

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF  
SISTER DONNA L. HAWK

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Sister Donna L. Hawk of Cleveland, Ohio, as she is named the West Side Catholic Center's Walk in Faith recipient of 2009.

Throughout her life, Sister Donna Hawk has turned her faith into action, uplifting the lives of those living on the streets. Sister Donna has become a nationally-known leader by creating and operating transitional housing for the homeless, especially for women and their children fleeing domestic violence. While working for many years as a volunteer at the West Side Catholic Shelter, Sister Donna developed a special compassion for women, many of whom had young children seeking refuge from abusive situations.

In 1986, without funding, Sister Donna teamed with Sister Loretta Schulte to rally community leaders and developers in order to transform a motel on Cleveland's west side into Transitional Housing, Inc.—a place of shelter and source of counseling and resources for women and children in need. For more than twenty years, Transitional Housing, Inc. has served as a model for similar programs throughout the nation and across the world.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor and recognition of Sister Donna L. Hawk, whose faith in action, unwavering belief in the possibility of transformation, and staunch advocacy has given strength and hope to countless women and children.

IN MEMORY OF HOWARD JACOBS

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, as the city of West Hollywood gathers to celebrate the life of Howard Jacobs, I am proud to join the community in recognizing his accomplishments and sharing in the sadness that he was taken from us at such a young age.

Howard Jacobs dedicated his life to helping people in need. His work with the West Hollywood City Council, the City's Disability Advisory Board, the Rent Stabilization Committee and most recently with First 5 LA, demonstrates the depth and breadth of his devotion to every segment of society. Perhaps he will be best remembered for his activism to fight HIV/AIDS discrimination and educate people about prevention, detection and treatment.

Howard experienced many serious health challenges in his life. When he was first diag-

nosed with HIV/AIDS in 1989, scientific understanding of the disease was still emerging, societal stigma was pervasive and a diagnosis was a death sentence. But Howard always rallied. He helped West Hollywood design model policies to reduce HIV transmission in the gay community. To many he seemed invincible. Even with his passing it is clear that he will continue to serve as an inspiration.

In my career in public service, I have seen so many instances when one person—one vote—one voice can make a world of difference. Howard Jacobs filled that role so many times and in so many ways. We will forever be in his debt for the world of good he brought in the short time he had to give.

A TRIBUTE TO MS. PEGGY E.  
WHITEHEAD

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Peggy E. Whitehead.

Peggy E. Whitehead is originally from Virginia but relocated to New York to start her career after graduating from high school. Ms. Whitehead has worked over two decades as a bacteriologist in the lab of the Howard Johnson Corporation. Upon the closing of the facility, she hit the ground running. Determination has always been a major player in her life.

Through the years, she was promoted several times to where she is today. She holds the title of Assistant Coordinating Manager in the Ambulatory Care Department (Sub-Specialty) at Queens Hospital, where she is responsible for day to day operations of twenty clinics.

Ms. Whitehead has received the prestigious Ace Award which signifies excellence, leadership and innovation. In addition, she also received the employee of the month award on the same day. She is a member of the Greenway Angels, an organization founded by her sister, Rosetta Garrett, eight years ago. She has been a volunteer for over six years, within the American Cancer Society. She works on many events, from Making Strides, to RELAY FOR LIFE, to helping with health fairs, all of which are so vital to getting information out to the community. The Ronald McDonald House of New Hyde Park, NY has been an ongoing labor of love event for her in the past seven years. She prepares a feast for the families of the children confined to the Snyder Hospital.

She also participates in the annual New York Aids Walk. New York has the largest Aids Walk in the world, raising millions of dollars each year. Peggy has volunteered her services for eight years.

Ms. Whitehead worked with pride on the Obama Campaign and traveled to Washington, DC for the historic inauguration. Whether doing work for the Diabetic Walk or coordinating a drive to help the homeless, she

goes about each project with relentless vigor and vitality that speaks to who she is.

She has three children—Jerry, Jennifer, and Karen, and seven grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Peggy E. Whitehead.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM ON GAS TURBINES

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 1, 2009*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3029, "to establish a research, development, and technology demonstration program to improve the efficiency of gas turbines used in combined cycle power generation systems." I support this bill because energy efficiency is of the utmost concern to our security, our economy and our future.

H.R. 3029 would direct the Secretary of Energy to carry out a research, development, and technology demonstration program to improve the efficiency of gas turbines used in combined cycle power generation systems and identify the technologies that will lead to gas turbine combined cycle efficiency of 65 percent. A combined cycle is an attribute of a power producing engine (or plant) that employs more than one thermodynamic cycle. Heat engines, which are still only able to use a portion of the energy their fuel generates (usually less than 50 percent) are a burden on the American consumer who helps support this inefficient system of energy production. The remaining heat (e.g., hot exhaust fumes) from combustion is generally wasted; combining two or more thermodynamic cycles results in improved overall efficiency.

The bill requires that the program support engineering and gas turbine design for utility-scale and megawatt-scale electric power generation. Under the bill, this includes high temperature materials, improved heat transfer capability, manufacturing technology, combustion technology, advanced controls and systems integration, advanced high performance compressor technology, and validation facilities for the testing of components and subsystems. It also requires that the program include technology and field demonstrations, and assess overall combined cycle system performance.

H.R. 3029 sets out specific program goals. In Phase I, the goal is to develop the conceptual design of and demonstrate the technology required for advanced high efficiency gas turbines that can achieve at least 62 percent combined cycle efficiency on a lower heating value basis. In Phase II, the goal is to develop the conceptual design for advanced high efficiency gas turbines that can achieve at least 65 percent combined cycle efficiency.

• 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.

The bill requires that the Secretary solicit proposals from industry, universities, and other appropriate parties for activities under the program within 180 days of enactment. The bill requires the Secretary, in selecting proposals, to emphasize the extent to which the proposal will stimulate the creation or increased retention of jobs in the United States and the extent to which the proposal will promote and enhance United States technology leadership. Awards shall be made on a competitive basis with emphasis on technical merit. H.R. 3029 authorizes \$65 million for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2014 for carrying out the program.

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HONORING END THE SILENCE

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate End the Silence upon being awarded with the "Community Health Champions Award" at the 2009 West Fresno Health Care Coalition's 5th annual "This is Your Life of Service" lunch and awards ceremony. This year the ceremony will be held at the Radisson Hotel Conference Center in Fresno, California on Tuesday, November 3rd.

End the Silence is a breast cancer awareness project that has been created as a community-based program specifically designed for targeting the African American community, especially in West Fresno, California. The goal and purpose is to increase education, promote and heighten awareness, create support services and resources for the underserved African American population in West Fresno regarding breast cancer and overall breast health.

The need for End the Silence was discovered when national, state and local statistics were pointing to the high risk of African American women developing, and dying from, breast cancer. Studies have shown that African American women are more likely to pass away from breast cancer than white women. Further, the National Cancer Institute found that breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths among African American women. This reality is often due to economic, social and cultural factors; including misinformation about breast cancer, treatments and lack of access to health which ultimately leads to late diagnosis.

End the Silence targets West Fresno's underserved and underinsured African American community. Over the span of the project, the organizers intend on reducing high breast cancer mortality risk. They expect to serve more than three hundred African American women and their families who will benefit from program services, including culturally competent and trained staff and advocates, specialized support groups and services, culturally appropriate health education, materials and resources and the opportunity for making their voices heard through advocacy activities. Five people that have made End the Silence successful are Charyce Haynes, Wilma Ruth Johnson, Edna Overall, Frances Davis and Adrian Carter.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate End the Silence upon being

award the "Community Health Champions Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing End the Silence many years of continued success.

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IN HONOR OF LAWRENCE HALPRIN

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with sadness today to honor a true American icon, landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, who passed away on October 25, 2009, at the age of 93. Mr. Halprin's legendary work profoundly influenced concepts of landscape design in this country and around the world.

A long-time resident of Kentfield in Marin County, California, Mr. Halprin's mark on the Bay Area is particularly evident. From the groundbreaking Sea Ranch development on our Sonoma Coast to Ghirardelli Square and George Lucas' Letterman Digital Arts Center, he designed memorable spaces that create harmony between people and environment.

Nationally, his best known work is the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial in Washington, DC, which artfully invokes Roosevelt's life and work as visitors stroll through a sculptured plaza in a natural setting. Throughout his career, Larry Halprin was adept at revitalizing perceptions of urban areas and involving the community in his public projects.

Mr. Halprin often worked in partnership with his wife, the well-known dancer Anna Halprin. The two met while attending the University of Wisconsin and were married in 1940. While in Wisconsin, they met Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin, and his ideas inspired Mr. Halprin to study landscape architecture at Harvard.

Their collaboration was based on a shared vision of crafting interactive, creative experiences that connect with people on a deep level. Halprin also joined Anna's dance work, most famously in their 1979 "planetary dance" on Mount Tamalpais. The goal was to take back the mountain for people frightened away by the notorious Trailside Killer. The dance is now performed annually in 36 countries.

While serving in the Navy in World War II, Halprin recuperated in San Francisco from a Japanese attack which had destroyed his ship. After the war, the couple relocated to the Bay Area.

Widely recognized as a man whose genius revolutionized landscape architecture, Mr. Halprin also won a number of awards. These included a Presidential Design Award for the FDR Memorial, the University of Virginia Thomas Jefferson Medal in Architecture, and the prestigious National Medal of the Arts. A man of many talents, he was also recognized for his documentary on Salvador Dali, "Le Pink Grapefruit."

In addition to his wife, Mr. Halprin is survived by his daughters Dana and Rana and four grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, it is not easy to summarize the scope of Lawrence Halprin's influence and accomplishments. As we enjoy his urban environments or the spaciousness of Sea Ranch, we can understand how much his vision and creativity have enriched our lives.

HONORING JOHN C. HARRIS WITH  
THE DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN  
AWARD

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to John C. Harris for receiving the Distinguished Citizen Award, in recognition of his strong dedication to the Boy Scouts of America in the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. Harris has hosted the Westside Luncheon at Harris Ranch for nearly twenty years. This casual and friendly fund raising lunch supports the Scouting programs in western Fresno and Kings Counties. The Luncheon has become a model for other Scout Councils to emulate. In fact, the Monterey Bay Area Council borrowed the Harris model and began a similar event in King City years ago. John's concern for the youth of our area and his love of Scouting have kept his efforts concentrated in the Sequoia Council, and in the growth of the Scouting in the San Joaquin Valley.

John has been involved in the Agriculture and Thoroughbred business all of his life, as he and his family have worked to create one of the nation's largest Agribusinesses. A diversified family farming operation, this successful business consists of the Harris Ranch Beef Company, Harris Ranch Inn & Restaurant, Harris Feeding Company, Harris Fresh, and the Harris Farms Horse Division. Much has contributed to California's bountiful agriculture industry and economic well-being, but one significant underlying factor in California's agricultural success has been the presence of families such as the Harris family.

We are fortunate to have generous and giving individuals like John Harris, who help to make our Valley a better place. John's commitment to excellence and hard work reflect much of the same values the Boy Scouts embody in their scout oath: to do your best, help other people at all times, and to serve your country. John Harris certainly lives up to these values as is evident in his business success and devotion to serving others in our community.

