessman have always been recognized by the people of Guam and the entire business community of the Pacific Basin. This recognition culminated in his induction into the Guam Business Hall of Fame on May 2, 1992. In

1994 he was named Guam Business News' Executive of the Year.

Kenneth T. Jones, Jr., was a respected businessman on Guam, much loved by the people of Guam and our entire community. We recognize him for his many achievements and we commend him for his contributions to our community. Our community mourns his passing and we extend our condolences to his family and friends. Ken leaves behind his wife, Elaine Cruz Jones and five daughters, Vivian, Linda, Veronica, Donna and Ramona.

IN MEMORIAL OF PENNSYLVANIA  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR CATH-  
ERINE BAKER KNOLL

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, on November 12, 2008, Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor and former State Treasurer Catherine Baker Knoll, a dedicated mother, political pioneer and tenacious public servant, lost her battle with cancer while surrounded by loved ones.

Knoll, 78, is survived by her four children, Albert, Charles, Mina and Kim Eric. Her late husband Charles was a U.S. Postmaster.

Knoll was born one of nine children in McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh. She was a schoolteacher, a businesswoman, and an innovative State Treasurer from 1989 to 1997. In that post, she created the Tuition Assistance Program, which opened doors for thousands of Pennsylvania's youth to attend college.

The self-described "steel woman from the steel city," Knoll became the first woman Lieutenant Governor in Pennsylvania in 2003 and was well-known for her persistence, initiative, and unflinching commitment to the public good. Her affection for all the people of Pennsylvania and unstoppable desire to knock down barriers for women and minorities were obvious to all who witnessed her energetic and caring demeanor. On the day she was sworn in as Lieutenant Governor, she compared Pennsylvania to a 10-speed bicycle, saying, "We have gears we haven't even tried yet."

Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell called her one of the "strongest, most dedicated public servants in Pennsylvania's history," adding that "Her passing is a tremendous loss for the many people whose lives she touched."

I ask that the House of Representatives extend its condolences to Catherine's family and friends, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which feels the loss of a true public servant.

HONORING "THE LEAF-CHRON-  
ICLE" FOR ITS 200 YEARS OF  
SERVICE TO MIDDLE TENNESSEE

**HON. JOHN S. TANNER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long history of "The Leaf-

Chronicle" newspaper in Clarksville, Tennessee, which is now in its 200th year of serving Clarksville, Montgomery County and Middle Tennessee.

"The Leaf-Chronicle" was officially formed in 1890 by a merger between two local journals, "The Tobacco Leaf" and "The Chronicle," which dated back to 1808. For two centuries, the people in our community have been well-served by a quality daily newspaper that fairly and thoroughly covers the stories so important to our families and businesses. Twenty-two men and women have had the honor of serving as Publisher of the Clarksville newspaper, including the current publisher, Andrew Oppman, and his immediate predecessor, my friend Gene Washer, who served 17 years as Publisher until his retirement earlier this year.

We are particularly proud of the newspaper's coverage of Fort Campbell and the 101st Airborne Division, which are an integral part of our community in Montgomery and Stewart counties and the surrounding area. The journalists of "The Leaf-Chronicle" show their support through extensive coverage of our military families and others in the community whose support of our men and women in uniform is unwavering.

"The Leaf-Chronicle" has always been known for its strong opinions page, where it has boldly editorialized on local, state, national and international issues. In fact, because of the reputation of the newspaper's powerful editorial page, all operations were suspended between 1862 and 1865 when Union troops occupied Clarksville during the Civil War.

Publication was also threatened in the early morning hours of January 22, 1999, when a tornado ripped through downtown Clarksville, leaving behind it a path of destruction, including severe damage to the offices of "The Leaf-Chronicle." The staff, however, determined to publish a newspaper to cover such an important story, gathered at Mr. Washer's home. The next day, subscribers still received the paper on their doorsteps, this time with eight pages of in-depth coverage and photographs of the storm and its impact on Montgomery County.

Following the storm and until completion of its current, state-of-the-art facilities, the newspaper staff was temporarily based in an empty supermarket that featured a sign reading "Foodland—Fresh," which was poignantly changed to read "The Leaf-Chronicle—Fresh Daily."

As we reflect on the long service of "The Leaf-Chronicle" to its readers, it is important to think of all the historic moments that have happened in the last two centuries in Tennessee, across this country and throughout the world. Middle Tennesseans have had "The Leaf-Chronicle" to report daily on those historic events, provide insightful analysis and help record history as it happens.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in recognizing the long history of "The Leaf-Chronicle," expressing gratitude for its service to our community and wishing its staff all the best as the newspaper enters its third century of quality journalism.

IN HONOR OF COUNTY MANAGER  
JOHN MALTBIE

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, soon San Mateo County will lose its premier administrator when County Manager John Maltbie retires after two decades at the helm.

John has served the county ably since taking office in 1989. He has shown, time and again, how thoughtful, steady leadership can make all the difference in the quality of service a county offers to its residents. John oversees a government operation employing more than 4,800 people, who serve a growing and diverse population nearing three quarters of a million residents.

Under John's leadership, San Mateo County was the first County in the State to develop school-based children and family services, a MediCal-managed care system for medical and mental health patients and a work-first model for welfare reform.

A strong proponent of collaborating with his peers in and outside of government, John continued San Mateo County's long history of forming and continuing mutually beneficial partnerships with other local governments, businesses and organizations. Some of these partnerships are the City/County Association of Governments; Peninsula Partnership for Children, Youth and Families; San Mateo County Telecommunications Authority and the Library Joint Powers Authority. John has also worked closely with local cities to develop a nationally recognized model for county-wide emergency medical services.

Madam Speaker, during John Maltbie's tenure, the county has seen the completion of a state-of-the-art, 225-bed San Mateo County Health Center. He has also overseen the building of a new main jail, administrative office building, parking garage, three medical clinics, three social services district offices and a new County Court facility.

John's service in Public Administration began in 1972. Prior to San Mateo County, he served in multiple roles in Santa Clara County and was City Manager for both Milpitas, California and Glendale, Arizona.

John holds a Masters of Arts Degree and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science, with an emphasis in Public Administration, from San Jose State University. He has taught at several colleges and universities, including Arizona State University, College of Notre Dame and San Jose State University.

A true public servant, John passed his community commitment on to his children, Jeff and Jayme, who have both worked in public service. They will no doubt enjoy more of their father's time, but Madam Speaker, the real benefactors of John's retirement will be his lucky grandchildren: Ella, Emma and Zoe. Please join me in wishing John Maltbie a long and joy-filled retirement.

PAYING SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO AN  
HIV/AIDS ACTIVIST

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Debra Fraser-Howze, a constituent and HIV/AIDS activist, for her many years' of dedication and hard work to find ways to test, educate, and treat those that have HIV/AIDS.

The November 11, 2008, CARIB News article, "Debra Fraser-Howze: Making a Difference," points out her more than 20 years' commitment to helping the fight against HIV/AIDS in New York where she resides, across America, and around the world. Since the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, PEPFAR, passed, which will allocate \$48 billion in Federal money towards fighting this epidemic in Africa, she is now pushing to have some of the money go towards battling HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean. There are 14 Caribbean nations that could get some of the money, including Jamaica where her mother is from. This is a great initiative that Debra Fraser-Howze has made. With her leadership, I am confident that she will be able to get funds from PEPFAR to go towards fighting this epidemic in the Caribbean.

Again, I commend Debra Fraser-Howze for her determination to find cures, provide funding and to educate people about HIV/AIDS around the world.

[From CaribWoman, Nov. 11, 2008]

DEBRA FRASER-HOWZE: MAKING A DIFFERENCE  
(By Causewell Vaughan)

There's growing optimism for fighting AIDS in the Caribbean region as billions of dollars become available to fund programs aimed at preventing and containing the disease.

With \$48 billion in federal money being set aside to battle the disease in Africa, the Caribbean is actively seeking to qualify for a share.

The funds will be allocated through a U.S. foreign aid program known as the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). It is the largest commitment in history by any nation to fight a single disease.

"It's going to open doors to a new stream of funding where those doors were not open before," said Debra Fraser-Howze, a longtime HIV/AIDS advocate.

"The Caribbean will have the same positioning as some of those African nations with whom they share a similar AIDS situation."

Fraser-Howze has been helping to lead the fight against HIV/AIDS for more than two decades. She founded the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS in 1987 and subsequently advised two presidents while she served on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

In 2003 she was appointed to the New York City Commission on AIDS and last year to the New York State Governors Advisory Council.

Fraser-Howze is now vice president of External and Government Affairs for OraSure Technologies, a medical diagnostics company. While her responsibilities with the company focus on domestic matters, she remains an active advocate for anti-AIDS funding for the Caribbean.

"It's a personal issue with me," Fraser-Howze said, "because I know the numbers, and I see the rising rate of infection."

That's why she's resolute about the funding, especially since the Caribbean did not receive any of the initial PEPFAR money, which became available in 2003. "The Caribbean islands to which Americans travel all the time need to get the same focus as Africa," she said.

There are 14 Caribbean nations that could get some of the new money. They are Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. Any PEPFAR money they receive will be for AIDS testing, prevention, treatment and care.

Fraser-Howze is quick to credit U.S. Rep. Donna Christiansen of the U.S. Virgin Islands for taking the lead in getting those nations included in the PEPFAR funding. "I've known her for more than 25 years, and I've worked with her and her staff on this issue. We understand that it is imperative that the Caribbean have a robust testing initiative," Fraser-Howze said.

But, she added, even with funding the battle against AIDS is truly difficult in the Caribbean because the region's culture is almost an ally of the disease. Fraser-Howze's mother is from Jamaica so she has knowledge of the cultural barriers to AIDS testing.

"Sex and drugs are very taboo topics in the Caribbean, and there is a lot of homophobia because the disease is very much focused on gay men," she said. "That is why the key to testing in the Caribbean is to have those barriers broken down by the community itself."

"I've seen government send in different people and different groups who are not culturally competent. The best approach is for Caribbean nations to develop their own plan. We want them to craft their own proposals to PEPFAR."

Fraser-Howze cited Barbados as already having "a major HIV/AIDS initiative."

She said she's "extremely optimistic" the Caribbean will get PEPFAR money and, she added, "I'm humbled at playing some small role in opening up this opportunity."

HONORING REP. JIM MCCRERY

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the service of my colleague JIM MCCRERY of Louisiana who is retiring after over 20 years as Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. JIM and I have also served together on the Committee on Ways and Means for 16 years.

Though we are from opposite sides of the aisle—and we frequently take opposite perspectives on issues—he is a colleague I admire greatly and a friend I will miss.

One of the many downsides to the increased partisanship in Congress is that many Members do not take the time to develop personal relationships across the aisle. JIM has never adhered to that philosophy. Maybe that's because he started in Congress on the staff of a Democratic Member of Congress. But I believe it's because JIM values the array of opinions to be had in Congress and is willing to look at the data and listen to others' thoughts before he makes up his mind—not necessarily always toeing a straight party line.

As the Ranking Member on the Committee on Ways and Means during this session of

Congress, JIM and our Chairman CHARLIE RANGEL restored civility and respect to the proceedings of our Committee—something that didn't exist under the leadership of the previous Chairman.

For JIM, the title "Honorable" is truly representative of him. He's served his constituents and this country well. His leadership and service will be missed. I wish JIM and his family all the best.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED  
SERVICE OF DOLORES HUERTA

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished public service of community organizer Dolores Huerta. She has been selected as this year's honoree from the Center for Kern Political Education. For more than half a century, Dolores has devoted her life's work to ensuring economic justice for farm workers and their families as well as securing rights for women.

Dolores was born on April 10, 1930, in the small mining town of Dawson situated in northern New Mexico. She spent much of her childhood and young adult years in Stockton, graduating from Stockton High School. Dolores continued her studies at University of Pacific's Delta College where she received a provisional teaching credential. Soon after, she began a career in teaching where Dolores became acutely aware of the pressing need to address economic injustice.

During her post in leadership with the Stockton Community Service Organization (CSO), Dolores became christened as an organizer. In 1955, she encountered CSO Executive Director Cesar E. Chavez who shared in her vision of organizing farm workers, distinctively separate from the CSO mission. Thereafter, in 1962, Dolores and Cesar launched the National Farm Workers Association. In 1963, Dolores' lobbying and negotiating skills prevailed in securing Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and disability insurance for California farm workers. The Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975 was also enacted with her efforts.

Dolores wielded her powerful voice as the United Farm Worker's spokesperson to gain political power for farm workers. She helped in the election of many candidates: Robert F. Kennedy, President Clinton, Congressman Ron Dellums, Governor Jerry Brown, Congresswoman Hilda Solis, and, most recently, Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama. Currently, Dolores acts as President of the Dolores Huerta Foundation which principally serves to protect, organize and educate working poor immigrants.

In her honor, 5 elementary schools and a high school are named in recognition of Dolores Huerta. Among the countless prestigious awards received include the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award from President Clinton in 1998, Creative Citizenship Labor Leader Award from Puffin Foundation in 1984, Kern County's Woman of the Year by California State legislature, and the 100 Most Important Women of the 20th Century by Ladies Home Journal. Nine honorary doctorates from

universities throughout the U.S. have also been granted.

Throughout her life, Dolores Huerta has proven to be a highly effective community leader whose commitment to justice and public service has proven beneficial for farm workers, working families and women throughout the nation. At the age of 78, Dolores' relentless work continues. We thank her for her noble service and wish her continued success for the future.

IN HONOR OF DR. CARL KOHRT

### HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. PRYCE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Ohio, I want to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Carl Kohrt, as he retires as president and chief executive officer of Battelle Memorial Institute.

Carl assumed the leadership of Battelle in 2001 after a long career at Kodak. He immediately put his experience from the private sector into practice at the world's largest non-profit independent research and development organization. Over the past eight years, Battelle has grown substantially in business volume and impact. Battelle has won competitions to manage and operate research and development laboratories for the Department of Energy, the Department of Homeland Security, and international organizations.

Battelle has also been selected for many projects in support of various national and homeland security programs. In fact, within a few weeks of Carl's arrival at Battelle in the summer of 2001, he was able to marshal Battelle's suite of capabilities to help the United States respond to the impact of the 9/11 attacks. Battelle was later asked by the White House to provide staff to help with the creation of the Department of Homeland Security.

Carl Kohrt has also enhanced Battelle's corporate role in the City of Columbus and the State of Ohio. He developed a strategic partnership with The Ohio State University. Battelle has supported many civic enterprises on behalf of the State of Ohio, the City of Columbus, Franklin County, and other organizations, such as COSI.

The son of schoolteachers, Dr. Kohrt, has left a major imprint on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education in Ohio through the Metro School, which is a partnership with The Ohio State University and the school districts of Franklin County. Battelle has also joined with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, as well as other educational entities in the State of Ohio, to develop additional schools with a focus on STEM education throughout Ohio. Carl's indelible imprint on Ohio will be a signature effort on behalf of STEM education.

The way to judge one's impact on an organization or community is to measure one's personal and corporate accomplishments. Through this lens, it is easy to conclude that Carl has been an outstanding leader for Battelle as an organization and an outstanding leader in the Columbus metropolitan area. Carl has made a significant difference, and we extend to him and his family best wishes and good health in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHERYL  
YOUNG AND COMMUNITY  
GATEPATH

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I would like our chamber to recognize a giant in the non-profit community, Sheryl Young, Chief Executive Officer of Community Gatepath, which serves San Mateo, San Francisco and Santa Clara Counties.

Sheryl oversees one of the largest and oldest local non-profit organizations in our nation. Each year, the organization serves more than 8,000 children, adults, seniors and their families, as well as the countless professionals who support them. For close to 90 years, Community Gatepath, with a budget of \$11 million, has provided programs, support services, education, and information to those most vulnerable in our society. Sheryl's staff of 150 employees are dedicated to making their motto more than just words. These good people have their hearts committed to Turning Disabilities into Possibilities.

