

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE CORAM FIRE DEPARTMENT ON ITS 80TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of the Coram Fire Department on the 80th anniversary of its founding. Like all of Long Island's volunteer fire services, the Coram firefighters reflect the best of the American spirit: bravery, loyalty, and commitment to public service.

As Coram has grown over the past 80 years, its fire department has expanded and enhanced its services to meet the needs of the community. Operating from three firehouses, the department offers firefighting, EMS and rescue services to nearly 55,000 area residents.

Mr. Speaker, as my primary district office is located in Coram, I deeply appreciate the firefighters' commitment to protecting my second home. On behalf of my staff and the residents of Coram, I offer my thanks and best wishes as the department continues its tradition of service for many years to come.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL TRAIN DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 367. This resolution marks the 140th anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad and the beginning of America's strong dependence on rail transportation.

Since the golden spike was driven into the final tie at Promontory Summit in 1869, our nation has relied on passenger and freight rail to build our communities and enhance our way of life.

And like then, our economic growth depends on the ability to move goods and people quickly and reliably.

For anyone who has driven on the I-95 corridor recently, it is strikingly clear that highway congestion has become a critical problem—threatening business productivity, increasing safety risks, and hindering efforts to improve air quality. In fact, studies have shown that travelers in the Northeast waste approximately 700,000 hours and 500,000 gallons of fuel sitting in traffic delays every year.

Fixing our transportation system will take a sustained, long-term investment. Last month, President Obama announced a new Strategic Plan to build a national high-speed rail network. Now, it is incumbent upon us to ensure this plan is effective in addressing the critical

mobility challenges in heavily congested areas of the country, like the Northeast Corridor between Boston and Washington, DC.

In 2008, Amtrak set a new record with 28.7 million passengers—including millions of travelers and commuters in the Northeast. I commend Amtrak for its efforts to increase ridership and improve its on-time performance over the last several years.

As cochair of the House Passenger Rail Caucus, and more importantly one of the thousands of commuters who rely on Amtrak almost daily, I can attest to the accomplishments of our nation's railroads and I look forward to joining my colleagues in exploring their untapped potential.

I thank Chairwoman BROWN for her strong leadership on this important issue and I congratulate America's railroads in celebrating National Train Day.

HONORING JOHN BUCK OF NEW BLOOMINGTON, OHIO, 2009 ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House John Buck of New Bloomington, Ohio. John is among this year's recipients of the Environmental Stewardship Award, given by the Ohio Livestock Coalition in partnership with the Ohio Pork Producers Council.

The Environmental Stewardship Award program acknowledges superior conservation techniques among our Nation's livestock producers, who already take the lead in responsible land use practices. For nearly twenty years, winners have been recognized for their dedication to promoting air and water quality and protecting fish and wildlife habitats while operating successful and profitable livestock businesses. This commitment is especially important in Ohio, where one in every seven jobs is directly linked to our state's \$100 billion agriculture industry.

John was recognized for his achievement at the 2009 Ohio Livestock Coalition's annual meeting on April 6. I am honored to add my congratulations to those of producers from throughout Ohio on this achievement. John's commitment to responsible stewardship is a fine example to landowners across the State and Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on May 4, 2009, I was unable to cast my

votes on H. Res. 230 and H. Con. Res. 111 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for Roll Call No. 229, on suspending the Rules and passing H. Res. 230, Recognizing the historical significance of the Mexican holiday of Cinco de Mayo, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for Roll Call No. 230, on suspending the Rules and passing H. Con. Res. 111, Recognizing the 61st anniversary of the Independence of the State of Israel, I would have voted "yea."

STATEMENT ON THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MARIE WILKINSON

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the 100th birthday of Mrs. Marie Wilkinson.

A true living legend, Marie Wilkinson has spent a lifetime giving to others and her community.

Today I thank Marie Wilkinson for all her service to the city of Aurora and wish her a very happy birthday. It is an honor to celebrate such a momentous day and a remarkable life.

For more than six decades Marie Wilkinson has fought injustice and given voice to those most in need. Her activism has reached well beyond the local level to benefit countless across the state. In the late 1940s Mrs. Wilkinson won a case before the Illinois State Appellate Court that resulted in the integration of area restaurants. Through the Human Relations Commission she founded in 1964, Mrs. Wilkinson is credited with enacting the first Fair Housing Ordinance in Illinois.

Unyielding determination and a deep love of people have kept Marie Wilkinson going. Her work has led to the founding of more than 60 charitable organizations including Hosed House Homeless Shelter, Feed the Hungry Program, Breaking Free Drug Program, Catholic Social Action Conference, Sci-Tech Youth Science Museum, and the Quad County Urban League.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing Marie Wilkinson's 100th birthday, and celebrating her commitment to the betterment of community and humanity.

RECOGNIZING NURSING STAFF AT EL RIO COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madame Speaker, I rise today to recognize the nursing staff at El Rio Community Health Center in Tucson, AZ.

● 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.

This week, we celebrate National Nurses Week, to honor the men and women that care for us in some of our hardest moments. I am humbled to recognize the nurses of El Rio who endure so much for the health of our community.

From its beginning, El Rio has had a strong community base which comes from advocating and working to ensure that quality and affordable health care were provided to underrepresented communities in the late 1960s. Today, it is among the largest community health centers in Southern Arizona.

The legacy of quality and affordable health care continues at El Rio, because of the sacrifice and commitment of its nurses.

El Rio nurses are often the unsung heroes; they are protective of their patients, are selfless in the care they provide, and are in tune with the needs of the patient. This is just what we see as patients or family of loved ones.

Behind the scenes and off the clock, El Rio nurses are constantly training or researching the newest techniques, health trends, nurse education, or how to provide culturally and ethnically competent care. They do this so that their patients can have the most up-to-date and personal care.

This year, Congress is preparing to undertake health care reform, a debate that is decades old to which we will hopefully find solutions. The work by El Rio nurses are actions and principles that my colleagues and I should embrace as we move forward on this important debate. El Rio nurses are committed to the idea that each patient deserves respect, receives quality care, and is part of the community. If we could replicate their concern, passion, energy, and success, our country's system would provide the quality health care we all hope to attain.

Words are not strong enough to thank the nurses at El Rio on behalf of their dedication, sacrifice, and work for a better future.

HARRY FRANCIS CUNNINGHAM,
JR.

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the 10th anniversary of the death of Harry Francis Cunningham, Jr., a patriotic American, a great Nebraskan and an unsung hero.

Harry Francis Cunningham devoted 31 years to the U.S. Foreign Service, serving in posts in Hungary, Spain, Germany, Vietnam, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Canada during the tumultuous times of 1938–1969. During that time, Mr. Cunningham was personally responsible for the safety and survival of many families. At the tender age of 25, Mr. Cunningham was able to accomplish feats only achieved by real heroes, and through his noble actions, countless Jewish lives were saved.

One example of Mr. Cunningham's many accomplishments is the story of Mr. Zoltan Roth and Mrs. Elizabeth Foldes, two people that he helped escape Hungary just before the onslaught of World War II.

Both Zoltan and Elizabeth were graduate medical students seeking to escape Europe

for America and facing dire circumstances. Both were brilliant students, but were banned by Hungarian medical school quotas against Jews. Instead, both graduated with honors from their respective schools, Zoltan from the University of Bologna in Italy and Elizabeth from Charles Medical University in Prague.

Upon her graduation, Elizabeth had been accepted at Columbia University in New York City to do graduate studies. She and Zoltan were about to be married, and wanted to come to America together. When she arrived at the American Embassy in Budapest, however, she learned for the first time that her student visa was unattainable. Six years before, her mother had, without Elizabeth's knowledge or consent, signed her up for permanent residency status and this had nullified the student visa process. A person applying for a student visa could not have signaled a desire to remain permanently. Their plight looked hopeless. They made an appointment, again at the American Embassy in Budapest, this time, fortuitously, being assigned to a Foreign Service Officer, who turned out to be Harry Francis Cunningham, Jr., 25 years old and on his first post. Creatively, Mr. Cunningham readjusted their visas giving Zoltan Roth, Elizabeth's permanent visa that she had not known about, as well as a quota number so he could leave Hungary within the next couple of months, freeing up her student visa application for her, and allowing them both entry into the United States.

Because of his kindness and creativity, Elizabeth and Zoltan came to the United States, each practicing medicine in Reading, Pennsylvania for over 50 years, they were generous philanthropists and community citizens. They raised three daughters who have been teachers, professors, authors, lecturers and leaders in the world-wide medical support community.

This was just one example of how Mr. Cunningham was able to assist refugees after the war by providing them safe entry into America to start new and productive lives.