For all these reasons, it is without a doubt an honor to recognize John Harris today for his leadership in our Valley, as he continues to touch the lives of many people and leave his mark of good will in our community. We are especially thankful today for his service to the Boy Scouts of America in the Central Valley.

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CONGRATULATING GIUSEPPE AND  
CATERINA TIBERI

**HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to offer my best wishes to the dear mom and dad of Congressman PATRICK J. TIBERI who will be celebrating their golden wedding anniversary on December 8th.

Giuseppe and Caterina Tiberi were married in 1959 in Introdacqua, Italy and have now spent 50 years of marriage together.

“Joe” and “Rina” have been outstanding parents, rearing PAT and his two sisters Ida and Tania. They are also proud grandparents of six wonderful children: Anthony, Alex, Angelina, Cristina, Daniela and Gabriela.

As loving parents and grandparents, they continue to set an amazing example for others to follow. I join with all of the Tiberi family and their many friends in wishing Joe and Rina all the best on this joyous occasion.

RECOGNIZING THE NEW HARRISON  
TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

**HON. CANDICE S. MILLER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to acknowledge the recent grand opening celebration of the new Harrison Township Public Library (HTPL) which was held on October 24th, 2009. I had the privilege to attend this special occasion along with other public officials, library staff and community leaders. The HTPL truly is a remarkable story and is a shining example of what can occur when people come together to accomplish a common goal.

The HTPL is an all-volunteer library and operates on a budget from the sales of used books and other promotional items and also the collection of private donations. Not a single dollar of tax-payer money was used to open the new facility.

It took the will power of very dedicated individuals who worked as a team to ensure Harrison Township would no longer be the only municipality in Macomb County without a library. However, the road to complete this project was anything but easy to navigate. The economic challenges were extremely difficult to overcome, and there were many road blocks along the way. At times it appeared that the dream was all but lost.

In fact, many would have given up on this project. But the community volunteers would not let this dream fade away, and instead rolled up their sleeves and went back to the drawing board to get the job done. Only through hard work and determination was Harrison Township finally able to open the doors on its new library.

Numerous organizations and people helped make this dream come true: The Township offered the space to house the library; Macomb County donated materials and books to stock shelves; partners from the private sector and academia provided other key resources to furnish the library with proper information technology.

I certainly want to commend the numerous library volunteers for all the hours they contributed and the personal sacrifices they made to assist with this effort. I too was more than happy to lend a helping hand by donating books obtained through the Library of Congress' Surplus Book Program.

Now I am pleased to say that the residents of Harrison Township have their own library! Senior citizens now have a place to read the newspaper or check out a book. Students now have a quiet place to do research, finish their

homework or use the Internet. There is even a children's section that has games, toys and books for families to utilize to help their children learn.

I would like to name for the record the key volunteers who made this dream a reality, for without them, this project would have never come to fruition: Marge Swiatkowski, the Director of Library Volunteer Committee, and her husband Jack; we need to also recognize Joyce Bane, John and Carolyn Bicsak, Jim and Mary Lou Bilen, Gale Brady, Tracy Champine, Natalie Cruz, Donna Dertinger, Phil and Marsh Devergillo, Julie Dries, Bobbi Gust, Ann Marie Hergott, Toni Hindman, Kathy Hunt, Jane Jones, Althea Lanuzza, Mary LaPlante, Joan Lavey, Katie LeBlanc, Madaline Mannino, Diane Marvaso, Jean McKay, Kathy McRae, Ellen McKee, Jo Mitchell, Nancy Motring, Mary Oberliesin, Beverly Ortman, Joan Schmidt, Sandy Schwab, Marty Shadel, Stephanie Simon, Thomas Sycko, Chris Hearn, Nancy Trompics, Mary Mahoney, Sheri Mathison, Jane Roda and Dee Turowski.

I applaud each of you for your tireless efforts! Your display of leadership and teamwork are something to be emulated throughout the community.

HONORING THE JUILLIARD  
SCHOOL'S MUSIC ADVANCEMENT  
PROGRAM

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Music Advancement Program at The Juilliard School.

The Music Advancement Program (MAP) is a Saturday instrument-instruction program that was created in 1990. MAP targets students, ages eight to fourteen, who are underrepresented in the performing arts. The program is designed to help students at the early stage of their musical development on violin, viola, cello, double bass, flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, percussion, and piano. MAP has served families by providing education workshops on diverse topics, information about various concert opportunities and a literacy program for younger siblings of MAP students. MAP has also supported New York City public school music teachers by building upon their work, starting where most school instrumental programs must end, and by motivating students to excel in all of their endeavors. Through MAP, The Juilliard School has demonstrated its commitment to being a cultural citizen in New York City by reaching out to underrepresented communities and investing in a future arts community that is diverse in its performers, educators, audiences, and patrons. This exemplary program has enriched the lives of countless students, and will continue to provide valuable opportunities in the performing arts for underprivileged students in New York City schools.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Music Advancement Program at The Juilliard School.

HONORING CITY OF GRAND  
PRAIRIE

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Grand Prairie. The city is celebrating its 100th anniversary, and I would like to take a moment to speak about the history of the city and its great future.

In 1841, the area that is now Grand Prairie began to be settled by people accepting Republic of Texas land grants. In 1861, Alexander MacRae Dechman traded his wagon and oxen for 239.5 acres in what is now downtown Grand Prairie. He filed for a town plat in 1876, and named the town Dechman. That same year Alexander gave a portion of his land to the Texas and Pacific Railroad in exchange for operating a depot. In 1877, the railroad renamed Dechman to Grand Prairie because of its location on the eastern edge of the prairie that stretched into West Texas. On March 20, 1909 the citizens of Grand Prairie voted to establish a local city government in order to create the civic infrastructure necessary for public safety, growth and prosperity.

In 1909, the City of Grand Prairie had roughly 1,000 citizens. The city's growth accelerated during and after World War II when its population changed from 1,595 in 1940 to 14,594 in 1950. The population then doubled to 30,386 by 1960. Today the city is home to more than 168,000 citizens. The growth is symbolic of the city's strength and success over the last hundred years.

Grand Prairie has created a strong infrastructure to ensure continued growth. The city has constructed attractions for both economic development and tourism such as Lone Star Park in 1992, Nokia Theatre in 2001, the Ruthe Jackson Conference Center in 2002, the Uptown Theater, QuikTrip Ballpark and the AirHogs in 2008 and Market Square in 2009.

The city's success is also demonstrated by its long list of awards. Some recent awards include the Money Magazine 2008 Best Places to Live in USA, Today Newspaper 2008 Readers' Choice Award—Best Place to Live, the 2008 National Recreation and Parks Association Gold Medal Award for best parks system in America and named a Playful City USA in both 2008 and 2009.

Under the able leadership of Mayor Charles England, the City Council and City Manager's Office, Grand Prairie plans to continue growing stronger for their citizens and businesses. In 2010, the city will open a new Lake Rescue Center, Summit Activity Center for senior citizens and Public Safety Headquarters. A city known for being comfortably casual and incredibly friendly, Grand Prairie looks forward to the next 100 years of dreaming big and making it happen.

I am honored to represent the City of Grand Prairie and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the city upon their 100th anniversary.

HONORING ELI WARREN

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Eli Warren, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1179, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Eli has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Eli has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR  
GREATER AWARENESS OF OVAR-  
IAN CANCER

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARY JO KILROY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 1, 2009*

Ms. KILROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 727, which supports the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

We all know someone who has been diagnosed with cancer and understand the devastating impact that diagnosis can have on the patient and his or her family. Although we have made great strides in recent years in finding new treatments for those afflicted with cancer, ovarian cancer continues to be difficult to diagnose and when discovered in later stages, the survival rate is lower than 45 percent. Ovarian cancer silently spreads because we cannot reliably screen for it and because its symptoms are common with other diseases.

As an original cosponsor of H.R. 1816, the "Ovarian Cancer Biomarker Research Act," introduced by my friend and colleague Representative BERMAN, I believe we should encourage collaboration between the federal government and institutions conducting invaluable research on biomarkers for use in risk stratification for, and the early detection and screening of, ovarian cancer. These types of initiatives will ensure that the United States remains a leader in medical breakthroughs and innovations.

We must continue to support funding for research into ovarian cancer, so that we may one day find a cure. We also must devote the necessary resources into developing new screening technology for cancers like ovarian cancer which all too often are found late. Equally important, all women and men need to educate themselves about ovarian cancer so that we save our own lives or those of our loved ones.

I want to commend Representative ISRAEL for introducing this important resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DENNY REHBERG**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Speaker, on rollcall number 911, 912, and 913 I was unavoidably detained due to flight complications from Billings, MT to Washington, DC.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall 911, "yea" on rollcall 912, and "aye" on rollcall 913.

ENERGY AND WATER RESEARCH  
INTEGRATION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 1, 2009*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today in support of H.R. 3598, "Energy and Water Research Integration Act". I would like to thank my colleague, Rep. BART GORDON, for introducing this important legislation.

I support this legislation because our country faces immense challenges with increased demand on our energy and water resources. It is for that reason that this bill is a critical component of our country's energy strategy. According to the Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory, the thermoelectric power sector accounts for 39 percent of total freshwater withdrawal in the United States, and 3.3 percent of total freshwater consumption.

Not only do we need vast quantities of water for energy production, but we also need energy to transport and treat water. Water resource problems are intensifying across all regions of the country. As demand for water continues to rise and supplies dwindle, it has become increasingly apparent that the federal government should create a comprehensive strategy for energy-water research and development of new technologies to ensure sustainable water and energy supplies.

This legislation takes the first steps toward tackling these problems by directing the Secretary of Energy, in carrying out energy research, development, and demonstration programs of the Department of Energy (DOE), to: seek to advance energy and energy efficiency technologies and practices that would minimize freshwater withdrawal and consumption, increase water use efficiency, and utilize non-traditional water sources with efforts to improve the quality of that water; consider the effects climate change may have on water supplies and quality for energy generation and fuel production; and improve understanding of the energy required to provide water supplies and the water required to provide reliable energy supplies throughout the United States.

It further requires the Secretary to incorporate specified considerations, including: new

advanced cooling technologies for energy generation and fuel production technologies; innovative water reuse, recovery, and treatment in energy generation and fuel production; and reduction of water resource impacts of fossil fuel resource development.

Finally, this bill directs the Secretary, in coordination with other relevant federal agencies, to establish an Energy-Water Architecture Council to promote and enable improved energy and water resource data collection, reporting, and technological innovation.

This Council would be required to: adopt data collection and communication standards and protocols for the energy required to provide water supplies and the water required to provide reliable energy supplies; make improvements to federal water use data to increase understanding of trends in power plant water use; integrate existing monitoring networks to provide nationally uniform water and energy use and infrastructure data; and conduct an annual technical workshop to facilitate information exchange among experts on technologies that encourage the conservation and efficient use of water energy.

With these first steps, our country will be far better informed about the challenges wrought by increasing demands for water and energy, and so will be better able to face them.