Sheryl Young has more than two decades of managerial experience and her keen business sense has lifted Community Gatepath to new levels. She has an almost unnatural ability to build sustainable non-profit programs. Sheryl has drawn from the best of non-profit and for-profit management styles to craft the unique organizational model that works so well for Community Gatepath. Sheryl is a gifted administrator who leads by example and is always poised to attempt new programs or explore new tools to better service the developmentally disabled community. She is an inspiration to her staff, board of directors and the community leaders who work with her.

As proof of Sheryl's standing in our community, "The Sheryl Young Community Impact Award" has been established to pay tribute to persons, businesses and organizations who make an impact in their community by helping people with disabilities.

Sheryl is a graduate of the Stanford University Graduate School of Business Executive Program for Non-Profit Leaders. She also earned a Masters of Public Health from the University of California at Berkeley, a Masters Degree in Special Education from Ball State University and a Bachelors Degree in Political Science from Purdue University.

Madam Speaker, I first met Sheryl while she worked for San Mateo County and I was a County Supervisor. A member of my staff had a sister who gave birth to a child with Down Syndrome, named Heidi. The new mother was grief-stricken because she had been told by doctors that she would be unable to raise Heidi by herself and should turn her daughter over to a residential treatment center. I reached out to Sheryl and she did not disappoint. She called numerous community agencies, eventually contacting Poplar Center, which was the predecessor to Community Gatepath, and asked if there was any other alternative to giving up the child. Not only was the organization able to help Heidi, but they nabbed a remarkable volunteer, too. Sheryl was so impressed with the program at Poplar Center that she stayed involved. Shortly thereafter, Sheryl's heart and her head convinced

her to leave county government and accept an offer to lead the Poplar Center.

By the way, Madam Speaker, I am pleased to note that this year, Heidi will graduate from high school after having lived with her family since she was born.

Madam Speaker, I have known Sheryl Young in many capacities. She has been my constituent, my colleague, my boss and, more significantly, my dear friend. Sheryl has been a loving role model to her daughter, Megan Viera, who, with Sheryl's support, has graduated from college and is ready to begin a life of her own.

Sheryl is at once kind, fun-loving and intensely driven. When you work with Sheryl, you work hard, but you also enjoy every minute of it.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Sheryl Young for being a tenacious, spirited, inspired leader who, no doubt, lifts us all.

IN MEMORY OF MARSHALL  
PARKER

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, November 15th, South Carolina lost a distinguished statesman with the death of former State Senator Marshall Parker of Oconee County.

A thoughtful tribute to his courageous service was published November 18, 2008, in The State newspaper of Columbia, South Carolina, professionally authored by John O'Connor.

[From The State, Nov. 18, 2008]

ONE OF FIRST ELECTED DEMOCRATS WHO  
LATER RAN AS A REPUBLICAN DIES

(By John O'Connor)

Marshall Parker, who helped blaze a path for state Republicans in the 1960s, died at his Oconee County home Saturday. He was 86.

Parker was among the first elected Democrats to run later as a Republican, twice losing U.S. Senate contests against Ernest "Fritz" Hollings in 1966 and 1968.

Parker was born in Seaboard, N.C., but was first elected to the Seneca City Council and Oconee County Board of School Trustees before winning a state Senate seat in 1955. Parker served a decade in the S.C. House.

"He taught me about working hard," said grandson Burl Williams, who frequently mended fences at Parker's farm. "He had a presence...you could see people looked up to him."

In 1966, Parker decided to become a Republican and challenge friend and former colleague Hollings for the U.S. Senate seat left vacant by Olin Johnston's death. The race was decided by several thousand votes, with some of Parker's supporters believing he had won.

"If that race had gone another few weeks, (Parker) might have won it," said Crawford Cook, who worked on both Parker's and Hollings' campaigns. "There were none any tougher than that first one."

Parker believed his role in creating the state technical college system was his most important accomplishment, friends said. Others also credited him as an example for those switching to the Republican Party.

Williams believed that Parker, as a dairy farm owner, understood early that the Republican Party better matched his ideals.

"There were people who stood up and were candidates even though they couldn't win,"

said Crawford Clarkson, a former Parker campaign chairman. "He was a sterling individual; an absolutely incorruptible politician."

URGING THE NEW PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT THE BIPARTISAN SAFE COMMISSION ACT

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I have never been more concerned about the short- and long-term budget shortfalls we face as a Nation. These issues must be addressed simultaneously in a bipartisan way.

I share with our colleagues the letter I sent today to President-elect Barack Obama, urging him to adopt the SAFE Commission process as a way to provide a path toward a safe and secure economy for generations—a renaissance for America.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
WASHINGTON, DC, NOVEMBER 20, 2008.

Hon. BARACK OBAMA,  
Office of the President-elect,  
Chicago, IL.

DEAR PRESIDENT-ELECT OBAMA: As you prepare to take the oath of office as the 44th president of the United States, I want to congratulate you on your historic election, which has reminded the nation that America is indeed a land of boundless opportunity.

I write today because you face enormous challenges of change in building an administration in a time of economic turmoil and financial crisis for the American people. As syndicated columnist Robert Samuelson recently wrote, "The great project of the next president is to improve the economy's stability without subverting its vitality."

Recent congressional action aimed at shoring up the nation's financial system and restoring the flow of credit to help folks keep their homes or small businesses, get student loans or car loans, and protect the value in their retirement accounts I believe addresses only a symptom of a far greater financial crisis on the horizon. I voted for the financial rescue plan because I believed that immediate action was critical to restore confidence and stability in the Nation's financial system. I remain deeply concerned, however, not only by the debt burden nearing \$11 trillion, but also by the mounting deficit spending, predicted to reach \$1 trillion this fiscal year alone.

You are inheriting not only a short-term deficit and debt problem, but a looming long-term crisis former Comptroller General David Walker has characterized as "a financial tsunami that could swamp our ship of state." Mr. Walker, of course, is referring to the current \$53 trillion in unfunded obligations promised through Medicare, Social Security, and other entitlement programs which have skyrocketed from about one-third of the federal budget in 1965 to nearly two-thirds today. As if that amount were not difficult enough to comprehend, it is expected that when the new total is released in mid-December, it is likely to be over \$56 trillion. That means in just a year, spurred by soaring health care costs and retiring baby boomers, our Nation's unfunded commitments have jumped another \$3 trillion. It's noteworthy that the obligation of Medicare alone is 50 times the \$700 billion rescue bill.

I believe both short- and long-term budget shortfalls must be addressed simultaneously.

Yet I fear this daunting task is only part of the immense challenges of change our nation faces. I also continue to be alarmed that America is losing its competitive edge in the world economy. Once bustling U.S. cities and towns that were home to industrial and manufacturing bases are shuttered and crumbling.

On a drive across the old cast iron bridge linking downtown Trenton, New Jersey, with Morrisville, Pennsylvania, you will read the outdated slogan etched in rusted letters, "Trenton Makes, the World Takes." There was a time when Trenton made the steel used for the world's longest suspension bridges, its cars, and farm tools. But Trenton, like so many other U.S. centers of domestic manufacturing, today is a shell of its past. The slogan today could be, "The World Makes and America Takes."

And it's not only America's competitive edge that is dulling. The United States has always been the world's innovation leader, but we graduate half the number of physicists that we did in 1956—before Sputnik spurred America's last "great awakening" in science and engineering. I worry that the National Science Foundation reported that in 2004 China and India graduated 950,000 engineers compared to a meager 70,000 in the United States, and one-third to a half of those we graduate with science and engineering degrees are foreign students, and most will return to their home countries rather than applying their skills in the U.S. I worry that U.S. patents are down. I worry that our companies are spending more on tort litigation than on research and development.

How will we remain competitive, how will we rebuild our manufacturing base, how will our children compete in the global marketplace with the tsunami of mandatory spending obligations coming closer to our shores and the national debt racing past \$10 trillion? As the rate of mandatory spending grows, discretionary spending used to meet the needs and challenges of future generations shrinks. What will we tell our children when we can't afford to pay for a first-class education? Where will we find the money to rebuild the nation's infrastructure and transportation systems? What hope do we provide for American families touched by health care concerns and battling devastating diseases when we don't have funds for medical research to find cures for cancer, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and autism? Not only is this unacceptable, I believe it raises serious moral questions. Is it right for one generation to live very well knowing that its debts are being passed on to its children and grandchildren?

Routinely increasing the amount of money the government can borrow without taking any action to stem the country's growing debt has been standard operating procedure in Congress. But the storm warning signs have been posted. Standard and Poor's Investment Service has projected that the U.S. could lose its triple-A bond rating as early as 2012, while Moody's delays its projection to 2018. It's hard to believe that the United States of America could be such a poor investment risk that it is poised to lose its gold standard rating.

As our nation's financial outlook erodes, we also are mortgaging the economic opportunity of future generations to countries like China and Saudi Arabia, two of the largest holders of U.S. debt. You may have seen The Washington Post report earlier this week that China now owns nearly \$1 out of every \$10 in U.S. public debt. Are we willing to allow China—a country that persecutes its own people because of their faith—or Saudi Arabia—which breeds the kind of radical ideology that led to the terrorist attacks on our country—to own what genera-

tions of Americans have worked so hard to build for their children and grandchildren? This is the same China linked to cybersecurity attacks on the computer systems in congressional offices and committees, in federal agencies and even at the White House.

How do we respond to these challenges of change? Where do we start? I bring to your attention one plan already in place. It has attracted the support of 111 bipartisan members of the House of Representatives and newspapers and think tanks across the political spectrum. I believe it is an idea upon which you can build with bold, courageous and bipartisan leadership.

Democrat Rep. Jim Cooper of Tennessee and I have teamed to offer legislation to create a national bipartisan commission to review the totality of our nation's financial future—entitlement spending, other federal spending and tax policy. This proposal differs significantly from other blue ribbon-type panels, however, because it has teeth and mandates action, similar to the base closing commission. After spending several months holding town hall meetings across the country, gathering comments and explaining the depths of America's current unsustainable financial problems, the commission will report back to Congress. The legislation requires Congress to vote up or down on the commission's recommended plan of action. The proposal is called the SAFE Commission—Securing America's Future Economy—and a companion effort has gained traction in the Senate.

While we have been encouraged with the support generated by the SAFE proposal, I have been disappointed that Congress continues to languish in the political divide while the financial tsunami edges closer. In 1968 songwriter Paul Simon wrote "The Boxer." You may recall its refrain: "Man hears what he wants to hear and disregards the rest." That could describe Congress's reaction, or lack thereof, to the financial crisis staring America square in the face. The American people deserve to know the truth, not just what we think they want to hear.

Your former colleague Senate Budget Chairman Kent Conrad, sponsor of the SAFE Commission idea in the Senate, said that he supported your candidacy because you are "somebody that reaches out to bring people together to get results," noting that "nobody is more responsible for that than the president of the United States. It starts at the top."

America is facing extraordinary challenges that call for extraordinary action. I worry about the future for my five children and 13 grandchildren and your two young children if we do not act now to make certain that America continues to be a land of boundless opportunity. I believe the SAFE concept can provide the outline of a plan that you as president could embrace in the 111th Congress which convenes in January. Enactment of the legislation setting up the commission during the first session next year would ensure a vote on the commission's recommendations during the second session in 2010. Your active support of the SAFE Commission effort in Congress would signal the critical immediacy of attacking this problem head on in the only way I believe it will be solved—by working together in a bipartisan way.

America is yearning for bipartisanship. With your leadership in reaching across the aisle of Congress to bring people together, I believe we can start down the path that will lead to a renaissance in America and ensure that the essential goodness of the United States endures.

I would be pleased to speak with you about the SAFE Commission plan, and I wish you Godspeed as you begin your presidency.  
Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,  
*Member of Congress.*

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. 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. 2638, the "Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2008."

The following project I requested was included in the legislation considered on the floor of the House:

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research Development Defense Wide, Industrial Preparedness.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Seaman Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1000 Venture Boulevard, Wooster, OH 44691.

Description of Request: I received an earmark in the amount of \$1,600,000 to continue a research and development project to develop a more reliable collapsible storage tank that will be utilized by our military for fuel and water distribution. Research and development will occur in Seaman facilities in Ohio and in Bristol, TN.

In recent years, the tanks being used by our military have consistently underperformed, and the Defense Logistics Agency is working with Seaman to develop fabrication technologies that will improve the performance capabilities of the tanks being produced. The money appropriated for this project will be utilized by: (1) identifying the manufacturing processes to ensure long-term performance that meets and/or exceeds current military application requirements, (2) establishing quality assurance procedures to ensure extended life performance dependability, and (3) providing field validation testing.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF JEFFERSON UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT TRUSTEE JEAN BRINK

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, an era is coming to an end in the Jefferson Union High School District. Jean Brink, first elected in 1988, is retiring as a Trustee after 20 years of productive and selfless service.

Like so many in public service, Jean first got involved as an active and concerned parent. Her two children, Adam and Laura, attended the District's Oceana High School, where Jean quickly became as well-known as her son and daughter.

In five straight elections, the voters of the Jefferson Union High School District returned

Jean to office, relying on her level head, passionate commitment to education and keen understanding of the School District's greater role in the community.

Madam Speaker, Jean is the kind of public servant that we could all take a lesson from. While overseeing the modernization of district schools and facilities and working for the passage of two bond measures, Jean remained vigilant against waste and abuse and always kept a watchful eye on the taxpayers' hard-earned money.

Jean Brink earned the title "Trustee" because "trust" is what Jean is all about. As a board member, she guided the District through difficult economic times while always making sure that the needs of students were foremost on the minds of administrators. While committed to the basics, she understood that high school is one of the last times that many students have a chance to participate in artistic endeavors. She has been a strong supporter of art, music and drama programs, not just by providing financial and administrative support, but by attending nearly every band concert, school play and art show produced in the district for the last 20 years. Madam Speaker, a generation of students benefitted from Jean Brink's service. We will miss her, but she has certainly earned her retirement. Jean can now spend more time on her other interests, including swimming and volunteering for such worthwhile projects as the Oceana Natatorium's ceramic mural and the Pacifica School Volunteers.

We all know how much time public office takes away from one's family. I want to thank Jean's supportive husband, John Brink for loaning his talented and remarkable wife to the community. Son and daughter-in-law John and Kristin Brink and daughter and son-in-law Laura and Doug Ritenour will, no doubt, love having more time with Jean, but I have a feeling the person who will benefit most from Jean's newfound free time is her precious and adorable granddaughter, Serena Ritenour.

#### HONORING JUNE W. BUTTERFIELD

### HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor June W. Butterfield, who is the recipient of the 2008 Experience Works Prime Time Award for Outstanding Older Workers.

Experience Works strives to improve the lives of older people through employment and community service. 2008 marks the eleventh year Experience Works is leading this national, yearlong initiative that recognizes remarkable individuals 65 and older who continue to make valuable contributions in the workplace.

This year's recipient from the state of West Virginia is June W. Butterfield, an office manager for the West Virginia Board of Risk and Insurance Management in Charleston. Working since she was 18, June started in the private sector but has been a government employee in one form or another for the past 38 years. The constant challenges and opportunities to become more efficient are what keep June so motivated. Her co-workers recognize this effort and praise her positive attitude in

the office. A former competitive runner, June is a big advocate of staying healthy and encourages her colleagues to stay fit. She encourages all older people to keep working, saying "it keeps you young."

It is an honor to represent this outstanding woman who serves as a strong leader and excellent role model for older women in her community. Congratulations to June W. Butterfield as the recipient of the 2008 Experience Works Prime Time Award for Outstanding Older Workers.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF DARWIN WIEKAMP OF MISHAWAKA, INDIANA

### HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. DONNELLY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Darwin Wiekamp, a hard-working businessman and lifelong community philanthropist. Mr. Wiekamp died at his home in Mishawaka, Indiana on the morning of November 13, 2008 at the age of 94.

