

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
ORRICK HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL
TEAM

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this opportunity to congratulate the Orrick High School Football Team on winning the Missouri Class 1 Football Championship. The team, led by Coach Pat Richard, won the game in double overtime against Thayer High. The Orrick Bearcats headed into the title game as a perfect 14–0 team ready to play. From a team that had its struggles in the early 2000s, this group has come a long way and has achieved the ultimate State prize. The thrilling win exemplifies the drive and ambition of these young men. I would like to share their success with you, Madam Speaker, and I am confident that my colleagues will echo my praise.

CUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS BUDGET

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, in a thoughtful and well documented article in the Boston Globe for December 3, Joseph Cirincione makes a very persuasive case for putting significant reductions in our nuclear weapons budget at the head of the list of budget savings President-elect Obama intends to make. Mr. Cirincione is the president of Ploughshares, and some of us remember the good work he did as a staff member working on trying to fashion a sensible nuclear weapons policy years ago in the House. He speaks with a great deal of knowledge and I am very pleased that someone as responsible and well informed as Mr. Cirincione has come forward to make this case. As he says in his article, the President “can cut obsolete programs and transfer tens of billions of dollars per year to pressing conventional military and domestic programs.”

Madam Speaker, no rational solution to the problem of an ever-increasing budget deficit can be imagined that does not include significant reductions in the rate of military spending. Joseph Cirincione demonstrates how this can be done in a way that does no damage whatsoever to our national security and I ask that the article be printed here.

[From the Boston Globe, Dec. 3, 2008]

NEED CASH? CUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS BUDGET

(By Joseph Cirincione)

President-Elect Barack Obama needs money, “To make the investments we need,” he said last week, “we’ll have to scour our federal budget, line by line, and make meaningful cuts and sacrifices, as well.”

There is no better place to start than the nuclear weapons budget. He can cut obsolete programs and transfer tens of billions of dollars per year to pressing conventional military and domestic programs.

Transfers to domestic programs will help jumpstart the economy. Military spending provides some economic stimulus but not as much as targeted domestic spending. This is one reason Representative Barney Frank has called for a 25 percent reduction in military budgets that have exploded from 305 billion in fiscal year 2001 to \$716 billion in fiscal year 2009, including the \$12 billion spent every month for wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

We must, of course, spend what we need to defend the country. But a good part of the military budget is still devoted to programs designed for the Cold War, which ended almost 20 years ago. This is particularly true of the \$31 billion spent each year to maintain and secure a nuclear arsenal of almost 5,400 nuclear weapons, with 1,500 still deployed on missiles ready to launch within 15 minutes.

We can safely reduce to 1,000 total weapons, as recommended by Senator JOHN KERRY and other nuclear experts. That reduction would save over \$20 billion a year, according to the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments.

The reductions could be done without any sacrifice to US national security, particularly if the Russians did the same (as they indicated they’d be willing to do) either by a negotiated treaty or the kind of unilateral reductions executed by former presidents George H.W. Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev in 1991.

The arsenal of 1,000 warheads could be deployed on 10 safe and secure Trident submarines, each with enough weapons to devastate any nation. In total, the smaller, cheaper arsenal would still be sufficient to destroy the world several times over. Further reductions would generate further savings over time.

Additional savings are available in the related anti-missile programs created during the Bush administration. Total spending is now \$13 billion a year—up from \$4 billion in 2000. Bush and former secretary of defense Donald Rumsfeld exempted the agency from the normal checks of Pentagon tests and procurement rules in an effort to institutionalize the program, locking in the next president, Obama will inherit half-built facilities in Alaska and California, along with plans to build new sites in Poland and the Czech Republic, but no assurance that the interceptors actually work—and a huge bill to pay. If Obama were to continue the program as is, he would spend an estimated \$62 billion through 2012.

In a congressional review of these programs, Representative John Tierney of Massachusetts concluded, “Since the 1980s, taxpayers have already spent \$120 to \$150 billion—more time and more money than we spent on the Manhattan project or the Apollo program, with no end in sight.” Tierney recommends refocusing the program to concentrate on defenses against the short-range weapons Iran and other nations currently field, and restoring realistic testing and realistic budgeting. Doing so could save \$6 billion or more a year.

Further savings can be found by stopping a planned expansion of nuclear weapons pro-

duction facilities pushed by contractors and some government nuclear laboratories. The facilities would cost tens of billions of dollars and produce hundreds of new nuclear warheads. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates strongly backs the expansion. In a direct challenge to Obama’s plans to reduce nuclear weapons and ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, Gates said in October, “there is absolutely no way we can maintain a credible deterrent and reduce the number of weapons in our stockpile without either resorting to testing our stockpile or pursuing a modernization program.” Obama will have to back him down or pony up billions to pay Gate’s nuclear tab.

What will the new president do? He comes to office with a comprehensive nuclear policy that could save billions. Obama will now have to show that this new security team will implement the change he promised, not their own parochial agendas.

HONORING ASSISTANT DEAN EVE
KLOTHERN, RECIPIENT OF THE
2009 FATHER ROBERT DRINAN
AWARD

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Assistant Dean Eve Klothen for receiving the 2009 Father Robert Drinan Award. This prestigious award is given by the American Association of Law Schools in recognition of outstanding contributions to pro bono activities and public service.

Assistant Dean Klothen’s distinguished career has included service as a legal services lawyer in Georgia, director of the Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program, and director of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation. During Assistant Dean Klothen’s service in these positions, she has successfully created programs to help the less fortunate while also mentoring students and young professionals. Assistant Dean Klothen has worked tirelessly over the course of her career to instill the values of public service and expand opportunities for students to participate in pro bono activities. During Assistant Dean Klothen’s tenure at Rutgers Law School, she has been central to efforts to create a number of programs, including the Pro Bono Research Project, new pro bono projects in areas such as tax assistance and immigration, and leadership training for students at nearby law schools.

Assistant Dean Klothen’s record of serving low income clients in south Jersey and Philadelphia is exceptional. This reputation, along with her remarkable leadership in advising the next generation of outstanding legal minds, clearly demonstrates why Assistant Dean Klothen is very deserving of the 2009 Father Robert Drinan award.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Assistant Dean Klothen on this achievement and wish her the best of luck in future endeavors.

• 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.

ASIAN AMERICAN MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION 32ND ANNUAL GALA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with sincere admiration that I recognize the Asian American Medical Association, which will be hosting its 32nd Annual Gala on Saturday, November 8, 2008, at the Avalon Manor in Merrillville, Indiana. Each year, the Asian American Medical Association pays tribute to prominent, outstanding citizens and organizations for their contributions to the community. In recognition of their efforts, these honorees are awarded the prestigious Crystal Globe Award each year at this annual banquet.

The Asian American Medical Association has always been a great asset to Northwest Indiana. Its members have selflessly dedicated themselves to providing quality medical service to the residents of Indiana's First Congressional District, and they have always demonstrated exemplary service through their many cultural, scholastic, and charitable endeavors.

At this year's charity ball, the Asian American Medical Association will present the Crystal Globe Award to one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Mr. James Gagan. Born in Chicago, Illinois on May 6, 1930, James Lawrence Gagan learned the importance of serving his community from a young age. This would become evident in his two separate stints in the United States Army between 1948 and 1954. Following his military service, Jim, as he is known by those closest to him, relocated to Northwest Indiana in 1956 and worked as a finance company manager until 1958. At that time, he founded a collection and prorating business now owned and operated by his brother, Larry. An astute businessman, Mr. Gagan later moved on to the oil industry when, in 1963, he founded United Penn Oil and Gas Company. Focusing on the leasing, drilling, and production of oil and gas wells, the company expanded to serve an area covering nine states. Remarkably, Jim's entrepreneurial success did not end there. In 1971, he conceived a new company that incorporated with United Consumers Club, Inc. Now known as Direct Buy, this company is now the most successful private buying club in the world, with more than one million members and 163 locations throughout the United States and Canada. Beginning with the vision of Jim Gagan, Direct Buy has become the gold standard in the merchandising industry. Mr. Gagan's impressive contributions to his industry are truly a source of pride for the First Congressional District. In addition, Jim has also been a partner in the development of one of California's premier golf clubs, Big Horn Country Club in Palm Desert, California, which has gained national recognition, and he has been an active participant in the restoration of Innsbrook Country Club, one of Indiana's oldest golf courses.

