

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE MID AMERICA CROPLIFE ASSOCIATION 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) on its recent 50th Anniversary. Founded in 1958 by Herbert Woodbury, Porter Williams, Robert Yapp, Harold Howard, Doug Nelson, Wally Smith, and G. E. Zackert, MACA has represented the agricultural chemical companies of the Midwest whose products help feed the world.

From humble beginnings MACA has led the industry for 5 decades in growing membership, developing industry safety guidelines, and educating our youth on the processes that feed the world.

Madam Speaker, since its creation, MACA has incorporated membership from basic manufacturers, distributors, formulators, and allied industry representatives. Having input from such a broad membership, MACA has been an industry leader in creating guidelines for agriculture safety and the crop protection industry. MACA's dedication is so apparent they have developed member guidelines and standards above and beyond those required by the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Transportation.

In addition to their industry development, MACA has reached out to our local communities by speaking at local elementary schools to educate children on the process of agriculture from the farm to our table. In my community MACA participants reached out to the 4th and 5th grade classes at Central Elementary in Des Plaines. Since the inception of the MACA's CropLife Ambassador Network, over 25,000 students have been provided scientifically based information regarding the safety and value of American agricultural food production.

From its modest start to its present day roster of members on the Fortune 500, MACA has been a voice for agriculture and the agricultural chemical professionals who serve those who feed the world. I congratulate MACA on this achievement and wish them another successful fifty years.

CONGRATULATING HERMAN K. WILLIAMS

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize and extend my congratulations to Mr. Herman K. Williams on the occa-

sion of his retirement from The Family Christian Association of America, Inc (FCAA) as the Founder and President/CEO. Mr. Williams can look back on a proud career of service and distinction in community leadership.

A native of Arcadia, Florida, Mr. Williams moved to South Florida at an early age. He graduated from Miami Northwestern Senior High School in 1961. A talented athlete and scholar, Mr. Williams received scholarships in both athletics and academics. During his early college years, he was drafted by the Army, but opted for the United States Air Force, where he served a tour of duty in Europe. While in military service, he was involved in recreational and sporting activities, often spearheading leagues. Mr. Williams attended South Carolina State University and Florida Memorial College, where he obtained a Bachelor's Degree in physical education. He also attended Nova Southeastern University, where he studied public administration.

In 1970, Mr. Williams began working with the YMCA of Greater Miami as the Executive Director of the G.W. Carver Branch, and later became the Senior Vice President for Operations. Following his vision of helping youths and their families, he founded The Family Christian Association of America, Inc. (FCAA) in February 1984 where he served as the President/CEO. Under his leadership, FCAA provides a variety of services and programs that serve youth and families in Miami-Dade, Broward, Brevard, Alachua, and Highlands Counties. Some of the programs include Head Start and Early Head Start Child Development, after school care, youth development, sports, and the Black Achievers of Excellence program.

Mr. Williams founded the Florida Consortium of Black Faith Based Organizations, Inc. (FCOBFBO), which is a statewide organization that supports and enhances the efforts of its members to affect economic social and policy changes in their communities, in 1999. He served as the Chairman/CEO.

In an effort to complement his professional achievements, Mr. Williams is involved with various organizations such as past Board Chairman of the Florida Industries Credit Union, member of Zeta Royal Center Advisory Board, Society of Human Resource Management, National Society of Fundraising Executives, American Compensation Association, and Miami-Dade United Way Agency Resource Management Committee. This public servant is married to Mrs. Mary E. Williams.

Mr. Herman K. Williams is an outstanding American worthy of our collective honor and appreciation. It is with deep respect and admiration that I commend Mr. Williams for over 25 years of dedicated services to the community, and wish him and his family the very best in retirement. Now, in retirement, he embarks upon new challenges in life and I am certain his legacy of greatness will only grow and develop as he enters this new phase of life.

RECOGNIZING THE INPATIENT REHABCARE TEAM AT THE VIRGINIA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Inpatient RehabCare team at the Virginia Regional Medical Center for their safety education and outreach to Minnesota's youth. In addition to their outstanding work at the Medical Center, the RehabCare team educates elementary school students throughout Virginia of the tremendous health risks associated with riding a bicycle without a helmet.

They recognize the importance of educating our youth during their formative years—at the age when they are most receptive—of the possible life-altering brain injuries that could result from not wearing a helmet while riding a bicycle.

In particular, Madam Speaker, I wish to laud the Inpatient RehabCare team in their most recent outreach to fourth grade students at Roosevelt Elementary School in Virginia.

Each fourth grade class participated in a safety awareness session where they learned about the lasting consequences of brain injuries and the importance of wearing bicycle helmets.

Students received real-life simulations of what their lives would be like with such brain injuries, demonstrating the difficulty of everyday tasks and making a lasting impression on the students on the importance of taking safety precautions when riding a bicycle.

Such hands-on scenarios—combined with the team's helmet safety information and their direct experience with assisting patients who have suffered brain trauma—provided these elementary students with invaluable life lessons in bicycle safety and the severity of brain injuries.

It is vital that we teach our children about the many benefits of active and healthy transportation and recreation through cycling; and safety education must go hand-in-hand with these lessons.

The RehabCare team's effective outreach to children is noteworthy and ought to be replicated throughout the nation. Their work—and the work of similar groups in the United States—is deserving of our recognition and continued support.

I thank the Virginia Medical Center's Inpatient RehabCare team for their inspiring leadership and dedicated work to instill in our children a lifetime of bicycle safety habits.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING DONALD GUIMOND

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Donald Guimond, Town Manager of Fort Kent, Maine.

On May 1, 2008, the town of Fort Kent suffered from severe flooding that impacted businesses, apartments, homes and elderly housing. Mr. Guimond oversaw an orderly evacuation and quick response by emergency teams. Despite working without sleep for more than thirty six hours, Mr. Guimond always knew which residents and businesses had been impacted, where individuals sought shelter, and what further assistance was necessary. His well-coordinated reaction prevented serious injury and the loss of life.

Mr. Guimond continued to show his dedication to the residents of Fort Kent long after the flood waters receded. Through his efforts, the town provided the space necessary for disaster assistance teams from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Small Business Administration and other entities. He and his staff coordinated an effort to provide emergency heaters to residents whose furnaces were damaged by the disaster. He played an active role in the town's Long-term Recovery Committee, making sure that residents and business owners applied for the assistance that they needed and that the town is ready to respond to ongoing issues which have arisen from the flood. The Small Business Administration has recognized Mr. Guimond's significant contributions by presenting him the Phoenix Award for Disaster Recovery as a Public Official.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Guimond's dedication to the residents of Fort Kent, Maine.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I would like to state for the record my position on the following votes I missed due to personal reasons.

On Monday May 19, 2009 I missed rollcall votes 267, 268, and 269. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on those rollcall votes.

128TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF KEMAL ATATURK FOUNDER OF MODERN TURKEY

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today, May 19, to commemorate the 128th anniversary of the birth of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder of modern Turkey. Ataturk was a

unique and inspirational figure who laid the foundation for the Republic of Turkey. He was a post World War I revolutionary leader who understood that Islam and modernity are not inconsistent—an important factor to reinforce today with democratic leaders throughout the Muslim world.

By any measure, Ataturk was an historic reformer. In the space of two decades, he built the nation of Turkey from the ashes of the Ottoman Empire—a nation that was based on secular principles and with a foundation that was fertile for democracy to take root and prosper. He held true to his fundamental vision for his overwhelmingly Muslim nation, namely that it be guided by two overarching concepts: secularism and progress. Just as is the case today, he understood that advances in science and technology would enhance the nation and the Turkish people.

To enable Turkey to reap the benefits of such advances, he set about enacting major reforms in all aspects of Turkish life—political, cultural, legal, educational, and economic all with an eye toward creating the architecture of the new Turkish nation that would raise it to the level of what Ataturk referred to as "contemporary civilization." These reforms touched on all aspects of Turkish society from abolishing the caliphate, recognizing equal rights for men and women, replacing the Arabic alphabet with Latin letters, and instituting secular law to reforming traditional styles of dress and mandating surnames.

Ataturk was an impatient reformer. His handling of the reform of the alphabet is one example of his impatience. The language commission he appointed to review the reform recommended that the alphabet reforms be phased in over a fifteen year period. Ataturk had a much different timeframe in mind. He set about traveling throughout the country, personally instructing crowds in the new alphabet, and within six months he had accomplished his goal. With the acceptance of the Latin alphabet, millions of Turks would be poised to turn westward for their second languages and the learning to which those languages are the key.

Ataturk championed women's rights, encouraging them to pursue careers as doctors, lawyers, scientists, writers and politicians. He did so because he wisely understood that by doing so he was unleashing the talents of all Turks and thereby making the nation stronger. Because of his vision and determination, Turkey is today a strong and vibrant democracy and a model for others in the Islamic world to emulate.

Madam Speaker, it is my hope that Muslim leaders throughout the region will reacquire themselves with Ataturk's revolutionary leadership and take inspiration in the courageous reforms he undertook more than seventy years ago so that they too can preside over nations that are secular, democratic and prosperous.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRET

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately I missed recorded votes on the House floor on Monday, May 18, 2009.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Rollcall vote 267 (Motion to suspend the rules and Agree to H. Res. 300), "nay" on Rollcall vote 268 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to S. 386), "aye" on Rollcall vote 269 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 442).

HONORING ANDREA MACKENZIE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I, along with my colleague Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, rise today to honor a dedicated and beloved advocate for preserving both agriculture and the environment of Sonoma County, California. Andrea Mackenzie is leaving the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, and we celebrate her 12 productive years, especially the last eight years as General Manager.

Andrea was born in upstate New York and grew up in Los Angeles. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a Master's Degree in Urban Planning and Natural Resources from the University of California at Los Angeles.

With her love of both the coast and the rugged mountains of the High Sierra, it is no surprise that Andrea worked for over 25 years in land use and conservation-related positions, including the East Bay and San Francisco where she began to develop a focus on collaborative public/private projects and regional approaches. She also loves walkable communities, old barns, hiking and kayaking, country rock, and nature writers.

Andrea first served the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District as project manager for the strategic conservation plan update, creating documents that have become models for other public land conservation agencies. In 2000, she was appointed General Manager by the Board of Supervisors.

The mission of the District is to "permanently protect the diverse agricultural, natural resource and scenic open space lands of Sonoma County for future generations." Funded by a quarter cent sales tax, it is the only such district in the state of California and is overwhelmingly supported by Sonoma County's residents.