Mr. Cunningham received a bachelor's of arts degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1933 and was awarded an UNL Alumni Achievement award in 1984. He was a former trustee of the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation and the UNL Alumni Association. He served on the Bishop's committee and was a church warden at St. Mark's Campus Episcopal Church.

Mr. Cunningham comes from a strong Nebraskan family as well. His father, Col. Harry Cunningham, took over the Nebraska State Capitol project after the death of Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue. He is survived by 11 grand children and 8 great grand children, several of which are still living in Nebraska.

Many families owe their survival, and the lives of their children and grandchildren, to Mr. Cunningham. So it is my true honor to remember this unsung hero here today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I want to state for the record that on May 5th I was in my district attending the funeral of my Aunt

Julia Taglibue Monda who recently passed away at the age of 96, and I therefore missed the three rollcall votes of the day.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 231, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree—H. Res. 299—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 4 through 10, 2009, and throughout the year.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 232, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree—H. Res. 338—Supporting the goals and ideals of National Community College Month.

Lastly, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 233, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree—H. Res. 353—Supporting the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Days.

BOSWELL ENGINEERING

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. ROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Boswell Engineering. In 1924, the late David C. Boswell recognized the need for engineering expertise in a world that was expanding and developing at a lightening-fast pace. It was then, in Ridgefield Park, NJ, that he founded Boswell Engineering. His leadership provided the solid foundation upon which the company is built.

Family ownership continued as both of David C. Boswell's sons—the late Howard L. Boswell, Sr. and David J. Boswell—became the second generation to own and operate the firm, each making his unique contribution toward establishing Boswell as a full-service engineering company. The company's third generation of family ownership and management headed by Stephen Boswell who together with his brothers Bruce and Kevin are presently providing the leadership for continuation and expansion of the superb quality of service and high standard of excellence Boswell is known for in the engineering community.

Through the company's fine history of engineering accomplishments—from a two-man field office concentrating on surveying and civil engineering to a 250 person multi-disciplined engineering firm serving numerous public sector clients at all levels of government, Boswell continues to play a major role in the structuring of the future and improving the quality of life for the cities, towns and counties with which it is associated.

Today, as the fourth generation is now actively engaged at the family owned business, Boswell Engineering, which has been headquartered in Bergen County since it's founding in 1924, looks forward to maintaining a reputation for excellence by continuing to provide superb engineering services envisioned by its founder 85 years ago.

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE'S (USPTO)
NATIONAL TRADEMARK EXPO

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support of the United States Patent and Trademark Office's (USPTO's) National Trademark Expo. In a time of great challenges for the American and global economy, I want to join the USPTO in its efforts to recognize the vital role trademarks play in the economy.

The 2008 National Trademark Expo was a great success and was attended by more than 7,000 from the trademark community as well as the public at large. This year's 2-day event will be held on Friday, May 8th, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, May 9th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the USPTO headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. The purpose of the Expo is to educate the public about the value and important role trademarks play in our society and the global marketplace.

Trademarks are words, names, symbols, sounds, or colors that identify and distinguish the goods and services of one party from those of others. The Trademark Expo will highlight the different types of trademarks including trademarks that identify shapes and configurations of products, century-old registered trademarks, the historical evolution and transformation of trademarks, and the history of people behind certain trademarks.

The USPTO campus will turn into a "Trademark Theme Park" featuring company booths, themed displays, costumed characters, and inflatables. Additions to this year's Trademark Expo include guided tours, activities for children, and educational lectures on anti-counterfeiting, how to file a trademark, and "Trademarks 101." A large cast of costumed characters masquerading to tunes played by the United States Air Force Band's brass quintet promise a festive introduction for speakers at this year's opening ceremony.

During the Trademark Expo, costumed trademarked characters that the public has come to associate with particular goods and services, including the Pillsbury Doughboy®, Sprout®, Hershey's Kisses®, Maisy®, Curious George®, Peter Rabbit®, Energizer Bunny®, Mr. Jelly Belly®, and The Grinch®, among others, will parade about the USPTO campus, and large inflatable characters, including The Cat in the Hat®, Thomas the engine from Thomas & Friends®, and Green Giant®, will decorate the grounds. Costumed characters in the shape of crayons from Crayola®, displayed in a spectrum of colors, will escort children through the educational activities including a story time featuring literary trademarked characters sponsored by Hooray for Books!, a local children's bookstore. The Hershey's Kissmobile® and a UPS® truck will help tell the story of the prevalence of trademarks in our daily lives and their value as source indicators.

On average, people are exposed to 1,500 trademarks each day and more than 30,000 if they make a trip to the grocery store. In a time of globalization, counterfeit goods pose an increasing threat to American businesses, and

trademarks assist the public in discerning between authentic and counterfeit merchandise.

Some of America's leading large corporations, small businesses with unfolding success stories, governmental agencies, and non-profit corporations will highlight the various types of trademarks and the benefits of Federal trademark registration. The exhibitors include Bridgestone Corporation, Burberry Limited, Callaway Golf Company, CMG Worldwide, Inc., Fred Gretsche Enterprises/The Bigsby Company, Galaxy Systems, Inc., International Trademark Association (INTA), Internet Keep Safe Coalition, The Hershey Company/Hershey Chocolate & Confectionery Corporation, The Pepsco Group, Inc., The Travelers Companies, Inc., United Parcel Service of America, Inc., Urangatang Web Design, LLC, U.S. Air Force, and U.S. Department of Energy.

The Trademark Expo will emphasize the essential role the USPTO plays in reviewing applications for trademarks and issuing federal trademark registrations. An award-winning leader in handling electronic filings, the USPTO will also showcase its electronic trademark application system.

During these uncertain economic times, I applaud the USPTO for its continued efforts to educate the public on the role of trademarks through the National Trademark Expo. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the USPTO, at this time when trademark protection and intellectual property rights play an increasingly important role in our global economy.

MOMMA HARRIS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, in recognition of this Mother's Day, I rise to honor a special mother and grandmother, Sandra L. Harris—or Momma Harris as she is more affectionately known.

Sandra grew up in Cartersville, GA where she spent a good bit of time up on Red Top Mountain State Park. From a young age Sandra knew the value of a day's pay as she worked in the concession stand and as a lifeguard at the park.

Sandra would later meet Charles Harris from Cassville, GA and the two would become married. Sandra relocated with him to San Antonio and Wichita Falls, TX while he served in the military. In her personal career Sandra has worked in various occupations through the years including a bank teller and salesperson, but her passion lies in the real estate business where she has been quite successful.

After leaving Texas and moving back to Georgia Sandra had two sons, Chuck and James Harris. Momma Harris has taught her boys work ethic, faith, and the strength and character only a southern woman can instill into her sons. In addition to her two sons, Sandra has a vibrant grandson who she loves deeply, Wyatt Harris, who calls her Granny Harris.

Momma Harris is a woman of deep love, faith, and generosity. She is the type of person that anyone could hope to have for a mother. You can just ask anyone in Cartersville, GA and they will tell you that San-

dra Harris will leave a lasting impression on anyone that spends just a few minutes around her.

Madam Speaker, I would like to wish the best to Sandra Harris, and thank her for representing the ideals of a loving and supporting mother on this Mother's Day. Let her commitment to her family serve as an example to us all. Sandra is a great American and I wish her a very happy Mother's Day with many more to come.

And that's just the way it is.

COMMENDING THE MIDLAND
NORTHSTARS PEE WEE AA
HOCKEY TEAM

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the team members of the Midland Northstars Pee Wee AA hockey team on winning the USA Hockey Tier II 12-and-under Youth Nationals on Sunday, April 5, 2009. They have represented the state well with their perseverance and athleticism, and we are very proud of their national accomplishments.

The Northstars' 6–3 win over the East Coast Eagles of Raleigh, NC completed a six-game unbeaten run through the national tournament.

The Northstars—a travel team from the Midland Amateur Hockey League located in my district, outscored their opponents 36–7 in the five-day national tournament.

Team members include Turner Anderson, Tyler Angers, Samuel Brushaber, Drake Cergnul, Cam Fisher, Andrew Healey, Matthew Lee, Michael Leslie, Jacob Mackie, Travis McNally, Zachary Paisley, Steven Roberts, Joshua Ruthig, Derek Striker, Jacob Swartz, Brandon Veihl, Colin Walters. The team is Coached by Gregory Walters, assisted by Scott Cergnul, John Hollingsworth, Terry McNally, and James Roberts. The team manager is Kent Striker. The Northstars are also two-time Michigan state champions.

I am honored today to recognize the Midland Northstars Pee Wee AA team for their accomplishments, and congratulate them on their outstanding performance.