While his résumé is already impressive in and of itself, it is his service to those in need throughout the Nation that is most astonishing. Entirely funded by profits from Direct Buy, Jim formed the Friendship Foundation in May of 1985. This outstanding foundation, like Jim, is solely focused on improving the quality of life

for those who are in need. Since its inception, the Friendship Foundation has contributed, both locally and nationally, to many people through organizations such as: Habitat for Humanity, the Salvation Army, Christian Haven Homes, Shults-Lewis Homes, Ronald McDonald House, The Caring Place, Baptist Children's Homes, Visiting Nurses Association, Meals on Wheels, Hebrew Association for the Deaf, Greater Hammond Community Center, Special Olympics, Opportunity Enterprises, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Respite Care Services, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Boy Scouts of America, Lake County Child Abuse Center, Hospice Home Care, Children's Memorial Hospitals of Indianapolis and Chicago, as well as many local food pantries, churches, and civic charities. Also, through Direct Buy, local nursing homes have annually received more than 1,500 Christmas gifts, consisting of much needed goods, and more than 1,000 children have had a brighter Christmas thanks to their efforts through the local Angel Tree project. For his efforts on behalf of his community, Jim has received many honors, including the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash, presented by the governor of the State of Indiana, in 1981.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending the Asian American Medical Association, as well as this year's Crystal Globe Award recipient, Mr. James Gagan, for their outstanding contributions to their communities and beyond. Their unwavering commitment to improving the quality of life for the people of Northwest Indiana and throughout the United States is truly inspirational. For these reasons, the Asian American Medical Association, its members, and Mr. Gagan are to be recognized, and I am proud to serve as their representative in Washington, DC.

IN RECOGNITION OF E. & J. GALLO
WINERY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I along with Congressman COSTA rise today to commemorate the 75th anniversary of E. & J. Gallo Winery, a historic company that embodies California's agricultural prestige. Over the last 75 years, E. & J. Gallo Winery has transformed the winemaking industry in the United States and has made significant contributions to the economic strength and vitality of California.

Following the Prohibition era in 1933, two brothers, Ernest and Julio Gallo, decided to start their own winery. After discovering an old University of California pamphlet on winemaking in the basement of the Modesto Library, they began their business with only \$5,900 on hand, a keen business sense, and an entrepreneurial spirit. Over time, they grew their small, family-owned business into one of the largest wineries in the world.

The Gallo brothers recognized the fertile soil of the San Joaquin Valley as an ideal location for starting a winery. Competing against hundreds of startup wineries across California following Prohibition, they quickly rose to the top by making wine affordable to everyday people

instead of marketing solely to the upper echelons of society. Their business model caught on and E. & J. Gallo Winery quickly became one of the most respected in the business.

Decades later, E. & J. Gallo Winery has become one of the most influential wineries worldwide, with over 60 unique wines from a wide variety of locales. They have made a commitment to environmentally sustainable farming and have become a model for the rest of the industry. The Gallo Winery employs 4,600 people in the state of California, providing critical highly skilled employment opportunities in the San Joaquin Valley.

E. & J. Gallo Winery has been honored with countless awards for achievement in winemaking, including the American Society of Enologists Merit Award—the wine industry's highest honor—in 1964 for outstanding leadership in the wine industry, the Gold Vine Award from the Brotherhood of the Knights of the Vine wine fraternity, the 1983 Distinguished Service Award from The Wine Spectator, and the Winery of the Year Award in both 1996 and 1998 by the San Francisco International Wine Competition.

Few companies rival the generous spirit of E. & J. Gallo Winery. Throughout the state of California, they invested in local communities, including an endowment for the Gallo Center for the Arts in Modesto, and the establishment of the Ernest Gallo Clinic and Research Center at the University of California at San Francisco for research into genetic, biochemical and neurobiological aspects of alcohol abuse.

Madam Speaker, it is our great honor and privilege to recognize E. & J. Gallo Winery on the advent of their 75th anniversary. Their contributions to the wine industry, to agriculture, and to the San Joaquin Valley are an inspiration to us all and we continue to wish them great success for many years to come.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE
RETIREMENT OF DIANA HART

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. REGULA. Madam Speaker, as you know, I will be retiring from this House at the conclusion of this Congress, but today I rise to pay tribute to a member of my staff, Diana Hart, who will also be retiring from service in this House.

A native of New Orleans, Diana lived in Germany for many years but decided to make the Washington area her home in the 1980s. Diana holds an associates degree in paralegal studies and joined my staff in 1986. As our office manager, Diana is also usually the first person a visitor to my office meets or a caller speaks with. Over these nearly 22 years of serving constituents and assisting guests, Diana has provided a warm welcome and a helpful demeanor with a continued focus on our office motto of "Constituents First."

Over the years, we have come to know Diana as a cat lover who is extremely devoted to her two cats. However, recently a new passion has inched its way into Diana's heart. That passion is her new grandson and her soon-to-arrive granddaughter. In her retirement, Diana is looking forward to being able to spend more time with both her grandchildren

and her cats, and we all wish her well as she will have more time to pursue these passions. We are grateful to Diana for her service.

IN HONOR OF JACK AND GENEVIEVE CHAPMAN, THE REAL SPIRIT OF THE SEASON

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise to share a story of two true public servants, Jack and Genevieve Chapman of Minnesota. As we enter a season when people's hearts and minds are turned to the spirit of giving, these two people have lived a life of selflessness and charity.

Jack Chapman of St. Paul was recognized by the Army as a Shot Expert Rifleman as an ROTC high school student. When Pearl Harbor was attacked, he was an electrical engineering student at the University of Minnesota. One year later, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and was sent to the prestigious Bellevue Radio Materiel School at the U.S. Naval Research Lab. His lifelong love of Ham radio made him a perfect candidate for the new science of radar. He was assigned to the Marine Night Fighters in the South Pacific, the very first to use radar at night. He earned two Bronze Service Stars on the Asiatic-Pacific campaign ribbon. Jack also earned the American Theater Campaign Bar before being honorably discharged to return home and complete his college education.

Genevieve Christgau of Minneapolis pursued a nursing degree and became a registered nurse working in the operating room at Asbury Hospital. Her status as essential personnel kept her from joining the Army Nurse Corps. But, as soon as her status changed, she enlisted and was assigned to the 77th Field Hospital in December 1944. Her tour took her to France where she worked with soldiers preparing to return home. Many had come from POW camps and were suffering severe malnutrition. Before her honorable discharge and return to the States, Genevieve was stationed in Nuremburg, Germany. When she returned home, she resumed nursing; this time in the Veterans Hospital in Minneapolis. During the Cuban Refugee Crisis, she worked at Fort McCoy, WI, and she earned certification as a Public Health Nurse, helping provide early childhood screenings and school nursing services.

Genevieve and Jack married on February 18, 1949 and continued to live a life of service. Both are active volunteers at Pax Christi Catholic Church. They also have been members of "Friday Friends," a group that visits Presbyterian Homes, formerly the Eagle Nursing Home, and of Bridging, an organization that provides household furniture and goods to those who need them most. Always putting their family at the center of their generous spirits, they have raised seven children, giving them 16 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

These two fine people have lived a life of service to their country, their community, and their family. They are two of the many unsung heroes that make America work, and today I rise to sing their praises and to thank them for their selflessness.

HONORING GEORGE BARANOWSKI

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor and pleasure that I stand before you today to recognize one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Mr. George Baranowski, of Schererville, Indiana. George has always been a dedicated, distinguished, and honorable citizen, and I can say without hesitation that he is one of the most involved individuals I have ever known. As a businessman, entrepreneur, public official, and an avid volunteer, George has served the community in Northwest Indiana for many years. Through his service, he has brought honor to Americans of Polish heritage, and for his efforts, he will be honored with the Polish American Congress Meritorious Service Award at a banquet taking place at The Patio Restaurant in Merrillville, Indiana on Sunday, November 2, 2008.

George Baranowski was born on August 30, 1957 at Saint Catherine Hospital in East Chicago, Indiana. He was the third child born to immigrant parents, Mieczyslaw (Matt) and Janina Baranowski. A lifelong resident of Northwest Indiana, George attended Saint Casmir Elementary School in Hammond before moving on to George Rogers Clark High School. Following his graduation from high school in 1975, George went on to study Electrical Engineering Technology at Purdue University, where he earned both his associate and bachelor degrees.

After receiving his associate degree, George began working at the Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO), where he remained until the completion of his bachelor degree. At that time, he accepted a position in management with Acme Steel in Riverdale, Illinois. Following seven successful years at Acme, George moved on in 1995, when he accepted a management position at BP Amoco in Chicago, Illinois. Recognized for his professionalism and leadership abilities, in 1999, George was awarded a position as Vice President at Prometheus Network Solution, Inc., thus allowing him to obtain one of his lifelong goals.

Having accomplished a goal he set forth for himself in business, George decided to move on, and after working for IBM for a period of time, he and his wife went into business for themselves. On October 1, 2004, George and his wife, Debra, opened their first Allstate Insurance Agency in Dyer, Indiana. Since then they have achieved great success, having been awarded Allstate's prestigious Honor Ring, Regional Champion, and Chairman's Club Member distinctions. In 2007, they were among the elite at Allstate as part of the top five percent. It is no surprise the couple opened their second branch in 2008.

Undoubtedly, George Baranowski has been extremely successful as a businessman and entrepreneur throughout his career. However, his efforts on behalf of his community have truly set him apart from his peers. As a public official, George is currently the Commissioner of the Dyer Redevelopment Commission and a Trustee for the Lake Central School Board. He has also served as Chairman of the Saint John Township Board as well as a Legislative Committee Member for the Indiana School

Board Association, serving all of Jasper, Lake, Newton, and Porter Counties. He has also served as a member of the Chambers of Commerce for the communities of Schererville and Dyer, for which he is currently the Director. In addition to his many civic responsibilities, George has also been extremely active in various charitable and community-based organizations, including: Christmas in April, the Lions Club, Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite, and the Polish American Congress.