In 1936, 22-year old Wiekamp married his wife of 72 years, Dorothy. His business career as an area banker began a few years later in 1945, when he and a friend founded the Owners Discount Corporation in Elkhart, Indiana with a vision to serve customers who were ignored by other banks. Their corporation specialized in small loans for cars and new businesses.

For the next several years, Wiekamp implemented aggressive lending programs to his less fortunate community members, and in 1966 Owners Discount purchased West End State Bank of Mishawaka. Wiekamp's bank continued to grow enormously, changing names several times, until it finally became National City Bank. By the time Wiekamp retired, his initial \$64,000 capital had turned into a financial corporation that today is worth hundreds of millions of dollars. His ceaseless hard work, willingness to take risks, and dedication to serving his community are qualities that every businessman should strive to emulate.

As a philanthropist in our community, Wiekamp led campaigns to raise money for public television, St. Joseph Hospital, and the South Bend Center for the Homeless. His financial generosity also helped support healthcare and the arts in the form of the Schwartz-Weikamp Clinic in Mishawaka and an auditorium at the Center for History. With the help of nine other community businessmen, Wiekamp also organized and founded Mishawaka Futures Industrial Park, which today is home to twenty small businesses and hundreds of jobs.

Friends and fellow businessmen remember Wiekamp as "enormously generous in the community," "a great guy with a good sense of humor," and a "tough competitor and good golfer." But what Wiekamp will be most remembered for is his commitment to educational causes and community development. He and Dorothy helped fund Wiekamp Hall at Indiana University South Bend, the primary classroom building on campus, housing five computer labs, a language lab, sixteen classrooms, faculty and administrative offices, and a 150-seat lecture hall. They also helped finance the IUSB art gallery and more than thirty scholarships for students at the school.

Their most recent contribution totaled \$1.3 million toward the Wiekamp Athletic Facility at Bethel College.

Throughout his life, Wiekamp received many distinguished awards to recognize his accomplishments. These included the Individual Philanthropist Award from the Michiana Chapter of Associations of Fundraising and the Herman B. Wells Visionary Award from Indiana University and the Indiana University Foundation, both of which honor people for their professional accomplishments and service to humanity. He and his wife also received Indiana University South Bend's Chancellor's Medal in 2005. Wiekamp served on the boards of the Century Center Foundation, Center for the Homeless, Project Future, the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County, the Mishawaka Division of the Salvation Army, St. Mary's College, and the IUSB advisory. He also served as president of the South Bend-Mishawaka Area Chamber of Commerce.

So, today I rise to pay tribute to Dar Wiekamp for his innumerable contributions to our community's development. His and Dorothy's generosity is admirable and they will serve as models of lives well-lived.

CONGRATULATING JEFF FUNICELLO FOR HIS PERFORMANCE IN THE WORLD WRESTLING GAMES

**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jeff Funicello for his performance in the World Wrestling Games in Tirana, Albania. While representing his country and the State of Arizona, Jeff was able to secure a bronze medal in both grappling and beach wrestling in the 92KG division. The World Wrestling Games are highly revered throughout the competitive wrestling world and Jeff's victories signify an outstanding achievement.

I would also like to commend Jeff on the service he offers to the community by teaching mixed martial arts classes which promote discipline and self confidence, but more importantly teach students proper self defense techniques. Jeff founded American Pankration in 1990, a mixed martial arts team which trains and competes at Arizona State University. Jeff shows great dedication to his students and is committed to offering them the highest level of attention and instruction on and off the mats.

Jeff is a former Arizona State University Sun Devil and was on the varsity wrestling team from 1992 through 1994. Jeff's credentials also include being a three time Olympic alternate as well as having competed throughout the world with great success in a number of different disciplines of wrestling, submissions, and kickboxing. Jeff's skills as a training partner and coach have often been tapped to train with a who's who list of Olympic, Ultimate Fighting Championship, and Pride FC Championship champions.

Mr. Funicello should be proud of his accomplishments. Again, I say congratulations on your achievements in the World Wrestling Games and commend you for a job well done.

HONORING JUSTIN ALAN GROTE

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Justin Alan Grote of Kansas City, Missouri. Justin is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1271, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. 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. 2638, the 2009 Defense Appropriation Bill:

7. Project Name—Advanced Fluid Controls for Shipboard Applications.

Requesting Member—SCOTT GARRETT.

Bill Number—Amendment to H.R. 2638 (FY09 Defense Appropriations Bill).

Account—Department of Defense Appropriations, RDT&E, Navy, Line #35, Shipboard System Component Development Account, PE#0603513N.

Requesting Entity—Marotta Controls, 78 Boonton Ave, PO Box 427, Montville, NJ 07045.

Description of the Project—Funds will be used to complete the development of shipboard fluid controls using the latest in material technologies—including composites and ceramics—to reduce weight, life-cycle costs, and increase fuel efficiency.

Description of the Spending Plan—(\$2,500,000).

Program Management: \$50,000.

Engineering Labor Mechanical: \$100,000.

Electrical: \$100,000.

Assembly Labor: \$425,000.

Machine Shop Labor: \$550,000.

Material: \$700,000.

Testing: \$575,000.

Total: \$2,500,000.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, consistent with Republican transparency

standards, the following is a disclosure for each of my requested projects in H.R. 2638, the FY 2009 Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance and Continuing Appropriations Act Homeland Security.

Requesting Member: Rep: JAMES T. WALSH. Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Homeland Security NPPD Infrastructure Protection and Information Security.

Legal Name of Representing Entity: Manhole Barrier Security Systems, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 400 Garden City Plaza, Suite 204, Garden City, NY 11530.

Description of Request: (1) Include \$3 million for critical underground infrastructure in major urban areas. This funding would be utilized to complete an inventory of critical underground infrastructure in urban areas; identify the access points to the identified critical underground infrastructure; and, demonstrate low-cost, self-contained technologies that can deter unauthorized access while allowing authorized access to critical underground infrastructure.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. GLORIA COOPER

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Gloria Cooper of Niles, Michigan for over two decades of broadcasting excellence.

For nearly a quarter century, we in southwest Michigan welcomed Gloria into our homes as the hostess of the popular "Here's Gloria" and "Gloria's Place" radio programs on WNIL-AM 1290. Since she first hit the airwaves in 1966, Gloria's in-depth interviews and community focus through the years earned her the reputation as the "Voice of Niles."

In 2006, Gloria took her show to the Web where she has continued to educate and entertain her faithful listeners. On November 24, Gloria will record her final interview, marking the end of an era. We will all miss Gloria's voice over the airwaves and Internet. She is a treasure of our community, and I will miss being "grilled" by my friend on the pressing issues of the day.

Once again, I would like to congratulate and express my gratitude to Gloria Cooper for her many years of distinguished service to the residents of Berrien County. I wish Gloria and her husband Richard all the best. May God continue to bless the entire Cooper family. Gloria's gift of communication has enriched us all.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF NIELSEN BUILDERS

**HON. BOB GOODLATTE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, it was 100 years ago in 1908 that Joseph Nielsen and his successors began their work complimenting Virginia's majestic landscape with quality buildings in which to worship, learn, complete commerce and live.

The history of Nielsen Construction represents the very fabric of America. Mr. Joseph Nielsen immigrated to the United States at the beginning of the twentieth century; a time of tremendous growth and innovation. That young immigrant dedicated himself to hard work and perseverance. The qualities identified as uniquely American in the golden age of industry and expansion and his vision brought him to the growing, but still largely rural, western part of Virginia.

The next phase of Nielsen's success came through the acquisition of the existing W.M. Bucher & Son, a prominent builder in the Shenandoah Valley. This intertwined the futures of a young immigrant and his dream and the growth and development of the Shenandoah Valley.

Today, Nielsen Builders represents the best of American industry. It represents the highest quality in design and build construction. It provides the structure and security to thousands of church goers, students, businesses and families through its homes, churches, schools and businesses.

I wish Nielsen Builders success as it embarks on opening its second century of business and continuing the legacy of commitment, excellence and tradition.

I extend a hearty congratulations to the management and employees of Nielsen Builders of Harrisonburg, Virginia as they celebrate this tremendous milestone.

HONORING CAMERON AUSTIN  
LEEDS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cameron Austin Leeds of Kansas City, Missouri. Cameron is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1155, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

HONORING HENRY CHANG, JR.

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and contributions of Henry Chang, Jr. An energetic public servant and advocate in the Greater Bay Area, Henry will retire this year from his elected position on the Oakland City Council.

Mr. Chang has tirelessly served the community of Oakland, California as a

councilmember-at-large for 14 years, serving as the city's vice mayor for 4 terms. Mr. Chang is sincerely committed to his community, and has employed his diverse life experiences and studies to improving the quality of life for his constituents and to adding greatly to the collective efforts of policy-makers, stake holders, and public advocates in my district.

Henry was born on December 17, 1934 in Shantou, Guangdong Province, China. During the Japanese invasion of Shantou City, Henry and his siblings were separated from their parents for 4 years. In 1950 he moved to Sydney, Australia to study at Knox College. At that time, Mr. Chang was one of only two foreign students at his college. In 1952, Henry again made a bold move to further his education and opportunities, traveling to the United States in the hopes of attending the prestigious University of California, Berkeley.

In 1960, while attending UC Berkeley, Mr. Chang met and married Constance Poon. He graduated in 1961 from the School of Environmental Design at Berkeley. Mr. Chang worked for both the Novelli Engineering Company in Downtown Oakland and the Hugh M. O'Neil Company as an architect before founding his own architectural practice, Henry Chang, Jr. and Associates, Incorporated in 1971. Mr. Chang established his firm in the heart of Oakland's Chinatown District and immediately began using his skills to contribute to the vibrant business community and innovative urban planning needs of that area.

During this time, Mr. Chang began a long and impressive career of service. He has served in countless capacities on local and regional commissions and boards including founding member of the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, several State and city anti-crime commissions, the Oakland Cultural Art Committee, the Lincoln Square Advisory Council, the Oakland Chinese Businessmen Association, serving as that board's president for 2 terms, the Oakland Chamber of Commerce, the Oakland Port Commission, the S.F. Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Oakland Community Development Commission, and the Oakland City Planning Commission. He was also a founding member of the Friends of Parks and Recreation Board. So great were Mr. Chang's contributions to Oakland, the city named September 27, 1990 "Henry Chang, Jr. Appreciation Day." In more recent years, Mr. Chang has served on the executive board of the Association of Bay Area Governments, the Alameda and Oakland Base Re-Use Commissions, the Alameda County Transportation Authority, and the A.C. Transit Major Investment Steering Committee.

On December 6, 1994 Mr. Chang was elected to the councilmember-at-large seat he has been continuously reelected to until his retirement this year. As a councilmember-at-large, Mr. Chang has sponsored important city legislation and has always been proactive in bringing stakeholders, community leaders, and residents of our area together to work on the complex issues facing the diverse and dynamic city of Oakland and its neighboring cities in Alameda County.

Just one example of Mr. Chang's tireless advocacy and thorough approach to policy making is his comprehensive legislation addressing the serious issue of gun control. Henry has authored bills to ban junk guns and ultra compact guns from being sold in Oakland as well as legislation requiring trigger locks on

all guns sold. He also sponsored a tax on guns and ammunition sold in Oakland to offset the high cost of violence caused by guns. These laws became regional models for urban safety and firearms regulation. While on the city council Mr. Chang also initiated the City Management Academy which trains neighborhood activists so that they can better understand how the city works and established the Citizens' Assistance Center to help residents get the assistance they need from their city officials and agencies.

Perhaps most memorable of Mr. Chang's achievements as a councilmember-at-large is his work to bring giant pandas to the city of Oakland on loan from the China Zoological Garden of the Ministry of Construction and to build a state-of-the-art facility for their care while in the United States. I have had the privilege to travel with Henry to China and Cuba. He has a deep sense of respect for people throughout the world and uses his diplomatic skills to bring good will to our Nation. I am proud to call Henry my colleague and my friend.

On behalf of California's 9th Congressional district, I would like to salute the honorable Henry Chang, Jr. on the occasion of his retirement from public office. It is clear that his dedication, innovation and involvement in the accomplishments of the city of Oakland will not end here. I wish him all the greatest happiness in his retirement years and thank him for a lifetime of service to our community.

RECOGNIZING DUSTIN PEDROIA OF  
WOODLAND, CALIFORNIA

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dustin Pedroia, who is being honored as the American League's Most Valuable Player for 2008, the first second baseman to receive this award since 1959.

From a young age, Mr. Pedroia has shown a passion for baseball. Although, at 5'9", he has never been the largest player on the field, he has shown time and again that he more than makes up for it by playing with his whole heart. After graduating from Woodland High School in 2001 he was recruited by Arizona State University to play for the Sun Devils. While at ASU he quickly made an impression on his teammates as well as his coaches and went on to be named a 3-time first-team all-Pac-10 selection, the 2003 Pac-10 co-player of the year and the 2003 National defensive player of the year. He never missed a game at ASU, all while batting an impressive .384.

Mr. Pedroia debuted in the major leagues in August of 2006 with the Boston Red Sox, becoming the first member of Boston's 2004 draft class to reach the majors. In 2007 he recorded one of the finest rookie seasons ever for a Red Sox player, breaking a 93-year-old major league record for the highest batting average by a rookie second baseman and also winning the Jackie Robinson Award for American League rookie of the year. He was also able to cap off this impressive start with a World Series ring by helping the Red Sox achieve a 4-0 sweep over the Colorado Rockies to win the championship.

This year, Mr. Pedroia has surpassed his performance last season by leading the American League in hits, runs, and doubles while also batting in 83 runs and hitting 17 home runs in his own right. He has now become the third player in the history of Major League Baseball to win the rookie of the year award and the most valuable player award in consecutive seasons, as well as winning the golden glove award for best fielding performance at second base.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor this fine athlete. His record of accomplishments is a testament to his talent, perseverance and character, as well as an indication of a promising career that is just beginning. I join the entire community in congratulating him for these achievements and wishing him and his family all the best in years to come.

TRIBUTE TO SAMUEL E. LANZA  
AND ELVA M. POUNDERS

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Samuel E. Lanza of Warren, Ohio and Ms. Elva M. Pounders of Akron, Ohio. In recognition of their honorable service to our nation and selfless dedication to their communities, Mr. Lanza and Ms. Pounders have been inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame as members of the Class of 2008.

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame was founded in 1992 in an effort to honor and to raise awareness of the outstanding military service and post-military accomplishments of Ohio veterans. Each year, an executive committee reviews scores of applications received from across the Nation and recommends 20 inductees to the Governor. These inductees represent each branch of the military and have served in armed conflicts spanning from World War II to Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield. Since its inception, the OVHOF has inducted nearly 900 veterans who, like Mr. Lanza and Ms. Pounders, have demonstrated a lifelong devotion to country and to community.

Mr. Samuel Lanza served in the United States Marine Corps in World War II and, after his discharge, continued his civil service by advocating and assisting his fellow veterans. He joined the Disabled American Veterans in 1948 and eventually served in every elected position at the DAV including State Commander. Mr. Lanza is a Life Member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Marine Corps League, and the American Legion. Additionally, Mr. Lanza participates as a member of the National Association for Uniformed Services and the past President of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association. For more than 45 years, Mr. Lanza has taken an active role in Memorial Day parades and decorated the graves of deceased veterans. For more than 27 years, he has transported his fellow veterans to VA hospitals and other medical appointments. In 1997, Mr. Lanza was appointed to the Trumbull County Veterans Service Commission.