HONORING TAYLOR COURTER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Taylor Courter 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 66, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE
CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2009

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud co-sponsor of H.R. 1913, the "Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009." According to FBI statistics, 118,000 hate crimes have been reported since 1991. During the same period of time, reported bias motivated crimes based on sexual orientation has more than tripled, yet the federal government currently has no jurisdiction to assist states and municipalities in dealing with even the most violent hate crimes against gay and lesbian Americans. The FBI's 2007 Uniform Crime Reports showed that reported violent crimes based on sexual orientation constituted approximately one out of six hate crimes committed in 2007, with 1,265 reported for the year.

The Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009 will provide assistance to state and local law enforcement agencies and amend federal law to facilitate the investigation and prosecution of violent, bias-motivated crimes. This important legislation is backed by a number of major law enforcement organizations, including the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National District Attorneys Association, and the National Sheriffs Association.

This bill will strengthen existing federal law by expanding its jurisdiction to provide protections for crimes directed at individuals because of their gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability. The bill only applies to bias-motivated violent crimes and does not impinge public speech or writing.

This bill includes an explicit First Amendment free speech protection. Pastors, Sunday school teachers, and religious leaders cannot be prosecuted for the content of their speech. Many religious groups have expressed support for the bill, including the Episcopal Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, the Interfaith Alliance, the Presbyterian Church, the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the United Methodist Church, and the Congress of National Black Churches.

I am proud to support the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009 because it is grounded in fundamental American values: recognizing the dignity of every person, protecting religious freedom, and freedom of speech. This legislation protects people from violence based on who they are, and has explicit protections to ensure that the law does not punish what people think, feel, or believe, but rather actions that physically harm others. I urge passage of the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF
SERVICE BY THE BUFFALO AU-
DUBON SOCIETY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend and congratulate the Buffalo Audubon Society on the occasion of their centennial of exemplary service to the communities of Western New York and New York State.

Established in 1909, the Buffalo Audubon Society is the oldest Audubon chapter in New York State and one of the four oldest Audubon Chapters in the United States serving the counties of Erie, Wyoming, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee and portions of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany.

This outstanding organization is a membership-based not-for-profit that provides an invaluable contribution to our community as it continues to promote the enjoyment and appreciation of the natural world through education and stewardship.

Its educational experience credentials remain exemplary as The Buffalo Audubon Society provides nature and environmental education to as many as 35,000 children and adults each year through classroom presentations, field trips, workshops, festivals, and excursions and has inspired a deeper appreciation of nature among hundreds of thousands of children and adults over the last century.

The Buffalo Audubon Society's stewardship is best exemplified by its ownership and maintenance of six nature preserves in Western New York, whose total acreage exceeds 1,000 acres, including Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, the most active nature education center in upstate New York.

The Buffalo Audubon Society is and will remain a leader in building partnerships and collaborations with other environmental nonprofits, state and local governments, and businesses throughout the region to affect positive changes in the natural environment of Western New York.

Tonight, the community will come together for a Centennial Gala at the Buffalo Zoo celebrating a century of nature education, environmental advocacy and accomplishments. I am pleased and proud to ask that my colleagues join with me in adding the congratulations of the United States House of Representatives and extending our deepest appreciation for 100 years of caring for the environment.

We also add best wishes to the Buffalo Audubon Society for every success in its next century of service as it continues its dedication to work as a strong and effective voice for the protection of natural wonders and environmental quality in Western New York.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JACK
LEONHARDT, MAYOR OF THE
CITY OF WINDCREST

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I want to congratulate Mayor Jack

Leonhardt on the occasion of his retirement as Mayor of the City of Windcrest.

First elected Mayor of Windcrest on May 5, 2001, Mayor Leonhardt has been consecutively elected to four terms. He announced his retirement in May 2009. As Mayor, he served as Chairman of the Alamo Area Council of Governments, President of the Texas Municipal League Region 7, Treasurer of the Greater Bexar Council Council of Cities and was appointed by Mayor Phil Hardberger and Judge Nelson Wolff to the Transportation Task Force.

Mayor Leonhardt is a member of the Windcrest Lions Club, the Windcrest Optimist Club, the Northeast Partnership, the Greater Randolph Chamber of Commerce, and serves as an elder at John Calvin Presbyterian Church. He also served in the United States Air Force from 1966 until 1987 when he retired as Lieutenant Colonel.

He is married to Barbara and has two daughters, Jacqueline Denham and Joanne Brickson, as well as four grandchildren.

He has done an exceptional job as Mayor and we are all grateful for his service to his community.

ROBERT KNISELY

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Robert Knisely, a friend to all of Nebraska and a man whose philanthropy over the years—many times anonymous in nature—will be missed.

Born in Shubert, Nebraska, Bob served our country honorably during World War II, captaining B-17 and B-29 bombers in the U.S. Army Air Corps.

After the war, Bob founded Midwest Construction Company which became a nationally recognized heavy construction contractor for more than 56 years. He did not rest on his laurels, instead earning a reputation for a man who loved and lived his work. He returned this success to the State of Nebraska not only through private philanthropy, but also by working to make our State a better place.

Bob's strength was his ability to tap into the humor, empathy and charm which made him well-liked by everyone who knew him.

A driven man, a passionate Husker fan, and a loving husband, father and grandfather, Bob will be missed. My thoughts and prayers remain with his family.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, a time when we reflect on the contributions that Asian Pacific Americans have made to our country.

I would specifically like to take this opportunity today to speak briefly about the Asian

Pacific American community and a topic close to my heart: organ donation. April was "Donate Life Month," and my colleague, Mr. COSTA, one of the co-chairs of the Congressional Organ and Tissue Caucus, spoke eloquently about the need for everyone, particularly those in ethnic minority communities, to become organ donors and to inform their families of this important decision.

Organ and tissue donation is a topic that requires specific, culturally sensitive information to be provided to the Asian Pacific American community in order to get past the fear and cultural stigma associated with donation.

According to the Department of Health and Human Service's Office of Minority Health, the need for transplants is unusually high among some ethnic minorities. Some diseases of the kidney, heart, lung, pancreas, and liver that can lead to organ failure are found more frequently in ethnic minority populations than in the general population. For example, Asian and Pacific Islanders, along with African Americans and Hispanics, are three times more likely than Caucasians to suffer from kidney disease. Some of these diseases are best treated through transplantation; others can only be treated through transplantation.

Successful transplantation is often enhanced by using organs from members of the same racial and ethnic group. Generally, people are genetically more similar to people of their own ethnicity or race than to people of other races. Therefore, matches are more likely and timelier when donors and potential recipients are members of the same ethnic background.

Minority patients may have to wait longer for matched kidneys and therefore maybe be sicker at the time of transplant or may die waiting. Currently there are 7,108 Asian Pacific Americans on organ donor waiting lists. While Asians represent 6.4 percent of the current wait list, only 3.1 percent of organs donated in 2008 came from Asians. With more donated organs from minorities, matches will be found more quickly and the waiting time will be reduced.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to recognize the contributions of Asian Pacific Americans around the country who are addressing this problem. I am deeply grateful for people like Cammy Lee, who started the Cammy Lee Leukemia Foundation to help find matches for bone marrow transplants, and Dr. Samuel So of the Stanford Asian Liver Center and the Jade Ribbon Campaign, whose work addresses the high incidence of hepatitis B and liver cancer in Asians and Asian Americans through education and treatment.

Together as a country we recognize Asian Pacific American Heritage month, and together we can help increase the rate of organ and tissue donation within the Asian Pacific American community, as well as other ethnic minority communities.

INTRODUCING THE FAIR FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS ACT

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Fair Funding for Schools

Act, which reauthorizes and improves the Impact Aid program. Impact Aid benefits millions of American students attending elementary and secondary schools in every state in the country. Through this program, the federal government does the right thing by reimbursing local school districts for lost tax revenue due to federal lands within the borders of their districts and the number of military-connected students in the district.

The majority of public school funding in America comes from local property taxes. Unfortunately, this vital funding stream is drastically reduced in school districts where the federal government controls part of the land in the district. For instance, the many U.S. military bases located in Hawaii take up a vast amount of space and house large populations, but these bases do not generate local property taxes. In other states, large national parks and forests, federal prisons, and Indian lands all similarly decrease local property tax revenue. Left uncorrected, this loss of revenue would leave the children living in these areas with a second class education, funded by substantially fewer dollars than their peers living in areas with no federally impacted land.

In 1950, Congress recognized the need to address this inequity and created Impact Aid, a program by which we provide additional federal dollars to school districts feeling this financial strain.

Impact Aid is one of the most effective programs run by the Department of Education because it sends money directly to local school districts with very few strings attached. Just like the property tax revenue it replaces, Impact Aid dollars can be used to fund the most essential needs identified by the school district—textbooks, computers, utilities, and salaries, for instance. Many districts rely heavily on this money, and without it their students would be shortchanged. Therefore, we must reauthorize this program.

