

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

IN RECOGNITION OF HURLEY
MANNING

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Hurley Manning, a Northwest Florida community leader, upon the dedication of Hurley Manning Field at Milton High School. Coach Manning spent his career serving and teaching, and I am proud to honor his dedication and service.

Hurley is a life-long Floridian. He grew up in Milton, Florida, attending Allentown School, Berryhill Elementary, and Milton High School, graduating in 1956. He played football for Milton on the old Overman Field, and during his senior season played in the very first football game on the field being dedicated in his honor.

After graduating from Troy State University in 1960 and coaching football in Georgia and in Gainesville, Florida, Coach Manning eventually returned to Milton High School in 1968 as the head football coach. He served as head coach for 21 years, winning numerous District and Regional titles. He is the only football coach in the history of Santa Rosa County, Florida to win a state championship, which Coach Manning did twice in back-to-back years 1978 and 1979. He was extremely dedicated to the teaching profession, teaching for almost 30 years, and he continues to keep up with his athletes, who are known as "Hurley's Boys."

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize Coach Hurley Manning for his lifetime of service to the students and families of Northwest Florida. My wife Vicki and I wish him, his wife of 41 years, Shirley, his children Lynette Peterson and Heather Couper, and his grandchildren, all the best for continued success.

"THE IRAN REFINED PETROLEUM
SANCTIONS ACT OF 2009—THE
BILL IS RIGHT, AND THE TIME
IS RIGHT"

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2194, the Iran Refined Petroleum Sanctions Act of 2009, which my good friend and colleague Chairman BERMAN introduced on April 30, and of which I am a co-sponsor.

Madam Speaker, this bill amends the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 to impose sanctions on persons who sell to or service, or otherwise commercially or financially support, Iran's petroleum industry. The bill responds to Iran's lack of refining capabilities—Iran imports 40 percent of its gasoline and relies on foreign

companies to develop its energy industry. Limiting Iran's access to refined petroleum could have a major effect on the Iranian economy—and on Ahmadinejad's policies.

Even as President Obama opens diplomatic talks with Iran, we know, from all our experience with Iran and so many other dictatorships, that a serious effort to peacefully stop Iran's development of nuclear weapons will require the strongest political and economic pressure our country can muster.

Madam Speaker, it will not only be worth the effort, but it's absolutely necessary that we make this effort. In this regard, I want to point out that we have repeatedly seen the correspondence between the way a government treats its own people and the way it behaves internationally. It seems to be almost a law of international relations: massive human rights violators behave deceitfully and aggressively, and the more massive the violations, the greater the deceit and aggression.

The law has certainly held in the case of the Ahmadinejad government, whose deceit in hiding a previously secret uranium enrichment facility was revealed several weeks ago, and whose support of Hezbollah and other terrorists and declarations of genocidal intent toward Israel are notorious. When we read the State Department's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices—I will attach the Iran summary as an addendum—we should keep in mind that all these outrages and atrocities Ahmadinejad and his cronies commit on their own citizens are more evidence of the aggression Ahmadinejad and his cronies are fully prepared and preparing to commit on Israel, toward whom they don't even pretend to have anything other than the most malevolent intent.

As former Senators Coats and Robb and General Wald wrote in the Washington Post on September 21: "By ratcheting up pressure on Iran before we sit down, Western negotiators would gain both sticks (additional measures) and carrots (repealing sanctions) with which to induce Iranian cooperation."

This is exactly right: the time to move this bill is now, before the administration opens its talks with the Ahmadinejad government. This House is ready to send a clear signal to the Iranian regime—that, though our President is negotiating, this country has not weakened one bit its fundamental commitment to defend Israel, that we will not tolerate nuclear threats to Israel, and we will not permit the Ahmadinejad government to obtain nuclear weapons.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and Chairman BERMAN to move this bill, which now has over 325 co-sponsors, to the floor for passage by the full House as soon as possible. The bill is right, and the time is right.