Ms. Elva Pounders served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam Era. Upon her retirement from the Corps after 20 years of active duty which she achieved Marine first sergeant rank, Elva made a commitment to assisting the veterans of her community. Concerned with veterans' healthcare, Ms. Pounders worked part-time at a pharmacy and delivered medicine and supplies to shut-in veterans. She volunteered in VA clinics and medical facilities in Akron and Brecksville, and in 2006, the Brecksville VA Medical Center awarded Ms. Pounders the 500 Hour Award. Ms. Pounders is a Life Member of the Marine Corps League, American Legion, North Coast WAVES 21, and the Retired Enlisted Association and the Fleet Reserve Association. She is the vice chairwoman of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Women Veterans and she has served as a committee member with Summit County Stand Down for Homeless Veterans.

Ms. Pounders serves as the Vice Chairperson for the Ohio Department of Veterans Services Advisory Committee on Women Veterans. In 2007, in acknowledgement of her exceptional commitment to local veterans, the Summit County Veterans Service Commission recognized Ms. Pounders as "Summit County Veteran of the Year."

I would like to commend Mr. Lanza and Ms. Pounders for their extraordinary service and commitment, both in the military and in their communities.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF  
JAMIE CATLIN PRAYTOR

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Mobile and the State of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor Jamie Catlin Praytor and pay tribute to her memory.

A realtor for four decades, Jamie was known to many throughout southwest Alabama as the founder and president of Praytor Realty; however, it was her longtime work with area charities and civic groups that gave her such a special place in so many of our hearts.

Jamie served as chairwoman of the Homeless Coalition Task Force, and she was involved with the Salvation Army and in fundraising for the American Diabetes Association. She also served on numerous boards including: Forward Mobile, Art Patrons League, Allied Arts Council, Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce, Mobile United, Alabama School of Math and Science, Junior Achievement, USA Small Business Development Center, Mobile 2000, March of Dimes, American Cancer Society, Florence Crittendon Home, and Mobile Sunrise Rotary Club. Jamie was instrumental in helping to establish McKemie Place, a shelter for homeless women and children.

Named Realtor of the Year in 1981, Jamie was an institution among Alabama realtors. In 1974, she opened Praytor Realty with an all-female sales staff, which was unique at the time. Labeled "Praytor's Pretties" by The Birmingham News, Jamie and her team quickly built a highly successful and respected company. Jamie gave much of her time to the realtor community as well. She was elected

president of the local Board of Realtors and became president of the state association in 1992. This year, the Mobile Association of Realtors established the Jamie C. Praytor Humanitarian Award, honoring her service. In 2001, Jamie was chosen First Lady of Mobile.

A native and lifelong resident of Mobile, Jamie was a member of All Saint's Episcopal Church. She had served as stewardship chairwoman, vestry member, Altar Guild group leader and president of the women of the church.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Preceded in death by her beloved husband Tommy, Jamie Catlin Praytor will be dearly missed by her family—her daughter, Ellen Praytor Wingard; her sons, Hugh Thomas Praytor III and Wilson Wrath Praytor; four grandchildren, Hayley Catlin Praytor, Hugh Thomas Praytor IV, Charles Lee Wingard Jr. and Blake Dixon Wingard; her sisters, Anita Catlin Miller and Martha Wrath Willcox; her brothers, Paul W. Catlin, James G. Catlin, and Charles P. Catlin—as well as the countless friends she leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

HONORING BRANDON JAMES  
O'BRIEN

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brandon James O'Brien of Kansas City, Missouri. Brandon is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1261, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

HONORING A TRUE SURVIVOR

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, many people, trapped in a cycle of despair, feel that there is no way out of homelessness, addiction, or prostitution. Exploitative pimps, callously indifferent law enforcement, and a lack of social services combine to make it almost impossible for some to escape the streets. Norma Hotaling not only successfully left that life, but has devoted herself to leading the fight to help those who remain behind.

Ms. Hotaling founded the organization Stand Against Global Exploitation (SAGE). SAGE is devoted to helping women and men who have suffered rape, sexual assault, molestation or violence in the difficult transition from victim to survivor. As her organization has said, "Norma [is] determined to make it easier for other women, men and youth who wanted to leave the sex trade and addiction behind, and find their way from the harsh effects of sexual exploitation to restored wellness, confidence, vocation, and overall wholeness."

Through peer counselling—often by survivors—SAGE not only provides psychological and social services to prostitutes and those exiting prostitution, but also empowers the women once they have left the streets. Ms. Hotaling's efforts show that therapy should not be thought of as a luxury for the wealthy: everyone should be able to get psychological services.

Norma Hotaling is a trailblazer. She encourages psychologists around the country to work with their local law enforcement offices to help women and children exploited by prostitution. She founded San Francisco's internationally recognized "john school" in which arrested clients confront the reality of prostitution. Her outreach programs in jails and on the street raise awareness among at-risk populations about how commercial sexual exploitation can lead to addiction and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Sadly, Ms. Hotaling is now in an even graver fight—the fight against cancer. We wish her comfort, and all the best. She is supported in her fight by thousands of people whose lives she has touched. Norma Hotaling's life is an inspiration, and her example will continue to inform our own fight against modern slavery and exploitation.

NICK LAMPSON DELIVERS HIS  
FAREWELL ADDRESS

**HON. NICK LAMPSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, it has been an honor to serve with you these past 2 years in the 110th Congress. It's been an honor to serve the 22d Congressional District of Texas.

I'm grateful for the assistance I received from my friends in the leadership: Speaker PELOSI, Leader HOYER, Mr. CLYBURN, Chairman VAN HOLLEN and the man who convinced me to run again in 2006, my friend, RAHM EMANUEL.

I'm grateful for the work of my fellow Blue Dogs; those who helped me fight for NASA, rebuild after Hurricane Ike, protect our children, and restore civility and esteem to Congress.

Hopefully before I leave today I will be able to thank each of you individually but while I have the opportunity I'd like to express my gratitude for everything you all have done.

To my family who I love very much, thank you for standing by me, thank you for sacrificing, and thank you for supporting me; you gave me strength to serve and helped carry me through the good times and the bad. My daughters Stephanie Lampson Gertz and Hillary Lampson Shanning, and their husbands

Ryan and Mark. My beautiful grandchildren who bring me so much pride and joy: Nicholas, Joseph, Olivia, Caroline, and Julianna, who will be born any day.

And especially my wife of 37 years, Susan, who has loved me and sacrificed for her country by allowing me to spend weeks and months away from home to serve. She is a talented teacher, a loving mother, a strong wife, and a tender grandmother. I am blessed to have her love and support.

Finally, I'd like to thank my staff who worked long days and long nights, weekdays and weekends, and literally did the impossible. Carl Beard, John Boerstler, Carrie Chess, Dan Easley, Erin Fyffe, Rick Guerrero, Kathy Guillory, Georgia Leigh Hearn, Jon Heins, Suzanne Jordan, Trevor Kincaid, Chris Matthiesen, Alastair Rami, Tony Samp, Abby Shannon, Mini Timmaraju, Brittani Williams, Nicholas Williams, and Adeel Zeb; your hard work, dedication, and talents never failed me and are the reason we succeeded beyond the most optimistic expectations. Thank you.

Many of you were with me about this time 2 years when we sent a message that partisan politics and corruption were a thing of the past. That was a great day. In a similar speech on this House floor not too long ago, another outgoing Member called for more partisanship and less compromise. I have been here to emphatically support the opposite message. I stand before you as proof that bipartisanship and working together can and has worked and will work again, if you let it.

Since then, we have made terrific progress to restore ethics, compromise, civility, and hope to Congress and government. There is a tsunami of change and hope that has swept across this country and it all started when a modest, dedicated Texas Congressman brought down "The Hammer."

My journey will end today but the movement we started will continue.

Our movement to change the culture in Washington has made great progress but the road is long and many challenges lie ahead.

There are many Republicans and Democrats who have taken up the charge and will see it through to the end. It is a movement that will allow America to move beyond the corruption and political divide that has plagued us for too long. We are now in a time of challenge, but a period of hope.

The arc of change is slow, but it bends toward justice.

That was the observation of Dr. Martin Luther King many decades ago when this country was being tried by a different type of division. Together, we overcame and today we are closer to changing the culture of this Congress than we were yesterday and I have full faith that tomorrow we will be closer than we are today.

We remember the past.

We live in the present.

And we plan for the future.

It has been an honor to serve these past 2 years. However, it is time to start looking to tomorrow.

Scripture tells us, "Joy cometh in the morning."

Tomorrow will be a better day in America and the day after that and the day after that.

America's course has been charted on a timeline of achievement. We are a nation that when presented with obstacles says, "yes we can."

We are a country built on a foundation of equality, justice, and liberty.

We are a nation that when in the darkest days of depression stood and went to work.

We are a people that when confronted with sickness affecting millions, didn't give up; we found the cure.

We are a society that was presented with an impossible challenge, and less than a decade later watched as an American flag was planted on the Moon.

We will face more challenges, we will come to walls seemingly too high to scale, and people will say, "you can't." But, together we will say "yes we can" and we will.

We will again walk on the Moon; only to go further.

We will find the cures to the illnesses of our generation.

We will roll up our sleeves and solve the energy puzzle.

We will fight poverty with compassion.

And we will combat despair with hope.

America's best days are still to come.

I thank you for the privilege to serve you and I thank you for everything you have done for my family and for me.

God bless you and may God bless America.

IN HONOR OF COSMO INSALACO,  
FORMER FRESNO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a past Agricultural Commissioner of Fresno County, a valued voice for agriculture in Fresno County. On Monday, November 10th, 2008, Cosmo Insalaco passed away from a sudden illness at the age of 72.

Agriculture continues to be California's number one industry with Fresno County ranking as the number one agricultural producing county in California. The fertile soils of Fresno County support over 300 different crops, valued at 5 billion annually to the economy of California. Much has contributed to these bountiful crops, but a significant factor in Fresno County's agricultural success in the 1980s and 1990s was the presence of Cosmo Insalaco as its lead advocate.

Mr. Insalaco was no stranger to agriculture. Raised on a family farm in Watterton, Massachusetts, Cosmo later attended the University of Massachusetts, where he earned a degree in Horticulture. He continued his studies in Public Administration in the California school system before entering the Air Force.

Prior to becoming Fresno County's Agricultural Commissioner, Mr. Insalaco served as Deputy Agricultural Commissioner in Santa Clara County, and as an Assistant Agricultural Commissioner for San Mateo County. While in Fresno County, Cosmo served as vice-president of Agribusiness in the Fresno County and City Chamber of Commerce. He was on the board of Directors of the California Agricultural Commissioners' and Sealers' Association. Always active in the community, Mr. Insalaco continued to return to Fresno each year to judge at the Big Fresno Fair in the agriculture building.

Mr. Insalaco received much praise over the years for his leadership. The crop disasters of

the 1990 and 1998 freezes were challenges he rose to meet. His tenure as commissioner saw major changes in technology and regulation unfold. While known for his strict oversight, Cosmo was also noted by one grower to be “. . . the most cordial and professional . . .” person they had ever met. Contemporaries and employees alike commended Mr. Insalaco for his friendship and his mentorship. Probably most noteworthy was reference to Cosmo Insalaco’s vision. Mr. Insalaco was an ardent promoter of education concerning agriculture. Cosmo helped launch the Blossom Trail, a self-guided tour of the fruit and nut blossoms throughout Fresno County during bloom time. Over the years, this annual event has grown and now draws tourists from all over the region and state. This tradition will continue to bear witness to Cosmo Insalaco’s influence in the Fresno region.

It is most fitting now to honor this man for his life and his dedication to friends, colleagues and especially agriculture. I urge my colleagues to join me now in celebrating this truly innovative man’s life, accomplishments and to extend his family our thoughts. He will be, beyond a doubt, missed.

HONORING CHARLES HENRY  
RIDER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Charles Henry Rider of Kansas City, Missouri. Charles is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1261, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED  
CAREER OF DR. R. WALTER  
“WHIRLWIND” JOHNSON

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker I am honored to rise today to recognize the distinguished career and achievements of Dr. R. Walter “Whirlwind” Johnson, one of many unsung heroes of the Civil Rights Era. We also recognize him for his role in guiding the early careers of Althea Gibson and Arthur Ashe—the nation’s first African American tennis champions.

Dr. Johnson built a tennis court in the backyard of his Lynchburg, Virginia home during a

time of racial segregation and spent more than 20 years (1950–71) training African American athletes who would go on to compete against top players at major junior events. Dr. Johnson primarily used his own funds to house, clothe, feed, and develop these junior players, including Althea Gibson and Arthur Ashe, who said repeatedly throughout their lives that they never would have made it without Dr. Johnson’s generosity and support.

Dr. Johnson inspired, directly and indirectly, many of his students to pursue tennis-related careers, including Willis Thomas, president of the American Tennis Association (ATA) and tennis director with the Washington Tennis and Education Foundation (WTEF) in Washington, DC; former pro Leslie Allen, ex-chairwoman of the U.S. Fed Cup Team; former pro Zina Garrison, former U.S. Fed Cup captain; former pro Rodney Harmon, former head of men’s tennis for the United States Tennis Association (USTA); teaching pros Arthur Carrington and Bob Davis; United States Federal Judge Henry H. Kennedy, Jr.; and Doug Smith, who covered tennis for 3 of the nation’s largest newspapers—Newsday, the New York Post, and USA Today and is the author of Dr. Johnson’s biography, “Whirlwind, The Godfather of Black Tennis.”

Dr. Johnson most significantly helped tear down racial barriers in tennis years ago and helped Americans understand that tennis should be enjoyed by all who play and love the game. Dr. Johnson also served as head football coach at 2 Georgia universities—Morris Brown University and Atlanta University—in the late 1920s. He later established a junior development tennis program to train and prepare African American players, including Arthur Ashe, to compete in the United States Lawn Tennis Association (USLTA) sanctioned tournaments. Whirlwind’s junior program was a prelude to the high-tech junior training academies and camps now run by tennis gurus Nick Bollitteri, Rick Macci and former No. 1 World Champion Chris Evert. Dr. Johnson operated the camp for more than 20 years and helped more than 100 African American juniors earn college tennis scholarships during that era.

Madam Speaker, we should continue to honor American heroes like Dr. R. Walter “Whirlwind” Johnson who fought for a better America without race barriers on and off the court. America and the game of tennis have both benefited an enormous amount because of Dr. R. Walter “Whirlwind,” Johnson and we as a Nation owe him and other American heroes a tremendous amount of gratitude.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM  
JOHNSON

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Mr. William Johnson of St. Joseph, Michigan. An accomplished businessman and community leader, Bill Johnson is retiring from the board of directors of Lakeland Health Care after more than 33 years of service.

During that time he has led Lakeland through a period of phenomenal growth, with

the construction of new facilities, the addition of state-of-the-art equipment, and many awards for quality health care. Beginning back in 1975, Bill Johnson has used his leadership and team building skills to implement hospital mergers, build model care programs, and develop world-class community health initiatives. Since 1993, Bill Johnson has served as the chairman of the Lakeland Health Care Board, and he leaves a legacy that will shape health care in southwest Michigan for years to come.

Bill Johnson was born in Lincoln, Illinois, and graduated from the University of Illinois. He served his country as a first lieutenant and company commander in the United States Army.

Following that service to his country, he became an innovative and respected business leader. He was president of Heath Company, vice president of strategic alliances for Zenith Data Systems, and even after his retirement, he came back as chief operating officer for Gast Manufacturing Corporation.

He brought his business experience and entrepreneurial flair to Lakeland Health Care and to a number of other community organizations. And while Bill Johnson formally steps down as the chairman of the board, we all know he will continue to be involved in the community he loves. He and his wife Patt and family are true cornerstones of our corner of Michigan.

KURDISTAN IS MODEL FOR IRAQ

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I would like to submit the following op-ed published in The Wall Street Journal on November 12, 2008, by Masoud Barzani, President of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. It conveys the strong and important relationship between the Iraqi Kurdish population and the United States as well as their efforts to help build a peaceful Iraq. I was fortunate this year to visit the Kurdistan Region, and I know firsthand of Kurdish appreciation of the American people.

