

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MR. PAUL FOREMAN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. Paul Foreman. Mr. Foreman served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as the Town of Dunkirk Highway Superintendent.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Foreman served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Foreman is one of those people and that is why Madam Speaker I rise to pay tribute to him today.

RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF
VIRGIL MILLER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Virgil White Miller, who passed away on February 20, 2010 at the age of 68. Virgil spent his life serving his country, his community, his family, and his church, and I am honored to recognize his life of dedication and service.

A native of Texas, Virgil Miller graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 1964. In college, Virgil met his wife, Kathryn Rogers, and he served in the Corps of Cadets. Upon graduation, he received a commission in the United States Air Force and moved to Fort Walton Beach, Florida. Virgil worked as a Mechanical Engineer for the Air Force Armament Laboratory at Eglin Air Force Base. He and his wife loved Northwest Florida so much that they decided to stay, and Virgil began his 32 year career as a civil servant with the Air Force Research Laboratory, retiring in 2000.

In addition to his service to our country, Virgil was an active member of our Northwest Florida community. A dedicated member of Fort Walton Beach First Baptist Church, he taught Sunday School, church training, Royal Ambassadors, and was a deacon, serving as chairman of deacons for two terms. Virgil also participated in disaster relief efforts with the Florida Baptist Convention on numerous occasions. In 2007, Virgil was elected to the Fort

Walton Beach City Council, where he served faithfully until his passing.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am humbled to recognize Virgil Miller as a veteran, public servant, community volunteer, and loving father and husband. My wife Vicki and I offer our prayers for his entire family, including his wife, Kathy, his children, Michelle, Kristyn, and Randy, his grandchildren, and entire extended family as we remember and honor the life of Virgil Miller. He will be truly missed by all of us.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ON RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN
IRAQ

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 944 and thank the Chair and Ranking Member for their efforts to bring this to the floor for consideration at such a pivotal time in Iraq.

A February 6 ABC News story opened with the following observation: "Across the Middle East, where Christianity was born and its followers once made up a sizable portion of the population, Christians are now tiny minorities."

This is perhaps no more true than in Iraq. With the exception of Israel, the Bible contains more references to the cities, regions and nations of ancient Iraq than any other country. The patriarch Abraham came from a city in Iraq called Ur. Isaac's bride, Rebekah, came from northwest Iraq. Jacob spent 20 years in Iraq and his sons (the 12 tribes of Israel) were born in northwest Iraq. A remarkable spiritual revival as told in the book of Jonah occurred in Nineveh. The events of the book of Esther took place in Iraq as did the account of Daniel in the Lion's Den.

Tragically Iraq's ancient Christian community is facing extinction. The U.N. High Commission for Refugees estimates that some 250,000 to 500,000 Christians have left the country since 2003, or about half the Christian population. According to the bipartisan U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), "while Christians and other religious minorities represented only approximately 3 percent of the pre-2003 Iraqi population, they constitute approximately 15 and 20 percent of registered Iraqi refugees in Jordan and Syria, respectively, and Christians account for 35 and 64 percent, respectively, of all registered Iraqi refugees in Lebanon and Turkey."

It is critical to note, as the figures above indicate, that the violence and intimidation that Iraq's Christians and other vulnerable ethnoreligious communities have faced is targeted.

In July 2008, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Migration & Refugee Services said this about the minority religious communities: "These groups, whose home has been what is now Iraq for many centuries, are literally being obliterated—not because they are fleeing generalized violence but because they are being specifically and viciously victimized by Islamic extremists and, in some cases, common criminals."

Reports indicate that since 2003, more than 200 Christians have been killed in Iraq, and since June 2004, 65 churches have been attacked or bombed. The situation facing these minority communities is not improving. In fact there has been a recent uptick in violence in the lead up to the elections in Iraq. A Reuters story last week reported that, "With Iraq's March 7 parliamentary vote looming, a spike in attacks against Christians could be a sign of voter intimidation by factions in the bitter Kurd-Arab dispute, or another attempt by al Qaeda to derail the election."

I have appreciated Ambassador Chris Hill's commitment to this issue. In recent correspondence he indicated that "the security of the Christian community remains one of my paramount concerns, especially in light of attacks directed at Christian churches in Baghdad and Mosul over the past five months."

But there needs to be leadership from the highest levels within the State Department as well. I have long advocated, both during the previous administration and in the current administration, that the U.S. needs to adopt a comprehensive policy to address the unique situation of these defenseless minorities. This resolution includes language urging the Secretary of State to develop just such a strategy.