Andrea helped direct the 2006 campaign to renew the sales tax, which passed overwhelmingly. Voters value the organization's mission and its programs including: matching grants to partner with local cities and agencies for land acquisition, preservation and enhancement; stewardship in managing these lands and various easements to protect them, as well as to allow for public access; land leases to local growers; and public and educational outings, including a focus on underserved populations. Andrea has played a key role in developing these programs as well as increasing the amount of open space from 25,000 acres to 75,000 acres (including 33,000 acres of farmland).

In 2007, in testament to Andrea's management, the District was selected for the National Leadership in Conservation Award from the

National Association of Counties (NACo) and the Trust for Public Land in Washington, D.C. She was also one of 36 Fellows selected to participate in the National Conservation Leadership Institute program, is a member of the Executive Committee and future President of the Bay Area Open Space Council and served on the both the Urban Rural Roundtable (formed by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom) to create a Bay Area Regional Food System) and on the Statewide Watershed Advisory Committee.

Madam Speaker, Andrea Mackenzie's combination of visionary and practical leadership has made the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District a vital player in our community. Sonoma County could have gone the way of other growing counties in California with sprawl from end to end. Instead, it remains blessed with green open space, productive agriculture, and many unique and intact ecosystems. We thank her for her great contributions to our children's natural inheritance and wish her luck in her new position where she will be continuing her good work closer to her family.

“HOW TO AVOID A BAD DOUBLE
DIP”

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, Alan Blinder is a man of great intelligence, excellent judgment, and considerable experience in both making and analyzing national economic policy. In this article from last Sunday's New York Times, he draws on all of these qualities to give us some excellent advice. I can think of no more relevant subject for my colleagues to contemplate as we deal with important economic choices.

[From the New York Times, May 17, 2009]

IT'S NO TIME TO STOP THIS TRAIN

(By Alan S. Blinder)

Contrary to what you may have heard from some doomsayers, 2009 is not 1930 redux. What we must guard against, instead, is 2010 or 2011 becoming another 1936.

Realistically, there is little danger that the economy is heading toward a repeat performance of the Great Depression—when real gross domestic product in the United States declined 27 percent and unemployment soared to 25 percent. What we have is bad enough: our worst recession since the 1930s. But unless our leaders behave unbelievably foolishly, we will not repeat the tragic slide into the abyss of 1930 to 1933—for two main reasons.

First, our economy has many built-in safeguards that did not exist back then—like unemployment insurance, Social Security and federal deposit insurance, to name just three. These programs serve as safety nets that cushion the fall. And while they are certainly not strong enough to prevent recessions, they should be enough to prevent another depression.

The more important reason is that Barack Obama, Timothy F. Geithner and Ben S. Bernanke are not Herbert Hoover, Andrew Mellon and Eugene Meyer. (Who's that? Mr. Meyer was the Federal Reserve chairman from September 1930 to May 1933.) In stark contrast to the laissez-faire crowd that ruled the roost in 1930 and 1931, our current eco-

nomics leaders are not waiting for the sagging economy to right itself. Rather, they have taken numerous extraordinary steps already—and stand ready to do more if necessary.

That's the good news. But even if another depression is next to impossible, there is still the danger that next year, or the year after, might turn into 1936. Let me explain.

From its bottom in 1933 to 1936, the G.D.P. climbed spectacularly (albeit from a very low base), averaging gains of almost 11 percent a year. But then, both the Fed and the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt reversed course.

In the summer of 1936, the Fed looked at the large volume of excess reserves piled up in the banking system, concluded that this mountain of liquidity could be fodder for future inflation, and began to withdraw it. This tightening of monetary policy continued into 1937, in a weak economy that was ill-prepared for it.

About the same time, President Roosevelt looked at what seemed to be enormous federal budget deficits, concluded that it was time to put the nation's fiscal house in order and started raising taxes and reducing spending. This tightening of fiscal policy transformed the federal budget from a deficit of 3.8 percent of G.D.P. in 1936 to a surplus of 0.2 percent of G.D.P. in 1937—a swing of four percentage points in a single year. (Today, a swing that large would be almost \$600 billion.)

Thus, both monetary and fiscal policies did an abrupt about-face in 1936 and 1937, and the consequences were as predictable as they were tragic. The United States economy, which had been rapidly climbing out of the cellar from 1933 to 1936, was kicked rudely down the stairs again, and America experienced the so-called recession within the depression. Real G.D.P. contracted 3.4 percent from 1937 to 1938; the total G.D.P. decline during the recession, which lasted from mid-1937 to mid-1938, was even larger.

The moral of the story should be clear: Prematurely changing fiscal and monetary policies—from stepping hard on the accelerator to slamming on the brake—can be hazardous to the economy's health.

Wow, we've learned a lot since the '30s, right? Well, maybe not. For the echoes of 1936 are being heard right now, even before the current recession hits bottom.

If you've been paying attention, you know that a number of critics of the Fed are sounding alarms over the huge stockpile of excess reserves it has created—more than \$775 billion at last count. What these critics are fretting about now is exactly what goaded the Fed into action in 1936: that the vast pool of loose money will ultimately be inflationary. The clear inference is that some of it should be withdrawn before it's too late.

On the fiscal side, many of President Obama's critics are complaining vociferously about the huge federal budget deficits. Try to ignore, if you can, the sheer hypocrisy of many Congressional Republicans who, having never uttered a peep about the huge deficits under George W. Bush, are suddenly models of budget probity. But whatever the motives, the worries of today's deficit hawks sound eerily reminiscent of Roosevelt in 1936 and 1937.

Fortunately, Mr. Bernanke is a keen student of the Great Depression who will not allow the Fed to repeat the errors of 1936-37. But his critics, both inside and outside the Fed, are already branding his policies as dangerously inflationary, and no Fed chairman wants to be called an inflationist.

Similarly, I hope and believe that President Obama will not transform himself from the spendthrift Roosevelt of 1933 to the def-

icit-hawk Roosevelt of 1936—at least not until the economy is back on solid ground. That said, a growing flock of budget hawks are already showing their talons. They will have their day—but please, not yet.

To avoid a replay of the policy disasters of 1936-37, both the Fed and our elected officials must stay the course. Mark Twain once explained that, while history does not repeat itself, it often rhymes. We don't want any rhymes just now.

TAIWAN PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HIS INAUGURATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, Taiwan's President Ma Ying-jeou will mark his first year anniversary in office on May 20, 2009.

Under President Ma's leadership, Taiwan has become an observer at the World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva, Switzerland. By enabling Taiwan to participate in this part of the World Health Organization (WHO), the health of 23 million Taiwanese people can benefit from what will be learned at the WHA. Historically, China has blocked Taiwan's access to this very important forum, and through President Ma's effective diplomacy, Taiwan has ended a 38 year absence from the WHA.

Madam Speaker, President Ma has also taken great strides in improving Taiwan's relationship with China. Taiwan and China now have direct flights back and forth to each country. This was unheard of before President Ma took office and travelers were previously required to make an inconvenient stop at another airport and switch planes before these direct flights were available.

Furthermore, China has given Taiwan two of its prized Pandas. Pandas are extremely rare and very important to the Chinese culture, and the amicable trade between the two countries is a positive indication for building a cordial relationship between the two nations. These and other efforts by President Ma are helping the two neighbors enter a time of peace, security and stability.

Madam Speaker, the United States and Taiwan continue to share a strong bilateral relationship. As a member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I congratulate President Ma on a very successful first year in office and look forward to continuing to work in making sure that our relations are preserved and strengthened.

COMMENDING AMY ISAACS, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend Amy Isaacs, National Director of Americans for Democratic Action, on the occasion of her retirement.

For 20 years Amy has led ADA, the nation's most experienced organization dedicated to

liberal policies, liberal politics and a liberal future. ADA was founded by Eleanor Roosevelt, John Kenneth Galbraith, Walter Reuther, Arthur Schlesinger, and Reinhold Niebuhr shortly after FDR died. Its goal then was to keep the New Deal dream—its vision and its values of an America that works fairly for all—alive for generations to come.

Under Amy's leadership, ADA has never forgotten its long history and never wavered from those core liberal values. She began her career at ADA as an intern in 1969 and has moved through the ranks serving as Director of Organization, Executive Assistant to the Director and Deputy National Director, before becoming National Director in 1989.

Amy brought to ADA a strong sense that protecting and enhancing the rights of working men and women was a critical ingredient in maintaining a healthy democratic society. Allying ADA with the labor movement's efforts to improve wages and working conditions for America's workers became a key part of ADA's mission under Amy's direction. She recognized that the efforts to increase the federal minimum wage needed non-labor allies. And she enthusiastically threw ADA into the forefront of that fight, by directing the formation of the Coalition for a Fair Minimum Wage which brought together progressive groups of all stripes: religious, economic, social, youth, labor, business and others. Amy's belief that a strong labor movement united with strong allied organizations not only led to an increase in the minimum wage in 2007 but to countless other victories for working men and women.

Amy's work did not stop with the fight to end income inequality. Her career is defined by her commitment to erase the evils of discrimination so that everyone can be truly free to pursue their dreams. Not only is she a trailblazer in her own right, but she worked tirelessly as an advocate for all women. From fair pay to reproductive choice, from education to the workplace, Amy never tolerated an injustice against women or any other group striving for equal treatment.

It is a rare thing to find someone willing to devote their life to advancing the causes in which they believe. I commend Amy for her dedication and service and wish her all the best as she starts the next chapter of her life.

Amy once said to me, "I've walked with giants" when I asked for her thoughts about the extraordinary people associated with ADA's history. I say today, she is one of them.

A TRIBUTE TO ALFREDA DUMOND

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Alfreda Dumond of Fort Kent, Maine, who has been named "Mother of the Year" by the Ladies of St. Anne. Mrs. Dumond is well known for her strong commitment and dedication to her church and to her family.

Alfreda Dumond's sole occupation is being a housewife and a mother. She was married for over 44 years, and raised five girls and two boys. A devoted mother who centered her life on her family, she raised her children with strong values and morals, and believed in being an example for them to follow.

Alfreda devoted her life to making her home a place where her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren love to visit. Her daughter, Linda, mentions that her house is her castle, so carefully maintained that guests would often remark that "the house is so clean that we can actually eat off the floor." And what a wonderful cook she is—known for her molasses cookies, her old fashioned spaghetti, her homemade rice soup, her boiled dinners and her ployes.