2008 COUNTRY REPORTS, IRAN SUMMARY

The government's poor human rights record worsened, and it continued to commit numerous serious abuses. The government severely limited citizens' right to change their government peacefully through free and fair elections. The government executed numerous persons for criminal convictions as juveniles and after unfair trials. Security forces were implicated in custodial deaths and committed other acts of politically motivated violence, including torture. The government administered severe officially sanctioned punishments, including death by stoning, amputation, and flogging. Vigilante groups with ties to the government com-

mitted acts of violence. Prison conditions remained poor. Security forces arbitrarily arrested and detained individuals, often holding them incommunicado. Authorities held political prisoners and intensified a crackdown against women's rights reformers, ethnic minority rights activists, student activists, and religious minorities. There was a lack of judicial independence and fair public trials. The government severely restricted civil liberties, including freedoms of speech, expression, assembly, association, movement, and privacy, and it placed severe restrictions on freedom of religion. Official corruption and a lack of government transparency persisted. Violence and legal and societal discrimination against women, ethnic and religious minorities, and homosexuals; trafficking in persons; and incitement to anti-Semitism remained problems. The government severely restricted workers' rights, including freedom of association and the right to organize and bargain collectively, and arrested numerous union organizers. Child labor remained a serious problem. On December 18, for the sixth consecutive year, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a resolution on Iran expressing "deep concern at ongoing systematic violations of human rights."

IN HONOR OF CHARLES J.
"CHARLIE" VIZZINI

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, Charles J. "Charlie" Vizzini. He was born in Colver, Pennsylvania on March 8, 1924 to John and Lillian Vizzini. He passed away on August 11 of this year.

Throughout his life, he dedicated himself to God, his country, and to his fellow man. In particular, he focused on remembering and helping his fellow veterans. His commitment stemmed from an incident during World War II when, as a young Army private stationed in France, Vizzini was wounded. He was struck in the chest by bullets from a German automatic pistol. An Army doctor was quoted in a 1944 article as saying that even though Vizzini sustained tremendous injuries, his life was saved because the bullets hit a New Testament in one of his breast pockets and a Catholic missal in the other. In a 1998 interview, Vizzini said, "I believe it is a miracle from the Lord that I am here today. That is the biggest reason I do the things I do to help veterans." While recovering from his injuries, he stayed in a European hospital for almost a year before returning to Colver. For his courageous efforts serving his country, he received two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star.

After returning to Cambria County, Vizzini married the former Glendora Waterhouse, his loving wife of 60 years. He worked in Pennsylvania's Ebensburg Center and served as commander of Ebensburg Post 4963, Veterans of Foreign Wars. He also served on the Pennsylvania Democratic Committee and was a member of Holy Name Catholic Church in Ebensburg.

Madam Speaker, Vizzini was particularly active in honoring veterans. He would organize annual Veterans Day memorial services to honor veterans. He would also hold services

on the anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor and to honor the memory of fellow Cambria County native Marine Sgt. Michael Strank who helped to raise the flag at Iwo Jima.

Vizzini was often the voice for those who did not have one. He was known for rallying at the Cambria County Courthouse for causes that he felt passionately about. To honor the 63 miners who died at the 1940 Sonman Mines explosion in Portage, Pennsylvania, he organized a memorial service. He also was influential in honoring the 112 who lost their lives in the Cambria Steel Company's 1902 Rolling Mine Mill explosion in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, I wish to conclude my remarks by saying that Charlie Vizzini will be remembered as a great American. He was a war hero who continued to serve his country by honoring his fellow veterans throughout his life. His selfless service to others in all walks of life will not be forgotten. Madam Speaker, Charlie Vizzini will truly be missed.

IN MEMORY OF COLONEL DONALD
BLAKESKLEE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it is with sadness that I inform the House of the death of Donald Blakeslee, Colonel, United States Army (Ret.) of Miami, Florida.

Col. Blakeslee was born in Fairport Harbor, Ohio. During his teenager years, he became fond of airplanes after watching them race every year at the National Air Races in Cleveland. Consequently, he and a friend, in the mid-1930s, bought a Piper Cub.

Prior to U.S. entrance into World War II, Col. Blakeslee's enthusiasm for fighting became clear when he joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. After pilot training, he was deployed to Britain, where he flew combat missions for the Royal Air Force (RAF) alongside a group of American volunteers known as American Eagle Squadrons. Ultimately, he became commander of the 133rd RAF Eagle Squadrons. When the Eagle Squadrons joined the U.S. Army Air Forces in September 1942, he became commander of the 335th Fighter Squadron. Then on January 1, 1944, Col. Blakeslee was named commander of the 4th Fighter Group of the 8th Fighter Command.