It is time for this administration to start taking religious freedom seriously. The position of U.S. ambassador for International Religious Freedom has been vacant for more than a year while other more junior posts have been filled. There's a saying in Washington that personnel is policy. When there isn't personnel, the policy inevitably suffers.

The ancient faith communities of Iraq and others enduring religious persecution worldwide deserve a voice. This resolution is a step in the right direction.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, on Monday, February 22, 2010, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 49 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4425) and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 50 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4238).

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

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

HONORING HUGH GOODWIN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Hugh Goodwin upon being honored with the "Trail Blazers Award" by the African American Museum. Mr. Goodwin will be honored at the African American History Month Celebration and Banquet on Saturday, February 6th, 2010 in Fresno, California.

Mr. Hugh Wesley Goodwin, Sr. was born on May 6, 1921 to James and Anna Goodwin. He was the youngest of seven children. The family settled in Steelton, Pennsylvania where his father worked both as a steel worker and a Baptist minister. Mr. Goodwin served in the military during World War II. Upon his discharge he graduated from Harvard Law School and moved to California to practice law.

Mr. Goodwin was the first African American lawyer and judge in Fresno County. He opened his law practice in Fresno during the early 1950's. In 1957 Mr. Goodwin married Frances Jones. Together they raised four children; Hugh, Paul, Anna and Tom.

Over the next fifty years, Mr. Goodwin continuously advocated for disadvantaged people and challenged the racial boundaries at the time. Through his perseverance and advocacy, he earned a wide range of respect from his peers, as well as members of the community. Mr. Goodwin was very active in the community. He was a member of the Equal Opportunities Commission Legal Council and volunteered at the Fresno Rescue Mission. Mr. Goodwin served as President of the Fresno Black Caucus and President of the West Fresno Little League. After the little league games, Mr. Goodwin would take the scores and highlights to The Fresno Bee to be published in the paper the next day. He was a devout Christian; he attended Second Baptist Church and served many years as a deacon and a Sunday school teacher.

In 1976, Mr. Goodwin was appointed to the municipal court bench in Fresno County. While serving on the bench, he gained national attention when he sentenced convicted defendants to church rather than serving jail time or paying fines. Throughout the controversy, he remained committed to his beliefs. Mr. Goodwin returned to private practice in 1978 and remained practicing until 1996. Mr. Goodwin passed away in 2004.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Hugh Goodwin. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and wishing the best for his family.

HONORING SUSANNE SCHOLZ OF
LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Susanne Scholz on the occasion of her retirement as executive director of the Lake County Land

Trust. Susanne is a tireless advocate for the environmental protection of Lake County who will be missed by everyone in the conservation community.

Mrs. Scholz grew up in Alberta, Canada and received her B.A. with honors in liberal arts from Sonoma State University. She was a founding member of the Lake County Land Trust in 1993 and became executive director in 2000. Mrs. Scholz is an accomplished writer as well; she is a popular local nature columnist who also authored an anthology of poems and short stories. Suzanne is an avid birder and a knowledgeable naturalist whose keen skills of observation have enhanced her connection to the land and ability to serve in her position.

Mrs. Scholz has not only dedicated her professional skills to the conservation movement but her personal time as well. She serves as the membership chair for Redbud Audubon Society and is a member of the Lake County Grading Ordinance Committee, Lake County Resource Advisory Committee for the Secure Rural Schools Program, and she is a former board member of the Anderson Marsh Interpretative Association.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate at this time that we thank Susanne Scholz for her years of dedication and service on behalf of Lake County. She has been an exceedingly intelligent, reliable and professional executive director of the Land Trust who oversaw a vast expansion of conservation in Lake County. I join her husband Jim in thanking Susanne and wishing her a lifetime of fulfillment.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL VARNER
AS THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Michael Varner upon receiving the Escambia County, Florida Teacher of the Year Award. For thirty-five years, Mr. Varner has been an inspiration to his students, his colleagues, and his community, and I am honored to recognize his achievements.

After receiving his Bachelor of Science Education Degree and from the University of West Florida, Mr. Varner began his teaching career at J.M. Tate High School in 1975. For thirty-five years, Mr. Varner has been at the vanguard of teaching at Tate. He taught anatomy and physiology for eleven years, botany for ten years, and biology for thirty-five years. He has also worked as a Dual-Enrolled instructor with Pensacola Junior College for fourteen years. Since 2004, he has served as an adjunct professor at PJC. Mr. Varner is a member and a leader of the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA).