A devout family man, George spends much of his spare time with not only his business partner, but his loving wife of 28 years, Debra. George and Debra have two sons, Brett and Bryan, and one daughter, Kristy.

Madam Speaker, George Baranowski has given his time and efforts selflessly to the people of his community, and he has served as a source of pride for the Polish American community. His efforts have touched the hearts of many people throughout the years, and at this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending him for his lifetime of service and dedication.

HONORING THE REVEREND
GEORGE M. DOCHERTY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of the Reverend George M. Docherty, whose influential sermon in 1954 led to the insertion of the phrase "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverend Docherty passed away on Thanksgiving Day in his home in Alexandria, PA at the age of 97.

Reverend Docherty came to the United States from Glasgow, Scotland to become the pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, which was attended by President Lincoln in the 1860s and later became known as "Lincoln's church." It is tradition for the President to attend a special service at the church on the Sunday closest to Lincoln's birthday. It was during this special service on February 7, 1954, that Reverend Docherty gave a sermon before President Dwight D. Eisenhower calling for the Pledge of Allegiance to be amended to acknowledge God. Reverend Docherty took the phrase "under God" from the Gettysburg Address, in which Lincoln said, "this Nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom."

Reverend Docherty first heard the Pledge of Allegiance from his then 7-year-old son, Garth, and was surprised that it made no reference to God. He argued in his sermon to the President that "To omit the words 'under God' in the Pledge of Allegiance is to omit the definitive factor in the American way of life." Without any acknowledgement of God, Reverend Docherty said the pledge could apply to nearly any nation, including the communist Soviet Union. The sermon had an immediate effect on President Eisenhower, and several bills were introduced in Congress that week to amend the Pledge. The bill to add "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance was signed into law by President Eisenhower just 4 months later on Flag Day 1954.

The Pledge of Allegiance is a national symbol of unity and a reflection of our shared

ideals upon which this country was founded, and it is with great honor and respect that we honor the life and service of Reverend George Docherty. Our great thanks go to this remarkable individual, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

RECOGNIZING BILL DOUGLASS
CONVENIENCE STORE HALL OF
FAME INDUCTEE

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to honor an outstanding citizen in the Fourth District of Texas and my longtime friend, Bill Douglass of Sherman, as a 2008 Convenience Store Hall of Fame Inductee.

This year's Convenience Store News Hall of Fame induction ceremony in October honored Bill as much for his strong character, integrity and community service as for his business achievements. Bill was honored for his tireless efforts on behalf of the convenience and petroleum retailing industry and for the level of integrity that he has upheld over the years. The W. Douglass Distributing Company, which Bill founded in 1981 and which he serves as CEO, is a full-line distributorship and operator of the 15-unit Lone Star Food Stores chain servicing the region of north Texas and southern Oklahoma. The company, which began with just six employees, has grown to more than 280 employees.

Throughout his career, Bill has been a tireless and effective advocate for the convenience and petroleum retailing industry. He has served as chairman of the General Committee of State Relations for the American Petroleum Institute, chairman of the National Association of Convenience Stores and director of the Texas Petroleum and Convenience Store Association, and he has testified on several occasions before Congress about issues important to his industry.

Bill is also a widely recognized and respected member of the north Texas community, providing financial support and volunteer efforts to various local organizations each year. In 2002 he and his wife, Joan, were named as the Outstanding Employer of Older Workers for their strong belief in the value of older workers by maintaining an age-balanced group of employees. Their winning combination of younger workers and their older counterparts has created a work environment where age and experience can assist in training, advice and counseling. The company has no mandatory retirement age and provides flexibility in scheduling of employees' hours.

Madam Speaker, Bill Douglass is the kind of employer who leads by example. These are some of the words that his employees used to describe him and his family in a full-page newspaper ad: "wonderful, inspirational, brilliant, graceful, generous, charitable, tireless, encouraging, selfless, devoted, integrity." Bill Douglass embodies all of those qualities—and I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing this wonderful man and outstanding American, Bill Douglass.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL
EMILIO ALBERT DE LA GARZA, JR.

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take this time to recognize Ivy Tech Community College as it dedicates its East Chicago, Indiana campus and to join the institute in paying tribute to its namesake, Vietnam War hero Lance Corporal Emilio Albert De La Garza, Jr. After completing the first phase of a new modernization project, Ivy Tech will be holding a dedication ceremony on Sunday, December 7, 2008 at the campus in East Chicago, Indiana. The event will serve not only as an opportunity to showcase the improvements to the campus and to reaffirm its commitment to excellence in higher learning, but it will also serve as a chance to reflect on the bravery and heroism of one of East Chicago's own.

Ivy Tech Community College's East Chicago campus has served students from Northwest Indiana and beyond since 1994. Always committed to improving the learning environment for its students, the De La Garza campus, which began with 376 students and now serves an impressive enrollment of 1,122 students, recently completed the first phase of a modernization project. This project, which began in July 2006, features improvements to general maintenance and enhanced safety measures, as well as new and improved conference rooms and student common areas. Phase II of this project, set to begin in January 2009, will focus on improvements to the classrooms and computer labs.

These renovations are the result of the continuous outpouring of support from the community, offered as a living memory of one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens and greatest heroes, Lance Corporal Emilio A. De La Garza, Jr. Lance Corporal De La Garza was born in East Chicago, Indiana on June 23, 1949. Following his graduation from East Chicago Washington High School in 1968, the patriotic and devoted De La Garza decided to serve his country and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. While serving as a machine gunner with Company E, Second Battalion, First Marines, First Marine Division in the Republic of Vietnam on April 11, 1970, Lance Corporal De La Garza paid the ultimate sacrifice. Demonstrating the most selfless act imaginable, Lance Corporal De La Garza placed himself between two of his fellow Marines and a live grenade. While Lance Corporal De La Garza's life was lost, his courageous act spared the lives of the other Marines.

Lance Corporal Emilio De La Garza, Jr. performed the ultimate act of heroism, setting aside personal safety for the safety of others. For his bravery, Lance Corporal De La Garza was posthumously honored by President Richard Nixon with the nation's highest honor, the Medal of Honor.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Ivy Tech Community College's administrators, faculty, staff, students and members of the community who, over the years, have contributed to its success in achieving its standard of excellence, as well as in honoring

the school's namesake, Lance Corporal Emilio Albert De La Garza, Jr. The efforts of those involved have made the De La Garza campus a tremendous source of pride of Indiana's First Congressional District, and they have made the campus a constant reminder of one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens.

HONORING AL AUSTIN ON THE
OCCASION OF HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of one of Tampa Bay's finest citizens, Al Austin, on the occasion of his upcoming 80th birthday.

A lifelong Floridian, Al grew up on his family's egg farm in St. Petersburg. After his high school graduation and college at the University of Tampa, Al joined the Coast Guard, where he performed admirably in service to our Nation.

Following his military service, Al partnered with his family to start a real estate development business in the Tampa Bay region. Since then his family-owned company has continued to grow and helped build the greater Tampa community. Without his influence the Tampa St. Pete region would not be the economic growth engine for the State that it is today.

In addition to his success in real estate, Al and his wife Beverly share a passion for education. After founding the Tampa Preparatory School in the 1970s, they went on to lead fundraising campaigns for the refurbishment and growth of the University of Tampa campus. Their commitment to local charitable organizations has truly benefitted thousands of people throughout the region.

In his spare time, Al loves to collect and drive classic sports cars. He has also earned a reputation as one of the leading Republicans in Florida, having worked with State and national leaders for the past 40 years to help grow and expand the party. Al has also served various Florida Governors throughout his career as the head of the Florida Racing Commission, a member of the Hillsborough Aviation Authority as well as serving on the Military Base Closure Advisory Committee.

Madam Speaker, I know that Al's upcoming birthday celebration will commemorate a lifetime of hard work and service to others. He has a proven track record of giving back and helping to make Florida and our Nation better and more prosperous places. I know that the House will join me in wishing Al a happy 80th birthday, with many more to come in the future.

HONORING M. PAUL REDD

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize M. Paul Redd and the 80th anniversary of the Westchester County Press and

its contributions to the community. The Westchester County Press has published news about politics, religion, and social events in our district.

While the Westchester County Press targeted a broad audience when it was founded in 1928, it eventually focused more exclusively on religious and social news in the African-American community. In 1950, Dr. Alger L. Adams bought the newspaper and transformed it into a publication for black audiences to give voice to their contributions to the fabric of our society. Decades later, the Press is still thriving.

In 1961, Paul Redd was hired as a columnist for the Westchester County Press. In 1986, Mr. Redd purchased the paper, for which he now serves as president and publisher. For 47 years, Redd has written a column, "M. Paul Tells All," which informs his readers about politics and opportunities to get involved in the political process.