After four years in the European theater, Col. Blakeslee flew nearly 500 missions and had about 1,000 combat missions. According to Barrett Tillman, a former executive secretary of the American Fighter Aces Association, Col. Blakeslee had more missions and hours "than any other American fighter pilot of World War II." Some of his achievements include leading the first escort mission to Berlin on March 6, 1944, in which his group protected Boeing B-17s and Consolidated B-24s while dropping bombs over the German city and setting a record for most enemies shot down in one day at 31 planes on April 8, 1944.

On April 11, 1944, Col. Blakeslee was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by General Dwight D. Eisenhower. For his service in the Korean War, he received the Legion

of Merit. In all, his military service earned him two Distinguished Service Crosses, seven Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Silver Stars, six Air Medals and the British Distinguished Flying Cross.

After the World War II, Col. Blakeslee remained in the Air Force. He led the 27th Fighter Wing in Korea and served in Vietnam. In 1965, he retired to Florida to live with his wife, Leola Fryer. Col. Blakeslee is survived by his daughter Dawn Blakeslee.

Madam Speaker, Col. Donald Blakeslee was an honorable officer in the military. I am certain that the members of the House will join me in extending their heartfelt condolences to his family and friends. He will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. PAUL
PRYOR HONORING THEIR 70TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARK H. SCHAUER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. SCHAUER. Madam Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to Paul and Arlene Pryor, who celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary earlier this year. Through their devotion to one another, their commitment to their children and grandchildren, and their involvement in community life, Mr. and Mrs. Pryor have contributed a great deal to the State of Michigan and its future.

Standing by each other, Mr. and Mrs. Pryor have demonstrated the power of love for seven decades. This momentous anniversary only epitomizes the devotion they have shared for so many years. Paul and Arlene Pryor are truly an inspiration to many.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating their joyous occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 125TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF MAE EDWARDS
MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th Anniversary of Mae Edwards Memorial United Methodist Church in Milton, Florida. Mae Edwards Memorial has long been a positive force in Northwest Florida, and I am proud to honor their tremendous contributions to the community.

Mae Edwards Memorial United Methodist was started in 1884 on the Andrew Jackson Brown property. Since there were no other churches in the local community, all of the families moving to the area attended the same church regardless of denomination. In 1916, a new community church was constructed and used by members of the Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Christian churches. During this time, Mae and Cliff Edwards moved to the area and joined the church. After their passing, the church was named as a memorial to Mae Edwards, who dedicated her time and

her effort to the church's progress and spiritual growth.

In 1936, the old church building was torn down, and wood from the building was used to construct a community hall and church alongside the local school. Church services were originally held in the community hall, but later moved inside the school after it was renovated. The old hall was converted into a kitchen, social area, and classrooms. The church continues to grow and serve the community, and in 2001, Mae Edwards Memorial was named the small membership church of the year for the Pensacola District. In a testament to the church's strength, many of the current members are descendants of the original church founders.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor Mae Edwards Memorial United Methodist Church upon 125 years of dedicated service to our community. My wife Vicki and I wish the best for continued growth and service to Reverend Byrd Mapoles and the entire church family.

INTRODUCING THE DETAINMENT
REFORM ACT OF 2009

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Detainment Reform Act of 2009, a bill to ensure that we can defend our national security while also ensuring the highest standards of human rights and justice. We owe such an effort not just to ourselves but to an entire world that looks to the United States for leadership. We are a nation where the rule of law is king, and our detainment policies must reflect not the whim of our emotions but the perseverance of our reason.

Great thinkers have long noted that a society can be judged by the way it treats its prisoners. Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the United States has detained—for periods long and short—thousands of individuals captured in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere around the world. Many of those detained are guilty of committing terrible crimes. Many are innocent. We ought to have the authority to protect ourselves by detaining those who use murder, terror, and reckless violence to attack our country. But it must also be apparent that we cannot indefinitely detain those who mean us no harm.

Unfortunately, many of those we capture and detain do not easily fit into our criminal justice system. This has complicated the efforts to provide the same constitutional protections accorded accused persons in the United States. To compound the problem, there exists no agreed-upon procedural standard in United States courts to govern the detention of individuals arrested outside the zones of active military operations. This lack of judicial coherence has created a vacuum in which the current method of combating terrorism is not only inadequate to protect our country, but also fails to adhere to the Constitution, federal law, international human rights law, and the laws of armed conflict.

Under the detention regime in place since 2002, several detainees in United States control have died under mysterious circumstances. Many have been tortured. Still