Mr. Varner has been widely recognized and honored for his years of teaching the students at Tate High School. He received the Tate Teacher of the Year Award in 1976, 1990, and 2010 and has been nominated twice for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Program. From 1998 to

2004, he was a top ten finalist for the NABT Outstanding Biology Teacher in Florida, and in 2005, Mr. Varner earned the NABT Florida Outstanding Biology Teacher Award.

Beyond the awards and the achievements, Mr. Varner is a top-notch teacher and a dedicated public servant. He goes above and beyond the call of duty to serve his students, utilizing real-world techniques to teach them concepts beyond the classroom. His students sign contracts, receive job orders, and earn paychecks for work completed. When the Tate administration was faced with canceling a dual-enrollment biology class because of low enrollment, Mr. Varner volunteered to sacrifice one of his planning periods to teach the class in spite of the cutback. His innovative methods of teaching have been adapted and utilized by dozens of other faculty members.

Mr. Varner's tremendous efforts extend well outside of his biology classroom. He served as the Senior Executive Board Advisor for nine years, teaching students to lead others and inspiring them to achieve success. He has also served as a scoutmaster, youth and music minister, and a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and Relay for Life. Mr. Varner is also known as the voice of Tate's band, the Showband of the South, and is commonly viewed as the custodian of the cultural history of Tate High School.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Michael Varner as the Escambia Teacher of the Year. He is a dedicated teacher, an inspiration to his students, and an honorable public servant. Vicki and I wish Mr. Varner, his wife Kathleen, and his sons, Jason and Brian, all the best for the future.

HONORING AMANDA PRUNTY,
SAMANTHA O'ROURKE, CEDRIC
WILSON, AND ALLISON
MENDITTO FOR WINNING THE
HONORING OUR FUTURE LEADERS
COMPETITION**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge four students in my district, Amanda Prunty, Samantha O'Rourke, Cedric Wilson, and Allison Menditto, from Bay Shore High School.

These students will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, they wrote their own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Amanda, Samantha, Cedric, and Allison for their academic and personal achievements and congratulate them upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

HONORING WAYNE WERTS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of

Wayne Werts of Auburn, Maine on the occasion of his retirement.

Having served his community for 33 years as a firefighter and an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Wayne Werts exemplifies the dedication and perseverance that our country holds in the highest esteem. Wayne joined the Auburn Fire Department on May 2, 1977. As an EMT, Wayne further advanced himself through an Associate's Degree in Fire Science, and then through a Paramedic certification—credentials which helped lead to Wayne being named Auburn Fire Department Chief on March 22, 2001.

In addition to his accomplishments as an active firefighter and EMT, Wayne is a long-standing leader in his community. He served as President of the Auburn Firefighters Association for 6 years and is in his seventh year serving on the Maine Fire Chiefs' Association Board of Directors as the representative for Androscoggin County. For 12 years, he has been appointed by the Governor to serve on the Maine Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Board as the Municipal EMS Provider Representative. In addition, Wayne serves on the Task Force for the All Hazards Training Facilities Study. While Wayne's dedicated leadership will be missed, he leaves a legacy that has increased the effectiveness and strength of his community's safety departments as well as that of the entire State of Maine.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Wayne Werts for his lifelong dedication and service to his community.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ON RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN
IRAQ

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, today I rise in strong support of H. Res. 944, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives on religious minorities in Iraq. Today's resolution highlights the struggles of Iraqi minorities since the invasion of Iraq in 2003 and offers solutions for peaceful reconciliation for the Iraqi people.

Madam Speaker, Southeast Michigan has one of the largest Arab-American populations outside the Middle East. It is estimated that there are well over 300,000 in Michigan, many of whom are Iraqi-American and are concerned on the future of Iraq. Specifically, the bill calls on the United States and United Nations to urge the Iraqi government to provide religious minorities with safe places of worship, guarantee protection of religious minorities, and ensure legal and political rights of this vulnerable population. This is vital because many of the more than 2.7 million Iraqi refugees are religious minorities.

Today's resolution will compliment President Obama's commendable plan to withdraw from Iraq in the summer of 2011. While withdrawal will do much to stabilize and empower the sovereign nation of Iraq, it is also important that the United States do its part to actively assist the Iraqi people in establishing policies that protect the civil rights and liberties of all Iraqi citizens.