Alfreda has always been an active member of her church, and throughout her life volunteered her time in service to the local clergy. For over 20 years, she has served as a Eucharistic Minister who visits the homes of shut-ins to deliver communion. This devotion to her church and to its congregation has earned her this important recognition—a woman who is committed to strengthening the moral and spiritual foundations of her family, her home, and her community.

Women like Alfreda Dumond give strength and joy to all of our lives, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing her for receiving this honor.

I wish Alfreda and her family all the best, and congratulate her on this well-deserved award.

FRAUD ENFORCEMENT AND RECOVERY ACT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to support the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009. This bill will allow us to better understand what caused the economic collapse and provide the resources necessary to help prevent future economic crises. I applaud Congressman JOHN LARSON'S hard work on this critical legislation.

This legislation cracks down on mortgage and corporate fraud, which have reached historic rates. FBI mortgage fraud investigations have more than doubled in the last three years, and massive new corporate fraud schemes continue to be uncovered. Congress and the President are committed to protecting the American consumer and getting our economy back on track, and fighting these abuses is an integral part of this effort.

It will also establish the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, which will examine the causes and factors that led to the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. The Commission's recommendations will help inform Congress as we move forward with common sense reforms to prevent these crises from happening in the future.

The Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009 includes a clear commitment to fighting waste, fraud and abuse—a commitment that has become a hallmark of this Congress. We are working with the President every day to rebuild our economy in a way that is consistent with our values of hard work, responsibility and broadly shared prosperity. I urge my colleagues to join me to continue this work.

TRIBUTE TO THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 150th anniversary of the California School for the Deaf (CSD), located in Fremont, CA. CSD was founded in 1860 and was the first special education program established in California. Started in San Francisco, the first class had only three students. In 1869, the school moved to a new campus in Berkeley, with approximately 50 students. A vocational component was added to the curriculum in 1871.

By 1915, the school's enrollment had grown to 215 students and the campus was enlarged for the second time. In 1930, a 32-year building program was initiated to restore and again expand the Berkeley campus. In 1934, a teacher-training program was established on the Berkeley campus in conjunction with San Francisco State College, as Superintendent Elwood Stevenson believed that only teachers with special training should be credentialed to teach deaf and hard of hearing children. Dr. Stevenson also emphasized that since language is the core of the deaf child's education, teaching of written language would begin in the child's first year of schooling.

In 1969, the Computer-Assisted Instruction program began as a result of an invitation by Stanford University to participate in a nationwide project. This same year, the first academic mainstreaming program began with five California School for the Deaf students taking world history and geometry at Albany High School.

In 1970, CSD officially adopted the philosophy of total communication and an Instructional Television class was taught for the first time. CSD was given accreditation for its secondary program by the Western Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges, and was granted accreditation for both the elementary and secondary programs by the Convention of Educational Administrators Serving the Deaf (CEASD).

Dr. Henry Klopping was appointed Superintendent of CSD in 1975 and a Special Unit program was established that year for deaf multi-handicapped students. In 1976, Dr. Klopping formed the Student Advisory Council and later the Community Advisory Council in 1978. Enrollment at the school rose to 518 when the annual new student/parent orientation program was established.

On June 1, 1977 groundbreaking ceremonies launched the new 96-acre site for what would become the California School for the Deaf and the California School for the Blind in Fremont, CA. The school was officially opened on May 25, 1980. CSD's most recent history is filled with cultural and educational advances and student opportunities.

The current population at the California School for the Deaf numbers at 496, and a parent education program has been firmly established to provide support, information, and education for parents of deaf students. The Volunteer Program has grown to 175 individuals who contribute immeasurable time and valuable skills in all facets of CSD students' education and campus life.

I join the community in congratulating CSD for 150 years of exemplary service to deaf students and their families. The California School for the Deaf is a valuable resource beyond measure.

CELEBRATING ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF SWEARING IN OF PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, this week, on May 20, 2009, the Republic of China on Taiwan will celebrate the one year anniversary of the swearing in of President Ma Ying-jeou. On a recent trip to Taipei, I had the privilege of meeting President Ma. His inauguration marked the second successful and peaceful transfer of power from one political party to another. This is an example of Taiwan's steadfast progress toward full democratization in just the last few decades.

After implementing democratic and economic reforms the Republic of China on Taiwan has become a true model of success throughout Asia. Through the hard work and entrepreneurship of the Taiwanese people, Taiwan has become one of the strongest economies in the Pacific Rim and a showcase democracy in the world.

I was proud to cosponsor H. Con. Res. 55, which recognizes the 30th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, TRA—landmark legislation that forms the foundation of the relationship between the United States and the Republic of China on Taiwan. The House of Representatives' unanimous support for the resolution on March 24, 2009 reaffirms Congress' unwavering commitment of the TRA as the cornerstone of relations between the United States and Taiwan, reiterates its support for Taiwan's democratic institutions and supports the continuation of the strong and deepening relationship between the United States and Taiwan.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing this important occasion. We are proud of its political and economic transformation, and wish Taiwan continued success and prosperity.

RECOGNIZING THE PENNDEL-MIDDLETOWN EMERGENCY SQUAD

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad for 50 years of distinguished service to Middletown Township and its adjoining boroughs. Since their inception as a non-profit emergency ambulance service in 1959, they have selflessly served tens of thousands of residents in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad has come quite a long way since its incorporation. Their first ambulance was a used 1947 Cadillac-Superior Coach, and now their purpose is

to provide the best and most modern emergency care and transportation that can be made available. The Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad also offers education and training to the community for first aid and emergency care.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in recognizing the Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad for their 50 years of service to Middletown Township and the neighboring boroughs of Hulmeville, Langhorne, Langhorne Manor and Penndel, an area of more than 25 square miles. I am honored to serve as their Congressman.

SALUTING HARLEM'S OWN CROWN JEWELS—LILLIAN "DIAMOND LIL" PIERCE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute and congratulate my dear friend, Lillian "Diamond Lil" Pierce as an ensemble of Harlem Legendary entertainers gathers to perform a special tribute at the famous Alhambra Ballroom on Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Boulevard.

Affectionately known in Harlem as "Diamond Lil," she was born in Cameron, North Carolina, and graduated from Pinckney High School in Carthage, North Carolina. Lil came to New York in 1958 and enrolled at City College. She later worked at the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles followed by a brief stint at a bar on Broadway, which proved to be a solid stepping stone to her becoming a co-owner of Carl's Off the Corner in West Harlem. But it was "Diamond Lil's" 21-year tenure at Showman's Café where she established her reputation and earned the appreciation of countless customers and musicians.

During her many years as a barmaid at Showman's, Lil heard and entertained a veritable Hall of Fame of Jazz and popular musicians, and Showman's Elite personalities. Showman's, originally located next to the World Famous Apollo Theatre over the years has been the home club of choice and hang-out for many of Harlem's renowned entrepreneurs and personalities. Since 1942, Showman's Jazz Cafe has showcased top musicians for Harlem and International audiences, as Mona, Co-owner and retired Son of Sam New York City Police Detective Al Howard, and our Crown Jewel "Diamond Lil" refers to as "family."

Madam Speaker, the Friends of Showman's roster include luminaries and entertainers like Count Basie, Billy Eckstine, Sammy Davis, Jr., Charles Honi Coles, Leroy Myers, Gregory Hines, Pop Brown, Nat Davis and Savion Glover. Personalities like Jesse Walker, Joe Yancy and Jimmy Booker. Performers like Bill Doggett, George Benson, Seleno Clarke, Irene Reid, Jimmy "Preacher" Robins, Gloria Lynne, Joey Morant, Akiko Tsuruga, Grady Tate, Frank Dell, Bill Saxton, Annette St. John, Wolf Johnson, Pat Tandy and the Prince of Harlem Lonnie Youngblood. Among the elected officials who graced her bar and thrilled to her service were Governor David Paterson, Assembly Members Denny Farrell and Keith Wright, State Senator Bill Perkins,

Councilmember Inez Dickens, former Borough President C. Virginia Fields, my brother and former Mayor, David N. Dinkins, and me.

Yes, diamonds are forever and so is our extraordinarily precious Lillian "Diamond Lil" Pierce.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HEALTH MONTH

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of May as National Women's Health Month. This designation encourages women to make their own health a top priority by obtaining regular medical check-ups and preventive screenings.

As we urge women to prioritize their own health care, we must also call attention to the disproportionate impact the health care crisis is having on women, particularly women of childbearing age.

In fact, earlier this month the Department of Health and Human Services released a new report, titled Roadblocks to Health Care: Why the Current Health Care System Does Not Work for Women which states that women, especially those of reproductive age, are more vulnerable to high health care costs because they require more regular contact with health care providers, including yearly Pap tests, mammograms, and obstetric and gynecological care.

While the study sheds much needed light on the impact of the nation's health care crisis on women, its findings are not surprising.

Last year, I had the opportunity to visit a women's health clinic run by Planned Parenthood and saw first hand patients seeking the affordable, accessible, high-quality preventive reproductive health care.

At Planned Parenthood clinics, health professionals provide over 950,000 cervical cancer screenings and breast exams to more than 850,000 women. Sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment are performed and made available to both women and men. In fact, 97 percent of the services provided at these clinics are preventative.

In Virginia alone these clinics provide basic health care, including lifesaving cancer screenings, to over 28,500 patients a year. But these clinics are only meeting a fraction of the need in my state. There are 846,100 women in need of contraceptive services and supplies. Of these, 371,640 women need publicly supported contraceptive services because they have incomes below 250 percent of the federal poverty level (251,710) or are sexually active teenagers (119,930). Eleven percent of women aged 15–44 have incomes below the federal poverty level, and 18 percent of all women in this age-group are uninsured (i.e., do not have private health insurance or Medicaid coverage).

Increasing health insurance coverage for women is essential. Approximately 17 million American women have no health insurance coverage. It's critical that health care reform requires coverage of comprehensive reproductive health services.

With the economic downturn, these health centers have seen a significant increase in utilization, just as their funding streams, both

public and private, have become more precarious. Across the country, they are seeing an increase in patients—women who have lost their jobs and health insurance, or who no longer have money to pay for medical care. These women are literally choosing between a month of birth control and bus fare.

Planned Parenthood health centers are part of an important network of women's health care providers and serve as a critical entry point into the health care system for millions of women.