## CONGRATULATING KIM JAKOVICS

**HON. JOHN P. SARBANES**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I would like to commend Kim Jakovics, a social studies teacher at Annapolis High School in Maryland, for winning the Milken Educator Award. Since 1987, this prestigious award has been given annually to honor teachers who have distinguished themselves in their incredibly important and challenging field. Of the fifty-three teachers across the nation to be awarded this prize, she is the sole recipient from Maryland. Mrs. Jakovics was selected because of the immeasurable impact she has had on her students. Michael Milken, co-founder of the foundation, said of her instruction, "Students' self-image changed, their aspirations changed. Students were different after that experience."

For the past six years, Mrs. Jakovics' dedication to her students has made them feel more confident to aim for loftier goals. She has been effective in leading classrooms full of students at different skill levels and embraced the challenge of teaching diverse groups.

Because of teachers like Mrs. Jakovics, Annapolis High School has experienced a dramatic improvement in student results. For five years the school failed to meet state testing standards. Over the last two years, however, the school has met standards and been removed from Maryland's troubled schools watch list. The dedication of teachers like Mrs. Jakovics is what makes such a dramatic turnaround possible.

I hope Mrs. Jakovics will inspire other talented individuals to enter the field of teaching. Once again, I congratulate Mrs. Jakovics and wish her the best of luck.

HONORING DOLPHAS TROTTER

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Dolphas Trotter upon being awarded the "Community Health Champions Award" at the 2009 West Fresno Health Care Coalition's 5th annual "This Is Your Life of Service" lunch and awards ceremony. This year the ceremony will be held at the Radisson Hotel Conference Center in Fresno, California on Tuesday, November 3rd.

Mr. Dolphas Trotter was born in 1940 in Idabel, Oklahoma. In 1945 the Trotter family moved cross-country and settled in Southwest Fresno, California. Mr. Trotter attended Washington Union High School where he played football. During his senior year, he participated in the annual Fresno City-County All-Star game, which earned him a football scholarship to College of the Pacific, known today as University of the Pacific. Mr. Trotter graduated in 1962 with a Bachelor's degree and returned to Fresno and began working for Fresno County Department of Social Services.

Shortly after his return to Fresno, Mr. Trotter was drafted into the United States Army and was honorably discharged in 1969. This experience affirmed his belief in the value of education and community. When he returned to Fresno from his military service, he began a career in education. The first of many positions Mr. Trotter held in education was at Franklin Elementary School as a fifth grade teacher. He moved on to teach at Edison High School, where he later became the Vice Principal and the first African American principal of the school. Mr. Trotter had a successful career in the Fresno school system, including serving as Principal at Tioga Middle School and Cooper Middle School. For a brief time he served as the first African American interim superintendent of the Fresno Unified School District and then served as the Superintendent at New Millennium Charter Schools.

Mr. Trotter was also a firm believer in community service. He sat on many boards and worked with many organizations, including the African American Historical and Cultural Museum Board of Directors, the Association of California School Administrators, Cedar Vista Hospital Advisory Board, Channel 24 Portrait of Success Board member, National Alliance of Black School Educators, State Center Community College Foundation and Washington Union School Board. For his service to these organizations Mr. Trotter has received many accolades.

Mr. Trotter and his wife met while working at the Fresno County Department of Social Services. They were married in 1972 and raised four children, including two adopted daughters. Mr. Trotter passed away on March 18, 2009. He was a strong advocate and will be remembered as an inspirational role model for the people of Fresno and the residents of Southwest Fresno.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dolphas Trotter and recognize him upon being awarded the "Community Health Champions Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and wishing the best for his family.

HONORING THE NORTHERN  
CAMBRIA LADY COLTS  
VOLLEYBALL TEAM**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the Northern Cambria Lady Colts volleyball team for their remarkable season that ended with a Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) Class A State Championship title.

The Lady Colts, who concluded their season with an impressive 26–1 record, swept the defending champions, Holy Name—25–14, 30–28, and 25–22 in the championship match on November 14, 2009. The State Champions title capped off an extraordinary season, with the Lady Colts also winning their 100th consecutive conference match. Additionally, these young women also posted their sixth consecutive District VI title as the team completed their season without a single conference loss.

Led by Coach Mike Hogan, the new state champs will be graduating four outstanding seniors: Janae Dunchack, Breanna Kochinsky, and cousins Arie & Jess Rocco. However, this tight-knit team will have twenty-two girls returning next season to follow in the footsteps of their leaders.

I am extremely proud of the hard work and dedication that these young women from Northern Cambria have displayed. I would like to extend my most sincere congratulations to the team, the coaching staff, and their fans on a fantastic season. I wish them the best of luck in all of their future endeavors.

HONORING TUCKER CAMPBELL  
SEISE**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tucker Campbell Seise, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1179, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tucker has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tucker has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on Tuesday, December 1, 2009, I

missed three recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 911, "yea" on rollcall 912, and "yea" on rollcall 913.

IN RECOGNITION OF FREIGHT-  
LINER CUSTOM CHASSIS CORPO-  
RATION**HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I am proud to claim Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation (FCCC) as a corporate constituent. On October 29, 2009, Freightliner hosted a plant-wide celebration to announce that its facility in Gaffney, South Carolina is now operating as a Zero-Waste-to-Landfill manufacturing plant. FCCC has been working diligently for years to achieve this goal, which underscores its strong commitment to a better environment. Freightliner is the first company in the trucking industry to achieve Zero-Waste-to-Landfill status.

Before undertaking this initiative, FCCC disposed of some 250,000 pounds of solid waste every month. It now disposes of zero pounds. FCCC's parent company, Daimler Trucks North America LLC, began the Zero-Waste-to-Landfill program as a means of reducing the carbon footprint of its manufacturing facilities. FCCC's facility in Gaffney was selected as the pilot site beginning in September 2007 and will now serve as an example for other facilities to emulate.

FCCC's move to the forefront environmentally reflects well on it, and shows that other manufacturers can do the same.

HONORING JEANNE-CLAUDE

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with sadness today to honor my friend Jeanne-Claude, who passed away November 18 at the age of 74. In partnership with her husband Christo, she created some of the most exciting art projects of our time. The couple is known for large-scale temporary environmental works of stunning beauty that transform our perceptions of building and landscapes, while creating community dialogue.

I was fortunate to meet the couple in connection with The Running Fence, one of their most spectacular projects that snaked through 24 miles of my district in California's Sonoma and Marin Counties. Installed in 1976, The Running Fence featured over two million square feet of billowing nylon across the golden brown hills of 59 ranches to the Pacific Ocean. The sheer logistics of the endeavor became part of the artistic process as Jeanne-Claude and Christo brought disparate members of the local community together over four-and-a-half years of planning and prodding to bring it to fruition.

The pair returned to Sonoma County in September for a reunion event where I saw that Jeanne-Claude exhibited the same flamboyant, warm style that won her friends and

supporters for the project 33 years ago. The reunion laid the groundwork for an upcoming Smithsonian exhibition on The Running Fence that will serve as a tribute to her partnership with Christo on this remarkable collaboration.

Born in Morocco, Jeanne-Claude met Christo, a Bulgarian refugee who shared her birth date, in Paris in 1958. At that time, Christo was wrapping small objects, and they soon began collaborating on wrapping larger outdoor installations which led to the most famous—Paris's Pont Neuf (1975–1985) and Berlin's Reichstag (1971–1995). Many other projects included natural settings such as a Surrounded Islands in Biscayne Bay, Florida; Valley Curtain in Rifle, Colorado; The Umbrellas on hillsides in both California and Japan; and The Gates in Central Park, New York.

Sponsorships were never accepted for these and other installations which were financed through sales of plans, models, drawings, photos, and other documents. The works were always a team effort, with the resulting objects signed with the joint name, "Christo and Jeanne-Claude."

In addition to her husband, Jeanne-Claude is survived by their son, poet Cyril Christo, and a grandson.

Madam Speaker, Christo will be carrying on the couple's work, and I am sure that memories of Jeanne-Claude's vibrancy and love will be a comfort to him during this time. Marin and Sonoma residents will remember her glitzy red hair and her wit and charm, but it is her friendship that we will cherish the most.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CHRISTOPHER P. CARNEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. CARNEY. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, December 1, I was unable to cast my vote on three suspension bills due to my attendance of the President's address to the Nation from the United States Military Academy.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" on rollcall vote 911, "yes" on rollcall vote 912, and "yes" rollcall vote 913.

### COLONEL HAL HOXIE RETIRES AFTER 27 YEARS SERVICE WITH THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

### HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize COL Hal Hoxie on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force.

Colonel Hoxie was born November 6, 1958 in Chewelah, Washington, and went to college at Eastern Oregon State University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in business in 1983. He received his commission through Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1983 and was selected to attend pilot training at Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma. During pilot training at Vance Air Force Base, Colonel Hoxie's professionalism and attention to detail marked him

as a natural leader and upon graduation he was selected to remain a T-38 instructor and chief flight examiner. Subsequently, Colonel Hoxie was recognized as the distinguished graduate from his pilot instructor training course. In May 1988, Colonel Hoxie converted to the F-15C at the 60th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, and was immediately called upon to fly in support of Operation JUST CAUSE in Panama. During his time at Eglin Air Force Base, Colonel Hoxie attended Squadron Officer School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama, where he was recognized as a top graduate for his academic and military achievement. Also during this tour, Colonel Hoxie deployed in direct support of Operation DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM and flew 66 missions helping to consolidate a swift and complete victory for the allied forces.

Colonel Hoxie went on to work in various staff positions including executive officer to the Athletic Department Director at the United States Air Force Academy, executive officer to the Vice Commander Headquarters, Air Combat Command, and Senior Operations Duty Officer at Osan Air Base, Korea. He also commanded the 94th Flying Training Squadron at the Air Force Academy, led as the Deputy Operations Group Commander at the 34th Operations Group, United States Air Force Academy, utilizing his skill as a trainer and mentor, and was the Chief of Homeland Defense and Security at Headquarters, Air Combat Command, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia. Following this assignment, Colonel Hoxie went on to command the 355th Mission Support Group at Davis Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona.

For the past 2 years, Colonel Hoxie has performed with distinction in the Legislative Liaison Directorate. From May 2008 to March 2009, he led the Programs and Legislative Division, ensuring prompt and thorough response to the Congress on policy and personnel issues concerning the United States Air Force. From March 2009 to the present, Colonel Hoxie led the Congressional Inquiry division, providing efficient and thorough response to over 5,000 congressional inquiries.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank COL Hal Hoxie, his wife Kathy, to whom he's been married for 31 years, and their four sons: Aaron, Allen, Austin, and Andrew. The Hoxies have been a proud Air Force family for the duration of Colonel Hoxie's career and I salute the entire family for their continued commitment, sacrifice, and contribution to this great Nation. Again, I congratulate Colonel Hoxie on his retirement and wish him Godspeed as he transitions into his new job as president of Central Christian College in McPherson, Kansas.

#### SUPPORTING CJ'S HOME PROTECTION ACT

### HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, as the House considers H.R. 320, "CJ's Home Protection Act," I encourage my colleagues to support its passage. As a cosponsor of this bill, I believe it is important to reflect back on why this legislation is crucial to saving lives in our communities.