HONORING TIFFANI JONES FOR
WINNING THE HONORING OUR
FUTURE LEADERS COMPETITION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a student in my district, Tiffani Jones, from Central Islip High School.

Tiffani will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, she wrote her own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Tiffani for her academic and personal achievements and congratulate her upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION
FOR THE TUCSON RODEO PA-
RADE—"LA FIESTA DE LOS
VAQUEROS"

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Tucson Rodeo Parade which on Thursday celebrates its 85th anniversary. The Parade Grand Marshall is James "Big Jim" Griffith, beloved storyteller, musician, and folklorist and a Tucson tradition in his own right.

Known as "La Fiesta de los Vaqueros," the parade is a time-honored tradition for thousands of residents and visitors. It is a much-anticipated community event that reminds us of our past as a region shaped by the independence, drive, and determination of cowboys and cowgirls.

The Tucson Rodeo Parade first was held on Saturday, February 21, 1925. Arizona had been a State for only 13 years, and Tucson was still very much a rough and tumble community on the edge of the American frontier. My hometown and home State were very different places 85 years ago. All of Arizona back then had a population smaller than Tucson is today.

The inaugural Rodeo Parade rolled through downtown Tucson the same year the city purchased 1,280 acres on its cactus-studded outskirts for a municipal airport. This swath of desert would, in just a few short years, become the home of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, one of our Nation's premier military installations.

Prizes for entrants in the first parade, long before air conditioning or the modern supermarket, included a 750-pound block of ice, 100 pounds of potatoes and a "Big Cactus" ham.

This colorful and exciting parade continues today as a kickoff for the Tucson Rodeo. The parade is a salute to southern Arizona's rich ranching history and our community's close ties with Mexico. With the nickname of "La Fiesta de los Vaqueros," the rodeo and the parade are a true "party of the cowboys."

The Tucson Rodeo Parade keeps alive the spirit of that first parade. It long has been known as "The Largest Non-Motorized Pa-

rade" in the country and achieves its success through strong community participation and the commitment of the Tucson Rodeo Parade Committee.

The Tucson Rodeo Parade has become such a cherished event that schoolchildren long have been given the day off so they can attend the festivities. In offices and work places all across Tucson jeans and cowboy boots are acceptable attire on parade day.

As a third generation southern Arizonan, I am proud to recognize the Tucson Rodeo Parade on its 85th anniversary and to commend the Tucson Rodeo Parade Committee for sustaining this wonderful tradition.

COMMENDING ROBERT BUSHELL

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Robert Bushell, who recently won national recognition from the Reading Recovery Council of North America. Mr. Bushell is currently the elementary education director in my home town of Warwick, Rhode Island.

Mr. Bushell has devoted more than 40 years to public education, including time as principal of Lippitt Elementary School. It was there that he began his involvement with the Reading Recovery program, a short-term program of one-on-one tutoring for first graders struggling with early reading and writing. When training locations for Reading Recovery closed in Rhode Island, Mr. Bushell fought to obtain funding for the construction of a Reading Recovery site in Warwick. Several different school districts in the State now use the Warwick facilities to train in the program.

In addition to securing funds to open up the Reading Recovery location, Mr. Bushell's efforts have paid off with the students themselves. After 20 weeks of 30-minute tutoring sessions with a trained teacher, these students are achieving higher scores on the NECAP (New England Common Assessment Program) and maintaining those scores for years afterwards.

Robert Bushell has richly earned the commendation that the Reading Recovery Council is bestowing upon him. Rhode Island has been lucky to have Mr. Bushell as an educator for over 40 years and to have his support on this educational program for 20 years as well.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Robert Bushell and wishing him continued success with the Reading Recovery Program in Rhode Island.

HONORING ARIANNA PANTIN AND
JANAI CLARK FOR WINNING THE
HONORING OUR FUTURE LEAD-
ERS COMPETITION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge two students in my district, Arianna Pantin and Janai Clark, from Deer Park High School.