Even great programs need to be tweaked every so often, and this Fair Funding for Schools Act makes necessary changes in Impact Aid. The bill addresses the effects of military base realignment and troop redeployment by allowing Impact Aid payments to be calculated using current student counts instead of prior year data. This change will allow districts receiving an influx of new military families to receive their Impact Aid dollars in a timely manner.

The Impact Aid law also has become overly complicated during its 59-year history. This bill simplifies the law by eliminating some outdated provisions that added unnecessary complications. It also maintains the program's traditional focus on need, whereby payments to school districts are calculated based on the percentage of the budget lost due to federal actions and on the number of federally connected children in a district.

Madam Speaker, this is a vitally important bill for Hawaii and for many school districts across the country. The students most impacted are often from families serving in our military. Given the sacrifices we ask of military families, they deserve nothing less than the best education for their children. This bill will take us in that direction, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE LONGWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the founding of Longwood School District, which unites four central Long Island hamlets under a single purpose: providing a top quality education to the children of our community.

The first recorded area schoolhouse was established in Coram, New York, in 1811, nearly a century after permanent European settlement in the area known as "The Plains" due to its inland location. Division of the area into separate school districts soon followed, and schoolhouses for primary education proliferated. In 1959, local school boards moved to consolidate the schools in order to better serve area students, selecting the name of Longwood from a centrally-located estate.

For the past 50 years, Longwood School District has educated students from the communities in my district of Coram, Middle Island, Yaphank, East Yaphank, Shirley, Ridge, Lake Panamoka, Gordon Heights and portions of Medford, Miller Place and Shoreham. The district has grown to include four primary schools: Charles E. Walters, Coram, Ridge and West Middle Island, with students graduating to Longwood Middle School, Junior High School and High School.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the families served by the dedicated teachers, administrators, and staff of the school district, I congratulate Longwood on reaching this important milestone and offer best wishes for continued success in the classroom, on the playing fields, and in post-secondary pursuits.

CONGRATULATING CHICAGO COMMUNITY LOAN FUND, A 2009 RECIPIENT OF THE MACARTHUR AWARD FOR CREATIVE & EFFECTIVE INSTITUTIONS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Chicago Community Loan Fund (CCLF) on receiving the 2009 MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

I would also like to commend the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, another exemplary Chicago institution, for its ongoing investments in knowledge, the arts, public policy, conservation, and justice. Their grants support diverse areas with critical needs. For example, other recipients of the MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions included groups working on natural resource conservation in the Caribbean, defense of human rights in the Don Region of Russia, and the promotion of equal justice and the rule of law in Nigeria.

CCLF is one of three U.S. organizations, and just eight worldwide, to receive the prestigious award, which recognizes implementing

creative, effective, and ultimately successful approaches to diverse challenges.

Through targeted lending to non-profit and for-profit community development organizations, CCLF works in low- and moderate-income Chicago neighborhoods to preserve and create affordable housing, develop social services infrastructure, and spur economic and commercial development. The Fund's presence is key for small and midsize real estate developers and non-profits in Chicago looking for low-cost, flexible financing. CCLF also offers technical assistance to its borrowers and works to promote sustainable building design.

CCLF and the other award-winning institutions are also notable for their ability to achieve substantial impact with limited resources. CCLF's borrowers have leveraged \$36 million in loans into \$808 million from public and private sources, resulting in the preservation or creation of over 1,000 jobs and 5,200 homes.

CCLF is also part of the Preservation Compact, an initiative supported by the MacArthur Foundation, which has the goal of preserving 75,000 affordable rental homes in Cook County by 2020. CCLF has created a revolving loan pool to help developers save up to 2,200 such units.

CCLF plans to use its \$500,000 award to enhance its lending activities and to promote sustainable building technologies in its community development initiatives.

I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to the Chicago Community Loan Fund for its exemplary and forward-looking strategies to preserve and build affordable housing, promote sustainable economic development in low- and moderate-income areas, and bring good jobs to Chicago.

ENDANGERED FISH RECOVERY PROGRAMS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2009

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I'd like to share with you and my esteemed colleagues the importance of the Upper Colorado River and San Juan River Basin Endangered Fish Recovery Program.

This program is a premier example of how to recover endangered fish species while also providing more than 3 million acre-feet of water per year to Federal, tribal and non-Federal water projects.

It has been cited as the most successful fish recovery program in the United States and is used as a model for other recovery programs developed across the country.

Today I am introducing the "Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Improvement Act of 2009" to ensure this program can finish the restoration projects identified for complete success.

This bill extends the authorization of programs until 2023. At that time the fish species of concern will be fully recovered and the infrastructure in place to ensure continued success.

The projects completed to date on the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins are examples of outstanding cooperation

among a diverse group of local, state and federal governmental agencies, environmental groups, water users and utility consumers.

People ask why they've never heard of this recovery program and that's because it has been so successful. The fish identified as being under threat have been substantially maintained.

This bill is critical for the continued and final success of the projects necessary for recovery of the endangered fish.

RECOGNIZING POLICE UNITY TOUR

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Police Unity Tour," which on May 9th will kick-off its 13th Anniversary bicycle tour to our nation's capitol.

The Police Unity Tour honors the memory and courage of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty and raises money for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. Over one thousand police officers from around the country will complete the tour, hundreds of whom will leave from northern New Jersey municipalities that I am proud to represent.

In May 1997, the first Police Unity Tour was organized by Officer Patrick P. Montuore of the Florham Park Police Department, with the hope of raising public awareness about police officers who have died in the line of duty and to honor their sacrifices. The tour started with 18 riders on a four day fund-raising bicycle ride and has grown to over 1,100 riders nationwide.

The Police Unity Tour honors the heroes who have lost their lives and reminds us that everyday our police officers, firefighters, and emergency service personnel, all brave men and women, devote their lives to protecting and serving our communities. Too many of these officers make the ultimate sacrifice and to them we are eternally grateful. We must never take their actions for granted and always remember the families and friends they leave behind.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Police Unity Tour on their 13th Anniversary of honoring fallen law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 382, which supports the goals and ideals of National Charter School Week.

I know very well the great importance of charter schools in public education today as I helped establish one of America's first charter schools, the New Heights Charter School in Stillwater, Minnesota in 1993. This school is

not only continuing its success today but has driven the establishment of other charter schools. And, today, children are educated at almost 3000 charter schools across the United States.

With so many new charter schools opening since these past two decades, it is clear that these schools fulfill a real need for parents, students, and teachers alike. These schools are held accountable for the progress of their students and they continue to thrive because their students perform so well.

Charter schools hold great importance in our educational system because they give parents options. They allow parents to choose from a variety of institutions to find the environment that will best help them succeed. The traditional public school is not always the right fit for every child. Because of charter schools, not only children from families with means have choices. Charter schools give underprivileged families choices that they might not otherwise have.

Madam Speaker, charter schools have set students and teachers on a path to achieve their goals and are an integral part in our constant efforts to improve education in the United States.

RESOLUTION HONORING FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEERS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of military Family Readiness Volunteers and Ombudsmen.

This resolution honors the work of the Army's Family Readiness Volunteers, Air Force Key Spouse Volunteers, Navy Ombudsmen, Marine Corps Key Volunteers and Coast Guard Ombudsmen.

Each day, thousands of men and women volunteer their time and efforts to help improve the quality of life for military families by serving as a channel between deployed units and their loved ones at home. Frequently, these important volunteers are spouses themselves.

Family Readiness Volunteers and Ombudsmen help our families solve a variety of problems, and successfully meet the challenges service members and their families face before, during, and after deployments.

I firmly believe that the outstanding performance of our service members is a testament to their efforts, and with today's high operational tempo, their services are as important as ever. They could not do their jobs and execute the missions at hand if they were constantly worried about their loved ones back home.

As a proud San Diegan, I am fortunate enough to be able to meet with Navy Ombudsman several times a year to discuss these important issues.

These Ombudsmen provide invaluable insight into the struggles and challenges our military families face every day. They truly serve as the voice and as an advocate of those who serve our country and provide emotional support to spouses of deployed service members.

Specifically, the Navy Ombudsmen I have met with in San Diego have reiterated the importance of ensuring our military families have

a smooth deployment cycle, from when a family is preparing for a deployment to adjusting to life once the service member has returned home.

Family Readiness Volunteers and Ombudsmen can assist newly enlisted service members and spouses with a wide range of issues—from understanding their health and retirement benefits to serving as a conduit of information to the command.

They can also provide resources and support to families who are seeking support services, such as employment training, mental health counseling or where to find affordable day care services for their young children.

These men and women volunteer their time to selflessly take on the responsibility of helping other military families while they themselves are often coping with the deployment of a loved one.

Madam Speaker, since 2001, nearly two million members of the active duty and reserve force and the National Guard have deployed in support of overseas contingencies in Iraq and Afghanistan.

