evaporate and some are even being forced to go back to work after retirement.

It is even more important now than ever to help Americans squeeze every penny out of their retirement investments.

I hope we will pass this important legislation and empower Americans to make the most of their hard earned savings.

CONGRATULATING AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION ON ITS 70TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res 472, a resolution to congratulate the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association on their seventieth anniversary, and speak to their dedication to general aviation, to safety, and the important contribution general aviation provides to the United States.

The AOPA was established seventy years ago, on the eve of World War II. This nonprofit association has been dedicated to general aviation, improving general aviation safety, providing pilots with training, education and advocating on their behalf at every level of government.

More than 75% of all flights in the United States are general aviation. America relies on general aviation for business, medical delivery services, sightseeing and for just plain fun and a love of flying.

General aviation is a vital industry in America's economy. Currently there are 19,000 airports nationwide that provide jobs for 1.3 million Americans and bring in more than $100 billion dollars annually.

After the terrorist attacks of 9/11, the AOPA responded by partnering with the TSA to develop a nationwide Airport Watch Program that uses pilots as eyes and ears for observing and reporting suspicious activity.

Flight Safety has remained a principal focus for the AOPA, so they have supported new technologies to make aviation safer. AOPA was a principle advocator of the GPS navigation systems which helped lead the way for the Next Gen Air Transportation System—with aviation-specific applications and advanced innovations such as weather forecasting.

And today, the AOPA represents more than 289,000 American general aviation pilots—including my husband who is a long time member. He started flying when he was a fighter pilot in Vietnam, and now we fly an RV–8, which he built in our garage.

I am proud to support the resolution to honor the AOPA for the commendable work they do in the aviation field.

Their dedication to aviation, aviation safety, training general aviation pilots, and to new technologies makes me proud to support this association.

Congratulations on your first 70 years.

HONORING VICTORIA HAYES FOR HER APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a young woman from Georgia's 11th Congressional District who has distinguished herself as an excellent student and leader and has committed to serving her country. I am proud to announce that Victoria Hayes from Acworth, Georgia has received an appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

For the past year, Victoria has attended New Mexico Institute in Roswell, N.M., which is the prep school for the Merchant Marine Academy. Victoria has worked very hard during her year in prep school and the results speak for themselves. Before the prep school, Victoria attended East Paulding County High School. Victoria was very involved with the East Paulding band program, and has continued to excel in music at the Merchant Marine prep school—participating in the marching, concert, and regimental bands. She also has the honor of being a Silver Taps bugler.

Victoria Hayes is an incredibly well-rounded young woman, and I am honored to have the privilege to nominate her for an appointment to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. I ask that my colleagues take this time to congratulate Victoria as well as her parents, William and Mary Ellen Hayes, for her accomplishments. It is because of dedicated young people like Victoria that America has the finest military in the world. Our nation is fortunate to have her service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, on June 8, 2009, I missed rollcall votes 311, 312, and 313 due to family reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on each of those votes.

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF SANTOS CRESPO, JR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Santos Crespo, Jr., a visionary leader in New York City's labor community.

Santos Crespo, Jr. was first introduced to the labor movement at the age of 10, when his father, a delegate and executive board member of Local 6, H.E.R.E. (Hotel Employees & Restaurant Employees Union) brought him to meetings where he witnessed the struggles non-unionized employees must endure.

Santos Crespo, Jr. began community organizing at the age of 14 and was recognized by the late W. H. Booth, Chairman of the Committee on Human Rights under then Mayor John Lindsay. He was a founding member of the Black and Puerto Rican Student Union at Bronx Community College and was instrumental in introducing Black and Puerto Rican Studies there. He has received numerous awards, was named by the Daily News Viva as one of New York City's Influential Latinos, and has also served in numerous committees related to youth and substance abuse prevention and intervention.

Santos Crespo, Jr. is currently the Executive Vice President of the New York City Board of Education Employees Union, Local 372, DC 37, AFSCME, the largest local (26,000 members) within DC 37 and also serves as one of DC 37's Vice Presidents. He is also a member of the New York City Chapter of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA), serves on its Executive Board, and also serves on the Executive Board of the national LCLAA, representing 1.4 million Latino Trade Unionists. He is also a member of many other labor organizations such as the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) and the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA) along with civil rights organizations including the Congress for Puerto Rican Rights and the New York NAACP.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Santos Crespo, Jr., a champion of New York City's many labor causes.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Santos Crespo, Jr.

CONGRATULATING DANA WYGLE, RECIPIENT OF THE AHWATUKEE FOOTHILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2009 WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the achievements of Dana Wygle, who is the recipient of the 2009 Ahwatukee Chamber of Commerce Women in Business $1,000 Scholarship. The Ahwatukee Foothills Chamber recently honored Dana at the Ahwatukee Women in Business Faces of Success event, which recognizes present and future businesswomen.

Dana recently graduated from Desert Vista High School. An active and involved student, she also worked at Barro's Pizza throughout high school. Dana danced, served as a team captain for the American Cancer Society's 24-hour Relay for Life in 2008 and 2009, and was a member of DECA, a student business organization. She plans to use the scholarship award to attend the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. Her goal is to own and operate a sports bar.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Dana Wygle for her accomplishments and wishing her the best in all her future endeavors.