[From the Wall Street Journal, November 12, 2008]

KURDISTAN IS A MODEL FOR IRAQ—OUR PATH TO A SECULAR, FEDERAL DEMOCRACY IS INSPIRED BY THE U.S.

(By Masoud Barzani)

Iraq’s Kurds have consistently been America’s closest allies in Iraq. Our Peshmerga forces fought alongside the U.S. military to liberate the country, suffering more casualties than any other U.S. ally.

And while some Iraqi politicians have challenged the U.S.-Iraq security agreement, Iraq’s Kurdish leaders have endorsed the pact as essential for U.S. combat troops to continue fighting terrorists in Iraq.

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) is committed to a federal, democratic Iraq that is at peace with its neighbors.

We have benefited enormously from the service and sacrifices of America’s armed forces and their families, and we are deeply grateful. We are also proud to have shared in such sacrifices; my brother was among those severely wounded during the liberation of Iraq.

Last year, following a U.S. request, we deployed Kurdish troops to Baghdad. These

troops played a decisive role in the success of the surge. Last month I once again visited Baghdad to meet with the leadership of the federal government. We stressed our commitment to developing an Iraqi state that abides by its constitution and that is based upon a federal model with clearly delineated powers for its regions.

In spite of all this, some commentators now suggest that the Kurds are causing problems by insisting on territorial demands and proceeding with the development of Kurdistan's oil resources. These allegations are troubling. We are proceeding entirely in accord with the Iraqi constitution, implementing provisions that were brokered by the U.S.

In the constitutional negotiations that took place in the summer of 2005, two issues were critical to us: first, that the Kurdistan Region has the right to develop the oil on its territory, and second, that there be a fair process to determine the administrative borders of Iraq's Kurdistan Region—thus resolving once and for all the issue of "disputed" territories.

Unfortunately, ever since the discovery of oil in Iraq in the 1920s, successive Iraqi governments have sought to keep oil out of Kurdish hands, blocking exploration and development of fields in Kurdistan. Saddam Hussein's government went even further, using Iraqi oil revenues to finance the military campaigns that destroyed more than 4,500 Kurdish villages and to pay for the poison gas used to kill thousands of Kurdish civilians.

The Kurdish leadership agreed to a U.S.-sponsored compromise in 2005 in which the central government would have the authority to manage existing oil fields, but new fields would fall under the exclusive jurisdiction of the regions. Since then, the KRG has taken the lead with Baghdad in negotiations on a hydrocarbon law that is faithful to Iraq's constitution and is conducive to modernizing Iraq's oil infrastructure and substantially increasing its oil production.

We have awarded contracts for foreign oil companies (including some American ones) to explore our territory. In so doing, Kurdistan is not threatening the unity of Iraq. It is simply implementing the constitution.

The "disputed territories" have a tragic history. Since the 1950s, Iraqi regimes encouraged Arabs to settle in Kirkuk and other predominantly Kurdish and Turkmen areas. Saddam Hussein accelerated this process by engaging in ethnic cleansing, expelling or killing Kurds and Turkmen, or by requiring nationality corrections (in which non-Arabs are forced to declare themselves to be Arabs) and by moving Arabs into Kurdish homes.

The dispute between Baghdad and the Kurds over Kirkuk has lasted more than 80 years and has often been violent. All sides have now agreed to a formula to resolve the problem, to bring justice to Kirkuk, and to correct the crimes against Kurds committed by Saddam Hussein's regime. Iraq's constitution requires that a referendum be held in disputed territories to determine if their populations want to join the Kurdistan Region. Conducting a plebiscite is not easy, but it is preferable to another 80 years of conflict.

If the pro-Kurdistan side should lose the referendum in Kirkuk, I promise that Kurdistan will respect that result. And if they win, I promise that we will do everything in our power to ensure outsized representation of Kirkuk's Turkmen, Arabs and Christians both on the local level and in the parliament and government of the Kurdistan Region.

Regional stability cannot come from resolving internal disputes alone. That is why

expanding and deepening our ties with Turkey is my top priority.

My meeting last month in Baghdad with the Turkish special envoy to Iraq was a historic and positive development. There should be further direct contacts between the KRG and Turkey, as well as multilateral contacts that involve the U.S. We are eager to work with Turkey to seek increased peace and prosperity in the region.

I am proud that the Kurdistan Region is both a model and gateway for the rest of Iraq. Our difficult path to a secular, federal democracy is very much inspired by the U.S. And so we look forward to working with the Obama-Biden administration to support and defend our hard-fought successes in Iraq, and to remain proud of what the Kurdistan region is today: a thriving civil society in the heart of the Middle East. When we insist on strict compliance with our country's constitution, we are only following America's great example.

HONORING MATTHEW DONALD  
SHUMAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Donald Shuman of Kansas City, Missouri. Matthew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY  
DUGAN REFUTES UNFAIR  
ATTACKS ON THE COMMUNITY  
REINVESTMENT ACT

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, during the recent campaign, motivated I believe by an effort to stave off much-needed legislation establishing appropriate regulation for currently unregulated aspects of the financial industry, a number of people launched a concerted effort to blame the Community Reinvestment Act for our current financial crisis. Their argument—wholly inaccurate—was that the Community Reinvestment Act was the reason that a large number of irresponsible subprime loans were made.

I was very pleased—although not surprised—that Comptroller of the Currency John C. Dugan, an appointee of President Bush, took the time on November 19th to refute

these accusations. Comptroller Dugan is as well qualified to discuss this as anyone in the country, because he has a prime responsibility for the regulation of the safety and soundness of banks and the banking system. Given that, I believe it is essential that all Members have the benefit of his analysis.

Comptroller Dugan is characteristically forthright in addressing the question of the role that CRA has played:

"There are even some that suggest that CRA is responsible for the binge of irresponsible subprime lending that ignited the crisis we now face. Let me squarely respond to this suggestion: I categorically disagree. While not perfect, CRA has made a positive contribution to community revitalization across the country and has generally encouraged sound community development lending, investment and service initiatives by regulated banking organizations.

"CRA is not the culprit behind the subprime mortgage lending abuses, or the broader credit quality issues in the marketplace. Indeed, the lenders most prominently associated with subprime mortgage lending abuses and high rates of foreclosure are lenders not subject to CRA . . . (B)anks subject to CRA and their affiliates originated or purchased only six percent of the reported high cost loans made to lower-income borrowers within their CRA assessment areas."

Madam Speaker, to make it clear that the forceful defense of CRA that I have just quoted is taken fully in context, I ask that those portions of Comptroller Dugan's speech that discuss the CRA be printed here in their entirety. This firm statement by President Bush's appointee with prime responsibility for the safety and soundness of the banking system should help us end the inaccurate, politically-motivated misrepresentation of the role that CRA has played.

REMARKS BY JOHN C. DUGAN—COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY BEFORE THE ENTERPRISE ANNUAL NETWORK CONFERENCE—NOVEMBER 19, 2008

". . . Indeed, all of these efforts are fully in keeping with the OCC's mission and the way that we approach our regulatory and supervisory responsibilities, including those under the Community Reinvestment Act. CRA supports banks doing what they do best and what they should want to do well—making viable lending and investment decisions, with acceptable rates of return, consistent with their business plans, I their own communities.

Given recent public discussion, it is appropriate to ask about the role that CRA plays in the credit challenges we face on so many fronts. In my view, it plays a very positive role. Unfortunately, however, current market disruptions have clouded the accomplishments that CRA has generated, many of which we recognized last year during its 30th anniversary. There are even some who suggest that CRA is responsible for the binge of irresponsible subprime lending that ignited the credit crisis we now face.

Let me squarely respond to this suggestion: I categorically disagree. While not perfect, CRA has made a positive contribution to community revitalization across the country and has generally encouraged sound community development lending, investment, and service initiatives by regulated banking organizations.

CRA is not the culprit behind the subprime mortgage lending abuses, or the broader credit quality issues in the marketplace. Indeed, the lenders most prominently associated with subprime mortgage lending abuses

and high rates of foreclosure are lenders not subject to CRA. A recent study of 2006 Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data showed that banks subject to CRA and their affiliates originated or purchased only six percent of the reported high cost loans made to lower-income borrowers within their CRA assessment areas.

Over the last ten years, CRA has helped spur the doubling of lending by banking institutions to small businesses and farms, to more than \$2.6 trillion. During this period, those lenders more than tripled community development lending to \$371 billion. Overwhelmingly, this lending has been safe and sound. For example, single family CRA-related mortgages offered in conjunction with NeighborWorks organizations have performed on a par with standard conventional mortgages. Foreclosure rates within the NeighborWorks network were just 0.21 percent in the second quarter of this year, compared to 4.26 percent of subprime loans and 0.61 percent for conventional conforming mortgages. Similar conclusions were reached in a study by the University of North Carolina's Center for Community Capital, which indicates that high-cost subprime mortgage borrowers default at much higher rates than those who take out loans made for CRA purposes.

Of course, not all single-family CRA mortgages performed this well, because these loans have experienced the same stresses as most other types of consumer credit. Nevertheless, a number of studies have shown that when these loans are made in conjunction with a structured homebuyer counseling program, mortgage performance is substantially improved. Affordable CRA multi-family projects utilizing low-income housing tax credits have also performed well, with an average foreclosure rate through 2006 of 0.08 percent on the underlying mortgages.

During the community tours I have taken over the past three years, I personally witnessed the positive impact that CRA partnerships have had in transforming communities, expanding homeownership, and promoting job creation and economic development. These partnerships between communities and financial institutions have also helped house senior citizens and people with special needs, built community facilities, and assisted small businesses serving low-income areas.

In the Anacostia community of D.C., an area of economic resurgence that I have toured on several occasions, Enterprise's Wheeler Creek project was a critical link in stabilizing a neighborhood that had been plagued by a troubled public housing project. Wheeler Creek involved development of for-sale homes in conjunction with a bank community development corporation, as well as a bank's purchase of low-income housing tax credits for rental housing.

CRA projects also act as catalysts for other investments, job creation, and housing development. Such infusion of capital into these markets leverages public subsidies, perhaps as much as 10 to 25 times, by attracting additional private capital. Many of these CRA equity investments can be made under national banks' public welfare investment authority. These bank investments have grown significantly over the years—totaling more than \$25 billion over the past decade. Indeed, the OCC recently held its Managers Conference at the Grand Masonic Lodge on North Charles Street here in Baltimore, a public welfare investment funded by a national bank. To meet the demand to invest in similar types of projects, OCC successfully sought legislation last year to raise the cap on public welfare investments from 10 to 15 percent of a bank's capital and assets. This rise will enable the amount of such

investments to increase by as much as \$30 billion.

Interpreting national bank public welfare investment authority, OCC recently issued an approval related to energy conservation that may be of interest to Enterprise. This approval clarifies that such authority extends to bank investments in renewable energy tax credits primarily benefiting low- and moderate-income individuals and areas, government revitalization areas, rural underserved and distressed middle-income areas, and designated disaster areas. The investing bank can claim the credits and, in some instances, receive positive CRA consideration under the investment or community development tests.

Your Green Communities initiative, and others like it, may be able to take advantage of these tools to obtain additional resources under the public welfare investment authority, CRA, and other available incentives to build many more sustainable homes and communities across the country. The research and examples described on your Web site demonstrate that moving to a green economy can generate a significant number of jobs, stimulate economic growth, and create a healthy environment in communities that Enterprise serves.

As the credit market stabilizes, CRA-driven initiatives can also help us tackle challenges such as the preservation of homeownership opportunities and rental housing development. Opportunities also lie ahead for bank partnerships with Enterprise affiliates and other nonprofits to help mitigate the impact of foreclosures in communities across the country. . . .

Our nation has accomplished much since CRA's passage. Perhaps even Jim Rouse could not imagine how much the flow of CRA-related capital and credit has contributed to affordable homeownership, jobs and business development, and healthy neighborhoods. In today's challenging economy, the need for the positive results that CRA has generated are even greater, and the same is true for organizations like Enterprise.

Thank you very much."

#### HONORING JOHN M. MILAM

#### HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine. Mr. John M. Milam has just retired after 34 years with San Antonio's transit system, VIA, the last 16 leading the company as general manager, president, and CEO, and I wish to thank him for his dedication and for his service to our community.

Over the course of his tenure with VIA, Mr. Milam continually embraced change, and the system grew and improved in countless ways. He was among the first to install GPS tracking on VIA buses, ensuring that he knew where every bus and paratransit vehicle was at any moment, resulting in the best planned routes designed with the latest information. VIA acquired newer, more energy efficient vehicles, improving their finances as well as the environment. Mr. Milam's insistence on making VIA one of the most cost-efficient transit systems in the country saved the system in the mid-1990s and allowed him to expand and improve services, making our public transportation system truly outstanding.

It is all too easy to take a well-run transit system for granted. San Antonians simply ex-

pect VIA to be there when we need it, to run smoothly, and to provide a restful ride. John Milam ran VIA so well he made it look easy. But for hundreds of thousands of people, on millions of trips, over dozens of years, the efforts of John M. Milam made living in San Antonio that much better. The programs he began will continue to improve the area for years to come. He leaves behind a great legacy and we can all say, "John, thanks for a great ride."

#### HONORING BRANDEN DEMAR THOELE

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Branden Demar Thoele of Kansas City, Missouri. Branden is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1378, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

#### EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF CARLOS MARIN, ARTURO HERRERA, JAKE BRISBIN, JR., AND MATTHEW PETER JUNEAU

#### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my sadness on the untimely deaths of U.S. International Water and Boundary Commissioner, IWBC, Carlos Marin, IWBC Mexican Commissioner Arturo Herrera, Executive Director of the Rio Grande Council of Governments Jake Brisbin, Jr., and pilot Matthew Peter Juneau, who all lost their lives in a September 16 plane crash outside of Presidio, TX.

I was shocked to hear of the plane crash and am deeply saddened by the loss. My deepest condolences are with the families of those who perished.

I had the privilege of working with Commissioners Marin and Herrera on numerous issues affecting South Texas. They were strong advocates of continued cooperation between the United States and Mexico. Their service to the IWBC was matched by their dedication to improving the quality of life between the two nations.

I will keep their families in my thoughts and prayers.

SALUTE TO COLLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR AWARD WINNING NATIONAL NIGHT OUT FOR 2008

### HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Collin County Sheriff's Office for placing as a "National Award Winner" for its outstanding participation in the 25th annual National Night Out Crime, Drug, and Violence Prevention program for a 5th consecutive year. They placed 10th in the Nation for those with populations over 300,000. Over 10,000 communities participated in 2007.

I've spent time with these folks and they run a top-notch event dedicated to improving the quality of life in North Texas.

Thank you to every person in the Sheriff's Office who makes Collin County a great and safe place to live, work and play.

National Night Out aims to bring neighbors together with block parties, cookouts, visits from local police and sheriff departments, parades, exhibits, flashlight walks, contests and youth programs.

National Night Out heightens crime and drug prevention awareness, generates support for local anti-crime initiatives, and fosters neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. National Night Out sends a message to criminals to let them know that neighbors are united together to protect their communities and will fight back.

It was an honor to participate in National Night Out this year. The Collin County Sheriffs Office received a well-deserved award. Congratulations to everyone on that team.

God bless you and I salute you.

### TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR M. BARTELL

### HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Major General Arthur M. Bartell, United States Army, Deputy Commanding General of the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg on the occasion of his promotion and new command assignment. Major General Bartell has served our great Nation for more than 31 years as a truly exceptional officer, and I am proud to call him my friend. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Art on his well-deserved promotion to Major General and his new assignment as Commanding General, United States Army Cadet Command. Since his assignment as Deputy Commanding General of the XVIII Airborne Corps in June 2007, I have had the honor of working closely with him on behalf of our warfighters here at Fort Bragg. With the deployment of Corps Headquarters in January, he has been an outstanding leader as Commander of Task Force Bragg. Major General Bartell has also been a great ambassador in his outreach to the local community, and it is much appreciated. Most importantly, Art's con-

cern for his troops is evident, and he leads by example. Soldier, leader, scholar, gentleman—Major General Art Bartell truly personifies what a warrior should be.