As a life-long advocate, Paul Redd's interests have included employment training for the disenfranchised, voter registration, education, and civic participation. Redd served as president and chief operating officer of the Westchester-Putnam Affirmative Action Program, Inc., for over 25 years. The agency's employment and training activities have resulted in over 5,000 job placements for local residents.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize my good friend M. Paul Redd for his unparalleled contributions to the community through the Westchester County Press and other organizations, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his tremendous accomplishments on the 80th anniversary of the Westchester County Press.

TRIBUTE TO ROBBIE FLOYD

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness and great respect that I take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Ms. Robbie Floyd of Gary, Indiana. Ms. Floyd's many contributions to the Northwest Indiana community, as a businesswoman, as a civil servant, and as a leader within her church, are worthy of our deepest admiration. Robbie passed away on Sunday, September 28, 2008, but the impact and influence she has had on her community will surely live on for generations to come.

Robbie Lorraine Floyd was born in Gunnison, Mississippi to Joseph and Julia Floyd. At the age of 8, Robbie relocated to Gary, Indiana. She attended Froebel High School, one of only two schools in the City of Gary with integrated classes, where African-American students could attend with other children and receive the same education. The type of person who always sought to deepen her understanding of different areas, Robbie later enrolled in real estate school and became a licensed realtor.

Known for her focus and determination, Robbie Floyd took on the many challenges life brought her, and in spite of the shortage of advantages for African-Americans, sought to improve the quality of her life and the lives of her other family members. In the 1940s, she

and her father became owner-operators of a grocery store, as well as apartment rental units in Gary.

Ms. Floyd, a true activist in the Northwest Indiana area, also recognized that having a voice at City Hall was essential to social progress. Recognizing the respect Robbie had in her community, and seeing just how dedicated an individual she was, then Mayor Peter Mandich encouraged her to enter politics. Thus she became a Precinct Committee-woman twice, first in District 4 and later in District 3. These positions enabled Robbie to serve her constituents by giving them a voice and allowing them to acquire the services they needed. Later, continuing her service in the public sector, Robbie worked as the Administrative Assistant/Secretary to two city controllers, George Chacharis and my father, John Visclosky, both of whom later became mayors of the City of Gary. It is in the City Controller's office that I first met Ms. Floyd as a child. Robbie kept an eye on me there, and until the day of her passing, to make sure I stayed on the straight and narrow.

A true renaissance woman, Robbie Floyd was also the first African-American woman to serve as a police officer for the Lake County Sheriff. As her peers would recall, in breaking this glass ceiling, she did so with distinction, dignity, honor, and dedication. For her efforts, she was honored with the highest accolade bestowed upon an individual by the governor of the State of Indiana, the Sagamore of the Wabash.

While she was fully committed to the people of Gary and Northwest Indiana, Robbie's commitment to her faith was equally impressive. After confessing Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior with First Baptist Church in Gary, she later became a charter member of Christ Baptist Church. Prior to her passing, Ms. Floyd was a key member of her church. For 16 years, Robbie served as its Financial Secretary. As her congregation would attest, she loved serving others and never failed to aid "the stranger," "the friend," or "the child" in any way that she could. Robbie was known for her ability to help those who needed it most, leading to her participation in various church ministries, including: the Willing Workers, Church School, the Church School Fellowship Committee, for which she served as its chair, Male Chorus Boosters, and the Pearce Prayer and Study Group.

While Robbie Floyd was always active in her community and her church, she cherished her time with her family the most. She leaves to cherish her memory two daughters, Dr. Doris Keys Ward and Debra Floyd; grandnieces, LaTanya Obgiofor, Desnee Flakes, and Donna Floyd; grandnephews, Cordell (Millicent) Olive and Joseph Floyd, and numerous great-grandnieces and nephews. She will also be greatly missed by her many friends, her Pastor, Reverend Dr. Maurice White, Jr., and all of the members of Christ Baptist Church.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Robbie Lorraine Floyd for her outstanding devotion to her community in Northwest Indiana. Her unselfish and lifelong dedication to those in need is worthy of the highest commendation. Robbie's selflessness was an inspiration to us all, and I am proud to have represented her in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL H. SNIDER

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Paul H. Snider. Paul is a loyal American and a fine man.

Paul grew up in Denair, CA and graduated from Turlock High School. After high school he entered the U.S. Maritime Service as a radio operator. Following his Maritime service, he enrolled in Modesto Junior College. While attending Modesto Junior College, Paul and his father started Snider Honey, a business in which they marketed and distributed honey to retailers. One of those retailers was Tom Raley, who at that time had only one store in Placerville, but went on to establish the well-known chain of Raley's grocery stores.

After graduating from Modesto Junior College, Paul joined the National Guard. He was sent to Okinawa for 6 months and was honorably discharged in January 1953. Upon returning to California, Paul began working for his uncle, Stewart Snider, selling Buicks. As was the custom in the early 1950s, Paul went door-to-door after dinner contacting people who had visited the dealership in order to sell them a car.

In 1956, Paul bought his own Chevy dealership in Patterson, CA. In 1966, he bought a Volkswagen dealership in Sacramento. Paul's success continued, and at one time he owned about one dozen dealerships, including Ford, Toyota, Nissan, Volkswagen, Chevy, Pontiac, Isuzu, Hyundai, and Infiniti. Paul has managed to succeed in business without compromising his character; he has remained humble and has cared about his many employees. In fact, Paul hated it when he was forced to fire someone and agonized over the decision each time it needed to be made.

Paul has three children: Shelby, Marcus, and Blake. He is an avid hunter and has been a member of the Safari Club International, Ducks Unlimited, the Lions Club, and the Rotary Club. He has contributed generously and repeatedly to the Red Cross, the Shriners, the River Oak Center for Children Foundation (for children with developmental disabilities), and to Ducks Unlimited and the Safari Club International. Paul is a man who puts his energy behind his beliefs, and he has been a faithful supporter of many conservative causes. I am grateful for his support and friendship and wish him well in the years to come.

OSCAR ELIAS BISCET

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, this last December 6 was the 9th anniversary of the imprisonment—the cruel and unjust imprisonment in a cold and damp cell in the most inhuman of conditions—of the great Cuban leader in the fight for democracy and human rights in that imprisoned island, Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet. Dr. Biscet is prohibited even from walking in the prison's yard, and he is incarcerated along with common criminals.

Dr. Biscet was released from prison early in 2003, for a few weeks only, before being re-arrested and subsequently sentenced to 25 years in the Communist gulag due to his peaceful pro-democracy activities.

A few days ago, I was honored to receive a congratulatory letter from Ms. Elsa Morejon, Dr. Biscet's courageous and admirable wife.

Oscar Elias Biscet personifies the opposition to the brutal totalitarian regime of Fidel Castro and his brother, who the dictator has given some additional titles to because of the ailing tyrant's failing health. Dr. Biscet is an admirer of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr.

A physician by training, he began his opposition to the totalitarian regime by speaking out against the regime's "forced abortion when there is any indication whatsoever that the pregnancy may have an abnormality" policy. Biscet described that policy as inhuman. He was immediately fired from his job at the hospital, prohibited from practicing his profession as a physician, and his wife was also fired from her job as a practicing nurse. Within hours, the couple and their son were summarily evicted from their apartment and their physical possessions thrown into the street.

Fortunately, an elderly patient of Elsa's allowed the family to move into her house. Dr. Biscet continued peacefully denouncing the totalitarian regime's absolute denial of human rights to the Cuban people—and because of that he has been unjustly and cruelly imprisoned for 9 years, and counting.

Hundreds of other brave human rights activists are also suffering in the political prisons of the Cuban totalitarian dictatorship for the "crime" of supporting democracy and liberty and opposing tyranny, including 23 known journalists, thrown into dungeons because of articles they wrote that bothered the dictator. No regime in the world has more journalists in prison, with the possible exception of another totalitarian dictatorship in an obviously much larger nation, communist China.

Just last week the respected international organization, "Reporters Without Borders" gave one of the Cuban journalists in the gulag, Ricardo Gonzalez Alfonso, sentenced by the Cuban tyrant to 20 years in prison in the year 2003 and currently in very poor health, the "Reporters Without Borders" Journalist of the Year Award. "Reporters Without Borders" is to be commended.

Three other Cuban prisoners of conscience, Adolfo Fernandez Sainz, Pedro Arguelles Moran, and Antonio Diaz Sanchez, are known to have begun a hunger strike due to the brutal conditions they are subjected to.

Where is the outrage? Where is the solidarity in the international community?

The reality is that for too many in the world today, Cubans are supposed to be content with their lot, to be quiet, to . . . "move on", in the words of one of our pro-Cuban dictatorship colleagues here in the U.S. Congress. The regime that enslaves a nation and imprisons hundreds of heroes simply for their beliefs deserves unilateral rewards and concessions, many maintain.

But Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet, and the many other heroes imprisoned in the Castro brothers' gulag will not be able to be ignored forever. They must be freed. And political parties be legalized, as well as independent press agencies, and labor unions. And free and fair elections must take place in Cuba.

Many of those imprisoned today will be democratically elected leaders tomorrow. That is what is going to occur in Cuba tomorrow. Today, as they suffer the most unjust of cruel imprisonments, we here remember and honor them—and once again demand their immediate release.