In June 2007, devastating storms, tornadoes and flooding hit my district over a few days' time and left large amounts of property damaged and displaced thousands of families. Tragically, the flooding also took the lives of 11 individuals and injured others.

At Skyline Mobile Home Estates in Haltom City, I met with Haltom City Mayor Bill Lanford after the floods to see the damage and to also meet with local residents. About 100 mobile homes were impacted by the storms because there was not enough time for residents to know what was happening and to prepare for the coming disaster.

One of the most devastating impacts to this community was the death of 4-year-old Alexandria Collins. She was torn from her mother's grasp by the water's current as they fled to a neighbor's boat.

CJ's Home Protection bill requires that NOAA weather radios be installed in new mobile homes as they are being manufactured in order for residents to receive emergency broadcasting information and alerts. This bill will help save lives during emergency situations by providing people with the time and the information they need to take care of themselves and their families.

Thank you, and I urge the House to pass this legislation.

#### INTRODUCING THE HONEST AND OPEN TESTIMONY ACT

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Honest and Open Testimony Act, a bill that helps provide for an honest and open discussion regarding Don't Ask, Don't Tell by allowing active-duty members of the Armed Forces, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) members, to openly testify in Congressional hearings without fear of retribution. The Honest and Open Testimony Act expands existing whistleblower protections between members of the Armed Forces and Members of Congress to include communications from active-duty service members who testify concerning Don't Ask, Don't Tell in a Congressional hearing, as well as those who do so and disclose their sexual orientation.

The United States of America prides itself on having the finest military in the world because of the hard work, dedication, and sacrifices of its brave men and women in uniform. And yet, under the discriminatory law known as Don't Ask, Don't Tell, the talents and contributions of our GLBT service members continue to be ignored simply because of who they are. As you know, Don't Ask, Don't Tell was signed into law in 1993 by former President Bill Clinton as a compromise to allow gay and lesbian service members to serve in the military. To the contrary, Don't Ask, Don't Tell compromises the integrity of our troops and kicks them out to boot. For more than fifteen years, Don't Ask, Don't Tell has negatively impacted the lives and livelihoods of these military professionals and deprived our Armed Forces of their honorable service. This is not only a disservice to them, but to our country as a whole.

Don't Ask, Don't Tell hurts our troops, runs counter to the values of our Armed Forces, and threatens our national security. Since the law was implemented in 1994, over 13,500 qualified service members have been lost to Don't Ask, Don't Tell, and counting. With each passing day, we lose approximately two service members to this misguided, unjust, and debilitating policy. Furthermore, Don't Ask, Don't Tell continues to undermine and demoralize the more than 65,000 GLBT Americans currently serving on active duty.

Keeping good troops is good policy, and our GLBT troops are among our most talented and dedicated. As the United States continues to work toward responsibly ending the war in Iraq and reengages the threat from al Qaeda in Afghanistan, our GLBT service members offer invaluable skills that enhance our military's potency and readiness. They are linguists, aviators, medics, and highly trained soldiers who are involved in valuable operations that have nothing to do with their sexual orientation and everything to do with protecting our freedom and advancing our national security interests. Above all, however, they offer their lives to serve their country.

I am extremely proud of the men and women who serve in our Armed Forces and truly appreciate the countless sacrifices they continue to make every single day to protect this nation and the American people. They deserve better than Don't Ask, Don't Tell. In order for Congress to have an honest and open discussion about the relevance of the current law, as well as on how to best implement its repeal, its members must hear from those about whom Don't Ask, Don't Tell was written—active-duty GLBT troops. Now is the time to take action.

Madam Speaker, I realize that this issue is considered controversial, but it should not be. As Congress prepares to debate the future of Don't Ask, Don't Tell with hearings in the Senate and in the House of Representatives, we must ensure that we hear all sides of the issue and especially from active-duty GLBT service members. The Honest and Open Testimony Act helps achieve this by addressing a major barrier to an inclusive, transparent, and complete hearing process—fear of retribution for testifying honestly and openly about the consequences of Don't Ask, Don't Tell in the Armed Forces. I urge my colleagues to support this important bill, which would bring us one step closer to repealing Don't Ask, Don't Tell once and for all and replacing it with a policy of inclusion and non-discrimination.

INTRODUCING THE END DISCRIMINATORY STATE TAXES FOR AUTOMOBILE RENTERS ACT OF 2009

**HON. RICK BOUCHER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the End Discriminatory State Taxes for Automobile Renters Act. I am pleased to be joined by my colleague from Missouri TODD AKIN as the lead Republican cosponsor of the legislation.

Our legislation addresses a situation that most of our constituents have faced at least

once and perhaps several times. An individual rents a car from a car rental company and is told the daily rate will be about \$25.00. At the end of the rental, the charges from the car rental company are closer to \$35.00 or \$40.00 per day. Questions inevitably arise about the source of these additional charges.

A small portion of the difference between the car rental company's daily rate and the amount charged is state or local sales taxes, which consumers pay on most goods and services they purchase. Increasingly, however, the bulk of these additional charges are state and local discriminatory excise taxes on car rental consumers—local taxes imposed to build sport stadiums, convention centers, etc. No matter what the size or scope of a local project, states or localities have sought to “export” the burden of funding these local initiatives by taxing “out-of-town” visitors renting cars in their state, city, or county.

These discriminatory excise taxes on travelers have become increasingly popular in recent years. In 1976, there was one such tax. Since 1990, more than 115 special rental car taxes have been enacted in 43 states and the District of Columbia. As a result, car rental customers have paid more than \$7.5 billion in special taxes to fund projects with no direct connection to renting a car. In addition to stadiums, car rental customers are also footing the bill for performing arts centers and a culinary institute. A recent study found that the taxes fall disproportionately on minority households; the taxes raise auto insurance costs; and these taxes reduce purchases of cars by rental companies—an increase of 10% in tax relative to the base rental rate reduces rental demand, and, therefore, purchases of new cars by rental car companies, by approximately 12%.

The End Discriminatory State Taxes for Automobile Renters Act would impose a permanent moratorium on discriminatory excise taxes on car rental customers by declaring these taxes an undue burden on interstate commerce. In the past, Congress has enacted similar protections from discriminatory state and local excise taxes for other interstate travelers such as airline, train, and bus passengers, and for the property of interstate transportation industries such as the airlines, buses, trains, and motor freight. Our measure would extend this protection to car rental consumers.

The legislation's moratorium is prospective only. The bill “grandfathers” existing car rental excise taxes to prevent a cut-off of funding for projects financed through these taxes that are already underway, as long as the state or local authorization for the existing taxes does not expire or governments do not try to increase the rate of the tax. And the bill would not in any way restrict the ability of local governments to enact non-discriminatory, general taxes such as sales and income taxes.

Our legislation has been endorsed by a wide range of stakeholders, including the National Consumers League, UAW, and the Big Three automobile manufacturers.

I hope my colleagues will join with us in enacting into law the End Discriminatory State Taxes for Automobile Renters Act of 2009.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF NATIVE ELDER AND LEADER PHILIP D. HUNTER

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today during Native American Heritage Month, to honor and remember the life of Native Elder and Leader Philip D. Hunter.

Mr. Philip Daryl Hunter was a citizen of the Tule River Tribe. He was an exemplary leader and a powerful advocate for the needs and rights of Native people; especially those throughout the great state of California and the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. Hunter was a strong spiritual and political leader for his tribe.

Philip Hunter graduated from Porterville Union High School in 1966 and attended Porterville College, where he excelled not only in academics, but also in baseball. During breaks from school he would work for the Tribe as a fire fighter. He went on to serve our nation in the United States Army as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division.

Following his military service, Mr. Hunter graduated from Columbia College with an Associate of Arts Degree, focusing his interests on helping others. He spent fourteen years as a Drug and Alcohol Counselor, consistently placing the needs of others above his own. Demonstrating a strong dedication to his tribe, Mr. Hunter served on the Tule River Tribal Council for over twelve years, with five years in the position of Tribal Chairman. He was the longest-serving member on the Tule River Tribal Council. During his time on the council, Mr. Hunter became a familiar and strong voice in our state's and nation's capitol as he worked to shape federal, state and international California Indian policy, including protections for Native Sacred Places. He represented the Tule River Tribe on the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Central California Agency Policy Committee, BIA/Pacific Regional Offices Fee to Trust Consortium, Council of Energy Resources Tribes and the National Congress of American Indians. He was a proud member of the Tule River AMVETS Post 1988 and respectfully honored veterans during times of remembrances.

Philip D. Hunter was acclaimed for being an effective and traditional cultural leader. His knowledge and dedication to tribal members ran deep throughout Indian Country. He was devoted to his wife, Beverly J. Hunter and loved his family, his tribe and his country. Mr. Hunter will always be remembered as a true champion for Native Americans.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF MRS. NETTIE DURANT DICKSON

**HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I would like to call the attention of the House to the death of a remarkable woman. On November 29, Mrs. Nettie DuRant Dickson of Darlington, South Carolina, died at the age of 106. Remarkable not only for her age, but for a life full

of accomplishment, Mrs. Dickson and her late husband, William James Dickson, owned the Darlington Hardware. Mrs. Dickson was a member of the Darlington Presbyterian Church and active for years with the American Legion Auxiliary. In the past few years she resided at the Methodist Manor in Florence, South Carolina and then at Agape Senior Care in Irmo, South Carolina.

One of twelve children, Nettie DuRant Dickson is survived by sibling Marion DuRant, daughters Elizabeth Betty DuPre and Jeanette D. Renfrow, numerous nieces and nephews, four grandsons, and three great-grandsons.

In the end, what counts most is not how long we lived, but how well. On both counts, Nettie DuRant Dickson lived a good and fruitful life.

#### CONGRATULATING BRIAN KLOCK

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a great public servant upon his retirement from the United States Navy—a man who has served his country diligently, my friend Brian Klock.

After 28 years of service to his country, Brian retired from his post as a Commander in the Navy on July 1, 2009. Throughout his career he served as an intelligence officer working as an analyst, an aviation intelligence officer in a P3 Squadron, and as a Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Agent. On many occasions his service took him overseas, including during the Cold War and the Bosnian conflict.

After September 11, 2001, Brian was called to serve in NCIS and was assigned to counter intelligence operations overseas. Upon his return to the United States, Brian was asked to join the Protective Services Division. It was here that he spent two years protecting the leadership of the Department of Defense and visiting foreign military dignitaries. At the conclusion of his career, Brian was serving as the operations officer for a CENTCOM intelligence unit.

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate Brian for his years of exemplarily service to our nation. I wish him the best in his years to come and hope he lives life to the fullest during his retirement years.

#### EMERGENCY MEDICINE AND MEDICAL MALPRACTICE REFORM

### HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, as we debate and move forward on this historic endeavor—passage of health care reform with a goal of improving access and coverage for the millions of uninsured and underinsured individuals—I would like to take a moment to discuss the role of emergency medicine and review the various provisions in this bill which strengthen access to emergency care. As we work to improve coverage and

enhance preventive and chronic care, we must remember to balance the acute care needs of patients, especially those treated in emergency departments.