His career accomplishments speak for themselves: Major General Arthur M. Bartell was commissioned as a Field Artillery officer in 1977 through ROTC at the University of Michigan. He began his career as a Forward Observer and Battery Fire Direction Officer with B Battery 2nd BN, 17th FA in the Republic of Korea. Duty with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) followed. There he served as a Battery Executive Officer, Battalion Fire Support Officer, Battalion Fire Direction Officer and Battery Commander in the 2nd Bn, 320th FA. He next served at Fort Wainwright with the 172nd Light Infantry Brigade (Sep) as both Battalion Fire Support Officer and Battery Commander in the 1st Bn, 37th FA. Following a tour at the U.S. Army Military Personnel Center as the Field Artillery Personnel Systems Manager and attendance at the Army Command and General Staff College, Major General Bartell moved to Germany where he served as the Deputy G3 and G3 of VII Corps Artillery during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf. Returning to Germany, he served as the Battalion Executive Officer for the 4th Bn, 27th FA (MLRS) and as the Brigade S3 for the 41st FA Bde. Major General Bartell then moved to the 10th Mountain Division (LI) for duty as the Division Artillery Executive Officer and as the Battalion Commander of the 1st Bn, 7th FA (which reflagged to 3rd Bn, 6th FA during his tenure), both at Fort Drum and Port-au-Prince, Haiti during Operation Uphold Democracy. After completion of the U.S. Naval War College in Rhode Island, Art served as the Senior Fire Support Observer/Controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk. He then returned to Fort Drum as the Commander of the 10th Mountain Division Artillery. After completing his command tour, he assumed duties as the Chief, Joint Interoperability Training Division, and then as Deputy J7/Deputy Commander, Joint Warfighting Center, U.S. Joint Forces Command in Virginia. Following that Joint assignment, he returned, once again, to the 10th Mountain Division (LI) to be the Chief of Staff and deployed to Afghanistan with the Division Command Group and Staff as part of Operation Enduring Freedom where he assumed duties as the Chief of Staff for Combined Joint Task Force 180. Upon re-deployment from Afghanistan, Major General Bartell served as Deputy Commanding General, Support, 10th Mountain Division (LI). Following that assignment he was sent to the Pentagon where he served on the Joint Staff as Vice Director for Operational Plans and Joint Force Development. Major General Bartell's awards and decorations include: the Defense Superior Service Medal (w/OLC), Legion of Merit (w/OLC), Bronze Star Medal (w/OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (w/7 OLC), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (w/OLC), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal (w/3 BSS), Humanitarian Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Saudi Arabia Kuwait Liberation Medal, Kuwaiti Kuwait Liberation Medal, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Joint Meritorious Unit Award (w/OLC), Meritorious Unit Award, and Joint Staff Identification Badge.

On behalf of Congress, the United States of America, and the greater Fort Bragg community, I express our appreciation for Art's tireless service, expertise, patriotism, and dedication to our soldiers. No doubt he will prove a great role model for the cadets under his new command, though it will be a under loss for Fort Bragg and the XVIII Airborne Corps. I want to personally thank Major General Bartell, his wife Karen, and his sons for their commitment, sacrifice, and the contributions they have made throughout his honorable and distinguished military career. I congratulate Art on completing an exceptional tenure here at Fort Bragg and wish him many blessings and much success as he begins this new endeavor.

### HONORING VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

### HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor American veterans who fought in the most pivotal conflict of World War II; the Battle of the Ardennes, more commonly referred to as the Battle of the Bulge. Specifically, I rise to pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of the many courageous veterans, family members and supporters of the Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, based in my district.

Next month marks the 64th anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Bulge. At 5:30 a.m. on December 16, 1944, over 250,000 German troops launched a massive offensive against Allied forces along an 85 mile stretch of Europe's Western Front in the Ardennes region of Belgium, Luxembourg and France. Initially, German forces were able to advance approximately 50 miles into terrain controlled by Allied armies, but by late January 1945, American units had reclaimed the lost territory and effectively crippled the German Army.

While the Battle of the Bulge was the largest and most pivotal land battle of World War II involving American soldiers, it also proved to be the bloodiest. When the conflict ended on January 25, 1945, roughly 75,000 American troops had lost their lives defending the vital Western Front and thousands more were left terribly injured. The sacrifices of these servicemen and all those who fought in the Battle of the Bulge were not made in vain, as the U.S. Army's expulsion of German forces from Ardennes damaged the German Army to the extent that its full defeat became inevitable.

Ten years ago, a group of motivated veterans in my district established the Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. Today, the membership of this group extends far beyond veterans of the Battle of the Bulge to include veterans of more recent conflicts like the Vietnam war, spouses, family members, friends and even local residents who share the group's interest in American military history. The Chapter meets the third Tuesday of every month at the Terrace Restaurant in Walnutport, Pennsylvania, to socialize, share memories and discuss upcoming community events. Typically, these meetings attract anywhere from 75 to 100 enthusiasts.

One of the primary functions of the organization is to educate local students and residents. Members routinely visit schools

throughout the Lehigh Valley to discuss the importance of the Battle of the Bulge and teach students about the great sacrifices made by thousands of American soldiers over time to preserve our freedom. The Chapter estimates its education program has reached over 50,000 students since its inception.

December 16, 2008, represents 64 years since the start of the famous Battle of the Bulge. On this date, members of the Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge will gather at 5:30 a.m. in two locations in my district to recognize the anniversary of this historic event and remember the many Americans who lost their lives ensuring Allied victory in World War II.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the veterans of the Battle of the Bulge and thanking all members of the Armed Forces for their brave service to our country.

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HONORING NEAL ROBERT  
WINDHORST

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Neal Robert Windhorst of Kansas City, Missouri. Neal is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1395, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

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HONORING THE MEMORY OF  
JOSEPH HENRY BAKER, JR.

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Mobile and the state of Alabama lost a dear friend this week, and I rise today to honor Joseph Henry Baker, Jr. and pay tribute to his memory.

Known affectionately as "Bobo," he was a native and lifelong resident of Mobile. Bobo graduated from Murphy High School and entered the U.S. Army at the height of World War II at the age of 17. He would ultimately retire from the U.S. Army Reserves with the rank of colonel.

As part of his military service, he attended both North Carolina State University and Oregon State University and earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. Following the war, Bobo earned an accounting degree from the University of Alabama. He

was also named to the University of Alabama School of Commerce and Business Administration's All Time All Star Academic Team.

After finishing at the University of Alabama, Bobo began his career in the Mobile banking industry. During this time, he attended the National Trust School at Northwestern University, the New York State Trust School and Rutgers Stonier Graduate School of Banking.

In 1955, Bobo joined the auditing department of the First National Bank of Mobile, now AmSouth Bank. The following year he was promoted to assistant trust officer and then to trust officer in 1960. In 1965, Bobo was named assistant vice president. He was elected vice president in 1967, senior trust officer in 1969, senior vice president in 1974 and head of the trust department in 1975.

He was active in a number of professional banking organizations. He served as chairman of the Southern Trust Conference Planning Committee, president of the trust division of the Alabama Bankers Association, and member of the American Bankers Association.

Bobo was also active in a number of civic and community organizations. He was a former secretary and director of the Lion's Club of Mobile, former president of America's Junior Miss, former president of the Mobile Preschool for the Deaf, a founding member of both the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick and the Family Counseling Center, and a member of the Senior Bowl Committee, the M.W. Smith Foundation, Quarterback Club, Mobile Touch-down Club, Coastal Conservation Association, Alabama Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited and the Mobile County Wildlife Association.

Bobo also gave much of his time to his beloved parish, St. Ignatius Catholic Church. He was a member of the Equestrian Society of the Holy Sepulchre, Legatus, the Serra Club of Mobile as well as Catholic Social Services. He has also served as treasurer and member of the board of directors of the McGill-Toolen Foundation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Joseph Henry Baker, Jr. will be dearly missed by his family—his wife of 48 years, Mary; his children, Laura Blakely Cooper, Leigh Eleanor Givhan, Joseph Henry Baker III, and Mary Lucille Green; his 12 grandchildren, James Lucien Hinton III, Laura Blakely Hinton, Russell Baker Hinton, Mary Virginia Givhan, William Bowman Givhan, Jr., Eleanor Frances Givhan, Mary Deas Baker, Elizabeth Frances Baker, Charles Lansing Green, Jr., Mary Eleanor Green, Julia Baker Green, and Henry Harmon Green; his sister, Frances Baker Lauten; and his brother, William Costello Baker—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

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A TRIBUTE TO MILDRED COUNCIL

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and applaud The Honorable Mildred Council, Mayor Pro Tempore of Greenville, North Carolina. Known across the

state for her longtime community service, Mayor Pro Tempore Council has spent 20 years steadfastly representing her constituents. The National League of Cities recently honored Mrs. Council with its 2008 Women in Municipal Government Leadership Award on Friday, November 14, 2008. This award recognizes women for implementing civic programs in local government. Mrs. Council has devoted her life and career to social work and public service, including a focus on mitigating the effects of sickle cell syndrome on her communities. Her example and accomplishments should serve as a model for future women leaders.

Mrs. Mildred Council is a native of Bethel, North Carolina. She graduated from Shaw University with a bachelor's degree in sociology, and later earned a master's degree in social work from the University of Wisconsin. After first being elected to the Greenville City Council in 1987, she established Greenville's first Youth Council. She also cofounded the Women/Ladies of Distinction program, which mentors at-risk young female students in North Carolina schools. She has also served on 17 boards and commissions in her career including Sheppard Memorial Library Board and the Recreation and Parks Commission. She has been a 4-H leader, serving as a role model for many children in Pitt County.

Mayor Pro Tempore Council has been recognized throughout her career for her distinguished service. In 2006, she was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine by North Carolina Governor Mike Easley. She was awarded the National Association of Black Social Workers 33rd Annual Conference Certificate of Appreciation for Significant Contribution to the African-American Community in 2007. She is also the recipient of the North Carolina Women in Municipal Government For Service As President Award. Further, she has received three awards from her religious community, including the Christian Awareness Organization Humanitarian Award.

Mayor Pro Tempore Council's commitment to her community is based in her strong faith and it permeates into all aspects of her life. She continues to work tirelessly to serve and assist the people with the greatest needs. With her help and support, there is now a Pitt County Habitat for Humanity office, located in the heart of Greenville. Her dedication to the community she faithfully serves truly makes her an exceptional leader and role model. She embodies the true spirit of a public servant by dedicating each day to improving the quality of life for every person living in her community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing the efforts and accomplishments of Mildred Council.

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RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER AS  
NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam speaker, National Adoption Month is a time when Americans can come together to celebrate families grown by adoption. Individuals and families choose adoption for many reasons. Common to all adoptive families is that they offer loving,

permanent homes to children without such a blessing. Multiple States, neighborhoods, and agencies across the United States hold events during this month to encourage families to give children the gift of family through adoption.

There are many types of adoption. In 2007, approximately 51,000 children were adopted from the U.S. foster care system and 20,000 children were adopted internationally. Tens of thousands of children also are adopted within the United States each year. I recognize the joy and love that each of these families offers its adoptive children. I know that Raschke family from Oak Park, IL, exemplifies the happiness and rewards of being an adoptive family. Joe and Cathleen Raschke welcomed Nicholas Dan Raschke to their family in August 2006. Nicholas was adopted from the Vinh Long Orphanage in Vinh Long, Vietnam. As a young Chicagoan, Nicholas loves the Cubs, cold weather, and good food.

We have done great work here in Congress to promote adoption. We recently passed Public Law 110-351, the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008. This new law is designed to help place children in permanent, caring families through reunification, adoption, and guardianship. In addition to reauthorizing the Adoption and Safe Families Act, the new law supports subsidized guardianship, a policy approach that provides Federal support to kinship caregivers who provide their young relatives permanent, loving homes. I am pleased that we are taking steps to improve the lives of America's youth that are filled with desperate need.

So, during the 2008 National Adoption Month, I tip my hat to those who have opened their families via adoption, providing the care and love needed to grow our youngest citizens into tomorrow's leaders.

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TRIBUTE TO TAUBMAN MUSEUM  
OF ART

**HON. BOB GOODLATTE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, the Art Museum of Western Virginia has been transformed. Formerly located in Center in the Square in Roanoke, Virginia, the museum has undergone a multimillion dollar makeover under the guidance of renowned architect Randall Stout and has been reborn as the Taubman Museum of Art.

Created in 1951 as the Roanoke Fine Arts Center, and then fully accredited for the first time in 1977, it became the Roanoke Museum of Fine Arts in 1980. Following its relocation from South Roanoke to the downtown multicultural structure called Center in the Square, it became the Art Museum of Western Virginia in 1992, testament to the regional nature of its mission. But change beckoned the museum as it sat on the cusp of the 21st century, due both to outgrowing its space and an expansion in its collection.

A vision developed for the new Art Museum of Western Virginia. Museum officials and community supporters determined that instead of renovating an existing structure in downtown Roanoke for the new facility, a state-of-the-art structure was in order. That vision was

developed not only to help bring attention to the museum itself but to help speak to the region's steady movement toward becoming a player in our technology-driven economy.

Thanks to the city of Roanoke, an undeveloped site near one of the city's busiest intersections was donated to house the museum, and the city contributed \$4 million for the project. Once Randall Stout was hired to develop an image of the museum at that site, it became clear that his growing stature in architectural circles would result in the transformative structure that many had hoped for. The plan was to help put Roanoke on the map with a building that would attract visitors not only from around the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States but from around the world. On September 10, I was honored to be a participant in breaking ground for the new museum.

After just over 3 years of construction, Roanoke's new art museum opened to the public on Saturday, November 8. And I was fortunate to again be present to help cut the ribbon on a building that is difficult to put into words. But once you see the Taubman Museum of Art, you learn to understand that Randall Stout captured the mountains, valleys, rivers, and seasons in rock, steel, and glass.

The new museum in Roanoke is named for Nick and Jenny Taubman, a family name well known to Roanokers. Nick is the former leader of Advance Auto Parts and presently serves as the United States Ambassador to Romania. His wife, Jenny, chaired the museum's capital campaign. And their pledge of \$15.25 million was the largest donation received toward the museum. The facility also benefits greatly from the Horace G. Fralin Charitable Trust, which has contributed financially and formatively. Under the leadership of Heywood Fralin, the Fralin Trust has contributed works by American artists that now make the Taubman Museum a home for some of the greatest our Nation has known—Winslow Homer, Norman Rockwell, and John Singer Sargent to name just a few.

Under the able direction of Georgeanne Bingham, the Taubman Museum is not only a structure housing works of art, it is becoming a true destination. The museum also houses Art Venture, geared toward bringing men, women and children together in a gallery that will permit hands-on opportunities to create their own art. A special new media gallery is courtesy of the great leaders and minds at Virginia Tech, a longtime supporter of the new museum and an integral part of the institution's plans for educational outreach in the arts. The museum even features Hokie Stone, once specific only to the buildings on Tech's campus in Blacksburg.

While breaking ground for the Taubman Museum, I said that it was a key to the new frontiers that must be crossed in the Roanoke Valley region of Virginia in order to keep it competitive in the 21st century. Now that the structure is complete, I remain convinced that the facility is the latest successful effort that is opening eyes to the vast array of possibilities that are within our reach in western Virginia. I agree with my friend Heywood Fralin that the museum is without a doubt, the most significant new structure in Virginia.

I extend congratulations to Georgeanne Bingham, Nick and Jenny Taubman, Heywood Fralin, Randall Stout, and countless others who toiled for the past 3 years to help the

Taubman Museum rise to the cusp of opening. The expectations were great, but I am sure that everyone who sets foot in the museum will be deeply impressed by what it has to offer to a broad range of art enthusiasts.