HONORING JOHN EVANS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and sincerity that I take this time to honor one of Northwest Indiana's most accomplished citizens, Mr. John Evans of Miller Beach. On Sunday, November 2, 2008, John was honored by the Indiana Division of the Polish American Congress for his many years of service as a dedicated member of his community, as well as a proud representative of the Polish American heritage in Northwest Indiana. This extraordinary event took place at The Patio restaurant in Merrillville, Indiana.

John Evans, a lifelong resident of Northwest Indiana and the son of Russell Glenn and Eleanor Evans of New Chicago, Indiana, has been recognized by the Polish American Congress, Indiana Division, as the recipient of the 2008 Distinguished Service Award. From his career in the insurance industry to his service with several of Northwest Indiana's churches to his commitment to preserving the Polish heritage, John is truly deserving of this prestigious accolade. Always one to try to improve the lives of his fellow citizens in any way possible, John has spent the last twenty-four years working with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois. After spending many years building relationships between hospitals and providers as a Provider Network Consultant, John moved into a management position in 2000 and was recently promoted to Director of Provider Network Relations. In his current position, John is responsible for overseeing relations with all hospitals, physicians, and ancillary providers for the State of Illinois. As a member of the Blue Cross Blue Shield team, John has been active with the company's Diversity Workforce Committee, serving as Master of Ceremonies for their 2007 Polish Heritage Day.

Mr. Evans, widely known as a truly gifted musician, has been a fixture in the Northwest Indiana for, in all sincerity, most of his life. As a child of only ten years of age, John began formally studying the organ with Mrs. Joanne Sparks of Gary, Indiana. Only a few short years later, John began playing dinner music at Wilson's Restaurant and Lounge in Miller Beach, entertaining diners every Friday and Saturday night. During this time, he also began playing at wedding receptions and other banquets, as well as serving as the organist at Sunday masses at Assumption B.V.M. Church in New Chicago. From there, at a mere fifteen years of age, John took over as the director of the church's choir in 1973. During the twenty-three years he spent at Assumption, John's leadership meant not only an increase in choir membership, but in popularity as well. During this time, the choir was asked to perform at many dances, ordinations, anniversaries, and other special occasions. In fact, they even recorded an album entitled "Christ-

mas in New Chicago" which featured Polish and English Christmas carols.

Fully committed to his faith and his heritage, John also has organized and choreographed dance selections for Polish Women's Alliance Saint Anne's Group 778, directed the choir at events for the Polish Women's Alliance Group 132, and directed the choir for the Polish mass at Saint Stanislaus in Michigan City, Indiana. In 1996, Mr. Evans took over as the organist and choir director for the Saint Cecilia Choir at Saint Stanislaus Parish in East Chicago, Indiana. Since taking over at Saint Stan's, the membership of the choir has nearly doubled, and John has been successful in bringing young people into the choir. Not to be outdone, the choir at Saint Stanislaus has also produced a professional CD of Polish and English hymns and religious selections entitled "Spirit," which has sold over 500 copies, profits from it contributing to various church renovations.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Mr. John Evans as he is honored for his lifetime of service and dedication to the Northwest Indiana community. His years of service have touched and improved the lives of all whom he has served. His unselfish and lifelong dedication is worthy of the highest commendation, and I am proud to represent him in Congress.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL RAYMOND ANTHONY CELESTE, JR.

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Raymond Anthony Celeste, Jr., who is retiring from the United States Marine Corps after more than 26 years of faithful service.

Colonel Celeste attended Officers Candidate School in October 1982 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in December 1982. In 1983, he graduated first from The Basic School and later from the Field Artillery Officer Basic School. His first fleet assignment was at Marine Corps Base, 29 Palms, California in January 1984, where he served first with 4th Battalion 11th Marines and then with 5th Battalion 11th Marines as a platoon commander in 8 inch self-propelled Howitzer Batteries. During his time as a platoon commander, he participated in numerous Combined Arms Exercises, learning the great capabilities of the Marine Air Ground Task Force.

In May of 1985, then-First Lieutenant Celeste transferred to Camp Pendleton, California, where he served in the Tactical Exercise Control Group and assisted in organizing field and staff exercises worldwide. In September of 1986, First Lieutenant Celeste reported as the first Operations Officer of the 1st Remotely Piloted Vehicle Company, where he became one of the first members of the newly established unit. In this assignment, he assisted in integrating Unmanned Aerial Vehicles into the Marine Air Ground Task Force and received an award for his meritorious service. Because of his expertise in this area, an article he wrote on the subject was published in the Marine Corps Gazette.

In September of 1988, then-Captain Celeste transferred to the Marine Corps Reserves. In January of the following year, he joined 3rd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company where he deployed and participated in numerous bi-lateral exercises in Korea and Japan. During the first Gulf War, Captain Celeste was a commander in charge of training more than 200 Marines for deployment to the Middle East and received an award for his meritorious service. In January of 1992, Captain Celeste transferred to Hotel Battery (155 mm Howitzers), 3rd Battalion, 14th Marines where he acted as Platoon Commander and Forward Observer. In June of that same year, he was selected to be the Executive Officer of Delta Company, 4th Light Armored Infantry Company. In 1993, he became the Commanding Officer of Delta Company and served in that capacity for over two years. Concurrent to his assignment as Delta Company's Commanding officer, Captain Celeste served as the Headquarters Marine Corps counterdrug officer where he monitored Marine Corps counterdrug operations.

In 1995, then-Major Celeste was assigned as the Officer-in-Charge of the Department of the Navy Gulf War Declassification Project where he was responsible for the declassification of tens of thousands of pages of Gulf War I operational records. He subsequently received an award for meeting the mandated declassification deadline as established by the Deputy Secretary of Defense. Due to his expertise in the area, in May of 1997, Major Celeste was assigned as an investigator to the Office of the Special Assistant for Gulf War Illnesses. At this assignment, he assisted in the investigation of the causal factors for Gulf War Illnesses using the documents that he and his team helped to previously declassify. In order to widely disseminate the findings of the investigation, they were published on the World Wide Web which, at the time, was a novel medium for this purpose.

In August of 1999, then-Lieutenant Colonel Celeste was assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps (Office of Legislative Affairs) where he served as a Congressional Affairs Officer. In this capacity, he assisted in the answering of high level congressional inquiries, led the Marine Corps Congressional Fellowship Program, and assisted in the organizing of congressional outreach programs to include the following: The Congressional Marines Group, The Capitol Hill Running Club, Congressional Marine Day, and programs for Veterans Service Organizations and Defense Industry representatives.

Colonel Celeste served in Iraq from February to August of 2007 as the Marine liaison between the Commanding General, Multi-National Forces West and the Commanding General Civilian Police Assistance Training Team. During this period, Colonel Celeste was a member of the Green Zone Council, which supports the Boys and Girls Scouting programs in Iraq. He was also involved in supporting a local orphanage in Baghdad by coordinating and soliciting donations from family and friends.

For more than 26 years, Colonel Celeste's great sense of duty and exceptional work ethic have benefitted his fellow Marines and his nation. We thank him for his steadfast dedication and wish him fair winds and following seas as he starts the next chapter of his life.

TRIBUTE TO THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES FOR A PRESIDENTIAL ORDER ON PRISONER TREATMENT, TORTURE, AND CRUELTY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Declaration of Principles for a Presidential Executive Order on Prisoner Treatment, Torture and Cruelty which is supported by a number of organizations and individuals, including the Council of Churches of Santa Clara County, California, in my Congressional District. I believe these principles will protect our country and the U.S. servicemen abroad by banning the use of cruel and inhumane interrogation methods.

I fully support the core goals of this Declaration of Principles which include implementing a national standard for all U.S. personnel and agencies for the interrogation and treatment of prisoners and banning the use of any methods of interrogation that we would not find acceptable if used against Americans. Many of these issues were addressed in a bill I introduced this year to ban waterboarding as an interrogation technique.

Waterboarding is torture and is recognized as such by the Geneva Convention. Its continued use by representatives of our nation contradicts what so many of our soldiers are fighting for overseas. The United States of America has long accepted that water torture is beneath the standards of a civil nation. In 1947, the United States prosecuted a Japanese military officer for carrying out a form of water torture on a U.S. civilian during the Second World War, securing a conviction and a sentence of 15 years of hard labor. The military has frequently prosecuted American military personnel for subjecting prisoners to water torture, including sentencing a U.S. Army major to 10 years of hard labor for subjecting an insurgent to water torture in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War.

Our nation was able to win two world wars and defeat a rising tide of communism with this prohibition in place. I'm confident we can defeat our current enemies without undermining our moral dignity.

As we move forward with a new Congress and a new Administration, we have the opportunity to change course and restore the rule of law. The Bush Administration has relied heavily on illegal and inhumane interrogation techniques, and by doing so has damaged our country's reputation in the process. We can restore the moral standards that guided us successfully for so many generations and the Declaration of Principles provides a framework for the United States to do just that. Congress and the Obama Administration must work to ensure that torture has no place in the battle against terrorism.

HONORING GRANT GATES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the outstanding achieve-

ment of Grant Gates of Kansas City, Missouri. Grant has earned a perfect 36 ACT composite score. Grant is one of only three students from the state of Missouri and one of only fifty-two in the country to earn the perfect score.