Emergency medicine is an essential part of our safety net and must be supported. Whether a patient ends up in the emergency room as the result of a suspected H1N1 influenza case, trauma, a natural or manmade disaster, or because they've lost their job and health insurance and a health condition escalates to the point of needing to seek emergency care, we all rely on quality emergency care to be there. In fact, the federal government demands it—unlike other doctors who can choose not to participate with various health insurance plans, Medicare or Medicaid, emergency physicians are required by federal law to treat every patient who walks through the door, regardless of their ability to pay. But, our emergency medical system is in crisis, and the severe problems facing emergency patients affect everyone.

Earlier this year, the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) released its annual report card on emergency care. The nation was graded a C minus overall, with 90 percent of states earning mediocre or near-failing grades. America earned a near-failing D minus grade in the "Access to Emergency Care" category. This is unacceptable and also terrifying news for the more than 300,000 people each day who need emergency care.

Although my own state of Tennessee outperformed most states in some areas, we have a long way to go. The report states that Tennessee has only 8.9 emergency physicians per 100,000 people and needs an additional 60.2 full-time equivalent mental health care providers to serve the state's population. Also, it points out that these issues may contribute to hospital crowding and patient transfers, problems that have been identified as priorities among emergency physicians in Tennessee. Further, Tennessee has serious public health and injury prevention challenges. We have among the highest rates of infant mortality in the nation (8.9 deaths per 1,000 births), as well as high percentages of obese adults (28.8 percent) and adults who smoke (22.6 percent). Tennessee has relatively high fatal injury rates: 22.7 homicides and suicides per 100,000 people and 2.2 deaths due to unintentional fire and burn-related injuries per 100,000.

Although the "Affordable Health Care for America Act" included provisions to improve coverage for preventive and chronic care, statistics like these for Tennessee demonstrate that access to quality emergency care will always be a priority and should not be taken for granted.

The health care reform bill passed by the House on November 7 included a number of provisions that would strengthen emergency care in the United States:

Required Coverage for Emergency Services. Specifically, it would require that emergency services are part of any essential benefits package for all eligible health insurance plans.

Emergency Care Coordination Center. Section 2552 would establish an Emergency Care Coordination Center. The Center will promote and fund research in emergency medicine and trauma health care, promote regional partnerships and more effective emergency medical systems in order to enhance appropriate

triage, distribution, and care of routine community patients; and promote local, regional, and State emergency medical systems' preparedness for and response to public health events. It would also authorize a Council of Emergency Medicine.

Pilot Programs to Improve Emergency Medical Care. Section 2553 would establish demonstration programs that design, implement, and evaluate innovative models of regionalized, comprehensive, and accountable emergency care systems.

Demonstration Project for Stabilization of Emergency Medical Conditions by Institutions for Mental Diseases. Section 1787 would establish a demonstration project to reimburse psychiatric hospitals that provide required medical assistance to stabilize an emergency medical condition for individuals enrolled in Medicaid.

Hopefully the emergency medicine provisions will be further strengthened as they move through the legislative process to include provisions based on legislation I've introduced to address the issue of emergency department boarding, ambulance division standards, and medical malpractice liability coverage for emergency providers and on-call specialists. The "Access to Emergency Medical Services Act," H.R. 1188, and the "Health Care Safety Net Enhancement Act," H.R. 1998, are two bills I've introduced to address these issues.

Overcrowded emergency departments are compromising patient safety and threatening everyone's access to lifesaving emergency care. The number of emergency departments has decreased by 5 percent in 10 years, but the demand for care is up by 32 percent—up to 119.2 million visits in 2006 (one in three Americans). Hundreds of emergency departments have closed.

According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), half of emergency services go uncompensated. To compensate for cutbacks in reimbursement, hospitals closed 198,000 staffed beds between 1993 and 2003. As a result, fewer beds are available to accommodate admissions from the emergency department.

Ambulances are diverted, on average, once a minute in the United States, away from the closest emergency department because they are so crowded they cannot handle any more patients. For patients with life-threatening illnesses or injuries, those minutes can make the difference between life and death.

Last year, the American College of Emergency Physicians released a report by its Task Force on Boarding titled, "Emergency Department Crowding: High-Impact Solutions." ACEP established the task force to develop low-cost or no-cost solutions to boarding. The report is intended to help emergency physicians stop boarding in their own hospitals and ultimately improve patient care. The report identifies those strategies to reduce crowding that have a "high impact," as well as those that have not proven effective. The report identifies the boarding of admitted patients as the main cause of emergency department crowding. The report outlines the impact of boarding on patient care stating that "evidence-based research demonstrates that boarding results in the following: delays in care, ambulance diversion, increased hospital lengths of stay, medical errors, increased patient mortality, financial losses to hospital and physician, and medical negligence claims."

Madam Speaker, to ensure our access to emergency care is protected, we must address this issue. I believe the provisions in my bill, H.R. 1188, "Access to Emergency Medical Services Act" will help by developing emergency department boarding and ambulance diversion standards and quality measures. I urge their consideration as the bill moves forward through the legislative process.

Emergency care is the most overlooked part of the health care system. But it is the number one service that everyone depends on in their hour of need. It needs our attention now.

In addition, we need to think forward to ensure that our system also accommodates future needs. To do so, we must address the shortage of board-certified emergency physicians. The Society for Academic Emergency Medicine, in 2008, published an Assessment of Emergency Physician Workforce Needs in the United States. The authors reviewed 2005 data and found that the supply of emergency medicine residency-trained, board-certified emergency physicians will not meet future demand. Specifically, they found that only 55% of the demand for emergency medical board-certified physicians currently is met.

I agree with the need to enhance our prevention efforts and have introduced H.R. 3851, the "Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans Act" to help educate Americans of all ages regarding the need for physical activity, taking responsibility for one's health and staying fit. However, experience shows that not everyone will adhere to recommended guidelines, and genetic predisposition, trauma and seasonal flu or other illnesses such as H1N1 will continue to bring people to our nation's emergency rooms. Therefore, we must be sure emergency departments are equipped to handle our needs.

In June 2006, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released three landmark reports on the "Future of Emergency Care in the United States Health System," detailing the challenges and concerns this nation faces in maintaining access to emergency medical services. The IOM reported that the nation's emergency medical system as a whole is overburdened, underfunded and highly fragmented.

Emergency care has long been overlooked and as a result it is stretched to a breaking point. As Congress focuses on health reform this year, I urge my colleagues to recognize the role emergency medicine plays in our safety net and support the provisions in the health reform bill that strengthen emergency care. Further, I urge my colleagues to work to adequately support our emergency medical system by further addressing boarding and diversion as the bill moves forward.

IN APPRECIATION OF SAN BRUNO  
MAYOR LARRY FRANZELLA

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, this week the City of San Bruno will see a changing of the guard as Mayor Larry Franzella steps down from the post he has held for a decade.

A native of San Francisco, Mayor Franzella moved to San Bruno as a boy and attended local schools, including Crestmoor High

School, Skyline College and the College of San Mateo. He's a classic example of "local boy makes good." He began a successful real estate career in 1975 and over three decades has risen through the ranks of his profession, serving as President of the San Bruno Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club of San Bruno and the San Mateo County Association of Realtors, and as Regional Vice-President of the California Association of Realtors. He currently serves as President of Prudential California Realty in San Bruno.

Larry Franzella has served his adopted city of San Bruno in a myriad of ways. Besides his aforementioned community and business associations, Larry served as a member of the Personnel Board and was a founding member of the city's Citizens Crime Prevention Committee. In 1987, the people of San Bruno elected Larry to his first of two terms on the city council. Then in 1999, after a two-year hiatus, voters chose Larry to serve as Mayor—a post he held for five consecutive two-year terms. In this role, he also represented San Bruno as a member of the regional Airport Roundtable.

Madam Speaker, everyone in this chamber knows how important it is to have dedicated, intelligent people serve on local boards, commissions and city councils. The work can be difficult, the hours long and the pay virtually non-existent, yet we ask these selfless public servants to give far more than they receive to assure that the residents and taxpayers under their care are provided for. Mayor Larry Franzella is one of those dedicated and selfless leaders.

Larry has certainly earned his retirement. However, knowing Larry like I do, I am sure that he will never retire from community service. On behalf of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives, I want to thank Mayor Larry Franzella for his longtime service to the people of San Bruno and the County of San Mateo.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARY OF HERMAN AND  
MARJORIE WILLIAMS

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my esteemed colleague from California, Barbara Lee, in order to congratulate Herman and Marjorie Williams of Baltimore, Maryland, as they celebrate sixty years of marriage. Since they exchanged their vows on November 24, 1949, these high school sweethearts have been extraordinary parents, friends, and members of their community.

Over the decades of their marriage, they contended against racism and segregation as they pursued their careers, Herman as one of the first black firefighters in Baltimore and Marjorie at Westinghouse. Their commitment to hard work and to their family never wavered.

Herman eventually became the nation's first African-American major-city fire chief and Marjorie retired after a long and exemplary career. Even after her retirement, Marjorie has volunteered her time with many charitable organizations, dedicating herself to helping the less for-

tunate. Always an adventuresome spirit, she has also continued to pursue her love of travel.

The two of them together raised four wonderful and successful children: Marjorie, Clolita, Montel, and Herman. Marjorie and Herman have a fierce dedication to their family, and the values they instilled led their children to prominent careers in the arts, education, civil service, and broadcast media.

The Williams have been an inspiration to their friends, their family, to their community, and to everyone determined to triumph in the face of adversity.

On November 28, 2009, they celebrated their anniversary along with family and friends. Please join us in wishing them the best of luck as they continue to spend their lives loving and supporting each other and bringing joy and happiness to their family and friends.

HONORING BRIAN AND DORIE  
BARKEY

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, December 2nd, the Tall Pine Council—Boy Scouts of America is bestowing its Distinguished Citizen Award on Brian and Dorie Barkey. A dinner will be held in their honor in Grand Blanc, Michigan.

Dorie Barkey retired from the Red Cross in 1999 and the Crim Race Director asked her to direct the Crim Adult Training Program. Brian became the volunteer training program coordinator about the same time. Under their leadership the training program set all time records for the following 8 years. Between 1999 and 2008 Dorie and Brian had enrolled 7200 trainees in the program. The training program is known nationally as the largest training program for a single event in the world.

Brian, a Genesee County attorney with over 37 years of law practice, served on the Crim Board of Directors for 15 years and was President of the Board for 4 years. Active with the Genesee County Bar Association, he served as editor of its publication, Bar Beat, for 3 years. He was recognized for his work in 2002 and was awarded the Genesee County Distinguished Mediator of the Year Award. The following year he served as the Genesee County Bar Association's President and he currently serves as the "chairman for life" of the Bar Association's Community Holiday Dinner. The Michigan State Bar Association bestowed its Unsung Hero Award on Brian for his work with the Crim Race in 2009.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Dorie and Brian Barkey as they receive the Distinguished Citizen Award. The Tall Pine Council grants the award to those persons that exemplify Scouting values and have made a significant impact in the community. Both Dorie and Brian Barkey have spent their lives working to build a better community and I wish them the best as they continue to assist the people of the Flint area.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS MASSACHUSETTS AND MR. DON DOWD

**HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commend Special Olympics, Massachusetts and longtime friend Donald J. Dowd. Both Special Olympics, Massachusetts and Mr. Dowd have been fixtures in New England and wonderful contributors to the people and culture of our region.