Arianna and Janai will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, they wrote their own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Arianna and Janai for their academic and personal achievements and congratulate them upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL
RICHARD CODEL

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Michael Richard Codel, longtime journalist, Democratic activist and former member of the Peace Corps, who passed away January 13, 2010. Mr. Codel was a resident of Arlington and neighbor and dear friend of my colleague, Representative MIKE PENCE. He was born in Baltimore on April 20, 1939. Prior to graduating from Oberlin with a degree in political science in 1960, he spent many hours at the campus radio station, WOBC Radio. Unbeknownst to him at the time, his hours spent at the WOBC would become a launching pad for the endeavors he would delve into for the duration of his life.

Mr. Codel lived a life that was nothing short of exciting. Following graduation, he worked as a copy boy at the Democratic National Presidential Convention, and shortly thereafter found a post at the Cincinnati Post for a year and a half as a desk reporter. In December of 1962 he traveled to Nigeria to teach English for his Peace Corps assignment. In June of 1963, he transferred to Radio Kaduna TV, where he produced educational TV programs, driving around on a moped with a cameraman and interviewing government officials. Mr. Codel returned to the States in 1964, and took a job as a desk assistant to Howard Cosell. Longing to return to Nigeria, he landed a job with the AP London office to return to Nigeria, where he was posted in the Congo, instead. For the next few years, Mr. Codel covered a number of coup d'etats in Africa up until 1967. In 1965, on a trip to Congo, Mr. Codel took a picture of a Congolese man rolling up his sleeves. Soon thereafter, this picture was used on all Congolese paper money. After he wrote an article that President Mobutu found displeasing, he was asked to leave the country. But, it was also in the Congo where he met his future wife Birte Nielsen, who was working for the Danish Red Cross at a teaching hospital. Mr. Codel returned to London to work for the AP until 1969. There, his son, Edward Kai Codel was born.

In 1969, he moved his family to Geneva to work for Business International as an associate editor for the Magazine Business Europe covering Africa and Scandinavia. While working for Business International he wrote Sweden: Toward a Post-Industrial Society and Prospects for Business in Developing Africa, and his daughter, Kirsten Roslyn Trego was born. Mr. Codel and his family returned to the United States in 1974, where he worked as a

Public Relations specialist for the American Health Care Association. During his time at the AHCA, he wrote the Patients Bill of Rights for nursing home residents. In 1982, Mr. Codel suffered a brain tumor, which left him unable to perform his duties at AHCA, and he became a free-lance writer.

Along with his passion for family, travel, and work, he also had a great love for politics and the political process. He was involved with the Arlington Democratic Committee for many years, campaigning for several County Board members, several Governors of Virginia, and also volunteered under the Carter administration in the White House press section. Michael Codel led a good life and left behind a legacy which will keep him in our hearts forever. He will be greatly missed by many.

HONORING SGT. ALAN HAYMAKER

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a fallen hero of Chicago, police Sgt. Alan Haymaker. Alan was killed in the line of duty Sunday night in a tragic car accident while responding to a burglary call. A husband and father of three, Alan was just 56 years old.

Alan was a third generation police officer, but before he was an officer he was a man of the cloth. A graduate of both the Moody Bible Institute and Trinity Evangelical University, he spent the early part of his life as an associate pastor at an evangelical church on the Northwest Side. In 1988, he traded in his robe for a badge, but his faith made him a different kind of police officer.

Alan's commitment to his community never wavered for an instant after he changed career paths. He stood out for letting neighborhood meetings run sometimes hours long just so he could hear from everyone in the room. Twelve years ago he was promoted to Sergeant, where he mentored countless young officers ensuring that Chicagoans will benefit from his counsel, service and wisdom for years to come.

Today, I offer my deepest sympathy and most profound condolences to the Haymaker family and anyone who ever knew or worked with Alan and grieves his passing. Portage Park and all of us in the 5th district have lost one of our finest. May Sgt. Alan Haymaker rest in peace.

HONORING ASHLEY MORENO AND
JAMILAH LINDO FOR WINNING
THE HONORING OUR FUTURE
LEADERS COMPETITION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge two students in my district, Ashley Moreno and Jamilah Lindo, from Amityville High School.

These students will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, they wrote their own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Ashley and Jamilah for their academic and personal achievements and congratulate them upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. NADLER of New York. Madam Speaker, I missed one vote on February 23, 2010. I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 55, final passage of H. Res. 1046.

BILLY'S LAW

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to voice my support of H.R. 3965, the Help Find the Missing Act, a.k.a. "Billy's Law."

Named after Billy Smolinski, a 31-year-old Connecticut man who went missing in 2004, this Act revamps our national systems for finding and identifying missing persons for the 21st century, and provides families with the updated tools and technology they need to find loved ones who have disappeared.