As we all know, deployments are a difficult time for service members and their families.

Inadequate communication between units abroad and families at home cause unnecessary stress on our service members and their families and can harm the overall readiness of our force. Family readiness equals mission readiness.

I have heard time and time again that when deployed service members know their families are being taken care of, that they can focus on the task at hand. Family Readiness Volunteers and Ombudsmen help reduce the uncertainty and ease anxiety around deployments by keeping families informed and our service members focused on their mission.

I hope you will help me recognize their important role to our national defense.

REMARKS HONORING SHARON WALDEN

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor a great West Virginian, Sharon Walden who will be inducted into the West Virginia Affordable Housing Hall of Fame on Thursday, May 7th, 2009. Her lifelong commitment to affordable housing, coupled with her tremendous career of leadership, has forever changed the McDowell county community where she was raised and where she continues to make her home.

Sharon's leadership has led to housing and safety for many domestic violence victims, homeless women and their children in West Virginia. Since 1990, she has served as the Executive Director of Stop Abusive Family Environments, Inc. (SAFE). Under her leadership, SAFE went from a small Domestic Violence program with two employees to the first transitional housing facility in my home state of West Virginia that serves victims of domestic violence.

Sharon has truly battled Goliath as David did in 1 Samuel Chapter 17. She worked tirelessly to raise over two million dollars in grants and forgivable loans in order to renovate a

former school building into SAFE's facility. Her perseverance to improve her community did not end there. Next, she established the SAFE permanent housing program which would help first-time, low-income homebuyers in her county. Since then, SAFE has completed 40 rental townhouses with a community center that has been noted as the best rental housing in all of McDowell county.

Under Sharon's leadership, SAFE has formed a non-profit section called SAFE Housing and Economic Development (SHED) which focuses on permanent housing development. In these times of economic uncertainty, when becoming a homeowner can seem like an impossible dream, SHED has helped more than 35 community members reach that goal and become first time homeowners.

Sharon's community work doesn't stop with helping those in need of housing. She helps further economic development as the Executive Director of Travel Beautiful Appalachia. Linking tourism from the rail system to local entrepreneurs, she helps spread local West Virginia treasures across the country.

Sharon's lifetime commitment to helping her neighbors has made a permanent impression on West Virginia. I bring her extraordinary efforts to the attention of the U.S. Congress and urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sharon Walden, a hero to her community and the countless families she has helped.

SUPPORTING THE CREDIT CARD-HOLDER'S BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2009 (H.R. 627)

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my strong support for the Credit Cardholder's Bill of Rights Act of 2009 (H.R. 627), which the House approved last week, and to commend my colleague Ms. MALONEY for her leadership in crafting and championing this measure.

As I am certain is true of all of my colleagues, I am inundated with calls and letters from constituents who are outraged by sudden and arbitrary increases in their credit card interest rates. Their hard-earned taxpayer dollars were used to shore up financial institutions to prevent an economic collapse, and in return, some of the very same financial institutions turned right around and doubled the interest rate they charged their customers.

A letter I received from one constituent, whose interest rate was doubled from 15 to 30 percent, said: "[I]nterest rates such as these are confiscatory. . . . This starts to look like indentured servitude at best, and financial slavery at worst." A letter from another said: "given how much of my taxes are going to bail out these companies, these rates are beyond outrageous and smack of greed." And a letter from another, which was entirely in capital letters, said: "[t]he American people gave billions [in] bail out money because . . . the banks got themselves into trouble. Instead of helping the same taxpayers that helped them by lowering interest rates on credit cards they chose to raise the rates for no reason. . . . When people do the responsible thing it seems they get punished for it. There have to be more

controls on what the banks can do to people who honor their commitments."

I share the outrage of my constituents, and I am pleased to support the Credit Cardholder's Bill of Rights. It will tackle not only usurious interest rates, but a host of other abuses. In 2008 alone, credit-card issuers imposed \$19 billion in penalty fees on families with credit cards according to an industry consultant for Consumer Reports. In 2009 it is estimated that credit card companies will break all records for late fees, over-limit charges, and other penalties, charging more than \$20.5 billion for such fees and penalties.

The Credit Cardholder's Bill of Rights would prevent credit card companies from unfairly increasing interest rates on existing card balances. Credit card holders would be allowed to set their own lower credit card limits, at levels they consider appropriate for their financial circumstances.

The bill would end "double cycle" billing, prohibiting credit card companies from charging interest on balances cardholders have already paid on time. If a cardholder pays on time and in full, the bill prevents card companies from charging additional fees on balances consisting solely of left-over interest.

The bill would also require card companies to provide 45 days advance notice of all interest rate increases or significant contract changes such as the addition of new fees or penalties, and would enact into law recently proposed Federal Reserve Board regulations protecting consumers from abusive credit practices.

This bill establishes many long-overdue protections for consumers and credit card holders, and I am pleased to support it.

IN MEMORY OF CORINNE CONTE

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Mrs. Corinne Louise Conte, wife of our former colleague, the late Congressman Silvio Conte, who died on April 28, 2009.

Corinne was born on January 24, 1922, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, to Charles and Kathleen Clemente Duval. As a teenager, she was a champion swimmer, winning the New England Championship for Breast Stroke Swimming at age 13. Following graduation from Pittsfield High School and St. Luke's School of Nursing in Pittsfield, Corinne served as a nurse in the Navy during World War II where she met her future husband, the late Congressman Silvio O. Conte when he was in the Seabees and recovering from an illness.

Corinne and Silvio were married in Pittsfield on November 8, 1947. After Silvio was elected to the U.S. Congress in 1958, Corinne moved to Bethesda, Maryland, where she raised their four children. While in the Washington, D.C. area, she worked as a real estate agent and was an active partner in her husband's political campaigns. Corinne met every U.S. President from Dwight D. Eisenhower to George H.W. Bush, and many of the world's leaders from the 1950s through the early 1990s. She also danced with Lyndon B. Johnson at his Inaugural Ball and served on President George

H.W. Bush's special Committee on Mental Health in the late 1980s.

Corinne was an avid Red Sox fan and was very thankful that she lived to see the "Curse of the Bambino" broken. She was committed to her Catholic faith and was a daily communicant for years at Little Flower Roman Catholic Church in Bethesda, Maryland, as well as Notre Dame Roman Catholic Church and St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church, both in Pittsfield. In her younger years, she had a private pilot's license. But, most of all, Corinne loved to play cards on a daily basis while living with her daughter in Mill Valley. She enjoyed a last game with her children a few days before her death, which she won, decisively.

Corinne was a friendly and cheerful person who was loved by everyone who knew her. She had a remarkable and full life, and I extend my condolences to the family on her passing.

DEDICATION OF THE BRUCE W. CARTER DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER IN MIAMI

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I want to express my deep gratification and support as the Miami Veterans Affairs Medical Center dedicates their building to Pfc. Bruce W. Carter, USMC. Although we can never truly do enough to honor his sacrifice, Pfc. Bruce Carter, through the tireless efforts of his mother Georgi Carter Krell and so many others, will be remembered.

Pfc. Carter, a member of the 2nd Battalion 3rd Marines 3rd Marine Division, died in the Quang Tri Canyon Province in the Republic of Vietnam in 1969. His Medal of Honor Citation reads in part that "while pinned down by vicious crossfire, with complete disregard for his safety, he stood in full view of the North Vietnamese Army soldiers to deliver a devastating volume of fire at their positions. The accuracy and aggressiveness of his attack caused several enemy casualties and forced the remainder of the soldiers to retreat from the immediate area. Shouting directions to the marines around him, Pfc. Carter then commenced leading them from the path of the rapidly approaching brush fire when he observed a hostile grenade land between him and his companions. Fully aware of the probable consequences of his action but determined to protect the men following him, he unhesitatingly threw himself over the grenade, absorbing the full effects of its detonation with his body. Pfc. Carter's indomitable courage, inspiring initiative and selfless devotion to duty upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life in the service of his country."

The citation speaks volumes. In this time when we have two wars ongoing, it is such a good reminder of the kind of person who serves this country and commits him or herself to the protection of others, even until death. I am sure that Georgi would be the first to say that although this Center is named for Pfc. Carter, it is a testament to the legacy of all of our brave veterans. In her work as President

of the Gold Star Mothers Inc, she knows better than most the toll that war can take on families and I also take this opportunity to thank her for her dedication and tireless work on behalf of our veterans.

SUPPORTING FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, personal financial management skills and lifelong habits begin to develop during childhood. As such, it is essential that we begin preparing our youth as early as possible on how to make informed financial choices, manage money, credit, debt, and risk and eventually become responsible workers, heads of households, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens.

We need to begin working closely with the Department of Education and states and localities to ensure that we begin the financial literacy learning process at least by the time a child enters Kindergarten.