Madam Speaker, Grant has dedicated himself to his studies and extracurricular activities. As a junior at North Kansas City High School, Grant has participated in the Missouri Scholars Academy at the University of Missouri, the Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee, member of the high school swim team, member of the choir and Harmonaires show choir, and is a part of the school's state championship Scholar Bowl. Grant is currently working toward an International Baccalaureate diploma, Gold Medallion Honors diploma, and A+ Schools eligibility. Grant is also active in Boy Scout Troop 9 in North Kansas City.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me, Gary and Elinor Gates, the North Kansas City Schools, and North Kansas City High School in applauding Grant Gates' outstanding achievement. We wish Grant many more years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF EUGENE
PERRIN ELEBASH, JR.

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eugene Elebash, Jr., a veritable northwest Florida community leader who passed away on November 24, 2008. Mr. Elebash spent his entire life serving others, and I am proud to honor his life of dedication and service.

Mr. Elebash was born in Pensacola, FL, in May of 1920 and made his home there. He graduated from Pensacola High School in 1938 and from the University of Florida in 1942. Upon graduating college, Mr. Elebash immediately joined the United States Army Air Forces where he served honorably until the end of World War II, achieving the rank of major. He then returned to Pensacola to take over the family business and remained ever since. Mr. Elebash married his high school sweetheart, Jane, his wife of 66 years.

After returning to Pensacola, Mr. Elebash began a life of dedicated service to the community. Over the years, he was active in innumerable organizations including the Saint Christopher's Episcopal Church, the City Civil Service Board, the YMCA, and the West Florida Children's Home Society. He was a member of the Downtown Rotary Board for 61 years. Mr. Elebash was elected to three terms as a Pensacola city councilman and served as the mayor of Pensacola from 1971 and 1973. His family continues to play an active role in the community.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, I am privileged to honor Mr. Eugene Elebash, Jr. for his life of public service to his country and to northwest Florida. Mr. Elebash will be remembered by all as a loving husband and father, as well as a genuine community leader and a true friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF HAL SHELTON AND THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA SCORE FOR WINNING THE 2008 SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S AWARD

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, congratulations to Hal Shelton and the Board of the Washington Metropolitan Area SCORE for receiving the 2008 Small Business Administration District Director's Award for their contribution to the training, counseling and mentoring of small businesses.

Hal Shelton and the more than 50 Washington Metro Area SCORE volunteers were recognized for substantially assisting the SBA DC district office in providing business counseling to military service members at Walter Reed Hospital; organizing workshops for local 8(a) businesses; and for exceeding all goals for the number of DC-area clients who received business mentoring and advice.

Since 1964, SCORE "Counselors to America's Businesses," have helped 8 million aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners through counseling and business workshops. More than 10,500 volunteer business counselors in 389 chapters serve their communities through entrepreneur education dedicated to the formation, growth and success of small businesses.

For their commitment to preserving the reputation of American small businesses as among the most productive in the world and for their years of dedicated public service, I commend Hal Shelton and the members of Washington Metropolitan Area SCORE for receiving this important honor.

HONORING CONNOR WAYNE CHOICE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Connor Wayne Choice of Liberty, Missouri. Connor 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 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Connor has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Connor 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 Connor Wayne Choice for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

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

It is December 9, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today Madam Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 13,105 days since the tragedy called Roe v. Wade was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common. First, they were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone, and each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government." The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth.

It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Madam Speaker, it is who we are.

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

So Madam Speaker, let me conclude this Sunset Memorial in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard it tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies; that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express; and that 13,105 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children

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

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

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of innocent unborn children. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny, little American brothers and sisters from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is December 9, 2008, 13,105 days since Roe versus Wade first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children; this in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

REMARKS ON INAUGURAL BILL

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. CLEAVER. Madame Speaker, on January 20, this Nation will lay witness to a Presidential Inauguration like no other in our country's history. As my fellow Americans travel to the District of Columbia, in some cases without a place to stay, just to be part of this historic occasion, we must bear in mind that this event stands as a symbol of democracy, and that tickets should not be bought and sold to the highest bidder. It is egregious that tickets that are given out freely would then be sold for thousands of dollars. Even worse, are false promises of tickets that are made to individuals and families, who are then left with empty pockets and tales of disillusion.

For these reasons, I have introduced a bill that will make it a crime to knowingly sell tickets to the Presidential Inaugural ceremony. This bill will also make it a criminal act to produce counterfeit tickets for the Inaugural ceremony. I am hopeful that this bill will work to stop the unscrupulous, yet devastating actions of the few, and preserve the dignity of this historic and celebratory occasion for the many.

HONORING RYAN RUSSELL DONALDSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan Russell Donaldson of Liberty, Missouri. Ryan 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 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Ryan 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 Ryan Russell Donaldson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT F. NOLAN

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert F. Nolan, a man who has made service to our community his pride and his life's work. In his capacity as an advisor to three Bronx Borough presidents during some of the most turbulent times our city has ever witnessed, time and again Bob was confronted with singular challenges that would have reduced a lesser figure to despair and resignation. Instead Bob rose to the occasion, time and time again. He took part in some of the most momentous decisions that could confront a public official, and he did so with poise, clarity of purpose, and unusual dedication. Bob has been one of the truest and finest examples of a public servant who never gave up on the Bronx, but instead continued to serve through the hardest of times. He committed himself at a young age to improving his beloved community, and has had the endurance and strength of character to spend a lifetime in pursuit of this goal. While many have come and gone, Bob has never left the Bronx—and the Bronx cannot possibly forget that fact.

Born in Westchester Square Hospital, Bob Nolan was educated at Our Lady of Solace School in Morris Park and then Fordham University. A community and political activist since the early 1970s, he began his career as an instructor at Borough of Manhattan Community College. Later, he moved on to the mayor's office of economic development, where he was in charge of the business action center. In January 1979, Bob joined the office of the Bronx Borough president as director of economic development. He quickly set in motion the plan which led to the creation of the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation in 1980.

The 1980s were a critical period for the Bronx. The previous two decades saw the quality of life in the Bronx dramatically diminish. A widespread deterioration was underway, as the city suffered the aftermath of a painful fiscal collapse. Some neighborhoods felt the hurt more than others, but few felt it worse than the South Bronx. This was the climate in which Bob began his journey to restore our borough's greatness.

This was no easy task. At the time, private and public disinvestment had taken a huge toll on many Bronx neighborhoods. But these circumstances neither deterred nor discouraged

Bob. Perhaps his work is best judged by the vitality we have witnessed in our borough in recent years. Across the board, the Bronx has undergone a remarkable transformation—and credit should rightly be given to the sound fiscal and public investment policies first championed by Bob and his colleagues at the very dawn of our borough's resurgence. His thoughtful planning and careful stewardship helped pave the way for innumerable capital projects and a wholesale restoration of confidence in the borough on the part of the city's business community. Bob helped demonstrate that the Bronx was once again a fertile place for investment.

In the 1990s, Bob was appointed budget director for the borough, a position he held until the day he retired—November 14, 2008. His role as budget director required Bob to recommend capital projects to the borough president and help shape budgets and establish spending priorities that furthered past efforts and blazed new paths toward economic revival. We will undoubtedly continue to see the fruits of Bob's labor for many years to come.

Looking back at this extraordinary life of service, what is unique about Bob Nolan's story is the completeness of it. Three decades ago, Bob set out to make the Bronx a better place, working tirelessly from within the halls of government. These many years later, he retires with that goal now very much in his sights. He has had many different responsibilities over the years, but the same motivating factor: a love for his borough and its people. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. Robert F. Nolan, a man who loves his hometown fiercely and whose whole life is a unique testament to civic duty.

HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF FRED STERN

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the heroic and distinguished actions of Fred Stern of Aberdeen, South Dakota, who will be honored with several long-overdue medals, including the Bronze Star Medal, for his service during World War II.

Fred was born near Webster, South Dakota, on October 21, 1908. He was inducted into the U.S. Army at Ft. Snelling, Minnesota, on June 10, 1942, and received his basic training at Camp Rucker, Alabama. Fred served in World War II's Pacific Theater from 1942 to 1945. He was a member of the 322nd Regiment Combat Team of the 81st Infantry, Wildcats, Division in the battle for the Palau Islands.

The 322nd participated in the famed assault on the small island of Anguar—a hard-fought battle against the island's Japanese occupants. For his dedicated service, Fred received the Good Conduct Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Bronze Service Star, and the Combat Infantry Badge. After the war, he returned to South Dakota where he farmed, worked for the Brown County Implement, and as a painter before retiring.

Madam Speaker, I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my gratitude to Mr. Fred

Stern and congratulate his receipt of the Bronze Star Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two Bronze Service Stars and one Bronze Arrowhead, and the Army of Occupation Medal with Japan Clasp.

We are all proud and thankful for all that he has done in the service of the United States of America. The lives of countless people have been enormously enhanced by his compassion and service. Fred represents the best of the United States, South Dakota, and the Army. He continues to inspire all those who know him and hear his story of sacrifice. Our Nation and the State of South Dakota are far better places because of his service, and the best way to honor him is to emulate his devotion to our country.