As my colleagues know, Special Olympics provides year-round sports training, athletic competition and other related programming for athletes with intellectual disabilities.

This organization founded by my Aunt Eunice Kennedy Shriver in 1968, contributes to the physical, social, and psychological development of people with intellectual disabilities. It is a global force for change with over 2.5 million athletes participating world wide representing over 140 countries.

In Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Special Olympics does amazing things for the people of New England. Special Olympics Massachusetts also offers Unified Sports, an initiative that combines approximately equal numbers of Special Olympics athletes and athletes without intellectual disabilities, called Partners, on sports teams for training and competition.

One of Special Olympics' greatest supporters has been Donald Dowd, or Don as I affectionately call him. He worked for and volunteered for my Father in the Other Body for over 40 years, as well as for my uncles. He was responsible for coordinating the opening of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and has served as a member of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation Board since its inception, helping to found the Friends of the Kennedy Library.

He is a lifelong resident of Springfield, Massachusetts, began his career in public service as President Kennedy's Assistant Regional Director of the U.S. Postal Service for the six New England States, and was a political advisor to U.S. Senator Robert F. Kennedy. I am proud to call him a friend and thank him for his dedication to my family, to Special Olympics, to our region and to our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I regret that I missed rollcall vote No. 902-904 and vote No. 911-913. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all rollcall votes.

HONORING WORLD AIDS AWARENESS DAY

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize World AIDS Awareness Day. This

awareness initiative started on December 1, 1988 with the purpose of raising money, increasing awareness, fighting prejudice, and improving education on HIV/AIDS topics. The World AIDS Day theme for 2009 is "Universal Access and Human Rights," serving as an important reminder that HIV/AIDS has not gone away, and that there are many things still to be done.

According to the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS, there are 33.4 million cases of HIV/AIDS worldwide. Approximately 1.1 million of these cases are in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and there are more than 50,000 new HIV/AIDS infections reported each year in America. Sadly, minority communities face the brunt of its reach. African American are the most affected, representing half of the total 1.1 million cases in the United States. Blacks are 8 times more likely to have AIDS than their White counterparts. The racial disparities are clear, with HIV being the main cause of death for both Black men and women between the ages of 25 to 44. It is of utmost importance that we take action and stand together to stop this pandemic from spreading further.

Congress has played its part in trying to stop the HIV/AIDS epidemic. I applaud the House for passing the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act. The Ryan White program has been serving people with AIDS and HIV for nearly two decades. It provides care, treatment, and support services to nearly half a million people—most of whom are low-income. This bill increases the authorization level for each part of the Ryan White program by 5 percent a year for the next four years, making important investments in care and treatment services to ensure the highest quality of life for HIV/AIDS patients, while also funding prevention and outreach programs. I have myself introduced H.R. 1964, The National Black Clergy for the Elimination of HIV/AIDS Act of 2009, which seeks funds for the prevention, testing, education, treatment and care of HIV/AIDS.

Although great efforts have been made to fight HIV/AIDS, much is left to be done by both, the government and citizens. World AIDS Awareness Day is about prevention, education, and increasing awareness of this pandemic that is affecting millions around the globe. This day will bring to many the education necessary to create the awareness necessary to prevent HIV/AIDS, as well as give us a moment to recognize and remember those who have suffered from this disease.

HONORING THE RESOLVE AND TEAMWORK OF THE NORTH BRANCH HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

**HON. CANDICE S. MILLER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the hard work, determination and teamwork displayed by the 2009 North Branch Varsity Girls Volleyball Team. These young women endured a grueling 83 match season and in the end came out on top as the Class B Michigan State Cham-

pions! They collected an impressive overall record of 76-5-2. This was a historic accomplishment because it was the first sports title ever in the school's history.

Coach Jim Fish did a tremendous job leading the team and bringing them together as a cohesive unit to accomplish a common goal—winning a state title. I commend all the assistant coaches, support staff, teachers, parents and fans in the community for their help and making this a season to remember.

However, the road to the state finals at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek was anything but a walk in the park. Despite graduating eight players from the 2008 squad, the Lady Broncos rolled through the regular season winning the Tri-Valley East Conference Title. Nonetheless, the Lady Broncos did hit a slight speed bump when they fell to Bloomfield Hills Marian. But in all fairness, I must state that Bloomfield did go on to win the Class A State Title. Now some teams might have taken this defeat as a negative experience, but not the Lady Broncos. They learned from this loss and rebounded to attain a number one ranking for most of the season.

North Branch realized the conference championship brought them just a step closer to their ultimate goal so the team once again pulled up their sleeves, laced up their shoes and got back to work.

The Lady Broncos continued their memorable quest as they picked additional trophies for the school's display case winning the district title and regional title and an eventual spot in the state quarterfinals.

Here the team faced-off against a feisty Cadillac Team. The Lady Broncos proved their tenacity and resilience as they beat Cadillac in four hard fought sets. Next North Branch was matched up against Delton Kellogg. But unfortunately for Kellogg, it just was not in the cards for them to win on this Saturday because destiny was on the side of the Lady Broncos. There was nothing Kellogg could do on the court to prevent North Branch from raising the championship trophy in glorious triumph. The Lady Broncos were determined to finish what they had started since the first practice of the season. And through all the sweat, injuries and difficult training sessions, the Lady Broncos saw their dreams come to fruition as they were crowned the Michigan Volleyball Class B State Champs!

Teamwork, dedication and friendship all helped deliver this first-ever championship in the schools sports history. The entire North Branch community and Lapeer County should take pride in what these young women accomplished.

I certainly share that pride and want to offer my congratulations to everyone who contributed to this team effort. First starting with the co-captains Kara Stuewer and Jordan Fish and team members—Katie Smillie, Danika Racknor, Taylor Wiegele, Layne Molosky, Samantha Garza, Hailey Smillie, Catherine Brusie, Laura Johnson, Macaela Deshetsy, Shanel Johnstone, Katie Owens, Stephanie Marsh, and Angela Root. You all should be extremely proud of this achievement.

In addition, I must mention that not only were these young women champions on the court but in the classroom as well. The volleyball team compiled an outstanding 3.49 GPA and achieved an all-state academic recognition.

My hat also goes off to Head Coach Jim Fish—Assistant Coaches Curt June, Chris

Schlaud, Marian Somerville, and Sue Fish—Athletic Trainers Mike Kohler and Brian Curtis and Team Managers Jacqueline Ken and Ali Ruhlman.

Great job North Branch on a successful season and I look forward to a repeat in 2010! Go Broncos!

A TRIBUTE TO REGINA MAINOR

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Regina Mainor. For years, Ms. Mainor has served the people of Philadelphia as the Director of North Central Victim Services. In December she will celebrate her retirement after many years of service to her community.

Regina Mainor was a hard worker from the beginning, obtaining her Bachelors Degree in Business Education and Masters Degree in Social Work from Temple University. Ms. Mainor obtained a position as Director of North Central Victims Services in 1999, and becoming Executive Director of the agency in 2002. The National Crime Victimization Services (NCVS) is a neighborhood victim service agency which specializes in working with victims of all ages, especially seniors. The NCVS provides crime victims compensation, crisis response, education, counseling, criminal justice/legal advocacy, court accompaniment, case management, and legal services, all of which are free of charge. Ms. Mainor helped the NCVS to get recognized as a federal non profit organization in 2002.

Ms. Mainor has been recognized by the NAACP with the NAACP Award for Community Service, and she was honored again in 2006 for the National Crime Victims Services Award for Professional Innovation in Victims Services.

Regina Mainor's long and impressive career showcases her commitment and service to her community. Her contributions to the area of Victim Services will be felt for many years to come. Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in thanking Regina Mainor for her work and congratulate her on the occasion of her retirement.

CONGRATULATING HERMAN AND MARJORIE WILLIAMS ON 60TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my esteemed colleague from Maryland, ELIJAH CUMMINGS, in order to congratulate Herman and Marjorie Williams of Baltimore, Maryland, as they celebrate sixty years of marriage. Since they exchanged their vows on November 24, 1949, these high school sweethearts have been extraordinary parents, friends, and members of their community.

Over the decades of their marriage, they contended against racism and segregation as

they pursued their careers, Herman as one of the first black firefighters in Baltimore and Marjorie at Westinghouse. Their commitment to hard work and to their family never wavered.

Herman eventually became the nation's first African-American major-city fire chief and Marjorie retired after a long and exemplary career. Even after her retirement, Marjorie has volunteered her time with many charitable organizations, dedicating herself to helping the less fortunate. Always an adventuresome spirit, she has also continued to pursue her love of travel.

The two of them together raised four wonderful and successful children: Marjorie, Clolita, Montel, and Herman. Marjorie and Herman have a fierce dedication to their family, and the values they instilled led their children to prominent careers in the arts, education, civil service, and broadcast media.

The Williams have been an inspiration to their friends, their family, to their community, and to everyone determined to triumph in the face of adversity.

On November 28, 2009, they celebrated their anniversary along with family and friends. Please join us in wishing them the best of luck as they continue to spend their lives loving and supporting each other and bringing joy and happiness to their family and friends.

IN MEMORY OF MRS. SARA BISSELL

**HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of one of my constituents, Mrs. Sara Bissell, of Charlotte, North Carolina. Mrs. Bissell passed away after a brave 11-year battle with cancer on November 8, 2009 at the age of 71. Born in Charlotte and the granddaughter of former North Carolina Governor Cameron Morrison, Mrs. Bissell attended Charlotte Country Day School and graduated from Bennett Junior College in New York.

Mrs. Bissell took over her mother's fine furnishing store in 1964 and ran it until recently. Her interior design influence can be seen throughout Charlotte's buildings and landmarks. Sara's contributions to her community were many and varied. She worked tirelessly, both out front and behind the scenes, to make Charlotte a better place. She served on the board of directors for Charlotte Country Day School, University of North Carolina—Charlotte, YMCA of Greater Charlotte, and Queens University. The Chancellor's residence at UNCC is named in her honor.

Sara married H.C. "Smoky" Bissell, a successful developer, in 1960. Together they had four children and nine grandchildren whom they loved and cherished. She was also the sister of Charlotte businessmen, Johnny and Cameron Harris. Mrs. Bissell will be greatly missed by her family, friends, and the Charlotte community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, this morning our national debt was \$12,089,226,465,642.57.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,450,800,719,348.77 so far this year.

According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, the forecast deficit for this year is \$1.6 trillion. That means that so far this year, we borrowed and spent an average \$4.4 billion a day more than we have collected, passing that debt and its interest payments to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING DR. AIDA LEVITAN, EMILIO ESTEFAN AND DR. EDUARDO PADRON: SOUTH FLORIDA MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN LATINO COMMISSION

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize several outstanding individuals from my South Florida community who have been named to serve on the National Museum of the American Latino Commission: President of Hispanic Events Dr. Aida Levitan, world-renowned musician and producer Emilio Estefan and Dr. Eduardo Padron, President of Miami-Dade College.