Right now, we have two databases for missing persons and unidentified remains in America—the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUS) and the FBI's National Crime Information Center, NCIC. And yet, neither share data with the other, and thus too much information slips through the bureaucratic cracks.

"Billy's Law" rectifies this glaring error by combining these two systems into one comprehensive database and funding it appropriately, one that families can use and even update with additional information on loved ones who have disappeared. This bill is an outgrowth of recommendations made in the wake of Connecticut's 2007 Law Enforcement and Missing Persons Act, and it is an easy fix that will redound to the benefit of families all across America in search of a missing loved one.

No one should have to deal with all the bureaucratic frustrations and red tape experienced by Billy's family as they searched for him. Put simply, "Billy's Law" removes a needless barrier between two stovepiped databases and brings our missing persons systems up-to-date with 21st century technology. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and to give thousands of American families the tools and the peace of mind they deserve.

HONORING ALFRED MULLER,
AROSA ARSHAD, DIMITRI JONES,
EBONEE PADILLA, AND
ESTEFONIA YACTAYO FOR WIN-
NING THE HONORING OUR FU-
TURE LEADERS COMPETITION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge five students in my district, Alfred Muller, Arosa Arshad, Dimitri Jones, Ebonee Padilla, and Estefonia Yactayo, from Brentwood High School.

These students will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, they wrote their own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Alfred, Arosa, Dimitri, Ebonee and Estefonia for their academic and personal achievements and congratulate them upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

REGARDING: MR. AMIGO 2009,
VINCENTE FERNANDEZ, JR.

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Vicente Fernandez, Jr., a Mexican Charro, actor and singer, who has been named Mr. Amigo 2009 in Brownsville, Texas, for the Charro Days Fiesta celebration.

Mr. Fernandez has been a lifelong supporter of the Mexican arts and culture through his love for mariachi music as well as being a traditional Charro. These important attributes make him the appropriate Mexican representative for our festivities.

Brownsville, Texas, located in Deep South Texas on the U.S.-Mexico border, is a unique subtropical area of this country—rich in its history and culture. For more than 70 years, this unique celebration, which brings the United States and Mexico together during the week-long events, has continued to attract thousands of people to the Rio Grande Valley.

Mr. Amigo, who has to be a Mexican citizen who has done extensive work in the arts and culture while promoting the bi-cultural, bi-literate, and bi-national efforts of the United States and Mexico, is the attraction of the week-long festivities.

Mr. Vicente Fernandez, Jr., son of the renowned Mr. Vicente Fernandez, an iconic Mexican singer, grew up close to the spotlight seeing his father sing and perform. At a young age, Mr. Vicente Fernandez, Jr. appeared on-stage as a performer at the Teatro Blanquita in Mexico City. He went on to later appear and perform at the El Million Dollar Show in Los Angeles, California.

He has appeared in numerous Mexican films with his father, and together they have recorded several albums, including "El Mayor de los Potrillos" in 2001 and "Vicente Fernandez hijo con Mariachi" in 2002.

In 2006, Mr. Vincent Fernandez, Jr., debuted in Mexico with his show of horses that are trained to gallop while he sings and the mariachi band plays.

In 2009, he fulfilled one of his dreams, showcasing his music at a sold out Palacio de los Deportes, an indoor sports complex in Mexico City, where he sang and performed.

I am humbled that Mr. Vicente Fernandez, Jr., a proven Mexican ambassador of the arts and culture, was able to join our community of Brownsville to celebrate the Charro Days Fiesta.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the work, leadership, vision and efforts of Mr. Vicente Fernandez, Jr., to promote the arts and culture, which make him an extraordinary Mr. Amigo 2009.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the United States Parole Commission Authorization Act of 2010 to permanently authorize the United States Parole Commission (USPC). This bill is intended to prevent a replay of a narrowly averted catastrophe in 2008, when Congress nearly failed to temporarily reauthorize the USPC before its authorization expired. Since 1992, Congress has temporarily reauthorized the USPC five times. Now that the USPC has continuing responsibilities for Federal and District of Columbia Code Offenders, it is important to stabilize this important public safety agency with the same kind of authorization as other Federal law enforcement agencies.