The collections inside will speak well. Visitors will get to see old favorites, develop an appreciation for new acquisitions, and experience art in a technologically advanced way. And the building itself—the structure as seen from the exterior and what envelops inside—carries with it special significance. It has automatically become a landmark—and in a setting in downtown Roanoke, it is good company. When given the opportunity to move from ground level and into the museum's interior and then move around it's exterior, one understands that it is surrounded by the landmarks that speak both to the region's past and point the way to its future—from the ancient Blue Ridge and Alleghany Mountains and valleys, to the star atop Mill Mountain, to the railroad tracks that first brought commerce to the region, to the historic buildings that served in previous centuries and have now been reborn for modern times. The Taubman Museum will join so many other efforts leading the way for the region, its citizens, and visitors through the frontiers yet to come.

I am delighted that the Taubman Museum has been erected in the Sixth District of Virginia. I encourage our Nation to embrace the structure and its contents and to come to Roanoke to enjoy this grand cultural attraction for many, many years to come.

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HONORING JACKSON ROSS HOBBS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jackson Ross Hobbs of Lee's Summit, Missouri. Jackson is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1042, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

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TRIBUTE TO MR. GARY L. CRAMER

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gary L. Cramer of Kalamazoo, Michigan for his years of outstanding service to Kalamazoo Charter Township and the State of Michigan.

Gary began his work as a public official in 1980, when he was elected to serve as Kalamazoo Township trustee. Over the next 16

years, Gary distinguished himself as a clear-thinking and approachable leader, earning him the trust and respect of government, business, and community leaders alike. In his capacity as trustee, Gary also assumed an active role as a township fire commissioner and as a member of the city planning commission.

From the role of trustee, Gary was elected to the position of township supervisor, where he admirably served the residents of Kalamazoo Township from 1996 to 2008. For those 12 years, Gary also worked as a member of the Kalamazoo Township Policy and Administration Committee, the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study, the Coalition for Urban Redevelopment, the Kalamazoo Regional Water & Wastewater Commission, and the Community Action Board. In 1999, he was elected to the Michigan Township Association Board, where he retired as president in 2008.

Gary has always risen above the fray of partisan politics to ensure that the interests of those he represents are met. As both an administrator and representative, he truly exemplifies the best of the public servant.

Once again, I would like to congratulate and express my gratitude to Gary Cramer for his many years of distinguished service to the residents of Kalamazoo Township. Southwest Michigan is truly stronger because of his contributions.

IN MEMORY OF NANCY HAWK

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on Friday, October 17th, South Carolina lost a true Charleston Southern Lady with the death of Nancy Dinwiddie Hawk. A native of Virginia, Ms. Hawk spent most of her life in Charleston where she raised nine children, practiced law as a Broad Street Lawyer, and become a tireless advocate and worker for the needs of her community.

I had the honor of knowing Ms. Hawk as a fellow member of First (Scots) Presbyterian Church and growing up with her children. She was truly a pioneer for women's involvement in political and civic service in our society.

A fitting editorial tribute to Nancy Hawk was published on October 19, 2008, in *The Post and Courier* newspaper of Charleston, South Carolina.

NANCY D. HAWK

[From the *Post and Courier*, Oct. 19, 2008]

After Nancy Dinwiddie Hawk was named the United States Mother of the Year, a reporter wrote that chronicling her remarkable life in politics, historic preservation and law was more appropriate for a biographer than for a journalist. That was in 1989. Her impressive story got more so after that.

Mrs. Hawk, who died Friday in hospice care, was a woman of purpose and drive. After rearing nine successful children, she enrolled at the College of Charleston to finish the undergraduate degree she had begun at the University of Virginia. Then, she commuted between Charleston and law school in Columbia. And before it became routine to see female lawyers, her shingle was hanging on Broad Street.

What Nancy Hawk touched, Nancy Hawk influenced.

East Bay Street might have been in the shadow of a 10-story apartment building had

she not succeeded in stopping the planned building by saving several old warehouses.

She worked to save historic Snee Farm, to shape plans for the Crosstown to mitigate damage to the peninsula, to restore the county courthouse, build the judicial center and organize the Charlestowne Neighborhood Association.

She wasn't afraid to take on controversy. She opposed Charleston Place and supported Lodge Alley Inn. Both were built.

When her two bids for elected office failed—a 1975 race against Joseph P. Riley Jr. for mayor and a 1976 race against T. Dewey Wise for state Senate—she became vice chairman of the State Republican Party.

She later said she probably wasn't suited for politics because the "gamesmanship" that goes along with it didn't fit with her straightforward manner.

Mrs. Hawk was born in Charlottesville, Va., but she was thoroughly committed to Charleston where she moved in 1951 with her husband, Dr. John C. Hawk.

First (Scots) Presbyterian Church. The Girl Scouts. Charleston Civic Ballet. Charleston Opera Company. The Christian Family Y. The American College of the Bulding Arts. The Council of Urban Quality. H.E.L.P. Piccolo Spoleto. Meals on Wheels. The Lowcountry Open Land Trust. The Charles Pinckney National Historic Site. Parents Anonymous. Mason Prep school. All were strengthened by her hard work and support. In 1993, she received the Order of the Palmetto.

She once told *The Post and Courier*, "It's hard to live with the knowledge that something happened because you didn't act." Surely she didn't face sleepless nights on that account.

Charleston is a better place because of Nancy Hawk. The city has lost a leader of strength and character.

A TRIBUTE TO THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF MILTON M. YOUNGER

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the distinguished career of Milton M. Younger of Bakersfield, California. After more than 52 years as a senior partner for the law firm of Chain, Younger, Cohn, and Stiles, Milt is stepping down to begin a new law firm, Younger and Lemucchi, with his long-time friend attorney Tim Lemucchi.

Milt was born in Bakersfield and has been a longtime resident of the city. He attended Bakersfield High School where he met his wife, Betty. Upon graduation, Milt attended Stanford University where he received his Bachelors and Masters Degrees. In 1956, he graduated from Stanford School of Law. After passing the California state bar, Milt became certified to practice law in 1957. Thereafter, he served as a JAG officer in the United States Army.

Between 1956 and 2008, Milt served as a senior partner for the law firm of Chain, Younger, Cohn, and Stiles. He joined the law firm, originally owned and operated by Morris B. Chain, in 1956. When Mr. Chain died in 1977, Milt became senior partner. During his tenure, Milt devoted his work to advocate for persons involved in accidents. Notable cases

include representing burned Kern County oil-field electricians where he demanded safe machinery and equipment. In 2001, Milt argued on behalf of a three-year-old quadriplegic child whose car seat broke free from its seatbelt. As a result, infant seats are now required to undergo crash testing.

Milt has proudly supported organized labor for the past 45 years, representing firemen, policeman, correctional officers, California Highway Patrol officers, Naval Weapons Center employees, doctors, educators and senior citizens. A recipient of prestigious awards such as the Presidential Award of Merit by the Consumer Attorneys of California, Bench and Bar Award from the Kern County Bar Association, and honorary doctorate from California State University, Bakersfield attest to Milt's many accomplishments.

Through his public works and relentless community service, fighting on behalf of all injured persons, regardless of socioeconomic background, Milt has accomplished his lifelong endeavor of making the world safer. Known as one of Kern County's most trusted names in law, his significant contributions to the Valley will never be forgotten. Today, I take great pleasure in honoring, through these remarks, a good friend, valued advisor, and public servant Milt Younger.

HONORING DAVID PHILIP ISEMAN, JR.

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize David Philip Iseman, Jr. of Lee's Summit, Missouri. David is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1391, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of National American Indian Heritage Month and to recognize the important contributions of American Indians to our history and culture.

This year's theme is "Celebrating Tribal Nations: America's Great Partners." For me, this

theme recognizes both the opportunities and the challenges facing Native American communities. The United States Constitution recognizes tribal sovereignty and through treaties, the Federal Government has a responsibility to protect the right to self-determination of tribal nations. Congress must do more to live up to the commitments that have been made. Clearly there is work to be done to improve education, increase access to health care, and support job opportunities.

This month I had the opportunity to visit several pueblos in New Mexico to learn more about how the Federal Government can be a better partner in improving education and access to health care. First hand I saw inspiring examples of Pueblos coming together for the greater good of their children and elders, and I learned of areas of extreme need in their communities.

During the Feast Day, I was invited by tribal members in the Pueblos of Tesuque and Jemez into their homes so I, and others from outside the community, could learn about tribal traditions and share some wonderful food. I saw Head Start centers built by the community to provide the youngest children with educational opportunities. Tribal leaders, teachers and elders shared their plans to implement new language immersion and preservation programs to ensure the continuation of the Pueblo's language, history and culture. Unfortunately, I also saw crumbling school buildings and understaffed health care clinics where it is clear the Federal Government must do more to honor the promises made by treaty. I look forward to working with the tribal communities and my colleagues to address these needs in the next Congress.

In Minnesota our culture has been enriched by the contributions of the Chippewa, Ojibwe and Sioux nations. I have been honored to work with alongside Native Americans to increase funding for Indian Education, reduce health disparities, and strengthen tribal colleges, but there is much more to be done.

As we join our families for Thanksgiving, we must remember the critical role American Indians played in the survival of the first European settlers in America and in influencing our shared American culture. We can also learn valuable lessons about the strength of community and the importance of conservation and good stewardship of our land from our Native American brothers and sisters. This November, and every month throughout the year, I urge my colleagues, friends and constituents to learn more about the heritage, history and art of the tribal nations in Minnesota and across the country.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638, FY 09 Defense Appropriations as part of the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: RTD&E Army Electronic Warfare Advanced Technology.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Thales Communication.

Address of Requesting Entity: 22616 Gateway Center Drive, Clarksburg, MD 20871.

Description of Request: Funded \$2.4 million to provide Networked Dynamic Spectrum Access Investigation AN/PCR-148 Joint Tactical Radio System Enhanced Multiband Inter/Intra Team Radios (JEM). The provision will support the investigation of the benefits of Networking Dynamic Spectrum Access for the Army AN/PCR-148 JEM to include evaluation of CONOPS and ability to transition these capabilities to the current force.

#### HONORING JOSHUA JAMES BLANCH

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joshua James Blanch of Liberty, Missouri. Joshua is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1418, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

#### HONORING SPC JAMIN Y. MOORE

### HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor those brave men and women who have been wounded while serving our country in the United States Army. SPC Jamin Y. Moore is one such individual who, while serving in Iraq, sustained serious injury after his platoon hit an improvised explosive device. SPC Moore is a graduate of Liberty High School in Bakersfield, California and I wish to honor him and his duty and sacrifice to our country by inserting into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a poem he wrote on Saturday, May 20, 2006, on why he joined the United States Army.

I go because . . .

I go for a multitude of reasons; many which make sense to me alone and cannot be expressed in words, for words can never describe the deepest truisms in life.

I go to serve my country and to protect those I love.

I go to honor those who have served and fallen before me, not only those of this country; but of all who paid with blood to make the world better.

I go because I believe that I must be willing to fight and die for what I believe, or I am nothing.

I go because I have been called upon to serve. I go because I will gain a deeper understanding of who I am.

I go because I realize that a constant battle is raging between good and evil, hope and despair, life and death.

I have chosen my side and go to fight in the War of Life.

RECOGNIZING DR. JOHN BARACY ON HIS RECENT RETIREMENT AS THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

### HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. John Baracy, an exemplary public servant and recently retired Superintendent of Scottsdale Unified School District.

After working in education for 38 years, Dr. Baracy is retiring from a post where he brought leadership, vision and stability. Dr. Baracy thrived and excelled even though he was diagnosed with cancer within three weeks of accepting the Superintendent position.

In his four years, Dr. Baracy helped to stabilize the finances of the district. Under his leadership, 22 of 32 schools now bear the label "excelling," Arizona's top academic ranking. In addition to this, all five of the high schools in the district were renovated under budget and on time.

Throughout this, Dr. Baracy worked on forming a model of partnership for others to follow. Responding to calls to improve communication with parents and community members, Dr. Baracy moved towards more parent and community input into shaping the schools. By drawing upon his business background, Dr. Baracy shared his vision of finding common ground with parents and the community. The effects of his dedication will continue to shape Scottsdale schools for years to come.

Therefore, I urge you Madam Speaker, in rising to congratulate Dr. Baracy on his accomplishments and recent retirement.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF HERB SCORE

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Herb Score, revered pitcher and announcer for the Cleveland Indians, and in recognition of his contributions to the Cleveland Community.

Herb Score was a legendary left-handed pitcher for the Cleveland Indians who was admired for his pitching records as much as his humble character. During his rookie season with the Indians in 1955, he secured his place both in baseball history and in the hearts of Cleveland baseball fans when he was named American League Rookie of the Year. He won

16 games and struck out a total of 245 batters, a record he would surpass during his second year as pitcher for the Cleveland Indians, when he struck out 263 batters. Herb would hold this record until 1984 and was the American League (AL) Rookie of the Year in 1955.

Following an eye injury he sustained during a game against the New York Yankees in 1957, Herb went on to play for the White Sox and the Chicago Cubs before retiring at the age of 30 and returning to Cleveland as an announcer for the Indians. Just as he was cherished by fans for his astounding pitching abilities, so too was he loved for his unique announcing style. He remained a play-by-play announcer for the Indians for 34 years and was inducted into the Broadcaster Hall of Fame in 1998.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Herb Score. He will forever hold a place in the hearts of Cleveland Indians fans and in the Greater Cleveland Community.

IN MEMORY OF WALTER WILLIAM  
HOFFMAN

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of Walter William Hoffman, who died on Veterans Day after 86 years of a fulfilling life.

Walter and his late wife, Sheila, were long-time personal friends to my wife, Janice, and me.

Walter Hoffman was a native of Ventura County, California. His parents raised him on Rancho Casitas, where they bred thoroughbreds, including Crystal Pennant. He attended St. Catherine's Academy, Thatcher School, Villanova, and USC.

During World War II, Walter served as communications, navigation and executive officer aboard the USS Buchanan and was Officer of the Deck on the day the Buchanan delivered General Douglas MacArthur to the USS Missouri for Japan's surrender.

Sheila and Walter married after the war and settled in Ventura County where he began his career in farming, animal husbandry, and petroleum operations. In 1947, he built and operated the Ventura Airpark. In 1956, Walter and his late partners Oather Vance and William Worthington formed that land management firm, Hoffman, Vance and Worthington.

A Renaissance man, Walter skipped and navigated boats in the Transpac Race, the Mazatlan Race and the Bermuda Race. He held a commercial pilot's license, was a licensed amateur radio operator and played the violin and the accordion. As a young man, he traveled around the world with his grandmother.

Walter also served on multiple boards, including the Bank of A. Levy, Santa Anita Consolidated, American Automobile Association, Livingston Memorial Foundation, St. John's Seminary, and Fales Committee at the U.S. Naval Academy.

He was a past chairman of the board of the Automobile Club of Southern California and was a past president of the Ventura Pacific Company, Crestview Water Company, and the

Oceanographic Associates at USC. He was a past Commodore of the Transpacific Yacht Club and a founder of the Museum of Ventura County.

Pope John XXIII knighted him with the Order of St. Gregory, Knight Commander.

Walter Hoffman is survived by his two daughters, Katherine Russell and Carol Hambleton; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join Janice and me in offering our condolences to Walter's family and all who knew him and called him a friend.

Godspeed, Walter.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID TYSON AND  
HIS INDUCTION TO THE GREAT-  
ER HUNTINGTON WALL OF FAME

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend and true West Virginian David Tyson.

Mr. Tyson is a lawyer from Huntington, WV who continually puts his community and State first. On October 2, 2008, David Tyson was inducted into the Greater Huntington Wall of Fame by the City of Huntington Foundation. David has worked tirelessly for his community as well as the State of West Virginia.