The Commission is charged with the planning, construction and design of the museum. The Commission's members will also help formulate the museum's organizational structure and how to engage the Hispanic community in its development and design.

These individuals are not only dedicated to the mission of making a National Museum of the American Latino a reality, but they are also representative of the great diversity of the Hispanic community that the museum will showcase.

The story and history of Hispanic-Americans is part of the rich tapestry of this nation's history. Hispanics have enriched our great nation in a myriad of ways. Hispanics have served proudly in America's defense from the American Revolution to our current engagement in Iraq and Afghanistan. The number of Hispanic-owned businesses approached 3 million in 2008 and they contribute approximately \$389 billion dollars annually to the U.S. economy.

The Hispanic-American experience is part and parcel of the American story. I will be honored to join these talented men and women tomorrow with the rest of the members of the Commission. Through their efforts, Americans from all walks of life will one day be able to see and appreciate the contributions of Hispanic-Americans to our great nation.

LEGISLATION TO EXPAND THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS' ROLE IN CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION

**HON. JOHN P. SARBANES**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to re-introduce legislation that would strengthen and expand the Army Corps of Engineers' role in Chesapeake Bay restoration—a mission they first began in 1996. This legislation would provide the Corps with continuing authority to engage in this work; expand the Corps' work to all six States in the Bay watershed and the District of Columbia; and provide flexibility for the Corps to work with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, and not-for-profit groups engaged in Bay cleanup.

As the Congress begins to consider the re-authorization of the Water Resources Development Act, we must take this opportunity to strengthen the role that the Army Corps of Engineers plays in Chesapeake Bay cleanup. We must turn the tide in the Bay cleanup effort so future generations can continue to enjoy the cultural, historic, and recreational benefits of the Bay and so it can continue to be an economic driver for the Mid-Atlantic region. The Corps can play an important role in that effort.

The Chesapeake Bay Environmental Restoration and Protection Program, which was established in section 510 of WRDA 1996, authorizes the Army Corps of Engineers to provide design and construction assistance to State and local authorities in the environmental restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. These projects range from shoreline buffers to oyster reef construction. As it is currently structured however, the program has been limited in its scope for several reasons. First, the Corps' restoration efforts have been limited to Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, which has precluded a comprehensive, watershed-wide plan that adequately prioritizes projects. Second, unlike all other major Federal agencies engaged in Bay restoration, the Corps has no small watershed grants program that engages State and local governments or non-profits in small scale restoration projects. This limitation is compounded by the Corps' intricate procurement processes. Finally, the matching fund requirements of the section 510 program does not allow for the use of in-kind services or contributions, which limits collaboration.

The Chesapeake Bay Commission, a multi-State legislative assembly dedicated to the restoration of the Bay, has previously identified these deficiencies and has recommended the several improvements to the program that are the basis for this legislation. For these reasons, I believe the bill would strengthen the section 510 program so that the Army Corps of Engineers can continue to be a strong partner in Chesapeake Bay cleanup.

I hope my colleagues will continue to support this legislation through the upcoming WRDA process.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR GREATER AWARENESS OF OVARIAN CANCER

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 1, 2009*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H. Res. 727, emphasizing the need for greater awareness about ovarian cancer and adopting the goals and ideals established by National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. Having lost my wife of 36 years, Jeanne, to ovarian cancer in 2004, I am acutely sensitive to the need for reliable early detection programs and effective treatments for late stage ovarian cancer. I am not alone in having lost a loved one to this disease—ovarian cancer is the deadliest of all gynecologic cancers, affecting over 20,000 women a year. Ovarian cancer is the fifth leading cause of cancer death in women, killing nearly 55 percent of those diagnosed within the first 5 years. Despite this tragically high toll, we still remain woefully ignorant of proper prevention strategies for ovarian cancer, and have yet to develop a reliable early detection program.

While over 90 percent of ovarian cancer cases can be prevented with early screening and treatment, many women remain unaware of their risk factors and the early symptoms of ovarian cancer are particularly difficult to accurately diagnose. Because of this, 75 percent of ovarian cancer cases are diagnosed in the advanced stages where it is often too late to prevent the cancer's spread. Awareness and early recognition are the best way to save women's lives.

Congress is making some effort to address the inadequacies in our current system. For example, in November 2005, the House passed the Gynecological Resolution for the Advancement of Ovarian Cancer Education in a bipartisan effort to increase the public's understanding of this deadly disease. The President and nonprofit advocacy groups are also engaged in educating the public. President Obama proclaimed September National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and throughout September, the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance held hundreds of events across the country to inform women about the importance of gynecologic exams, and to teach them about the warning signs of ovarian cancer.

Better education, more funding for research, and increased awareness efforts are critical to ensuring that we reduce infection and mortality rates for ovarian cancer in women. I urge my colleagues to continue our efforts to increase research funding to cure ovarian cancer and support public outreach programs on the prevention and treatment of gynecological cancers.

H1N1 VACCINE FOR PRISONERS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, as we all know there is limited supply of the H1N1

vaccines all over our country. In Texas, there was news that prisoners could receive the swine flu vaccine before children and pregnant women. There are over 45,000 inmates who are evidently in the "high-risk" group in Texas. The correctional institutions believe that the convicts deserve to be vaccinated. Due to the limited number of vaccines available for Texas, the inmates may not receive them as soon as they wish.

By what logic do you justify having inmates receive vaccinations as a higher priority than pregnant women and children? These individuals are the most vulnerable among us and should be of great concern; not to mention senior adults, caregivers, and many others that should be high on the list. When these vaccines are provided to the states it should go to our taxpayers before our "high risk" convicts. The government needs to step up to the plate and provide the available vaccines to the people who need them the most—the children.

RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL DIABETES MONTH

**HON. DIANA DeGETTE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, this week the co-chairs of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus joined with 129 original cosponsors to introduce H. Res. 914, a resolution supporting the observance of National Diabetes Month.

The resolution encourages people in the United States to fight diabetes through raising public awareness about stopping diabetes and increasing education about the disease. It also recognizes the importance of early detection, awareness of the symptoms of diabetes, and the risk factors for type 2 diabetes. Finally, it supports decreasing the prevalence of diabetes, developing better treatments and working toward an eventual cure for type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

Since diabetes afflicts nearly 24 million Americans and is the seventh leading cause of death, we must increase awareness and encourage the research to find cures. National Diabetes Month is observed every November and is an excellent way to build awareness about both type 1 and type 2 diabetes. Too many people are not familiar with the differences between type 1 and type 2 diabetes and how they are treated, what the risk factors are, and what sort of research is needed to make progress in the fight against this disease.

That is why the mission of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus is to educate Members of Congress and their staff about diabetes. It is also our mission to support legislation and other efforts to improve diabetes research, education, and treatment.

The legislative priorities of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus support the goals and ideals of National Diabetes Month. For example, H.R. 1995, The Eliminating Disparities in Diabetes Prevention, Access and Care Act, is designed to promote research, treatment, and education regarding diabetes in minority populations. This specific focus will help us address the unique challenges faced by minority populations and provide more effective treatment and education.

H.R. 1625, the Equity and Access for Podiatric Physicians Under Medicaid Act, would classify podiatrists as physicians for purposes of direct reimbursement through the Medicaid program. Podiatry is critical to the treatment and understanding of diabetes.

The Medicare Diabetes Self-Management Training Act, H.R. 2425, would make a technical clarification to recognize certified diabetes educators (CDE) as providers for Medicare diabetes outpatient self-management training services (DSMT). CDEs are the only health professionals who are specially trained and uniquely qualified to teach patients with diabetes how to improve their health and avoid serious diabetes-related complications. The 1997 authorizing DSMT statute did not include CDEs as Medicare providers. This exclusion has made it increasingly difficult to ensure that DSMT is available to patients who need these services, particularly those with unique cultural needs or who reside in rural areas.

Another bill that is a priority of the caucus is the Preventing Diabetes in Medicare Act, H.R. 2590. This bill would extend Medicare coverage to medical nutrition therapy (MNT) services for people with pre-diabetes and other risk factors for developing type 2 diabetes. Under current law, Medicare pays for MNT provided by a Registered Dietitian for beneficiaries with diabetes and renal diseases. Unfortunately, Medicare does not cover MNT for beneficiaries diagnosed with pre-diabetes. Nutrition therapy services have proven very effective in preventing diabetes by providing access to the best possible nutritional advice about how to handle their condition. By helping people with pre-diabetes manage their condition, Medicare will avoid having to pay for the much more expensive treatment of diabetes.

In addition, we are working hard to pass, H.R. 3668, and reauthorize the Special Diabetes Programs for Type 1 Diabetes and Indians. This program provides federal funding for the Special Statutory Funding Program for Type 1 Diabetes Research at the National Institutes of Health and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians at the Indian Health Service. H.R. 3668 would extend these critical programs through 2016 and increase funding for both programs to \$200 million a year.

I want to thank my colleague, Congressman MIKE CASTLE, for his many years of leadership working together with me as Co Chair of the Diabetes Caucus. I also want to thank the many Members who are supporting this effort and both sides of the House leadership for their bipartisan support of diabetes issues. I look forward to working with the Congressional Diabetes Caucus to pass the important legislation we are promoting and continuing to further the goals of National Diabetes Month.

RECOGNITION OF THE PILOT CLUB  
OF COLUMBUS ON ITS 70TH YEAR  
OF SERVICE

**HON. MARY JO KILROY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Pilot Club of Columbus for seventy years of service to the Columbus community. The Pilot Club is a volunteer service or-

ganization that focuses on helping those with brain-related disorders, such as Alzheimer's disease, autism, chemical dependency, traumatic brain injuries, and other disabilities.

Pilot International was founded in Macon, Georgia in October 1921 to provide volunteer services and to raise funds for those with brain-related disorders. In 1939, Pilot International chartered the Pilot Club of Columbus. Over the last seven decades, this organization has promoted awareness and prevention of brain-related disorders in Central Ohio and has provided support for countless individuals and families who are living with developmental, emotional, and mental disabilities.

The Pilot Club of Columbus creates a valuable network of service-minded individuals who have contributed to our community in numerous ways. In recent years, Columbus Pilots have provided furniture for a new senior citizen center and organized celebrations for patients at the former Ohio Psychiatric Hospital who have suffered from brain-related disorders such as Alzheimer and autism. The Pilot Club also has raised money to help individuals with autism and other neurological disorders and supports the BrainMinders project, which spreads information about preventing traumatic brain injury.

The Pilot Club has spent seven decades serving those who are struggling with the painful and complicated challenges associated with brain-related disorders. The Columbus Pilots have demonstrated their generosity, compassion, and commitment to making a difference in the city of Columbus. I am proud to recognize and honor the Pilot Club of Columbus and all of its dedicated volunteers for 70 years of valuable service.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR  
GREATER AWARENESS OF OVARIAN  
CANCER

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 1, 2009*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today in support of H. Res. 727, "supporting the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month." I would like to thank my colleague Congressman STEVE ISRAEL for his leadership on this very important issue, as ovarian cancer is the 5th leading cause of cancer deaths among women in the United States.