In fact, Guttmacher reports more than six in ten clients consider family planning centers their main source of health care. Oftentimes, it is their first interaction with the country's health care system.

This is why increasing health insurance coverage is not enough. Ensuring access to a strong network of health care providers is fundamental to improving health care coordination and quality outcomes.

A strong women's health care infrastructure must be developed as we proceed with health care reform. Women need preventative services for reproductive and general health. Planned Parenthood clinics are providing these services now and we should make sure they continue to do so.

BELATED THANK YOU TO THE
MERCHANT MARINERS OF
WORLD WAR II ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service the U.S. Merchant Marines and the sacrifice each gave for our country. The merchant seamen of World War II were volunteers and a civilian military corps serving the United States in the war. They were denied veterans' benefits comparable to those provided to World War II era military veterans. By most reports, the World War II merchant marines suffered the greatest casualties of any of the fighting branches—with nearly 1-in-26 dying in battle.

H.R. 23, the Belated Thank You to the Merchant Mariners of World War II Act of 2009 will provide benefits for an estimated 38,000 individuals in the first year of the enactment of this legislation. I believe this legislation is long overdue. I am eager to see them receive all the benefits they deserve.

I am proud and grateful for the opportunity to nominate constituents to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. There they receive an education for a future in this field. I applaud the hard work and dedication of the merchant mariners and the sacrifices they have made for our country.

HONORING MR. GLENN COLEMAN FOR HIS 23 YEARS OF SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO THE USDA NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Glenn Coleman, upon the occasion of his retirement, effective June 13, 2009, for his 23 years of service and dedication to the USDA National Forest Service.

Mr. Coleman, who came to the City of Alexandria, LA in 1986, has dedicated 23 years of service as a landscape architect to the Kisatchie National Forest Service. His service includes management and volunteer work with projects and organizations such as the Alexandria Tree Board Committee, the Forest Service African American Strategy Group, "Smokey the Bear" and the Rapides Parish School Fire Prevention Program, annual outdoor recreation events, recreation facility design, and the Forest Service Human Resource Program.

Beyond his professional career, Mr. Coleman has been proudly married for 20 years to Patricia Ann Coleman and is a loving father to Angela, Alisha, Andre, Kimberly, and Gregory. Friends and family describe Mr. Coleman as an individual who has dedicated his life to Christ and is an active member of The Greater New Hope Baptist Church where he served on the Deacon Board for 18 years under the direction of Rev. Robert Butler.

Mr. Coleman is a friend to many, and is deemed a gracious and hardworking person to all who have had the privilege of making his acquaintance.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Glenn Coleman for his many years of service to the National Forest Service in Louisiana and for his dedication to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE ELECTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S (TAIWAN) PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the first anniversary of the election of the Republic of China's (Taiwan) President Ma Ying-jeou. With close to 65,000 Taiwanese Americans in the Chicagoland area, I have closely observed President Ma's progress on the world stage during his first year in office.

In just one year, the Harvard educated President Ma has made accomplishments in leaps and bounds to improve Taiwan's international standing in no small part because of his work to normalize relations with mainland China.

Most recently, Taiwan has been accepted as an official observer at the World Health Assembly that will take place later this month in Geneva. The World Health Assembly, which is part of the World Health Organization, will give Taiwan's 23 million citizens a voice at this very important international forum.

Also, in April, officials from China and Taiwan participated in the Chiang-Chen Talks. The talks resulted in the signing of the following agreements: (1) "Agreement on Joint Cross-Strait Crime-fighting and Mutual Judicial Assistance;" (2) the "Cross-Strait Financial Cooperation Agreement;" and, (3) the "Supplementary Agreement on Cross-Strait Air Transport". All of these agreements will result in improved coordination between the Taiwan Straits neighbors in the areas of law enforcement, financial exchanges and travel.

Finally, President Ma's administration has successfully removed Taiwan from the Special 301 Watch List which is maintained by The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. The removal from this list shows Taiwan's commitment to preventing the importing and exporting of illegally pirated materials such as DVDs and CDs.

These are three of President Ma's many achievements during his first year in office. Please join me in congratulating, President Ma, on a very successful first year.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
TRUTH IN FUR LABELING ACT
OF 2009

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce, along with Representative MARY BONO MACK, the Truth in Fur Labeling Act of 2009, which would require the labeling of all garments containing animal fur.

Current law contains a glaring loophole that allows garments containing less than \$150 dollars in fur to be sold in the U.S. without an identifying label. The result is that consumers lack the information they need to make informed choices and may inadvertently purchase garments that contain real fur, possibly from a dog or cat. The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) strongly supports this bill as a way to guarantee consumers full and accurate information and to cut down on the amount of illegal dog and cat fur making its way into the U.S.

In recent years, HSUS investigators found a proliferation of falsely labeled and falsely advertised dog fur on fashion clothing sold by some of the largest names in U.S. retailing. Of the fur-trimmed jackets subjected to mass spectrometry testing by HSUS, 96 percent were found to be domestic dog, wolf or raccoon dog, and either mislabeled or not labeled at all.

Half of all fur garments entering the United States come from China, where large numbers of domestic dogs and cats as well as raccoon dogs are killed every year for their fur by brutal methods, sometimes skinned alive. The Dog and Cat Protection Act of 2000 banned the trade in dog and cat fur after an HSUS investigation revealed the death toll at 2 million animals a year and found domestic dog fur for sale in the United States.

While it is currently illegal to import, export, sell or advertise any domestic dog or cat fur in the United States and fur from other animals must be identified with a label, a loophole exists that allows a sizable portion of fur garments to avoid this labeling requirement.

The Fur Products Labeling Act of 1951 exempts garments with a “relatively small quantity or value” of fur from requiring labels disclosing the name of the species, the manufacturer, the country of origin and other pertinent information for consumers. The Federal Trade Commission defines that value today as \$150—an amount that allows multiple animal pelts on a garment without a label.

Regardless of value, consumers have the right to know if a product they purchase contains real fur. Consumers who may have allergies to fur, ethical objections to fur, or concern about the use of certain species, cannot make informed purchasing choices. Furthermore, the ability for consumers to make well-informed decisions based on complete information is a cornerstone of a functioning market economy.

Importantly, labeling fur trim will not be economically burdensome for apparel manufacturers or retailers. According to the Federal Trade Commission, the total number of fur garments, fur-trimmed garments, and fur accessories sold in the United States is estimated at 3,500,000. Of that, approximately 3,000,000 items—or 86 percent—are already required to abide by labeling requirements. It will not present a difficulty to label the additional 14 percent of products using animal fur. In fact, this legislation may actually increase the efficiency of the manufacturing process because it removes the need to determine an item’s value for labeling purposes.

Consumer protection officials and leaders in the retail and fashion industries support fur labeling. Legislation closing the loophole in the Fur Products Labeling Act has been endorsed by Tommy Hilfiger, Burlington Coat Factory, Loehmann’s, Buffalo Exchange, House of Deréon, Jay McCarroll, Andrew Marc, and others. Leading designers and businesses understand the need for clear labeling laws to protect consumer confidence in their products. Additionally, the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators (NACAA), an organization representing more than 160 government agencies and 50 corporate consumer offices, recently passed a resolution in support of truthful fur labeling and advertising, including the elimination of loopholes.

It is clear that current regulations undercut consumers’ ability to make informed purchases and contributes to the continued presence of dog and cat fur in garments sold in the U.S. I look forward to working with my colleagues and the committee of jurisdiction to bring attention to this issue and enact the needed reforms included in the Truth in Fur Labeling Act of 2009.

PERSON EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, on Monday, May 18, 2009, I was unable to return to Washington, DC in time to cast my vote for rollcall votes No. 267–269. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye” on rollcall votes No. 267, H. Res. 300; No. 268, S. 386; and No. 269, H. Res. 442.

21ST CENTURY GREEN HIGH-PERFORMING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

The House In Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2187) to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to State educational agencies for the modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities, and for other purposes:

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2187, the 21st Century Green High-Performing Schools Facilities Act. In addition to authorizing critical funding for school modernization, this bill also authorizes a specific funding stream of \$600 million over six years for public schools that were damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

We know that these funds are critically needed. As Education Week reported, in the hours after Hurricane Katrina struck, more than 100 public schools in New Orleans were flooded. And the roughly two dozen schools that didn’t flood suffered wind and rain damage.

Even though it has been nearly four years since the storm, many children continue to attend classes in temporary structures that are ill-suited to providing a 21st Century education. In addition, 21 percent of schools remain closed.

The funds authorized in H.R. 2187 will help put an end to the legacy of damage left by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

RECOGNIZING ROBERTA RAKOVE, RECIPIENT OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION GRASSROOTS CHAMPION AWARD

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Roberta Rakove, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, of Sinai Health System for her outstanding leadership in creating grassroots and community activity in support of her hospital’s mission. Roberta Rakove was first nominated by the Illinois Hospital Association (IHA), and later awarded by both the IHA and the American Hospital Association (AHA) the Partnership for Action Grassroots Champion Award on April 28, 2009.

The Partnership for Action Grassroots Champion Award was established to recognize hospital leaders who most efficiently inform elected officials of the affect major issues have on a hospital’s fundamental role in the community; to recognize hospital leaders who have done an exemplary job in broadening the base of community support for the hospital; and to recognize hospital leaders who continue to advocate on behalf of the hospital and its patients.

Roberta Rakove’s commitment to advocating for the hospital community extends to

her 15 years of devotion on IHA’s Advocacy Council, DSH Steering Committee, and other membership groups.

For 90 years the hospitals and caregivers of Sinai Health System have provided medical care and social services to communities in west and south Chicago. Sinai Community Institute provides social service outreach for the lifestyle issues that contribute to health while the Sinai Urban Health institute researches the prevalence of chronic disease in Chicago neighborhoods. Collectively, the Sinai Health System provides a full continuum of care for acute, primary, specialty and rehabilitation to meet the needs of the community.

MONGOLIA’S DEMOCRACY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, in a vast sweep of mountains, steppe, and desert in the heart of northern Asia, one of the most remarkable political transformations of the decade is unfolding. I rise today to commend democracy in Mongolia. The collapse of communism and totalitarianism has provided Mongolia with a historical opportunity of introducing simultaneous political and economic changes by dismantling the communist regime and central planning economy to build democracy and market capitalism.

Mongolia’s democratic transition explicitly indicates that Mongolia has reached remarkable achievements in building democracy and market capitalism.

