

Most recently, IUP began construction of a 150,000 square-foot convention and athletic complex. The complex, built on the site of a former salvage company, will provide IUP and the community with space to accommodate large events that will bring in both patrons and revenue.

Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the achievements of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and to thank them for their exceptional commitment to our students and to our community.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JOHNNY IACOBUCCI FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Johnny Iacobucci showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Johnny Iacobucci was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Johnny Iacobucci always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Johnny Iacobucci on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

COPPER QUEEN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL 125TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Copper Queen Community Hospital, which has been providing exceptional healthcare in Bisbee and Southeastern Arizona for 125 years.

Copper Queen Community Hospital began serving residents in this historic mining community of Bisbee in the 1880s. Like the community it serves, the hospital has come a long way since those rough and tumble days, when its medical care was offered in a mining cave.

The first hospital building was built by the mining companies in 1900—a dozen years before Arizona even became a state. Twenty-six years later, a new hospital was constructed to provide services to the miners and other patients. At that time, Bisbee was a thriving and bustling community, a town that grew prosperous because of copper, gold, silver and other minerals.

Today's current hospital building opened in 1961, thanks to the Phelps Dodge Corporation. It was operated by the mining company until 1976, when the hospital and all equipment were donated to the Cochise County Hospital Association. At that time, the Bisbee

Hospital Association was established to oversee hospitals operations and to ensure that Southeastern Arizona had access to necessary medical services and high-quality patient care. This new association was open to community members and leaders, beginning a tradition of community involvement that continues to this day.

The Copper Queen Community Hospital of 2009 is a 14-bed critical-access, non-profit facility that provides a full range of medical services to residents of Bisbee and Cochise County. In recent years, clinics in outlying areas have extended healthcare to rural communities.

The hospital's strong commitment to rural healthcare makes it a worthy recipient of federal assistance. Needed funding allows for the ever expansion of the emergency room, improvement in patient services and help for those in need in Cochise County.

For more than a century, Copper Queen Community Hospital has held true to its mission of providing access to primary healthcare in southeastern Cochise. The hospital is one of only four in Arizona to be on the list of the 100 Top Regional Hospitals in the United States. It plays a critical role in the delivery of medical services to the people of Congressional District 8.

I am proud to join with a grateful community to commend Copper Queen Community Hospital for its long tradition of quality healthcare and I wish it continued success.

CONGRATULATIONS CHANCELLOR ANGELA MERKEL

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on September 29, 2009, The New York Times reported that "Europe's Socialists Suffering Even in Downturn." This comes on the heels of the September 27th elections in Germany where the socialist parties fared poorly receiving only 23 percent of the vote—their worst result since World War II.

I want to congratulate Chancellor Angela Merkel on her re-election to the position of chancellor and commend her on her capable and strong leadership for the German people and in the world community. She now leads a coalition made up of the Christian Democrats and Free Democrats who received 33.8 percent and 15 percent of the vote respectively.

Following her original election, Merkel was the first person from the former East Germany to assume the post of chancellor of the unified Germany. This is a tremendous achievement since she grew up under the communism of East Germany.

With a center-right majority, Chancellor Merkel will continue to lead with conservative principles towards greater prosperity. Germany will continue to be a vital member of NATO promoting peace through strength.

I am grateful for my German heritage which German Ambassador Klaus Scharioth substantiated for me this year. My ancestor Daniel Weisiger was born in Frankfurt in 1709 and immigrated in 1731, from Rotterdam, the Netherlands, to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He settled in Chesterfield County, Virginia. I am

proud to continue my German heritage with my first name being Addison, even though my nickname is Joe. My second son and first grandson now continue the name Addison.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JIM MONIGOLD FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jim Monigold showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Jim Monigold was a supportive coach; and

Whereas, Jim Monigold always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Jim Monigold on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

AIDING AMERICAN SAMOA IN QUAKE AND TSUNAMI RECOVERY EFFORTS

**HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN**

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I once again today rise to extend my thought and prayers to the victims of the 8.0 magnitude earthquake and the subsequent tsunami that devastated our brothers and sisters in the U.S. territory in the South Pacific, American Samoa and Western Samoa.

Any my heart and that of all Virgin Islanders go out with sympathy to those that have lost loved ones as a result of yesterday's tragedy.

As the Congresswoman from the U.S. Virgin Islands, a community of islands that are also vulnerable to tropical disasters, and former chair of the Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, I am well aware of the toll that it can take on people, on infrastructure, on our time and resources but most especially—individuals and families. And the emotional repercussions go on long after the physical recovery is done.

Having visited American Samoa on several occasions and Western Samoa once, I know of the many struggles especially faced by the people of American Samoa, but I also know of their close family and community ties, their strength of spirit and most importantly, their faith.

The people of my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands and I stand in solidarity with the people of American Samoa at this time of their great distress.

I extend my support of our colleagues and friend—the Dean of the territorial delegation—Congressman ENI FALEOMAVAEGA as we make the necessary arrangements to mobile and deploy the urgently needed emergency assistance that our President has directed, and assure them that the American people and the

people of the other offshore territories stand ready to assist them in their time of need.

As I said earlier, the people of American Samoa and Western Samoa are a strong and resilient people. I know that their faith and their strong cultural bonds and traditions will help; they meet this present challenge, as they have ones that have come before.

On behalf of myself, my staff and the people of the Virgin Islands, please know that you can count on us in your hour of need, but also as you move forward in recovery and then to address the other longstanding challenges that your leaders so clearly and passionately outlined for us when we were there last month.