Policymakers of both parties, at the local, state, and federal levels, recently have increased their focus on financial literacy and economic education issues because national surveys reveal troubling gaps in students' and the public's knowledge of these subjects. Economic competency and financial literacy skills are critical for individuals to make sound decisions regarding home ownership, savings, investment, credit and borrowing, and retirement planning. An educated and financially literate populace will strengthen the national economy, especially as individuals improve their own economic well-being.

Our government should lead by example. We should coordinate and communicate a unified message on financial literacy across this Nation. We should authorize and appropriate such funds as necessary to create a broad-based public awareness campaign comprised of a substantial mass-market, multimedia effort in support of a national financial literacy initiative on the scale of the "truth" campaign, developed through the Public Education Fund to discourage smoking among young people.

I believe that the National Endowment on Financial Education and several other financial literacy nonprofits and community based groups would agree with me. My proposed financial literacy initiative would be in addition to the one recommended in the Office of Housing Counseling legislation as introduced by my fellow Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus Co-Chair, colleague and friend, Congresswoman JUDY BIGGERT. I am a proud cosponsor of her legislation and am pleased that it was incorporated into H.R. 1728, the "Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act."

In 2004, Congress passed a bill known as the FACT Act. One of the provisions in that Act required Treasury and a Financial Literacy Education Commission to create a national financial literacy campaign. They failed miserably, and, consequently, I think we need to revisit Title V of the FACT Act to alter the composition and contributions and goals of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission housed at Treasury once the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Financial Education is selected.

Mr. Speaker, some disturbing facts.

A 2008 survey of high school seniors conducted by the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy revealed that students in 2008 answered correctly only 48.3 percent of the survey's questions, a decline from those posted by students in 2006, who correctly answered 52.4 percent of the questions;

Eighty-four percent of undergraduates had at least one credit card in 2008, up from 76 percent in 2004, with the average number of cards increasing to 4.6 according to Sallie Mae's National Study of Usage Rates and Trends 2009 entitled "How Undergraduate Students Use Credit Cards";

Personal saving as a percentage of disposable personal income was 4.2 percent in February, compared with 4.4 percent in January, and up from a 12-month average of 1.7 percent in 2008, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis;

The average baby boomer has only \$50,000 in savings apart from equity in their homes, according to the Federal Reserve Board's Survey of Consumer Finances for 2007; and,

Studies show that as many as 10,000,000 households in the United States are "unbanked" or are without access to mainstream financial products and services.

These statistics are alarming.

All of us here in Congress and across the United States need to take actions necessary to address and improve upon these startling facts. I am pleased to announce that I am a proud cosponsor of Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY's Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights. I supported it in Committee and voted for it when it passed the House.

One other way of addressing these alarming statistics is by increasing the number of Members of Congress dedicated to the financial literacy cause. By joining the Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus my colleague and friend

Congresswoman JUDY BIGGERT and I co-founded in 2005 and currently co-chair, Members can take a giant step forward and help us find the ways and means to improve financial literacy across the United States for all individuals during all stages of life.

As members of the Caucus, my colleagues in the House can collaborate on events such as the National Consumer Protection Week Fair, America Saves Week, Financial Literacy Month, and the Financial Literacy Day Fair held every other year in the House of Representatives.

By joining the Caucus, Members can collaborate with us to increase funding for the Council for Economic Education's Excellence in Economic Education (EEE) program. Congress authorized the EEE as part of the No Child Left Behind Act "to promote economic and financial literacy of all students in kindergarten through grade 12." In 2004, the Department of Education selected from a competitive process the Council for Economic Education (formerly named the "National Council for Economic Education") to administer and implement the Excellence in Economic Education program authorized in the No Child Left Behind Act (P.L. 107-110), Subpart 13, Sections 5531-5537).

Educating students in grades K-12 is the best way to help them develop the knowledge and skills they will need for a lifetime of economic and financial decisions. The EEE program accomplishes this through sub-grants to

state and local educational organizations for activities that include distribution of curricular materials, replication of best practices and teacher training.

EEE is a targeted, demand-driven, grass-roots program. Three quarters of the funding goes directly to ongoing state and local economic education and financial literacy initiatives with proven track records. The program also requires a thorough review and assessment of the use and effectiveness of the sub-grants. Finally, federal resources are leveraged through the requirement that sub-grant recipients match EEE funds dollar-for-dollar.

Since that time: 48 states and the District of Columbia have been served by Excellence in Economic Education (EEE) sub-grants in project years 2004–08; 495 sub-grants were awarded in that time-frame; \$5,418,539 has been awarded to grass-roots organizations nationwide; over 1,500 copies the 2007 Survey of the States were distributed to individuals and agencies interested in improving economic and financial literacy.

During Financial Literacy Month 2009, the JumpStart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, Junior Achievement, and the Council for Economic Education hosted the Financial Literacy Day Fair on Capitol Hill in collaboration with myself and Congresswoman BIGGERT in our roles as co-chairs of the Caucus. Over 800 people attended this year's Financial Literacy Day Fair on April 30, 2009 in the Cannon Caucus Room, 345 Cannon, and more than 50 vendors participated presented their financial literacy pamphlets, brochures, DVDs, and more at the Fair. The youngest participant was an 11 week old baby girl named Juliana and a man in his late 80s/early 90s who has worked on Capitol Hill for quite some time.

Also during Financial Literacy Month 2009, bankers across the United States taught savings skills to young people on April 21, 2009, during Teach Children to Save Day. This Day was started by the American Bankers Association Education Foundation in April of 1997 and has now helped more than 72,000 bankers teach savings skills to nearly 3,200,000 young people.

Staff from America's credit unions made presentations to young people at local schools on financial topics such as student loans, balancing a checkbook, and auto loans during National Credit Union Youth Week, April 19–25, 2009;

More than 100 Federal agencies have collaborated on a website, www.consumer.gov, which helps consumers shop for a mortgage or auto loan, understand and reconcile credit card statements and utility bills, choose savings and retirement plans, compare health insurance policies, and understand their credit report and how it affects their ability to get credit and on what terms.

In my district, I've held four different financial literacy events at four different schools. I was able to host financial literacy programs at four different schools in the Beeville as well as the Edinburg area of my district. We provided financial literacy workshops to well over 400 high school students in three days. I hope to add even more events in my district during Financial Literacy Month 2010.

Mr. Speaker, there are hundreds of other financial literacy programs out there for us to tap and integrate into resolutions, legislation, authorizations and appropriations.

It is important that we support the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month, including

raising public awareness about financial education; recognize the importance of managing personal finances, increasing personal savings, and reducing personal debt in the United States; and, that the President, the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, non-profit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States observe the month with appropriate programs and activities with the goal of increasing financial literacy rates for individuals of all ages and walks of life.

I am pleased to insert at the end of my remarks a Presidential Statement I received April 30, 2009 from President Barack Obama. In it, he states that he is "pleased to join all who are observing Financial Literacy Month." He goes on to state that "It is more important than ever to understand how to balance a checkbook, budget wisely, plan for retirement and avoid accumulating debts that could harm your financial future. A strong American economy depends on everyone . . . We must pass along such fundamental knowledge to our family and friends, because financial literacy empowers all of us."

I am personally thrilled that President Obama has issued this Financial Literacy Month Statement, and I look forward to working with him, his staff at the White House, staff at Treasury, and other federal agencies on financial literacy issues now and well into the future.

I am also inserting at the end of my remarks a list of the Members of Congress who are part of the Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus and have given permission that their names be listed publicly as members of the Caucus.

Together we can improve our economy. Together, we can re-establish our prominence in the global marketplace, and together we can work to ensure that the United States remains at the top of the global economy by teaching our youth as early as possible how to manage their finances.

We need to act soon. We need to act fast, and we need to act prudently and decisively. Si, Se Puede!

CURRENT LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC LITERACY CAUCUS WHO HAVE AGREED TO MAKE THEIR NAMES PUBLIC

Joe Baca, Melissa Bean, Judy Biggert, Brian Bilbray, Dennis Cardoza, William "Lacy" Clay, Emanuel Cleaver, Tom Cole, Jim Costa, and Joseph Crowley.

Elijah Cummings, Geoff Davis, Eliot Engel, Scott Garrett, Al Green, Jim Himes, Ruben Hinojosa, Eddie Bernice Johnson, Patrick Kennedy, Sheila Jackson-Lee, Carolyn McCarthy, Earl Pomeroy, and Loretta Sanchez.

—
THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, April 2009.

Sound financial planning and responsibility are essential to our families and our economy, and I am pleased to join all who are observing Financial Literacy Month.

It is more important than ever to understand how to balance a checkbook, budget wisely, plan for retirement, and avoid accumulating debts that could harm your financial future. A strong American economy depends on everyone—from individuals and homeowners, to investors and entrepreneurs—practicing financial responsibility. We must pass along such fundamental knowledge to our family and friends, because financial literacy empowers all of us.