Mongolia’s parliamentary democracy has been playing a meaningful role in building democracy and market capitalism, and civil society has emerged and developed. Mongolia’s democratic reforms have been radical and irreversible. Now, Mongolia is committed to successful completion of the final phase of its transition to market capitalism to deepen and strengthen democracy.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in supporting Mongolia’s continued transition to democracy.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL RICHARD L. KIRCHNER FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE CIVIL AIR PATROL

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Richard L. Kirchner for his 29 years of service to the Civil Air Patrol. Col. Kirchner retired in February after developing the Anoka Composite Squadron and serving as its Commander three times.

After joining the Civil Air Patrol in 1980, Col. Kirchner started the Anoka Composite Squadron in 1982 with just one member. Today, it stands at nearly 100 members and has produced leaders in the Civil Air Patrol, the U.S. Air Force, in business and the public sector across the country. Col. Kirchner was involved

with every aspect of the Civil Air Patrol including Emergency Services, Aerospace Education and the Cadet program to help develop anyone interested in civil service. I am confident that the Squadron will be led by other fine commanders and engage in new and challenging missions in years to come, standing on the firm foundation laid by Col. Kirchner.

It is my privilege to honor Lieutenant Colonel Richard L. Kirchner for his three decades of dedicated service to the Civil Air Patrol and I want to thank Col. Kirchner for the role he has played in so many Minnesota lives. His commitment to honor and duty, country and community and his nurturing relationship with the members of the Squadron are a model for all of us on how to lead and teach. We are all so grateful for his service.

TAIWAN

HON. ANH "JOSEPH" CAO

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. CAO. Madam Speaker, May 20, 2009 marks a significant milestone for Taiwan, the first year in office of President Ma Ying-jeou.

What began as a year of confrontation between the Peoples Republic of China and Taiwan, President Ma has become one of cooperation.

The conciliatory initiatives of President Ma has produced, for the first time in decades, face to face productive meetings that have brought about agreement between these former adversaries in a variety of areas; legal, transportation and financial.

Such great progress has not gone unnoticed and President Ma Ying-jeou should be recognized for his leadership.

IN HONOR OF MR. KIRK FARRA,
IN-SYNCH SYSTEMS

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor America's entrepreneurs, those distinguished individuals who support our communities, drive innovation, and keep our nation strong. Small businesses bring fresh ideas to the table, develop resources to help us meet the demands of an ever-changing world, and make a meaningful impact on our neighborhoods. Entrepreneurs are responsible for providing 60 to 80 percent of all new jobs, giving them the potential to propel rapid economic growth and expand developing fields. Some of the country's largest companies began as start-ups in small offices, homes and garages exploring these new fields. Limited only by their imagination, these firms performed cutting-edge work in emerging industries that have become the very foundation of our society.

As our nation and the world face the most difficult economic conditions in decades, entrepreneurs have the potential to lead us back to prosperity. The resiliency and adaptability shown by small businesses in past recessions

demonstrate their capability to meet the challenges standing in their way and emerge stronger than ever. America's small businesses will drive the economic recovery from this downturn, and I remain confident that our economy will emerge stronger than ever. Times may be tough, but America's entrepreneurial spirit is tougher.

To recognize the monumental achievements of our nation's small firms, the Small Business Administration (SBA) has declared May 17–23 as the 46th Annual National Small Business Week. The House Small Business Committee is celebrating all our country's hard-working entrepreneurs by saluting the Heroes of Small Business, those men and women who have shown the strength, leadership, and resourcefulness that keeps our economy moving forward.

I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in recognizing and thanking Mr. Kirk Farra for his tremendous accomplishments on behalf of small businesses. Mr. Farra is president of In-Synch Systems, LLC, a company that produces state-of-the-art records management software for local law enforcement agencies. In-Synch Systems has rapidly expanded since its inception in 1999 and is currently serving clients across the country. The company's top product is a records management system that allows law enforcement officers to access and share critical intelligence when they are in the field. In-Synch Systems has provided its products to government agencies for use in federally funded law enforcement programs that supply police agencies with critical software.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Farra has exemplified the remarkable accomplishments of which America's entrepreneurs are capable. This week, he will testify before the House Small Business Committee to share his story. I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join with me in honoring him for the extraordinary work he has done for the small business economy. His efforts demonstrate that if given the right resources, America's small businesses can be the catalysts that lift our economy from the current downturn and put us on the road to recovery.

IN RECOGNITION OF SPORTS-
CASTER DON LADAS' RETIREMENT

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday May 19, 2009

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Don Ladas for his service to Joliet, Illinois for over fifty years as an unparalleled sports voice on 1340 WJOL Radio and working for the Herald News, which has made him a sports icon in Will County. Ladas, WJOL's longest full-time employee in history, has recently announced his retirement. Out of all of WJOL's radio legends over the years, none have had the staying power and impact that Don Ladas has had.

For forty-seven years, Ladas has covered a wide variety of sports for WJOL including bowling, football, basketball, baseball, and softball, and has broadcasted thousands of local high school sporting events. He was the host of the oldest bowling show in the United

States called, "Ten Pin Topics," which aired Monday through Saturday. In addition to his daily bowling show, Ladas also hosted a weekly sports program called, "Shooting the Breeze." For the past thirty years, Ladas also has been the editor and publisher of his own monthly magazine called "Will County Sportsman."

His professionalism and his dedication to sports have earned him a place of recognition in the following: the Illinois Sportscasters Hall of Fame, the Illinois Basketball Hall of Fame, the Illinois State Bowling Hall of Fame, the Joliet Junior College Hall of Fame, the Joliet and Will County Hall of Pride, the Will County Bowling Hall of Fame, and the Minor League and Pro Football National Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio for his work in the media. Also, in July of 2008, author Gary Seymour published a book following Ladas' career entitled, *The Voice of Joliet: the Life and Times of Hall of Fame Radio Sportscaster Don Ladas*.

As one of the most revered figures in Joliet's sports scene history, sportscaster Don Ladas has left his mark on the world of radio and sports casting and will serve as an inspiration to all individuals just entering the mass media field of broadcasting. It is with great pride that I recognize all of his many accomplishments upon the event of his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, on May 18, 2009, I missed rollcall votes numbered 267, 268, and 269.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 267, a resolution congratulating Camp Dudley YMCA of Westport, New York, on the occasion of its 125th anniversary; 268, the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act; and, 269, a resolution recognizing the importance of the Child and Adult Care Food Program and its positive effect on the lives of low-income children and families.

RECOGNIZING COMMISSIONER
DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE FOR
RECEIVING THE ITU "WORLD
TELECOMMUNICATION & INFOR-
MATION SOCIETY AWARD"

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate, Federal Communications Commission member from 2005 to 2008, on the occasion of her receipt of the 2009 International Telecommunication Union (ITU) "Telecommunication & Information Society Award."

The World Telecommunication & Information Society Award is presented by the ITU in recognition of individuals or institutions that have made a significant contribution to promoting, building, or strengthening an individual-focused, development-oriented and knowledge-based information society. The 2009 award

was presented to individuals dedicated to global Internet connectivity, promoting innovation, and protecting children online.

Commissioner Tate won international praise during her service at the FCC as a leading voice on issues affecting families and children, and helped craft communications policy to ensure that advances in communications technologies benefit all Americans in a safe, secure manner. As a result, she is known throughout the telecommunications industry as the "Children's Commissioner" for her dedication to online safety.

Receipt of ITU's Telecommunication & Information Society Award further cements Commissioner Tate's impact on the communications space during her service at the FCC, and follows a litany of awards following her departure from the Commission, including an Award for Outstanding Public Service from Common Sense Media, the Good Scout Award from the Boy Scouts of America, the Carol Reilly Award from the New York State Broadcasters Association, the Touchstones of Leadership Award for Public Service from Women in Cable Television, the YW Award from the Academy for Women of Achievement, and the Jerry Duvall Public Service Award from the Phoenix Center for Advanced Public Policy Studies.

On behalf of constituents throughout Tennessee's 7th District, I applaud Commissioner Tate for her lifetime body of work, and congratulate her well-deserved receipt of the 2009 Telecommunication & Information Society Award.

COMMENDING CHANDRA BROWN

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor America's entrepreneurs, those distinguished individuals who support our communities, drive innovation, and keep our nation strong. Small businesses bring fresh ideas to the table, develop the resources to meet the demands of an ever-changing world, and make a meaningful impact on our neighborhoods. Entrepreneurs are responsible for providing 60 to 80 percent of all new jobs, giving them the potential to propel rapid economic growth and expand ever-developing fields. Some of the country's largest companies began as start-ups in small offices, homes and garages exploring these new fields. Limited only by their imagination, these firms performed cutting-edge work in emerging industries that have become the very foundation of our society.

As our nation and the world face the most difficult economic conditions in decades, entrepreneurs have the potential to lead us back to prosperity. The resiliency and adaptability shown by small businesses in past recessions demonstrate their capability to meet the challenges standing in their way and emerge stronger than ever. America's small businesses will drive the economic recovery from this downturn and our economy will emerge stronger than ever. Times may be tough, but America's entrepreneurial spirit is tougher.

To recognize the monumental achievements of our nation's small firms, the Small Business

Administration (SBA) has declared May 17–23 as the 46th Annual National Small Business Week. The House Small Business Committee is celebrating all our country's hard-working entrepreneurs by saluting the Heroes of Small Business, those men and women who have shown the strength, leadership, and resourcefulness that keeps our economy moving forward.

I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in recognizing and thanking Ms. Chandra Brown for her tremendous accomplishments on behalf of small businesses. Ms. Brown currently serves as president of Oregon Iron Works' subsidiary United Streetcar, the only modern streetcar manufacturer in the United States. With over 15 years of experience with Oregon Iron Works, she is responsible for overall business development and marketing as the company's vice president.

Recognized by Oregon's economic community as one the state's top business leaders, Ms. Brown was named to the Oregon Innovation Council in 2005 by Governor Ted Kulongoski. She sits on numerous non-profit boards, including serving as Vice Chair of the Oregon Wave Energy Trust, which promotes job creation through the emerging wave energy industry. Ms. Brown has a bachelor's degree in marketing and an M.B.A. in international marketing from Miami University.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Brown has exemplified the remarkable accomplishments of which America's entrepreneurs are capable. This week, she will testify before the House Small Business Committee to share her story. I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join with me in honoring her for the extraordinary work she has done for the small business economy. Her efforts demonstrate that if given the right resources, America's small businesses can be the catalysts that lift our economy from the current downturn and put us on the road to recovery.