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EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE  
PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to the people of American Samoa as they cope with the effects of the powerful earthquake and tsunami that struck American Samoa, Independent Samoa and Tonga yesterday, September 29, 2009.

Our fellow Americans in American Samoa are presently facing tragic losses of life and property as a result of the most devastating of circumstances. It has been reported that survivors of the deadly earthquake-triggered tsunami described how they watched the in-rushing sea swallow up coastal towns and villages leaving devastation in its wake.

At least 111 people are confirmed killed in Independent Samoa, American Samoa's neighbor to the north and on Tonga and officials in the Polynesia region have expressed fears the toll will rise as rescue workers struggle to reach outlying villages submerged and flattened by the wave.

Additionally the island is without telephone service; homes and government buildings have been destroyed and the airport runway has been severely damaged. I applaud President Obama for his prompt response in declaring this a major disaster. I also want to commend our colleague, Congressman ENI FALEOMAVAEGA for his efforts facilitating the relief efforts that are currently underway.

Last month, I had the distinct pleasure of visiting American Samoa where we were graciously hosted by my good friend Congressman ENI FALEOMAVAEGA and the American Samoa Fono. In Pago Pago and the village of Leone, two areas severely hit, we were showered with beautiful and ornate traditional gifts and received with the warmest of welcomes and hospitality.

American Samoans in the Pacific and in the mainland United States are an integral part of our country's history and of our American social fabric. They are our brothers who fight valiantly in our wars and contribute immensely to the prosperity of our country. Today, I send my thoughts and prayers to the victims and their family members in this moment of grief and tragic loss. We stand in solidarity with our brothers and pray for their speedy recovery.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JEREMY BOLON FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jeremy Bolon showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Jeremy Bolon was a supportive coach; and

Whereas, Jeremy Bolon always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Jeremy Bolon on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

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INTRODUCTION OF A HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE CANONIZATION OF FATHER DAMIEN DE VEUSTER, SS.CC. TO SAINTHOOD

**HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution commemorating the canonization of Father Damien de Veuster, a member of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, to sainthood on October 11, 2009. Some 600 people from Hawaii are traveling to the Vatican to witness his elevation.

As many of you know, Father Damien is recognized for his 16 years of selfless service to the people who were forcibly isolated on the peninsula of Kalaupapa on the island of Molokai, Hawaii, because they were diagnosed with leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease. Living among the people of Kalaupapa from 1873 to 1889, he eventually contracted Hansen's disease and ultimately died and was buried on Molokai.

The policy of exiling persons with the disease that was then known as leprosy began under the Kingdom of Hawaii and continued under the governments of the Republic of Hawaii, the Territory of Hawaii, and the State of Hawaii. Children, mothers, and fathers were forcibly separated and sent to the isolated peninsula of Kalaupapa, which for most of its history could only be accessed by water or via a steep mule trail. Children born to parents at Kalaupapa were taken away from their mothers and sent to orphanages or to other family members outside of Kalaupapa. Hawaii's isolation laws for people with Hansen's disease were not repealed until 1969, even though medications to control the disease had been available since the late 1940s.

I believe that all people, regardless of their religious beliefs, can recognize truly extraordinary persons who give of themselves without reserve for the betterment of their fellow

human beings. Father Damien was surely such a person. No disease was as feared as leprosy in the late 1800s, but he volunteered to serve at Kalaupapa and requested to stay there in order to serve those who most shunned. He recognized the human rights and inherent dignity of all people, especially those he lived alongside at Kalaupapa.

Father Damien worked with those who were isolated at Kalaupapa to improve living conditions. A skilled carpenter, he led in the building of houses and hospitals, six chapels, a home for boys, and a home for girls. At the same time, he ministered to the spiritual and physical needs of his parishioners and helped to bury the hundreds who died during his years there.

It is noteworthy that, shortly after Hawaii became a State, Father Damien was the first selection of the State legislature to be memorialized in a statue as part of the National Statuary Hall Collection. Despite the fact that he was not born in Hawaii and lived so long ago, Hawaii's people recognized that his life embodied the true spirit of aloha (love, compassion, mercy, grace) and malama (to care for).

I have visited Father Damien's church and grave at Kalawao on the Kalaupapa peninsula. I hope that some of you will have the opportunity to visit Kalaupapa at some point in your lives. I know that you will be deeply moved, as I was, by the example of this man, soon to be recognized as a saint, as well as by the courage and perseverance of the people he dedicated his life to serving.

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TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT  
TILLSLEY

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Robert Tillsley of Franklin Lakes, New Jersey for his dedicated support to the Boy Scouts of Northern New Jersey as well as Ramapo College and the members of the community of Bergen County. Tonight, Mr. Tillsley is being honored by the Iaoapogh Mountains District of the Northern New Jersey Council of the Boy Scouts for his commitment to improving the local community. This district serves more than 3,000 youth, guided by 1,000 adult volunteers through 32 Cub Packs, 26 Boy Scout Troops and 6 Venture Crews.

Robert T. Tillsley has been a member and friend of scouting for his entire life. He started as a member of Troop 55 in Paterson, New Jersey, and worked his way up from Patrol Leader to become Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. In November of 1960, he achieved the honor of Eagle Scout and has consistently held true to its creeds—"once an Eagle Scout, always an Eagle Scout."

Mr. Tillsley also supports a variety of commendable organizations outside of the Boy Scouts. He serves as the chairman of the Foundation Board of Governors at Ramapo College and has chaired several board committees over the years. He has worked with McBride Corporate Real Estate since 1988 where he started as a Senior Vice President responsible for the marketing of multi-tenant office buildings and then moved on to