In April 2002, David was appointed by President Bush to the national advisory board for the Kennedy Center in Washington. He continually serves as an ambassador for the arts. Since becoming a member of that board, David has been interested in restoration; on a local level becoming involved with the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center in Huntington. Mr. Tyson is best known for his involvement in this project, which culminated in the theater serving as the location for the premier of the Warner Brothers major motion picture release "We Are Marshall." Mr. Tyson was also recognized as the Citizen of the Year in 2007 by the Herald-Dispatch, the major news publication in Huntington, West Virginia.

I applaud David Tyson's unending commitment to civic duty.

IN HONOR OF MAYORS FOR PEACE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mayors for Peace and in recognition of their 2020 Vision Campaign as they continue their efforts to promote the international abolition of nuclear weapons.

Mayors for Peace is an international organization comprised of over two-thousand cities around the world in over one hundred and thirty countries who are dedicated to raising awareness on the need to eliminate nuclear weapons, affirm international human rights, and promote environmental justice and peace. The organization supports the proposal of the former Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan—Takeshi Araki—who in 1982 proposed an international

solidarity program that would focus on the abolition of nuclear weapons during the second United Nations Special Session on Disarmament following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II.

The Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign is an Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons by the year 2020—the 75th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The campaign continues to affirm the need to abolish nuclear weapons and promotes good faith negotiations toward nuclear non-proliferation in all states and cities around the world.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Mayors for Peace, and in recognition of their dedication to promoting true peace and international solidarity. May their efforts serve as an example and inspiration for all of us to follow.

IN MEMORY OF STUDS TERKEL

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on October 31st America lost its unofficial historical laureate: Louis "Studs" Terkel.

Because he was so modest, Studs would deny it, but in fact he created a new genre of literature and history—the oral history.

Studs and his tape recorder probed every corner of our collective consciousness with the delicacy and certainty of a brain surgeon.

He interviewed the famous and the infamous, the rich and the poor, the celebrity and the common man and woman.

Invariably he was able to extract something very special, a strand of the grand story which is America. He recorded those stories in books such as *Division Street: America, Hard Times: An Oral History of the Great Depression, Working: People Talk About What They Do All Day and How They Feel About What They Do, The Good War, Race: What Blacks and Whites Think and Feel About the American Obsession, Talking to Myself: A Memoir of My Times, Will the Circle Be Unbroken: Reflections on Death, Rebirth and Hunger for Faith, and Hope Dies Last: Keeping Faith in Difficult Times.*

Madam Speaker, we all have conversations of all types every day. But Studs was able to turn his conversations into oral history because he was not just a passive observer of history, he was an active maker of history.

Studs earned a JD degree from the University of Chicago, but he never practiced law. Instead he apprenticed for his future career with a job in a writers project in the Works Progress Administration writing plays and learning the craft of acting.

He went on to become one of the founders of the Chicago school of TV by creating and hosting "Studs' Place" until he was blacklisted during the McCarthy period.

He spoke out for progressive causes, refusing to compromise his principles.

He finally found a home at WFMT, Chicago's classical radio station, where he created his own version of talk radio with great conversation and an eclectic selection of music, signing off each broadcast with Woody Guthrie's classic line, "Take it easy, but take it."

Studs had an irrepressible sense of humor and delighted in composing his own epitaph: "Curiosity did not kill this cat."

Studs was as much a part of Chicago as his friends Nelson Algren and Mike Royko but like Mark Twain he is claimed by all America. We will miss him.

IN HONOR OF ANGELO RUSSO

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the wonderful life of Angelo Russo, upon the joyous occasion of his 100th birthday.

Mr. Russo was born on November 11, 1908, in the beautiful village of Caserta, Italy, where he farmed his whole life. In 1933, at the age of 25, he married the love of his life, the late Michelina. Together they raised four children, one girl, Giovanna and three boys, Andrea, Gennaro and the late Mario. Angelo and Michelina were married for forty years until her passing in 1973. With an unwavering love and commitment to his family, and the realization of Italy's harsh economic climate, Mr. Russo gave his blessings to his sons as they left home to journey to America in search of opportunities and possibilities. Mr. Russo remained in Italy until 1993, when he packed his belongings and said goodbye to all he held dear within the valleys and hills of his beloved Italian homeland, and at the age of 85, came to live with family in America.

Although adjusting to life in America was difficult at times, Mr. Russo has enjoyed the renewed closeness with his sons and their families. His love for gardening is evident every year, as he assists and directs the planting, maintenance and harvesting of the family garden. Remarkably, even as he was nearing the age of ninety, Mr. Russo was still an avid cyclist, riding his bicycle throughout Greater Cleveland's west side suburbs for ten to fifteen miles at a time. He continues to enjoy gardening, red wine, espresso, homemade Italian cooking and most of all, he continues to covet the love of his family—his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Angelo Russo, as we join him in celebration of his 100th birthday. Mr. Russo is the foundation of his family in America and in Italy—and his wonderful life's journey continues to shine through his frequent smile, wisdom, and kind heart. His life continues to transcend time and distance—spanning an ocean, two continents and one hundred years. We wish Mr. Russo, and his family—in Cleveland and in Caserta, a beautiful birthday celebration e desiderare che lei ama, la pace, la salute e la felicità sempre.

THE AUSTRIANS ARE RIGHT

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, many Americans are hoping the new administration will

solve the economic problems we face. That's not likely to happen, because the economic advisors to the new President have no more understanding of how to get us out of this mess than previous administrations and Congresses understood how the crisis was brought about in the first place.

Except for a rare few, Members of Congress are unaware of Austrian Free Market economics. For the last 80 years, the legislative, judiciary and executive branches of our government have been totally influenced by Keynesian economics. If they had had any understanding of the Austrian economic explanation of the business cycle, they would have never permitted the dangerous bubbles that always lead to painful corrections.

Today, a major economic crisis is unfolding. New government programs are started daily, and future plans are being made for even more. All are based on the belief that we're in this mess because free-market capitalism and sound money failed. The obsession is with more spending, bailouts of bad investments, more debt, and further dollar debasement. Many are saying we need an international answer to our problems with the establishment of a world central bank and a single fiat reserve currency. These suggestions are merely more of the same policies that created our mess and are doomed to fail.

At least 90 percent of the cause for the financial crisis can be laid at the doorstep of the Federal Reserve. It is the manipulation of credit, the money supply, and interest rates that caused the various bubbles to form. Congress added fuel to the fire by various programs and institutions like the Community Reinvestment Act, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, FDIC, and HUD mandates, which were all backed up by aggressive court rulings.

The Fed has now doled out close to \$2 trillion in subsidized loans to troubled banks and other financial institutions. The Federal Reserve and Treasury constantly brag about the need for "transparency" and "oversight," but it's all just talk—they want none of it. They want secrecy while the privileged are rescued at the expense of the middle class.

It is unimaginable that Congress could be so derelict in its duty. It does nothing but condone the arrogance of the Fed in its refusal to tell us where the \$2 trillion has gone. All Members of Congress and all Americans should be outraged that conditions could deteriorate to this degree. It's no wonder that a large and growing number of Americans are now demanding an end to the Fed.

The Federal Reserve created our problem, yet it manages to gain even more power in the socialization of the entire financial system. The whole bailout process this past year was characterized by no oversight, no limits, no concerns, no understanding, and no common sense.

Similar mistakes were made in the 1930s and ushered in the age of the New Deal, the Fair Deal, the Great Society and the supply-siders who convinced conservatives that deficits didn't really matter after all, since they were anxious to finance a very expensive deficit-financed American empire.

All the programs since the Depression were meant to prevent recessions and depressions. Yet all that was done was to plant the seeds of the greatest financial bubble in all history. Because of this lack of understanding, the

stage is now set for massive nationalization of the financial system and quite likely the means of production.

Although it is obvious that the Keynesians were all wrong and interventionism and central economic planning don't work, whom are we listening to for advice on getting us out of this mess? Unfortunately, it's the Keynesians, the socialists, and big-government proponents.

Who's being ignored? The Austrian free-market economists—the very ones who predicted not only the Great Depression, but the calamity we're dealing with today. If the crisis was predictable and is explainable, why did no one listen? It's because too many politicians believed that a free lunch was possible and a new economic paradigm had arrived. But we've heard that one before—like the philosopher's stone that could turn lead into gold. Prosperity without work is a dream of the ages.

Over and above this are those who understand that political power is controlled by those who control the money supply. Liberals and conservatives, Republicans and Democrats came to believe, as they were taught in our universities, that deficits don't matter and that Federal Reserve accommodation by monetizing debt is legitimate and never harmful. The truth is otherwise. Central economic planning is always harmful. Inflating the money supply and purposely devaluing the dollar is always painful and dangerous.

The policies of big-government proponents are running out of steam. Their policies have failed and will continue to fail. Merely doing more of what caused the crisis can hardly provide a solution.

The good news is that Austrian economists are gaining more acceptance every day and have a greater chance of influencing our future than they've had for a long time.

The basic problem is that proponents of big government require a central bank in order to surreptitiously pay bills without direct taxation. Printing needed money delays the payment. Raising taxes would reveal the true cost of big government, and the people would revolt. But the piper will be paid, and that's what this crisis is all about.

There are limits. A country cannot forever depend on a central bank to keep the economy afloat and the currency functionable through constant acceleration of money supply growth. Eventually the laws of economics will overrule the politicians, the bureaucrats and the central bankers. The system will fail to respond unless the excess debt and mal-investment is liquidated. If it goes too far and the wild extravagance is not arrested, runaway inflation will result, and an entirely new currency will be required to restore growth and reasonable political stability.

The choice we face is ominous: We either accept world-wide authoritarian government holding together a flawed system, OR we restore the principles of the Constitution, limit government power, restore commodity money without a Federal Reserve system, reject world government, and promote the cause of peace by protecting liberty equally for all persons. Freedom is the answer.

IN HONOR OF WEST SIDE MARKET

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Cleveland's West Side Market on the occasion of its 96th anniversary, and in recognition of it being named one of the Top Ten Great Public Spaces for 2008 by the American Planning Association.

The Cleveland West Side Market was built by the City of Cleveland from 1907 to 1912 and has since been a cultural landmark through which all of Cleveland's diverse ethnic communities can share their culture and food. Throughout the year, over 100 vendors sell fresh, locally produced goods—including fresh seafood, meats and baked goods—at this unique fresh food market located on the corner of West 25th Street and Lorain Avenue. Customers from all over the Greater Cleveland Area come to enjoy a variety of local produce and traditional European, South American and Middle Eastern food among local retail shops, restaurants and apartment buildings. The West Side Market has long been an anchor of community in Cleveland—with vendors boasting stands that have been in their families for generations.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the West Side Market in Cleveland, Ohio on the occasion of its 96th anniversary and in recognition of its inclusion in the American Planning Association's Top Ten Great Public Spaces for 2008.

## EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. DAVE WELDON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 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. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Rep. DAVE WELDON (FL-15).

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: DOD, Other Procurement, Navy.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Northrop Grumman Corp.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1000 Wilson Blvd, Suite 2300, Arlington, VA 22209.

Description of Request: ALMDS is a major technology innovation in Airborne Mine Countermeasures that will revolutionize the U.S. Navy's ability to rapidly detect and localize near-surface and moored mines in the littorals. ALMDS will provide Navy assured access to Pacific Rim and Middle East Littoral waters by providing wide-area, 3-D imagery capable of detecting and classifying types of mines.

IN HONOR OF PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) and in recognition of their dedication to educating and engaging parliamentarians around the world to promote nuclear non-proliferation.

PNND is an international non-partisan network devoted to establishing channels of communication between parliamentarians around the world and to providing them with current nuclear weapons policies in order to raise awareness for the need to abolish the use of nuclear weapons. Currently, PNND's membership consists of over 500 parliamentarians from over 70 countries worldwide who are engaged in nuclear non-proliferation initiatives. This year, PNND marked the 40th anniversary of the International Non-Proliferation Treaty with the Nuclear Weapons Convention initiative—a declaration presented by the European Parliamentarian section of PNND. The Nuclear Weapons Convention is an initiative dedicated to promoting multilateral negotiations that would lead to the elimination of nuclear weapons. I join with the members of PNND in supporting this important initiative.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, and in recognition of their dedication to promoting disarmament and international human rights.

## EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. DAVE WELDON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 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. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Rep. DAVE WELDON (FL-15).

Bill Number: H.R. 2638 Account: DOD, RDTE.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Northrop Grumman Corp.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1000 Wilson Blvd, Suite 2300, Arlington, VA 22209.

Description of Request: The MP-RTIP radar is modular and scaleable in design enabling the USAF to share development efforts between the smaller radar intended for the Global Hawk and a larger radar for a larger aircraft like the E-8. More importantly, the large radar can detect and track targets with a much smaller radar signature—such as cruise missile or small targets on the ground.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. DAVE WELDON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 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. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Rep. DAVE WELDON (FL-15).

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: DOD, Procurement—Defense Wide.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Soneticom Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1045 John Rodes Blvd., West Melbourne, FL 32904.

Description of Request: FeC was built to autonomously identify, capture and accurately geo-locate RF Signals of Interest (SOI) used by our enemies. Initial test deployments have provided relevant field information that cannot be easily derived from any other source. This has generated an immediate tactical field need for FeC systems.

## EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to 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. 2638, The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009.

Requesting Member: ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN (FL-18).

Account: Defense, Research Test and Evaluation (Army).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Miami.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1252 Memorial Dr, Ashe Administrative Building Room 230, Coral Gables, FL 33146.

Description of Request: I received an earmark of \$5,000,000 of funding for the Center for Ophthalmic Innovation at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute be used to help develop new modalities of treatment and ensure direct treatment of military personnel through the development of relevant ophthalmic telemedicine initiatives. The Center for Ophthalmic Innovation (ONOVA) is located within the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, which has been rated as the #1 eye hospital in the nation. This funding will aid ONOVA in continuing research on advanced ocular imaging technology enabling more accurate diagnosis of hereditary retinal disease, better monitoring of treatments for wet and dry macular degeneration, rapid and cost-effective screening for diabetic retinopathy, better evaluation of refractive surgical outcomes, and the ability to qualify dry eye disease. Additionally, the Center is developing

new operational systems for ophthalmic telemedicine to bring high quality eye disease screening to military personnel as well as every United States citizen. Eye health is vitally important to the Department of Defense as active military personnel must have perfect visual acuity to carry out their duties effectively. At least 16% of war casualties are due to eye trauma, and millions of retired military personnel suffer from age-related eye disease. A spending plan for the project will include

Spending Plan: Center for Ophthalmic Innovation Budget.

There are three separate programs and we have separated the salaries.

Imaging and Telemedicine .....	\$445,205
Prevention and Restoration .....	454,797
Retinal Degeneration Florida Eye Disease Project Prevention ..	245,853
Minor equipment and supplies .....	120,945
<hr/>	
Total Direct Costs .....	1,266,799
Indirect Costs .....	653,201
TATRAC 20% .....	480,000
<hr/>	
Grand Total .....	\$2,400,000

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 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. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Rep. DAVE WELDON (FL-15).

Bill Number: H.R 2638

Account: DOD, RDTE.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Harris Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1025 W NASA Blvd, Melbourne, FL 32919.

Description of Request: DTP will be a powerful multi-processor for hosting new capabilities such as Time Sensitive Targeting, Multiple Target Tracking, Automatic Target Cueing, and the ability to distribute this target information to other warfighters.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 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. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Rep. DAVE WELDON (FL-15).

Bill Number: HR 2638.

Account: Military Construction.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: EDC of Florida's Space Coast.

Address of Requesting Entity: 597 Haverty Court, Suite 100, Rockledge, FL 32955.

Description of Request: Construct a permanent Satellite Operations Support Facility (SOSF). The new facility will support existing and future satellite processing operations for GPS II, GPS III, the Space Based Infrared System (SBIRS) and future generations of military satellites. The new facility will provide a consolidated location for approximately 140 personnel.