JACK KEMP'S LIFE PROVIDES IDEAS

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, in memory of Jack Kemp, I would like the following article included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

REPUBLICANS LOOKING FOR A MODERN INSPIRATION? JACK KEMP'S LIFE PROVIDES IDEAS

(By Jack Cox)

There has been much press coverage these days about the problems of the Republican Party seeking a new identity that resonates with Americans. Too often, Republicans and conservatives are criticized for lacking compassion and concern for many social issues of interest to many Americans. In the 1960's, Conservatives had little involvement in the historic battle for civil rights. Most Republicans opposed the civil rights act in 1964, including Presidential candidate Barry Goldwater, and a great deal of resentment grew within the African American community over this apparent indifference.

It was, of course, Republicans with President Lincoln that led the battle to end slavery and liberate blacks from the intolerable

practice. Thirty two years earlier, William Wilberforce, a noted Member of Parliament and British Christian leader had led the battle to end slavery in England. Unfortunately, during the last half of the 20th Century too many conservatives, Republicans specifically, were uninvolved in the battle. That disinterest was tied not to bigotry but rather other priorities including a major battle to oppose the spread of Communism from the Soviet Union and "Red China." Senator Goldwater, a charter member of the Phoenix NAACP, opposed it on states' rights grounds.

It was a warm summer day during the 1996 Presidential Campaign that the National Association of Black Journalists annual convention was held in Nashville. The organization, as most journalism groups, invites Presidential candidates to address their members. On that humid Tennessee day Republican Presidential Candidate Robert Dole and Vice Presidential Candidate Jack Kemp were slated to speak to the several thousand African American journalists from around the nation. Most Republicans would have described this group as anything but a friendly organization to GOP candidates.

Senator Dole was introduced with polite applause. Then Jack Kemp was introduced and he received a standing ovation. I sat in awe as these black Americans applauded a white Republican leader. Jack stayed after his speech and shook the hand of every young journalist who wanted to meet him. There was no story about this incident and it has received no notice that I have ever seen. Why did Jack get this reception? It is easy to understand why — Jack Kemp cared and he demonstrated that care over a life time. He was committed to the wisdom of a free market but he also saw that sometimes people fell through the cracks and that government has the responsibility to help them.

However, Jack was committed to giving people opportunity, not hand outs. He had the strong respect of millions of Americans. In my many personal conversations with Jack and my work with him, that caring attitude came through like a laser beam! Jack, in the past decade, spoke strongly for a guest worker program for illegal immigrants and a method for these folks to become legal residents of the United States. Jack saw these people as hard workers who were trying to achieve the American dream, one sought by millions from throughout the world.

Jack observed one time "Republicans many times can't get the words 'equality of opportunity' out of their mouths. Their lips do not form that way." He also declared "There really has not been a strong Republican message to either the poor or the African American community at large."

He also noted "When people lack jobs, opportunity, and ownership of property they have little or no stake in their communities."

In 1964, Senator Barry Goldwater was defeated for the presidency. Look Magazine, shortly after the solid defeat, asked writer Richard Cornuelle to write a piece entitled a "Positive Agenda for the Republican Party." In 1965, Cornuelle published a new book "Reclaiming the American Dream." Cornuelle, like Jack Kemp, called on Republicans to have answers and a positive agenda instead of constant opposition to government. He coined the phrase "the independent section" which described the vital role that associations, churches, and individuals play in meeting the needs of society.

Unfortunately, Dick Cornuelle's ideas, like Jack Kemp's, were not seen as providing direction for the future of the Republican Party by some leaders. Jack Kemp was a dynamic individual who, like Ronald Reagan, always saw a glass half full rather than half empty. If the Republican Party is to begin

carrying a positive banner of hope and leadership, it will need to be like Jack Kemp's. Perhaps with the loss of Jack Kemp, the time has come for the party and Conservatives in general to reexamine their priorities and reach out to all Americans.

Indeed it is a time for all Americans to rekindle their faith in an America of strong commitment to a free market system which strives to reach all Americans, not with a hand out but with a hand up. Kemp reminded us "There are no limits to our future if we don't put limits on our people."

At the same time, Jack never lost his commitment to the idea that a growing economy is the only answer to enriching more Americans instead of fewer. He saw redistribution of wealth as a policy for failure. His vision for government was simple: "Every time in this century we've lowered the tax rates across the board, on employment, on saving, investment and risk-taking in this economy, revenues went up, not down." It was interesting that another dynamic leader in the Democratic Party held that same view, John F. Kennedy, another inspirational leader.

Finally, as the Republican Party thinks about its future and the Democrats, now in power, contemplate how they responsibly use their power, we should remember Jack Kemp's words "Democracy without morality is impossible." I, as so many others Americans of all colors and all parties, will miss Jack Kemp.

RECOGNIZING THE NAVY LEAGUE BREMERTON-OLYMPIC PENINSULA COUNCIL ON THE OCCASION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE LONE SAILOR STATUE MEMORIAL

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. DICKS. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor of the House today to express my support and appreciation for the Navy League of the United States and congratulate the members of the Navy League Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council upon the dedication of the Lone Sailor Statue Memorial at Bremerton, Washington.

The Lone Sailor Statue is symbolic of the many sacrifices made by our mariners, their families and the communities that support them. On May 23, 2009, the Navy League Bremerton—Olympic Peninsula Council will dedicate a Lone Sailor Statue Memorial at Bremerton Harborside in Bremerton, Washington. This statue honors and embodies the longstanding bond the city and region share with our Navy and maritime past.

Since its founding, the United States has relied upon access to and unhindered use of the world's oceans in order to enhance its security and maintain its interests. The sea services of the United States; the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S. Merchant Marine, were essential to our young Nation's security, growth and prosperity then, and they remain so today.

The Navy League of the United States was formed in 1902 to ensure continued support for the men and women of the sea services in their duties. It continues this vital mission today through the education of our citizenry and the Nation's political leaders on the important role of the sea services and the sacrifices

made by our Sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen and Merchant Mariners around the world.

The dedication of the Lone Sailor Statue Memorial in Bremerton is a testament to the sustained effort of the entire Navy League Bremerton—Olympic Peninsula Council and many, many community contributors and volunteers. I want to extend my thanks and appreciation to all who contributed their time and effort to make this event possible.

JUAN AND LUIS YEPEZ, RECIPIENTS OF SBA'S PHOENIX AWARD

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Ms. TSONGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Juan and Luis Yepez, small business owners in Lawrence, MA, for receiving the Small Business Administration's 2009 Phoenix Award for Small Business Disaster Recovery. The SBA gives the Phoenix Award to individuals who display selflessness, ingenuity and tenacity in the aftermath of a disaster, while contributing to the rebuilding of their communities.

The entrepreneurial Yepez brothers are owners of Mainstream Global, a small computer product distribution company. The Yepez brothers chose to locate their business in the old industrial City of Lawrence and to become part of the surrounding community. Unfortunately, in May 2006 the company's facilities along the banks of the Merrimack River flooded, destroying hundreds of thousands of dollars of equipment and forcing a three-month shutdown of the business.

Despite this setback, Juan and Luis kept their twelve employees on payroll throughout the recovery process, and now, in the midst of a deep recession, they have expanded Mainstream Global to a staff of thirty-two. The Yepez brothers continue to be committed partners in the rebirth of Lawrence by investing in the renovation of other old, abandoned mill buildings in the downtown, converting these buildings into office space, educational facilities, and affordable housing.

I congratulate the Yepez brothers for their outstanding contribution to the City of Lawrence and its residents, and their dedication to the revitalization of our community.

PRAISING THE HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA CITY COMMISSION FOR ITS SUPPORT IN THE REALIZATION OF THE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MULTICULTURAL ART PROJECT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the City of Hollywood, Florida City Commission, and in particular, City Manager Cameron D. Benson and Grants Manager Renée Jean, for their instrumental support in the realization of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Multicultural Art Project. On May 21, 2009, the City of Hollywood, Florida City Com-

mission will dedicate a bronze bust of Dr. King in ArtsPark at Young Circle in Historic Downtown Hollywood, FL, in honor of Dr. King's life and legacy.

This project would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of City Manager Benson and Grants Manager Jean, who, faced with a challenging fiscal year and budget cuts, were committed to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Multicultural Art Project from its inception to its completion. In 2008, Benson proposed the project in response to a community recommendation to the City Commission to create an initiative to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Determined to find a way to finance the project without using General Fund monies, Jean successfully secured a \$50,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation for the construction and implementation of the project. After issuing a national "Call to Artists" and evaluating proposals, the City Artist Selection Committee selected Steven Whyte of Steven Whyte Studios in California to create the original art piece.

Whyte's hand-sculpted bronze bust of Dr. King weighs approximately 200 pounds and sits upon a large base that will be inscribed with the immortal words of Dr. King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech. This lasting tribute to Dr. King's dream and courage will become a permanent fixture in regionally acclaimed ArtsPark at Young Circle, a public venue for arts, education, recreation and entertainment, and in the Hollywood community.

Madam Speaker, the realization and completion of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Multicultural Art Project is a celebration of diversity in the City of Hollywood and a reminder to all visitors to continue working to realize Dr. King's dream of equality for all. Once again, I would like to recognize and thank Mr. Benson, Ms. Jean, and the City of Hollywood, Florida City Commission for their support of this project and for their commitment to the community.

BARBARA McCLAIN OWNER AND PRESIDENT, McCLAIN CONTRACTING COMPANY, INC. AND ALUSIA, AL

HON. BOBBY BRIGHT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. BRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor America's entrepreneurs, those distinguished individuals who support our communities, drive innovation, and keep our nation strong. Small businesses bring fresh ideas to the table, develop the resources to meet the demands of an ever-changing world, and make a meaningful impact on our neighborhoods. Entrepreneurs are responsible for providing 60 to 80 percent of all new jobs, giving them the potential to propel rapid economic growth and expand ever-developing fields. Some of the country's largest companies began as start-ups in small offices, homes and garages exploring these new fields. Limited only by their imagination, these firms performed cutting-edge work in emerging industries that have become the very foundation of our society.