Ovarian cancer is the deadliest of all gynecological cancers. All women are at risk for ovarian cancer, but older women are more likely to get the disease than younger women. About 90 percent of women who get ovarian cancer are older than 40 years of age, with the greatest number being aged 55 years or older. Additionally, 90 percent of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer do not have a family history that puts them at higher risk. Early detection is vital, only 20 percent of ovarian cancers are found before tumor growth has spread beyond the ovaries. The chance of surviving ovarian cancer is better if the cancer is found early. Unfortunately, there is currently no reliable early detection test for ovarian cancer.

Among women in the United States, ovarian cancer is the eighth most common cancer and

the fifth leading cause of cancer death, after lung and bronchus, breast, colorectal, and pancreatic cancers. Ovarian cancer causes more deaths than any other cancer of the female reproductive system. In 2005, 19,842 women in the U.S. learned they had ovarian cancer, and 14,787 women died from the disease.

Ovarian cancer is known as a "silent killer" because it usually isn't found until it has spread to other areas of the body. Unfortunately, there is no simple and reliable way to test for ovarian cancer in women and the Pap test does not check for ovarian cancer. However, new evidence shows that most women may have symptoms even in the early stages, such as: bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, and urinary symptoms, among several other symptoms that are easily confused with other diseases. This new evidence has led to the first national consensus statement on ovarian cancer symptoms to provide consistency in describing symptoms to make it easier for women to learn and remember them. Awareness of symptoms may hopefully lead to earlier detection.

The mortality rate for ovarian cancer has not significantly decreased in the almost 40 years since the "War on Cancer" was declared. If ovarian cancer is diagnosed and treated at an early stage before the cancer spreads outside of the ovary, the survival rate is as high as 90 percent. However, due to the lack of a reliable screening test, 75 percent of ovarian cancer cases are diagnosed in an advanced stage when the five-year survival rate is below 45 percent.

I urge my colleagues to support the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. Education and awareness of ovarian cancer will save the lives of countless women.

HONORING EARL HALL

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Earl Hall upon being awarded with the "Community Health Champions Award" at the 2009 West Fresno Health Care Coalition's 5th annual "This is Your Life of Service" lunch and awards ceremony. This year the ceremony will be held at the Radisson Hotel Conference Center in Fresno, California on Tuesday, November 3rd.

Mr. Earl Hall was born in Oklahoma. When he was just six months old, the 1940's "Dust Bowl" hit his family's farm and they were forced to leave the area. Upon migrating to California, his family settled in Wasco, California. Mr. Hall's father was finally able to find employment as a farm manager for a family farm. Mr. Hall graduated from Wasco High School then attended Bakersfield Junior College and Fresno City College, where he earned his Associates degree. He transferred to California State University, Fresno and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Business in 1964.

Mr. Hall has dedicated his career to establishing and developing his business, Hall Ag

Enterprises. For the past forty-four years he has provided labor services with a safe and secure environment for his employees. During periods of water shortages, he has searched for other opportunities to place his workers to ensure that they are able to work and are able to provide for their families. Mr. Hall holds licenses that allow him to provide farm labor in twenty-nine countries. His business provides services to more than three hundred thousand acres and employs nearly thirty thousand people through out the state of California.

Beyond his generosity to his employees, Mr. Hall is dedicated to his community as well. He has provided financial assistance to various causes including health care, charitable organizations and child services. Mr. Hall is part of the Farm Labor Contractors Alliance, the California Association of Agricultural Labor and an active member of Ag SAFE. He is currently serving as the Chairman for the Fresno County Farm Bureau Labor Committee and the Rural Health and Safety Committee. In 2003, Mr. Hall was awarded the "Central California Excellence in Business Award" by The Fresno Bee.

As a young man, Mr. Hall was turned pro in the rodeo circuit; he is a lifetime member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboy's Association and is a "gold card" holder which allows him to compete in the over-fifty age group. He is involved in rodeo events by assisting and providing advice and sponsorship to youth preparing for rodeo events.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Earl Hall upon being awarded with the "Community Health Champions Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Hall many years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF STRAFFORD  
HIGH SCHOOL FLAMING ARROW  
INDIAN PRIDE MARCHING BAND

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2009*

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today with pleasure and pride to pay tribute to the achievements of the Music Department at Strafford High School in Strafford, Missouri. The Strafford High Flaming Arrow Indian Pride Marching Band and choir will participate in the events surrounding the December 31, 2009, Chick-fil-A Bowl in Atlanta, Georgia. A long-standing event at the bowl game is the National Chick-fil-A Bowl Band Festival.

The music festival has clinics and competition for choir, concert band, jazz band and marching band. The Strafford marching band and choir will compete against other schools while the Marching Band will march in the National Chick-fil-A Bowl Parade in downtown Atlanta on New Year's Eve. Game day, the Strafford band will participate in a pre-game and halftime massed band "extravaganza" of 2,000 members performing in the Georgia Dome Olympic Stadium.

Strafford, Missouri, is my hometown. Today, Strafford has a population of 1,845 citizens, and the high school has approximately 400 students. The band and choir are made up of 55 motivated, hardworking teens in concert and marching band, 20 students in jazz band

and 36 students in choir. The music department is under the direction of Shane Harmon.

The Strafford High Flaming Arrow Indian Pride Marching Band consistently ranks among the best bands in Missouri, earning first place at six judged events this year. At the 2007 Outback Bowl in Tampa, Florida, the Strafford concert band, jazz band and marching band each earned a 1st place Silver rating, and the concert choir earned a 1st place Gold rating. These achievements led to the invitation to participate at the band festival at the Chick-fil-A Bowl. This recognition is the result of long hours of practice, and dedication to excellence by Strafford students, faculty and their families.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, December 3, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 4

9:30 a.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the employment situation for November 2009.

SH-216

DECEMBER 8

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Federal drinking water programs.

SD-406

1:30 p.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine Afghanistan.

SH-216

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 1559, to consolidate democracy and security in the Western Balkans by supporting the Governments and people of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro in reaching their goal of eventual NATO membership, and to welcome further NATO partnership with the Republic of Serbia, and the nominations of Rajiv J. Shah, of Washington, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Mary Burce Warlick, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia, James B. Warlick, Jr., of Virginia, to

be Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria, Eleni Tsakopoulos Kounalakis, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Hungary, Leslie V. Rowe, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mozambique, Alberto M. Fernandez, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, Mary Jo Wills, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mauritius, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles, Jide J. Zeitlin, of New York, to be Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, and to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador, and Bill Delahunt, of Massachusetts, Elaine Schuster, of Florida, and Christopher H. Smith, of New Jersey, all to be a Representative, and Laura Gore Ross, of New York, and Wellington E. Webb, of Colorado, both to be an Alternate Representative, all of the United States of America to the Sixty-fourth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, all of the Department of State.

S-116, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Energy Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine H.R. 957, to authorize higher education curriculum development and graduate training in advanced energy and green building technologies, H.R. 2729, to authorize the designation of National Environmental Research Parks by the Secretary of Energy, H.R. 3165, to provide for a program of wind energy research, development, and demonstration, H.R. 3246, to provide for a program of research, development, demonstration and commercial application in vehicle technologies at the Department of Energy, H.R. 3585, to guide and provide for United States research, development, and demonstration of solar energy technologies, S. 737, to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to authorize the Secretary of Energy to conduct research, development, and demonstration to make biofuels more compatible with small nonroad engines, S. 1617, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a program for the award of grants to States to establish revolving loan funds for small and medium-sized manufacturers to improve energy efficiency and produce clean energy technology, S. 2744, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to expand the authority for awarding technology prizes by the Secretary of Energy to include a financial award for separation of carbon dioxide from dilute sources, and S. 2773, to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a program to support the research, demonstration, and development of commercial applications for offshore wind energy.

SD-366

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to consider certain intelligence matters.

S-407, Capitol

DECEMBER 9

9:30 a.m.  
 Indian Affairs  
 Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine S. 1690, to amend the Act of March 1, 1933, to transfer certain authority and resources to the Utah Dineh Corporation; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine Department of the Interior backlogs. SD-628

Veterans' Affairs  
 To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert A. Petzel, of Minnesota, to be Under Secretary for Health, and Raul Perea-Henze, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs. SR-418

10 a.m.  
 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
 Business meeting to consider the nominations of Jacqueline A. Berrien, of New York, Victoria A. Lipnic, of Virginia, Chai Rachel Feldblum, of Maryland, all to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, P. David Lopez, of Arizona, to be General Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Patrick Alfred Corvington, of Maryland, to be Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service, Adele Logan Alexander, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities, and Lynnae M. Rutledge, of Washington, to be Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration, Department of Education. SD-430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
 To hold hearings to examine five years after the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act, focusing on stopping terrorist travel. SD-342

Judiciary  
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security. SD-216

2 p.m.  
 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
 Economic Policy Subcommittee  
 To hold hearings to examine creating jobs in the recession. SD-538

Judiciary  
 To hold hearings to examine mortgage fraud, securities fraud, and the financial meltdown, focusing on prosecuting those responsible. SD-226

2:30 p.m.  
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
 To hold hearings to examine research parks and job creation, focusing on innovation through cooperation. SR-253

Finance  
 International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness Subcommittee  
 To hold hearings to examine exports' place on the path of economic recovery. SD-215

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
 Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee  
 To hold hearings to examine the diplomat's shield, focusing on diplomatic security today. SD-342

DECEMBER 10

10 a.m.  
 Energy and Natural Resources  
 To hold hearings to examine the role of grid-scale energy storage in meeting our energy and climate goals. SD-366

Foreign Relations  
 To hold hearings to examine Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation, done at Washington and London on June 21 and 26, 2007 (Treaty Doc. 110-07), and Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Australia Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation, done at Sydney, September 5, 2007 (Treaty Doc. 110-10). SD-419

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
 To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Grayling Grant Williams, of Maryland, to be Director of the Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement, and Elizabeth M. Harman, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, both of the Department of Homeland Security. SD-342

2:30 p.m.  
 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
 Disaster Recovery Subcommittee  
 To hold hearings to examine children and disasters, focusing on a progress report on addressing needs. SD-342

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

DECEMBER 15

10 a.m.  
 Energy and Natural Resources  
 To hold hearings to examine S. 2052, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a research and development and demonstration program to reduce manufacturing and construction costs relating to nuclear reactors, and S. 2812, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out programs to develop and demonstrate 2 small modular nuclear reactor designs. SD-366

2:30 p.m.  
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
 To hold hearings to examine certain nominations. SR-253

DECEMBER 17

10 a.m.  
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
 Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SR-253

2:30 p.m.  
 Energy and Natural Resources  
 Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee  
 To hold hearings to examine S. 1470, to sustain the economic development and recreational use of National Forest System land and other public land in the State of Montana, to add certain land to the National Wilderness Preservation System, to release certain wilderness study areas, to designate new areas for recreation, S. 1719, to provide for the conveyance of certain parcels of land to the town of Alta, Utah, S. 1787, to reauthorize the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act, H.R. 762, to validate final patent number 27-2005-0081, and H.R. 934, to convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands. SD-366