The emphasis on financial literacy awareness and education must extend beyond

April. I hope the insights you have gained this month will continue to improve the quality of life for you, your family and community, and I wish you all the best.

BARACK OBAMA.

CONGRATULATING THE KEYSTONE ADVENTURE SCHOOL AND FARM FOR WINNING THE PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH AWARD

HON. MARY FALLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate and commend the Keystone Adventure School and Farm in Edmond, Oklahoma, which is in my congressional district. Through a dedicated school-wide effort the Keystone Adventure School and Farm has been awarded the President's Environmental Youth Award.

These hardworking and committed students have created an environmentally sustainable project called the Kid's Café. This Café is run entirely by the students and involves growing their own fruits and vegetables, maintaining bees to pollinate plants and create honey, and numerous other environmentally friendly enterprises. Much of the money brought in from these endeavors is used to help less fortunate children in Thailand create their own green gardens to supplement their diet.

This student run Café enhances their educational experience at the Keystone Adventure School and Farm by exposing them to some of life's most important lessons and offering them a chance to help their community and the world.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the achievements of Keystone Adventure School and Farm. I believe that they have set an outstanding example for all of Oklahoma and the nation to follow.

RECOGNIZING THE 2009 RECIPIENTS OF THE MCGOWAN COURAGE AWARD

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, seven high school students in my congressional district will be recognized on May 12 for their efforts to overcome physical, economic, and social adversities. I am pleased to join the Rotary Club of Mansfield in honoring the achievements of these McGowan Courage Award recipients:

Kelby Lunsford, Crestview High School—Kelby has worked through numerous autism-related difficulties stemming from his premature birth. His work ethic, determination, and passion for reading and historical studies are an inspiration to his parents, teachers, and fellow students.

Nathan Volz, Lexington High School—Faced at age 10 with the divorce of his parents, Nathan has long been tasked with helping to raise his younger brothers and assisting with

the family's finances. After attending a church youth retreat, he worked to overcome some of his own poor personal choices and become a model of integrity for others.

Josh Teetsel, Lucas High School—Placed in a foster home after the death of his mother, Josh struggled to make the right choices in the face of pressure from friends. He has since turned his life around, earning the respect of his teachers and volunteering at the local fire department. Josh will soon enroll at Ohio's Hocking College.

Joseph (Joey) Bennett, Madison Comprehensive High School—Coping with hearing and vision impairments and enduring several open-heart surgeries before age 2, Joey is an inspiration to everyone at his school, where he is an eager volunteer at sporting and other extracurricular activities. He recently completed Madison's auto tech training program.

Ian Kent, Mansfield Christian High School—Various sleep disorders and other medical problems have slowed Ian's academic work, but he continues to persevere in his home studies. He enjoys volunteering at his church and at Mansfield's Kingwood Center, and looks forward to attending North Central State College.

Leona Smith, Mansfield Senior High School—In just the last year, Leona has suffered from three collapsed lungs requiring surgery. Despite these setbacks, she has maintained a 3.6 grade point average in college prep courses and is on course to graduate a year early—all while working two jobs to support herself financially.

Brandon O'Brian, Ontario High School—Brandon's positive attitude in working to overcome a cognitive disability is a model for his fellow students. In addition to his studies at Pioneer Career and Technology Center, he is an active member of the Mansfield Police Department's Explorer Post and works part-time at Ontario's Skyway Restaurant.

HONORING TRAVIS HOGLE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Travis Hogle 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 66, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

RECOGNIZING CRAY HENRY AS A
2009 SERVICE TO AMERICA
MEDAL FINALIST

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous contributions of Cray Henry, of Annandale, Va., to our nation and specifically to improving the safety of our deployed military personnel. Mr. Henry, as director of the High Performance Computing Modernization Program, led the effort to provide supercomputer support allowing the Department of Defense to improve body and vehicle armor for troops in the field. The work of his team also helped enhance overall military performance and saved billions of taxpayer dollars. In recognition of those achievements, Mr. Henry and his team have been named finalists for the 2009 Service to America Medal for National Security and International Affairs.

As my colleagues know, the Service to America Medals, or Sammys as they are more commonly known, are presented annually by the nonprofit, nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service to celebrate our dedicated federal workforce, highlighting their commitment and innovation, as well as the impact of their work on addressing the needs of the nation.

The state-of-the-art supercomputing environment created by the High Performance Computing Modernization Program team, led by Mr. Henry, enabled DoD scientists and engineers to design and test innovative materials and weapons systems.

For example, the team helped speed the development and rapid deployment of the Hellfire missile that has been used to neutralize terrorists in buildings, bunkers and caves.

The team also was tapped to help the soldiers in Iraq, providing resources for complex modeling and simulations to develop new armor kits for Humvees to better adapt and protect against improvised explosive devices (IEDs) that were killing and wounding American soldiers.

In addition to its field applications, the supercomputing team has brought advances in weather forecasting to allow the U.S. Navy and Air Force to provide more accurate, up-to-the-minute and long-range information to ground forces anywhere in the world, which is a great asset in helping commanders plan military operations. Applying this capability to aircraft flight planning, the DoD anticipates saving \$1 billion in fuel costs over 10 years.

The DoD's hurricane prediction models are so accurate that the National Hurricane Center is now using them together with other models to predict hurricane paths. The team's modeling also has been a tremendous resource in rebuilding the levees in New Orleans in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Henry and his team for their tremendous contribution to protecting our troops and improving our national preparedness. His 27 years of public service and his drive for innovation serve as an example to us all, and his recognition as finalists for the 2009 Service to America Medal for Homeland Security is well deserved.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the more than 40,000 teachers from Broward and Miami-Dade Counties during National Teacher Appreciation Week, taking place this year from May 3 through May 9, 2009.

This week all across America, our Nation's schoolchildren, their parents, PTAs and others are gathering to show their appreciation for the professional educators who work every day to make their futures brighter. Teacher Appreciation Week is a great opportunity to stop and pay tribute to the profession that shapes the world of tomorrow. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the lasting contributions that these men and women make to the lives of thousands of students in South Florida.

Today, I am pleased to commend the efforts of two special teachers in my district: Tony Dutra, a reading teacher from the Hallandale Community Center in Hallandale, Florida, teaches Extraordinary Student Education. When he was a student Mr. Dutra was learning disabled so he understands the challenges his student go through on a daily basis. Mr. Dutra was named Broward County's public school teacher of the year.

Patricia Fairclough, a second grade teacher from Airbase Elementary School in Homestead, Florida, was Miami-Dade County's public school teacher of the year. As a first-grader, Patricia struggled in class, but she was inspired by a caring teacher and now she is helping other children who need a little extra tough love.

I hope that you will all join me in thanking Mr. Dutra and Ms. Fairclough and all of our nation's teachers for everything they do each and every day to encourage, instruct and guide our students. All of America's teachers deserve more than a week of recognition for their investment in our country's most precious resource, our children.

Too often teachers are overworked and underpaid. They spend long hours in the classroom, many hours after the school day coaching our kids and leading their extracurricular groups, and then go home to spend more time grading papers.

Teachers invest their own lives in the lives of our children, and every day they empower young people with the knowledge and tools needed to be successful and confident. America's future is in the hands of our children and we owe our teachers a universe of thanks for their hard work.

ELIZABETH PORRAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Elizabeth Porras who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Elizabeth Porras is a senior at Jefferson High

School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Elizabeth Porras is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Elizabeth Porras for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICES OF MICHAEL AND MARIAN ILITCH, UPON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF LITTLE CAESARS

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Michael and Marian Ilitch, entrepreneurs and pillars of the Michigan community, upon the 50th anniversary of the founding of Little Caesars.

On May 8, 1959, fifty years ago, Mike and Marian opened the first Little Caesars in Garden City, Michigan, under the name Little Caesars Pizza Treat. From this one store, Little Caesars would grow to include a pizza empire of many thousands of restaurants through franchising. The company eventually became widely known for its famous catchphrase, "Pizza! Pizza!" which was introduced in 1979. The phrase refers to two pizzas being offered for the comparable price of a single pizza from competitors. In 1998, Little Caesars filled what was then the current largest pizza order, filling an order of 13,386 pizzas from the VF Corporation of Greensboro, NC. Today, Little Caesars is the largest carry-out pizza chain in the world.

Mike was born in Detroit, Michigan in 1929. He is a first generation American of Macedonian descent. A graduate of Cooley High School, Mike also served his country in the United States Marine Corps for four years. After returning home from the Marine Corps, Mike was offered a contract by the Detroit Tigers baseball team and went on to play three years in the minor leagues before he was forced to prematurely end his promising career due to injury. In 1954 Mike met Marian on a blind date arranged by his father. Marian was born and raised in Dearborn, Michigan, a daughter of Macedonian immigrants. They were married a year later.