As our nation and the world face the most difficult economic conditions in decades, entrepreneurs have the potential to lead us back to

prosperity. The resiliency and adaptability shown by small businesses in past recessions demonstrate their capability to meet the challenges standing in their way and emerge stronger than ever. America's small businesses will drive the economic recovery from this downturn and our economy will emerge stronger than ever. Times may be tough, but America's entrepreneurial spirit is tougher.

To recognize the monumental achievements of our nation's small firms, the Small Business Administration (SBA) has declared May 17–23 as the 46th Annual National Small Business Week. The House Small Business Committee is celebrating all our country's hard-working entrepreneurs by saluting the Heroes of Small Business, those men and women who have shown the strength, leadership, and resourcefulness that keeps our economy moving forward.

I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in recognizing and thanking Ms. Barbara McClain for her tremendous accomplishments on behalf of small businesses. Ms. McClain is owner and president of McClain Contracting Company, Inc., a firm that has provided a range of services to military bases and other federal installations. Ms. McClain began her career as a bookkeeper and payroll clerk in 1968, and worked for several firms before incorporating her own business in 1990 selling ATVs and watercraft. After limited success in this venture, McClain transformed the business and became a licensed construction company, receiving a SBA certification as a HubZone and 8(a) firm in September 2005.

With the program's assistance, McClain Contracting prospered by expanding its work to the federal level. The company has been awarded over \$13 million in contracts by Kessler Air Force Base and performed work for other military and veteran-service facilities in Mississippi. Having gained a reputation for quality work, McClain Contracting is currently seeking to expand its services throughout the Southeast region.

Madam Speaker, Ms. McClain has exemplified the remarkable accomplishments of which America's entrepreneurs are capable. This week, she will testify before the House Small Business Committee to share her story. I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join with me in honoring her for the extraordinary work she has done for the small business economy. Her efforts demonstrate that if given the right resources, America's small businesses can be the catalysts that lift our economy from the current downturn and put us on the road to recovery.

PRESIDENT MA OF TAIWAN

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations on the one year anniversary of President Ma of Taiwan. President Ma has accomplished much during his tenure to reduce the tensions in the Taiwan Strait.

I want to shed light on the third Chiang-Chen talks that occurred last month to highlight my point.

The third Chiang-Chen Talks, which took place in Nanjing, brought together top officials from both sides of the Taiwan straits to discuss issues that are of mutual benefit to Taiwan and China. Three important agreements were signed at these talks.

The "Agreement on Joint Cross-Strait Crime-fighting and Mutual Judicial Assistance" will improve cooperation between the two sides with respects to criminal investigations by sharing information and lending other law enforcement assistance as needed.

Secondly, the "Cross Strait Financial Cooperation Agreement" will help improve monetary exchanges and may lead to Taiwan opening financial institutions on the mainland.

Lastly, a "Supplementary Agreement on Cross-Strait Air Transport" was signed to increase the number of daily flights, both passenger and cargo, between Taiwan and China plus increase the number of airports by which these flights will depart.

In addition to these three agreements, China has agreed to encourage investments from the mainland into Taiwan ventures.

All of these important agreements would not have been possible without President Ma's leadership and courage. Again, congratulations to President Ma and both countries on each side of the Taiwan Strait.

HONORING ANDREA MACKENZIE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I, along with my colleague Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY, rise today to honor a dedicated and beloved advocate for preserving agriculture and the environment in Sonoma County, California. Andrea Mackenzie is leaving the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, and we celebrate her 12 productive years, especially the last eight years as General Manager.

Andrea was born in upstate New York and grew up in Los Angeles. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a Master's Degree in Urban Planning and Natural Resources from the University of California at Los Angeles.

With her love of both the coast and the rugged mountains of the High Sierra, it is no surprise that Andrea worked for over 25 years in land use and conservation-related positions, including the East Bay and San Francisco where she began to develop a focus on collaborative public/private projects and regional approaches. She also loves walkable communities, old barns, hiking and kayaking, country rock, and nature writers.

Andrea first served the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District as project manager for the strategic conservation plan update, creating documents that have become models for other public land conservation agencies. In 2000, she was appointed General Manager by the Board of Supervisors.

The mission of the District is to "permanently protect the diverse agricultural, natural resource and scenic open space lands of Sonoma County for future generations." Fund-

ed by a quarter-cent sales tax, it is the only such district in the state of California and is overwhelmingly supported by Sonoma County's residents.

Andrea helped direct the 2006 campaign to renew the sales tax, which passed overwhelmingly. Voters value the organization's mission and its programs including: matching grants to partner with local cities and agencies for land acquisition, preservation and enhancement; stewardship in managing these lands and various easements to protect them, as well as to allow for public access; land leases to local growers; and public and educational outings, including a focus on underserved populations. Andrea has played a key role in developing these programs as well as increasing the amount of open space from 25,000 acres to 75,000 acres (including 33,000 acres of farmland).

In 2007, in testament to Andrea's management, the District was selected for the National Leadership in Conservation Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the Trust for Public Land in Washington, D.C. She was also one of 36 Fellows selected to participate in the National Conservation Leadership Institute program, is a member of the Executive Committee and future President of the Bay Area Open Space Council and served on both the Urban Rural Roundtable (formed by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom to create a Bay Area Regional Food System) and on the Statewide Watershed Advisory Committee.

Madam Speaker, Andrea Mackenzie's combination of visionary and practical leadership has made the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District a vital player in our community. Sonoma County could have gone the way of other growing counties in California with sprawl from end to end. Instead, it remains blessed with green open space, productive agriculture, and many unique and intact ecosystems. We thank her for her great contributions to our children's natural inheritance and wish her luck in her new position where she will be continuing her good work closer to her family.

HONORING MARK A. BANCROFT

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Mark A. Bancroft, President of Bancroft Contracting Corporation in South Paris, Maine.

Mr. Bancroft knows the meaning of dedication. He started working for his father's company, Bancroft Contracting Corporation, at the age of fourteen. He spent weekends, holidays, and school vacations learning the skills necessary to succeed in his trade. After successfully completing the Construction Management Technology program at the University of Maine, Mr. Bancroft returned to work for his father full time.

In the years following the completion of his degree, Mr. Bancroft worked as a project manager, human resources manager, operations manager, Vice President of Operations, and President for Bancroft Contracting Company. In 2004, he became owner and CEO. Today,

Mr. Bancroft's company employs one hundred-thirty workers during the winter and more than two hundred during the summer. The Small Business Administration has recognized Mr. Bancroft's business expertise and commitment by naming him the Maine Small Business Person of the Year for 2009.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Bancroft on a lifetime of hard work and devotion.

HONORING RABBI HOWARD
HERSCH

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rabbi Howard Hersch, the spiritual leader of Congregation Brothers of Israel in Newtown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Rabbi Hersch will be retiring in July after 48 years of dedicated service to his community.

While serving at the Congregation Brothers of Israel, Rabbi Hersch has worked tirelessly to provide his congregants with leadership, kindness, and an open ear. His combination of wisdom, humor, and compassion has created an atmosphere of warmth in his synagogue that his congregants will truly miss.

Rabbi Hersch is not only a scholar, teacher, and respected associate of several Rabbinical Boards, but also a member of many humanitarian and civic organizations. He has dedicated his life to advancing the causes of the State of Israel, the Jewish people, and of all people in need.

Rabbi Hersch has contributed enormously to his community in Bucks County. His commitment to service through spiritual leadership and education is a characteristic to be emulated. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Rabbi Hersch for his outstanding efforts, and am extremely honored to serve as his Congressman.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF "MR.
BRONX," DR. ELIAS KARMON

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise with great sadness as I remember the life of my dear friend Dr. Elias Karmon who recently passed away. As I speak with profound sorrow, I ascend to celebrate a life well lived and to remember with fondness the accomplishments of a remarkable man who, over his many years in our community, etched his name in history as a visionary who erected institutions and forever transformed the quality of life of his fellow Bronxites.

Mr. Bronx, as he was affectionately called, was born on March 4, 1910 and until his death on October 21, 2008, he was doing what he loved the most—attending to the needs of The Bronx community. His death at the age of 98 years old does not signal an end to a dedicated career of serving his community, but the beginning for those whose lives were touched by Dr. Karmon to continue his work.

The Bronx is full of busy men, but most of us found the activities of Dr. Karmon astonishing. He took time to work with dozens of groups and organizations in keeping The Bronx a good place to work and live, and all of that on a "volunteer basis." This had been a "working together" story with people of all groups. Dr. Karmon was one of the most deeply involved residents of our borough. For all his work, Dr. Karmon was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters by Lehman College, the Presidential Medallion by Bronx Community College, and the first Hostos Community College Presidential Medal.

A graduate of New York University, Dr. Karmon worked as an accountant, a manufacturer of clothing and as a clothing retailer on Prospect Avenue. The business, Hollywood Clothes, was a Bronx Institution for over 30 years. He was also a builder of parking lots, developer of buildings for use by public and private agencies and was very active in many phases of real estate. Dr. Karmon served The Bronx for 68 years in many business, civic, health, service and humanitarian organizations. He served on the organizational committee that brought about the Einstein College of Medicine and he continued to work on behalf of the College until his death.

Dr. Karmon served as an officer or chairman in The Bronx Rotary Club, The Bronx Council of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, American Jewish Congress, Bronx Division, Bronx Boy's and Girls Clubs', Visions and Community Services for the Blind and the Bronx YMCA. Dr. Karmon served as President of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce for four consecutive terms after serving on its Board since 1953. He played an instrumental role in organizing the South Bronx Board of Trade, which greatly aided minority businesses and was one of the founders of the Ponce de Leon Federal Bank in 1959.

For twenty-two years, Mr. Karmon served as a member of the Lay Advisory Board for Lincoln Hospital, nine of those years as its chairman, and he played a pivotal role in the establishment of the new Lincoln Hospital. Dr. Karmon was also credited with helping to create the first building of Hostos Community College.

Elias will be long remembered for his extraordinary commitment, energy, wisdom, discipline, principle, and clear purpose which won the admiration of all who were privileged to come to know and work with him during his distinguished career in and around music. I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to observe and experience his example as a personal inspiration.

Madam Speaker, rather than mourn his passing, I hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating the life of Dr. Elias Karmon by remembering that he exemplified greatness in every way.