I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my appreciation to Fred. His commitment to and sacrifice for our Nation will never be forgotten.

HONORING SPENCER JOSEPH FISH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Spencer Joseph Fish of Liberty, Missouri. Spencer 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 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Spencer has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Spencer 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 Spencer Joseph Fish for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO RICK STAATS

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Rick Staats, a man whose passion and energy for conservative principles in northern California have made a great contribution to the region.

Rick was born on August 1, 1943, in Berkeley, CA, where he grew up. After graduating from Berkeley High School, Rick left California to attend the University of Oregon.

After college, Rick returned to California and became active in politics. While living in the Bay Area, Rick served as the Alameda County chairman for the U.S. Senate campaign of then-State Senator H.L. Richardson. Rick was also an alternate delegate for the 1976 Republican National Convention in Kansas City. Rick's political activism eventually led him to Sacramento in 1978. At that time, Rick and I served together on the staff of Senator Richardson, and 2 years later Rick was an integral

part of my successful campaign for the California State Senate.

Rick worked for me in many capacities throughout my tenure in the state Senate, including as my district director. When I was elected to U.S. Congress in 1990, Rick chose to remain active in California politics. He served as chief of staff to Assemblyman David Knowles and as a consultant for the Republican caucus in the assembly.

While working in the California State Legislature, Rick remained active in volunteer organizations in California. He served as the statewide president of the California Republican Assembly, chairman of the Placer County Republican Party, credentials chairman for the California Republican Party, and in other important roles for groups that were advocating the conservative principles to which Rick has always been committed.

In 2004, Rick left California to retire in Idaho. Though he is retired, Rick remains active in politics and in public service. He currently sits on the board of directors for the Cabinet Mountains Water District and is still an important figure in California politics. I am pleased to have known Rick for many years as a colleague, a member of my staff, and a friend. I would like to express my gratitude to him for his work over the years for me and for the many causes he has championed, and I wish him all the very best in the future.

“KEVIN STOKESBURY—FRIEND OF
THE FISHERMEN”

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, on the last weekend of September of this year, I was supposed to be at the Fishermen's Festival in New Bedford, an event I always enjoy and which I look forward to attending. Instead, as you know, I was here in Washington, D.C. as we were working to try and put the \$700 billion credit system rescue plan into final form.

Among the events I missed at that festival was the awarding of the 2008 Friend of the Fishermen Award to Kevin Stokesbury. Dr. Stokesbury chairs the Department of Fisheries Oceanography at SMAST—the extremely important and valuable part of the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, which studies the fishing industry.

He received this award from the people in the fishing industry of New Bedford because of the high quality of the work he has done to provide the kind of first-rate scientific information that is so essential to the continued survival of the fishing industry. One of the great successes—probably the greatest success—we have seen in regulation of the fishing industry in New England is with the scallop fishery, and no one is more responsible for this success than Kevin Stokesbury.

Madam Speaker, because Kevin Stokesbury's work shows that it is possible to support a thriving fishery in an environmentally responsible way, it is particularly noteworthy that he received this award from the fishing industry of New Bedford—the most important fishing port in America. I ask that the explanation by the fishing industry of this award to Kevin Stokesbury be printed here.

INTRODUCTION OF 2008'S “FRIEND OF THE FISHERMEN”

This year's recipient of “The Friend of the Fishing Industry Award” needs no introduction to most of the NB fishing industry, particularly the scallop fishermen. It took him a while to find his way here to us as he seems to have taken a long way around, but he now lives in Westport with his wife Shawna, & four children; Kasey, Tyrez, Taysia, & Henry.

Starting with his B.Sc. & M.Sc. both of which he earned at Acadia University in Nova Scotia, he then received his PhD in Marine Ecology from Universite Laval, Quebec City, Quebec in 1994.

He worked as a Research Assistant 1994–1996 at the Center for Marine Science Research at the U. of NC at Wilmington before moving to the U of Alaska Fairbanks, as a Research Assistant from September 1996–1998.

Ten years ago in September 1998 he finally found his way here when he joined SMAST at U MASS, Dartmouth as an Associate Fellow. In September 2000 he became an Associate Professor. In September 2005 he became the Chair of the Department of Fisheries Oceanography. Do you sense a trend here?

In 1999 Kevin conceived a plan to videotape & map the seafloor; the resulting survey would actually count scallops with the intention of determining the size of the biomass. He got together with a few scallop vessel owners & others from the industry, & as they say, “the rest is history”.

Kevin & his associates from his lab at SMAST have probably logged more sea-time than a lot of fishermen over these past 9 or 10 years. They have completed more than 100 video cruises surveying Georges Bank & the Mid-Atlantic fishing grounds; this is more than 600 DAS. Their video library consisting of footage from more than 200,000 video samples has been used in every scallop fisheries management plan since 1999.

Today this work has become much more detailed & expansive & it now must be acclaimed as some of the leading environmental work regarding sea floor habitat, & the marine benthic community.

Not surprisingly, Kevin's work has not received the same acclaim from many of his peers that it has from the fishing industry & his associates. This unique cooperative research that has existed between the fishing industry, Kevin & SMAST since its inception, has turned much of the “Old Science” on its ear, & some did not take kindly to that. Without this “New Science”, it's possible that we still would not be scalloping in the Closed Areas!

As Chair of the Department of Fisheries & Oceanography, Kevin's oversight now includes along with scallops; groundfish, lobster & marine environments. Perhaps even more importantly, he is now fostering a new generation of marine scientists & researchers who, if the fishing industry is lucky, will follow the path that Kevin has so brightly blazed!

It gives me great pleasure to present “The Friend of the Fishermen's Award” to someone I'm proud to call my friend; Dr. Kevin D.E. Stokesbury.

HONORING DRU RYAN JORDAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dru Ryan Jordan of Platte City, Missouri. Dru 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 1351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dru has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Dru 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 Dru Ryan Jordan for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Sixty years since its inception, the Declaration of Human Rights continues to be a foundation for the protection of rights and a statement to the world that human rights abuse is an abomination of the human race.

On December 10, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The declaration was established from the horrific religious and racial bigotry of World War II. The declaration represented the first global expression of rights to which all human beings are inherently entitled. This declaration expresses to the world that human rights are not just a principle for the few, the wealthy, or for those who live in economically developed nations—human rights are universal and for all humankind.

Today, we still live in a world where people murder their neighbors over religion, the color of their skin, and national ideologies. This is unacceptable. It is my hope that we as a world of nations can settle our differences through dialogue and treat our fellow man with dignity and respect.

HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL DELILAH R. WORKS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today on the occasion of her promotion to the rank of Brigadier General to honor and congratulate Delilah R. Works for her many years of dedicated service to the State of Tennessee, the Tennessee Air National Guard, and to our Nation.

General Works earned her commission through Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, in April 1980. In the years that followed, she distinguished herself in assignments in the Air Force and the Air National Guard that took her from Alaska to

California and finally back to Memphis, Tennessee. At the 164th Airlift Wing in Memphis, General Works served as Maintenance Squadron Commander and Wing Chief of Staff among other assignments. Most recently, General Works was appointed the Director of Staff for the Tennessee Air National Guard in Nashville.

General Works has been a leader not just in our Armed Forces, but in our community as well. She is a member of Leadership Memphis, Women in Aviation, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and strongly supports the Adopt-A-School program.

Again, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering sincere congratulations to BG Rita Works, her husband Lavon, and their family. We can all take pride in her example of leadership, service, and selflessness.

HONORING TIMOTHY WILLIAM
LEININGER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Timothy William Leininger of Riverside, Missouri. Timothy 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 1495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Timothy has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Timothy 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 Timothy William Leininger for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
BROMMA PEMBERTON-LINVILLE

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate 99 extraordinary years in the life of Bromma Pemberton-Linville. Born to a large family in the coal-mining community of Oliver Springs, Tennessee, Bromma from an early age set an example for all who believe in the values of family, church and a strong community. Bromma cared for her six younger siblings through elementary and high school, and made certain to attend Sunday church services in addition to Sunday night youth fellowship, a Wednesday night prayer meeting, church play rehearsals and choir practice.

After graduating from Oliver Springs High School, Bromma went on to Knoxville Business College and set out to build a career. Following a period of odd jobs to make ends meet, Bromma finally put her business skills to

work as a secretary and bookkeeper at the First National Bank in Oneida, Tennessee. Throughout what would become a lifetime of service to the bank, Bromma worked nearly every possible position before becoming the first female officer and director, as well as the first senior vice president.

But Bromma's success at the First National Bank in Oneida never interfered with her commitment to family. When her father became ill and unable to work, Bromma proudly accepted her role as a breadwinner and caretaker for the family. After she had seen to the success of her six younger siblings, who married and moved out of their home, Bromma continued to live with her parents whom she cared for until they passed away years later. Only then did she marry her twenty year suitor, Roy Johnson.