Over the course of their lives together Mike and Marian have expanded their business and personal partnership very successfully. Today, the family's entities remain privately held. In 1999, the Ilitches established Ilitch Holdings, Inc. to provide their various enterprises with professional and technical services. These enterprises include Little Caesars, the Detroit Red Wings, the Detroit Tigers, numerous property investments in and around Detroit, as well as the MotorCity Casino. They have been

married for over 50 wonderful years and have seven children together: son Christopher Paul Ilitch (born June 1965) is CEO and President of Ilitch Holdings, Inc.; daughter Denise D. Ilitch (born November 1955) is an attorney and former co-President, with her brother, of Ilitch Holdings. Other children are Ronald "Ron" Tyrus Ilitch (born June 1957), Michael C. Ilitch, Jr., Lisa M. Ilitch Murray, Atanas Ilitch (born Thomas Ilitch) and Carole M. Ilitch Trepeck. Further, in Stanley Cup history, only 12 women have had their names engraved on the trophy including Marian and their three daughters.

The Ilitch family has also established a charitable foundation called Ilitch Charities for Children (ICC). Among other things, the ICC sponsors Little Caesars AAA Hockey Scholarship to encourage amateur sports. The ICC in 2009, so far, has given a total of \$50,000 in grants to the Detroit Renaissance Foundation (\$25,000) and the United Way of Southeastern Michigan (\$25,000) for innovative community programs, demonstrating a broader scope for the charitable organization. Most recently, Ilitch Charities presented a total of \$200,000 to benefit the Greening of Detroit's Conservation Leadership Corps and the Guidance Center's Project CEO.

Madam Speaker for 50 years Little Caesars has stood as a tribute to the hard work of Michael and Marian Ilitch and their family. As they celebrate this enormous milestone, they personify a legacy of excellence, ingenuity, and the irrepressible spirit of the American entrepreneur. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Ilitches and recognizing their years of loyal service to our community and country.

GABBY RIVERA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Gabby Rivera who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Gabby Rivera is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Gabby Rivera is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Gabby Rivera for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING SEAN P. DENNEHY AS A 2009 SERVICE TO AMERICA MEDAL FINALIST

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous contributions of Sean P. Dennehy, of Vienna, Va., to our nation and specifically to our intelligence community. Mr. Dennehy and his colleague Don Burke, of Alexandria, Va., led an innovative effort to create a sensitive-information sharing system for the Central Intelligence Agency. In recognition of that achievement, they have been named finalists for the 2009 Service to America Medal for Homeland Security.

As my colleagues know, the Service to America Medals, or Sammies as they are more commonly known, are presented annually by the nonprofit, nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service to celebrate our dedicated federal workforce, highlighting their commitment and innovation, as well as the impact of their work on addressing the needs of the nation.

Mr. Dennehy and Mr. Burke developed and implemented a Wikipedia-like clearinghouse of sensitive intelligence information known as "Intellipedia." The intelligence community has traditionally discouraged the wide sharing of intelligence for fear of compromising classified information, but the downsides of that strategy became apparent to us all after learning of how intelligence agencies failed to "connect the dots" in the months leading up to the September 11 attacks.

The pair spent four years developing the software, cobbling together financing and trying to overcome cultural resistance, but their persistence and dedication paid off.

Eric Haseltine, former chief technology officer of the intelligence community, said, "It's hard to overstate what they did. They made a major transformation almost overnight with no money after other programs failed to achieve these results with millions of dollars in funding."

Once they successfully created the web-based platform for sharing information, Mr. Dennehy and Mr. Burke then shifted their focus to recruiting their colleagues in the intelligence community to actually use it. They became "evangelists," educating analysts and spreading the word about the potential benefits of Intellipedia and other social media tools. The system now boasts more than 900,000 pages and 100,000 user accounts. In fact, leaders in the intelligence community say we are reacting more quickly and more intelligently to potential threats than we would be without Intellipedia.

This initiative has increased the flow of information among the nation's 16 intelligence agencies around the world, and it is still working to break down institutional stovepipes.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Dennehy and Mr. Burke for their tremendous contribution to our national security. Their commitment to public service and innovation serve as an example to us all, and their recognition as finalists for the 2009 Service to America Medal for Homeland Security is well deserved.

JUSTUS REID

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Justus Reid who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Justus Reid is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Justus Reid is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Justus Reid for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

MEGAN SCHELTINGA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Megan Scheltinga who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Megan Scheltinga, of Hope House, received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Megan Scheltinga is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Megan Scheltinga for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

NORMA RODRIGUEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Norma Rodriguez who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Norma Rodriguez is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Norma Rodriguez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their edu-

cation and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Norma Rodriguez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

OLGA REPNITSKAYA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Olga Repnitskaya who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Olga Repnitskaya is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Olga Repnitskaya is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Olga Repnitskaya for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

TANIA PRESCOTT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tania Prescott who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Tania Prescott, of Hope House, received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Tania Prescott is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Tania Prescott for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

VITALIY PSHICKENKO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Vitaliy Pshickenko who has received the Arvada

Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Vitaliy Pshickenko is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Vitaliy Pshickenko is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Vitaliy Pshickenko for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

JOHANNA SERRANO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Johanna Serrano who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Johanna Serrano is a senior at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Johanna Serrano is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Johanna Serrano for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

DEREK RIEMER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Derek Riemer who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Derek Riemer is an 8th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Derek Riemer is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Derek Riemer for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 8

9:30 a.m. Joint Economic Committee To hold hearings to examine the employment situation for April 2009. SD-106

10 a.m. Finance To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Neal S. Wolin, of Illinois, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury. SD-215

MAY 12

9:30 a.m. Armed Services To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Andrew Charles Weber, of Virginia, to be Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs, Paul N. Stockton, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs, Thomas R. Lamont, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Charles A. Blanchard, of Arizona, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense. SH-216

9:45 a.m. Environment and Public Works To hold hearings to examine proposed budget request for fiscal year 2010 for the Environmental Protection Agency. SD-406

10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation To hold hearings to examine pending nominations. SR-253

Finance To hold hearings to examine financing comprehensive health care reform. SD-106

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Cass R. Sunstein, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. SD-342

Judiciary To hold hearings to examine helping state and local law enforcement. SD-226

10:15 a.m. Foreign Relations Business meeting to consider the nominations of Harold Hongju Koh, of Connecticut, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State, and Susan Flood Burk, of Virginia, to be Special Representative of the President for nuclear non-proliferation; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the United States strategy toward Pakistan. SD-419

11 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Julius Genachowski, of the District of Columbia, to be Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. SR-253

2 p.m. Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine energy security, focusing on historical perspectives and modern challenges. SD-419

2:30 p.m. Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings to examine S. 967, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to create a petroleum product reserve, and S. 283, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to modify the conditions for the release of products from the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve Account. SD-366

Environment and Public Works To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter Silva Silva, of California, to be Assistant Administrator, and Stephen Alan Owens, of Arizona, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances, both of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Jo-Ellen Darcy, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense. SD-406

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, and any pending nominations. SD-430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Robert M. Groves, of Michigan, to be Director of the Census, Department of Commerce. SD-342

Judiciary To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gerard E. Lynch, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, and Mary L. Smith, of Illinois, to be Assistant Attorney General, Tax Division, Department of Justice. SD-226

Appropriations Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget request for fiscal year 2010 for military construction, Veterans Affairs, and related agencies. SD-124

Appropriations State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee Business meeting to markup proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 supplemental for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs. SD-138

Intelligence To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. S-407, Capitol

MAY 13

9:45 a.m. Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of Labor. SD-138

10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Competitiveness, Innovation, and Export Promotion Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine tourism in troubled times. SR-253

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Economic Policy Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine manufacturing and the credit crisis. SD-538

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program, focusing on preserving school choice for all. SD-342

Judiciary Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine torture and the Office of Legal Counsel in the Bush Administration. SD-226

Rules and Administration To hold hearings to examine problems for military and overseas voters, focusing on why many soldiers and their families cannot vote. SR-301

2:15 p.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), focusing on perspectives of aviation stakeholders. SR-253

Small Business and Entrepreneurship To hold hearings to examine small business financing, focusing on a progress report on Recovery Act implementation and alternative sources of financing. SR-428A

2:30 p.m. Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Peter M. Rogoff, of Virginia, to be Federal Transit Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation. SD-538

3 p.m. Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, and Marisa J. Demeo, of the District of Columbia, both to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. SD-342

MAY 14

2:30 p.m. Intelligence To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. S-407, Capitol

MAY 21

9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs Business meeting to mark up pending legislation. SR-418