RECOGNIZING MR. SUTTON BACON

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor America's entrepreneurs, those distinguished individuals who support our communities, drive innovation, and keep our nation

strong. Small businesses bring fresh ideas to the table, develop the resources to meet the demands of an ever-changing world, and make a meaningful impact on our neighborhoods. Entrepreneurs are responsible for providing 60 to 80 percent of all new jobs, giving them the potential to propel rapid economic growth and expand ever-developing fields. Some of the country's largest companies began as start-ups in small offices, homes and garages exploring these new fields. Limited only by their imagination, these firms performed cutting-edge work in emerging industries that have become the very foundation of our society.

As our nation and the world face the most difficult economic conditions in decades, entrepreneurs have the potential to lead us back to prosperity. The resiliency and adaptability shown by small businesses in past recessions demonstrate their capability to meet the challenges standing in their way and emerge stronger than ever. America's small businesses will drive the economic recovery from this downturn and our economy will emerge stronger than ever. Times may be tough, but America's entrepreneurial spirit is tougher.

To recognize the monumental achievements of our nation's small firms, the Small Business Administration (SBA) has declared May 17–23 as the 46th Annual National Small Business Week. The House Small Business Committee is celebrating all our country's hard-working entrepreneurs by saluting the Heroes of Small Business, those men and women who have shown the strength, leadership, and resourcefulness that keep our economy moving forward.

I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in recognizing and thanking Mr. Sutton Bacon for his tremendous accomplishments on behalf of small businesses. Mr. Bacon is President and CEO of Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC), the largest outdoor recreation company in the United States. He is responsible for overall business strategy and operational performance of the employee-owned company, which draws over half a million visitors every year. Located near the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, NOC has been honored by several publications for its exemplary facilities and service excellence.

Mr. Bacon is an active conservationist, serving on the boards of multiple outdoor recreation and natural preservation organizations. He is an advocate of increased youth involvement with nature, and established the NOC Foundation to provide better access to outdoor experiences, equipment, and education for youth and underserved communities. A classically trained musician, Mr. Bacon has performed with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus and has performed on GRAMMY Award-winning commercial records.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Bacon has exemplified the remarkable accomplishments of which America's entrepreneurs are capable. This week, he will testify before the House Small Business Committee to share his story. I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join with me in honoring him for the extraordinary work he has done for the small business economy. His efforts demonstrate that if given access to the right resources, America's small businesses can be the catalysts that lift our economy from the current downturn and put us on the road to recovery.

HONORING THE EMPLOYEES OF
GENESYS REGIONAL MEDICAL
CENTER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the employees of Genesys Regional Medical Center for their quick action during a fire at the hospital on March 22, 2009.

On that morning a fire started in a patient room at the Medical Center. A nurse sounded the alarm and escorted the patient from the room. The nursing staff mobilized and moved 36 patients from the area of the fire. The patients ranged from the wheelchair-bound to the non-ambulatory and many were on oxygen. Security staff, other employees and physicians moved in with fire extinguishers. The oxygen supply to the area was cut off, the sprinkler system activated and the fire was contained to one room.

The Grand Blanc Fire Department noted that not one patient or employee was injured during the entire incident. Due to the quick response by the Genesys staff, patient care was not compromised during the evacuation. Fire Chief James Harnes has complimented the Genesys team for their great work during the crisis.

Madam Speaker, the Genesys Regional Medical Center staff put the well-being of their patients first and they worked together to ensure each and every patient was moved to safety, the fire was extinguished expeditiously, and the security of the Medical Center was not compromised. I ask the House of Representatives to join me in commending the employees for their unwavering dedication and quick action.

INTRODUCTION OF THE
AMERICANVIEW GEOSPATIAL IM-
AGERY MAPPING PROGRAM ACT

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the AmericaView Geospatial Imagery Mapping Program Act.

AmericaView is a nationwide program that focuses on satellite remote sensing data and technologies in support of applied research, K-16 education, workforce development, and technology transfer. AmericaView is administered through a partnership between the U.S. Geological Survey and the AmericaView Consortium, which is comprised of over 30 "StateViews." The Consortium is the federal government's primary partner in achieving the program's vision and goals. Specifically, applied researchers at universities in each member state collaborate with each other and with government agencies to develop and share information and techniques for using remote sensing data.

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the AmericaView Geospatial Imagery Mapping Program. By authorizing this program, Con-

gress recognizes the important work conducted by the AmericaView Consortium in collaboration with U.S.G.S. Since the 1970s, the federal government has invested in earth-observing satellites that provide remote sensing imagery. When federal geospatial imagery is available in a cost-effective and timely manner, state, local, and tribal governments as well as educational institutions are able to develop new scientific, educational, and practical applications for the data and to adopt new tools for applied research, education, and training.

The AmericaView program is uniquely positioned to help each state develop applications and skills necessary to effectively apply geospatial imagery for multiple state-focused mapping purposes, and to expand the use and benefits of geospatial imagery for research and operational purposes within each state.

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I look forward to working with all my colleagues to promptly pass the AmericaView Geospatial Imagery Mapping Program Act.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTY KURIATNYK

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Christy Kuriatnyk, named the 2009 Navy Spouse of the Year by Military Spouse Magazine and USAA.

We often praise our men and women in uniform who put their lives on the line every day for our freedom and our security. We're aware of the debt we owe to them but perhaps neglect the unsung heroes they leave behind on the home front: the spouses and children of our troops.

From among these great Americans, Kuriatnyk has gained singular acclaim for her outstanding contributions to her community above and beyond her duties as a military spouse, mother of three and employee of the Columbus Health Department.

Kuriatnyk holds down the fort in Ellerslie, GA, while her husband, Lt. Cmdr. Alex Kuriatnyk, is stationed at the Gulfport, MS, Construction Battalion Center. He is the operations officer there.

Though married to a Navy man, Kuriatnyk often works on behalf of Army families stationed at nearby Fort Benning. She's an active volunteer for Operation Homefront and she's helped organize baby showers for Army spouses and "My Mommy/Daddy's Deployment Party" for the children of Fort Benning soldiers who have gone overseas. As the daughter of a Korean War vet, she has a special bond with these children and she knows the anxiety they feel when their parents are deployed.

Kuriatnyk's work on behalf of children has benefited all of Georgia, not just her fellow military families. She's created programs that have advanced the causes of booster seat use, lead-free toys and skateboard safety.

I'm proud to have this great patriot as a constituent in Georgia's 3rd Congressional District. I call on my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Christy Kuriatnyk on attaining this honor and in thanking her for all of the time and energy she devotes to our

beloved military families. She'll represent military families with distinction as the 2009 Navy Spouse of the Year.

THE WOUNDED VETERAN JOB
SECURITY ACT

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 466 the Wounded Veteran Job Security Act.

It is more important than ever that we support this bill because of the difficult economic times facing our nation.

American servicemen and women put their lives on the line every day to ensure our freedoms.

Across the globe, U.S. troops are engaging in combat and humanitarian missions that place them in harms way.

Regardless of the danger, generations of Americans continue to answer the call of duty.

My father was an Army Staff Sergeant during World War II.

My brother and I served in the Army during the Vietnam era.

Most recently, my son's Army National Guard unit was activated after the September 11th attacks.

As a former member of the House Committee on Veteran's Affairs, I worked with my colleagues to ensure that Veterans had opportunities to find a job once they returned home.

It is important that veterans not only find a job, but they are not penalized by their employer for injuries or illnesses they received in the service of their nation.

A stable career path is essential to ensuring a seamless transition into civilian life.

It is unacceptable to merely provide equipment to protect our troops in combat without also having policies in place to protect them once they return home.

I hope to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to create policy that helps our veterans and their families prosper and enjoy the freedoms they helped to ensure.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Week was first established in 1978 through a joint congressional resolution. The first 10 days of May were chosen to coincide with two key anniversaries—the arrival in the U.S. of the first Japanese immigrants on May 7, 1843 and the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. Fourteen years later, Congress expanded the week to a month-long celebration.

Today, I am proud to join with all Americans in celebrating the tremendous contributions of the Asian American and Pacific Islander,

AAPI, community in to this country. The AAPI community is the fastest-growing minority group in the United States. The Census Bureau estimates that by 2050 more than 33.4 million Asian Americans will live in the United States.

I am extremely proud to represent several emerging AAPI neighborhoods in my District representing cultures from Vietnam, Korea and China just to name a few. In particular, the Chinatown neighborhood located in Oakland, California has grown and evolved into one of the most cohesive and vibrant business and arts communities in the, Ninth Congressional District.

As we celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, I encourage the people of my district and this nation to learn about the rich and proud heritage of Asian Pacific Americans.

HONORING THE OAR OF FAIRFAX COUNTY'S 2009 VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARDEES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Opportunities,

Alternatives and Resources (OAR) of Fairfax County and its 2009 Volunteer and Community Partner Awardees.

OAR of Fairfax County is a community-based non-profit with 38 years of experience providing a continuum of pre-release and post-incarceration services for offenders and their families in Fairfax County. OAR's mission is to rebuild lives and break the cycle of crime with opportunities, alternatives and resources for offenders to create a safer community. To accomplish this, OAR's professional staff and its trained volunteers develop, promote, and operate cost-effective programs to restore criminal offenders to productive roles in the community. OAR also offers options to prosecution and/or incarceration and provides support services to families. In offering assistance to offenders, OAR promotes the principles of restorative justice, which holds offenders accountable for their crimes and requires that they provide restitution for the harm caused to the entire community.

The effectiveness of OAR is evident. In 2006, OAR provided services to more than 3,000 clients. In addition, OAR of Fairfax has been recognized by the Catalogue for Philanthropy as one of the best small charities in Greater Washington.

OAR would not be able to achieve these stellar results without the selfless dedication of its volunteers. It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the names of the

OAR 2009 Volunteer and Community Partner Awardees:

Volunteers of the Year: Linda Grill of Clifton and Dana McMillen-Paz of Fairfax

William H. Sandweg Award for Advocacy and Financial Support: The Apex Foundation of Herndon

The Nancy Cornelius Memorial Award for Leadership and Support in the Criminal Justice Community: Col. David M. Rohrer, Chief, Fairfax County Police Department

Marjorie Ginsburg Award for Service to Families: St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church, Fairfax, Carol Mayfield, Social Ministry Director

Corporate Partner Award: Casual Male Big & Tall Outlet Store, Woodbridge

Executive Director's Award: Lonny Ford of Gainesville

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing gratitude for the efforts of these volunteers and their colleagues at OAR of Fairfax County. The selfless commitment of these individuals provides enumerable benefits to Northern Virginia and life-changing services to the clients and families being served.