Bromma's commitment to her community continued throughout her life and in to today. From her presidency over the Oneida Business and Professional Women's Club to representing Scott County at the Conference on Consumer Affairs, Bromma was actively involved in making the world around her better for future generations. With the help of her husband, Bromma even went on to establish the Grover Pemberton Agricultural Endowment Fund for the University of Tennessee Agricultural Institute.

Our great country cannot do enough to thank the men and women who devote their lives to the betterment of their communities. In these difficult times of international and economic turmoil, it is the efforts of extraordinary women like Bromma Pemberton-Linville that will always help us to move this great country forward.

HONORING ROBERT C. FABER

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 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 Commission 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. In the six years he served as staff director he assisted in moving a number of difficult pieces of legislation and helped the subcommittee conduct many critical oversight hearings and more than a dozen General Accounting Office investigations.

Bob was born in Kansas City, Missouri and grew up in Oregon, Michigan, Indiana and California. He attended high school in La Sierra, California. Bob has the gift of being able to teach people in both personal and profes-

sional situations. As early as high school, Bob showed his talent for teaching. He would often help tutor his fellow students at his home, and eventually the group got so large that one of the students asked the 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 three years after successfully testing out of one 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.

After law school, Bob frequently volunteered in support of community activities in the Sacramento area. He volunteered as an international moot court justice at the McGeorge law school. He taught bible classes at his local church. He co-founded the local neighborhood association where he lived. And he helped organize a group of fellow bank customers to recover their savings after the financial institution where they had deposits failed.

Although he remains active professionally as an attorney, Bob still enjoys teaching and the opportunities present themselves. He has recently started writing a series of articles combining history, religion, and science.

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 BRYCE MATTHEW
MCDONALD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryce Matthew McDonald of Liberty, Missouri. Bryce 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 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bryce has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bryce 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 Bryce Matthew McDonald for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE
RETIREMENT OF SYLVIA SNYDER

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. REGULA. Madam Speaker, as you know, I will be retiring from this House at the

conclusion of this Congress, but today I rise to pay tribute to a member of my staff, Sylvia Snyder, who will also be retiring from service in this House.

Sylvia was born in Grenada, Mississippi but moved to Canton, Ohio, when she was 10. She attended school in Canton and graduated from Timken High School. After raising her family Sylvia went back to school and obtained an associate degree in applied business with an executive secretarial major from Stark State College of Technology, one of our outstanding institutions in Stark County.

It was on completion of her degree at Stark State that I interviewed Sylvia for the scheduler position in my office. I had contacted the school to let them know I was interested in interviewing their students for this position and told them I wanted the best they had. Sylvia became my scheduler in June 1980, and over these more than 28 years, she has indeed proven to be one of the best. I know that my colleagues will agree that one of the most challenging and stressful positions on Capitol Hill is that of scheduler, and with her terrific organizational skills and professional demeanor, Sylvia excelled at this position. During my tenure as chairman of two different Appropriations Subcommittees, the number of requests that Sylvia received for meetings with me would have nearly overwhelmed most people, but Sylvia methodically and efficiently organized and scheduled them in order for us to carry out our mission of constituent service every day.

On behalf of our entire staff, I would like to thank Sylvia for her service to Ohio's 16th Congressional District and to this House and wish her much health and happiness in her retirement. I know that she is very much looking forward to traveling and also taking in the wonderful cultural resources in our Nation's Capital. We wish her all the best.

REMEMBERING THOSE LOST AND HURT IN THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN MUMBAI

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, in response to the unspeakably terrible acts of murder perpetrated on innocent people by a handful of vicious, hate-filled fanatics in Mumbai, the Asian American Commission of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts convened a candlelight vigil on December 4 at 6 p.m. in Boston and provided an opportunity for people of good will to express their horror at these terrible events and their determination to work together to prevent them from happening again.

The Commission composed a moving, eloquent statement in response to these terrible acts and because its message is so necessary at this time, I ask that it be printed here.

A CANDLELIGHT VIGIL—REMEMBERING FRIENDS, FAMILY AND ALL THOSE LOST AND HURT IN THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN MUMBAI, INDIA NOVEMBER 26–29, 2008

The Asian American Commission of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts invites Americans of all faiths to join in a Candlelight Vigil on December 4, 6 p.m. at City Hall Plaza, Boston, Massachusetts.

We are saddened by the loss of so many in Mumbai, India this past week because of the actions of a few terrorists. We offer our deepest condolences to their families and pray for the speedy recovery of those who were hurt. We applaud the heroic actions of the police, firefighters, armed forces and the staff of the hotels, restaurants, train stations and hospitals and all concerned citizens who helped to stop the terrorists and rescue and guide people to safety.

In this global village, like the United States, India is a democracy with rights for every man, woman and child, regardless of religious or ethnic origin; a secular country with tolerance for many faiths; and a strong tradition of cooperation among its many ethnic, religious, and linguistic communities. India also serves as a positive influence for many people here and in countries around the world through its strong traditions, contributions to culture, political leadership, trade and world economic development.

As the world's largest democracy, India's represents a religious cross-section of Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Jews, Buddhists and people of every faith that have traditionally lived in harmony. Unfortunately, there are a few who seek to sow divisions and cause harm to its people, its economy, to all those who visit or wish to do business with India. We believe that terrorism affects us all and we must all unite and act to defeat this common enemy.

As Asians and Americans we are all part of a global village and strongly condemn these heinous acts. No matter where terror raises its ugly head, it impacts all the citizens of the world. We believe that by coming together as a community to show support to the bereaved and by fostering greater bonds between all peoples and faiths here at home and across the globe that we will be able to stop such hate.

HONORING BRIAN LLOYD OTTE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brian Lloyd Otte of Liberty, Missouri. Brian 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 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brian has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Brian 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 Brian Lloyd Otte for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN MEMORY OF DR. CHARLES LEA

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it is with grief that I inform the House of the death of

Dr. Charles Lea, Lt. Col., United States Army (ret.) of Lexington, Missouri.

Dr. Lea was born and raised in Brunswick, Missouri, and graduated from Brookfield High School in 1952. Dr. Lea then spent a year at Rolla School of Mines before he entered West Point where he graduated in 1957. Upon graduation he spent 3½ years in Germany before taking paratrooper training at Fort Benning. Choosing to attend University of Missouri Medical School over Ivy League offers, he graduated in 1965 to intern at Fitzsimmons in Denver, Colorado.

Following his education path, Dr. Lea went directly to Vietnam. Serving in the 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne, Dr. Lea was awarded several medals and citations, including: Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Soldier's Medal, four Air Medals, Army Commendation Medal, Viet Cross of Gallantry, Combat Medical Badge, and Parachute Badge.

After his service in Vietnam, Dr. Lea choose to become a general practice family physician in Oklahoma and Lafayette County, Missouri. Dr. Lea served as the chief of staff at Stillwater Regional Health Center, Stillwater, Oklahoma; Lafayette Regional Medical Center, Lexington, Missouri; and I-70 Medical Center, Sweet Springs, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Lea was a respected father, physician, and soldier. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife, Kay Lea; his children, DeJean, George, Elisabeth, Darren, Nikki, and Scott; and his grandchildren, Jacqueline, William, Emily, Chelsea, Hunter, Gabriel, Elizabeth, Dylan, Maxwell, Regan, and Hayden.

HONORING CODY WILLIAM CASH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cody William Cash of Liberty, Missouri. Cody 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 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Cody has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Cody 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 Cody William Cash 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 CAREER OF MR. WALTER HOWARD MAYO, III

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today so that my colleagues in the House of

Representatives can join me in honoring an esteemed member of the legal profession, dedicated community activist, and a constituent of mine, Mr. Walter Howard Mayo, III.

For nearly 30 years, Howard has led a distinguished career as Managing Partner of Casner & Edwards, LLP, bringing his invaluable expertise in civil litigation, estate planning, and telecommunications law to the greater Boston area. Prior to joining the firm, Howard served as an appellate attorney with the Federal Maritime Commission here in Washington, followed by a position as Chief of the Administrative Division within the Massachusetts Attorney General's office. No matter the challenge, Howard has risen to the occasion. His astute knowledge, wisdom, and high work ethic have earned him the respect and praise of colleagues and clients alike.

As a resident of Orleans, Howard has donated admirable time and effort to enriching the civic and cultural fabric of our Commonwealth. Most notably, he has served as both Secretary and Vice President of the Board of Governors of the Handel & Haydn Society, a

nationally acclaimed orchestral and choral performing arts organization based out of Boston. Howard has also been active in numerous historical societies, genealogical associations, and charitable organizations—a testament of his strong commitment to improving his community.

On behalf of all those whose lives Howard has touched over the years, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank him for his hard work and service. As he closes out this chapter of his career, I have every confidence that he will meet success in all his future endeavors.

HONORING DYLAN RENO

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dylan Reno, 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 87, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dylan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Dylan has shown an extraordinary commitment to scouting as evidenced by earning 41 merit badges and holding several leadership positions in the troop. In July of 2005, Dylan earned the World Conservation Award.

Dylan's Eagle Scout service project consisted of constructing several bird feeders and landscaping around the "sitting room" of the Missouri Veterans Home in Cameron, Missouri. This project continued the tradition of community service established by the Boy Scouts of America.

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