The first three-year reauthorization of the USPC began when the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 (SRA) abolished Federal parole and replaced it with determinate sentencing, requiring a sentencing judge to impose a fixed term of supervised release that is served by offenders after completing their prison terms. In order to accommodate Federal offenders convicted of crimes while parole was still in effect, the SRA called for the USPC to remain in existence until November 1, 1992, and the USPC has been temporarily reauthorized five times since then. Today, the agency grants, denies or revokes parole from Federal offenders who are not otherwise ineligible for parole, and makes determinations regarding supervised release for others.

The USPC, however, has had important new responsibilities for more than 10 years. To help alleviate a serious financial crisis in the District of Columbia, and at the city's request, the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act (Revitalization Act) transferred the responsibility for, and the costs of, certain state functions from the District to the Federal Government, including the transfer of responsibility for D.C. Code Offenders from the D.C. Board of Parole to the USPC. The Revitalization Act also eliminated parole in the District, and instituted the District's version of determinate sentencing, similar to the Federal system. The USPC's duties with respect to D.C. Code Offenders vary according to the date on which the crime at issue was committed. For D.C. Code Offenders who committed crimes before August 5, 2000, and are not otherwise eligible for parole,

the USPC is currently responsible for granting, denying or revoking parole, and making determinations regarding supervised release. For D.C. Code Offenders who committed crimes after August 4, 2000, and who are sentenced to a determinate sentence of imprisonment followed by a term of supervised release, the USPC is responsible for making determinations regarding supervised release.

The USPC also has other ongoing duties. These responsibilities include granting or denying parole for United States citizens convicted of crimes in a foreign country who elect to return to the United States to complete their sentences, parole-related functions for certain military and state offenders, and decision-making authority over state offenders who are on state probation or parole and are transferred to Federal authorities under the witness security program.

Today, however, most of the USPC's day-to-day work involves District of Columbia Code Offenders. As of September 2009, the USPC had or will have responsibility for approximately 2,500 Federal offenders and approximately 9,500 D.C. Code Offenders. Eventually, the USPC will have jurisdiction over almost no Federal offenders, but will continue to have jurisdiction over D.C. Code Offenders.

There are two primary reasons for permanently extending the life of the USPC. First, as then-Attorney General Ashcroft reported to Congress in 2002, "there is no District of Columbia or federal agency, other than the USPC, with the staff, procedures, and infrastructure in place to effectively assume the functions of the USPC." And, as Edward F. Reilly Jr., then-Commissioner of the USPC similarly pointed out in his 2008 statement before the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, there is no other entity with the statutory authority to do so.

Second, and most important, the failure to extend the life of the USPC raises serious due process and ex post facto issues for offenders. In addition to its other provisions, the SRA requires the USPC, before its expiration, to schedule a release date for all parole-eligible offenders. Thus, without an extension, the USPC would be required under federal law to set release dates for all parole-eligible Federal prisoners, within 3 to 6 months before its expiration, or face due process challenges for a failure to set such release dates. This requirement could mean an arbitrary adjustment of prisoners' release dates, as well as the stripping of inmates of their right to contest their release dates, to periodic review and modification of those release dates, and to an earlier release date, after the USPC went out of existence.

This issue has already arisen. In a case before the Federal Third Circuit Court of Appeals in 2008, the petitioner argued that with the expiration of the USPC at the end of that year, and the "winding up" provision in the SRA requiring the USPC to set a release date for offenders within 3 to 6 months before the USPC's expiration, the USPC's decision to set a reconsideration hearing date instead of a release date violated the SRA. In response, the U.S. Attorney did not refute this claim but argued that Congress would likely extend the USPC, rendering moot the petitioner's claim that his right to the setting of a firm parole release date before the USPC's expiration had been violated. The Third Circuit then directed the U.S. Attorney to provide information regarding the pending expiration of the USPC

and the likelihood of its extension. Responding to this directive, the U.S. Attorney argued that the costs of failure to reauthorize the USPC were so high, and the constitutional issues so serious, that reauthorization was essentially guaranteed. "Congress itself has expressed concern over potential ex post facto problems that a failure to authorize might create," the U.S. Attorney wrote, relying on language from the legislative history of the Parole Phaseout Act of 1996. "Constitutional requirements, specifically the ex post facto clause, necessitate the extension of the commission or the establishment of a similar entity authorized by statute to perform its functions."

The Third Circuit crisis in 2008 led Congress to reauthorize the USPC just in time, but only for another 3 years. The ordeal dealt a serious blow to the USPC. This year, we seek to obtain reauthorization not only well ahead of time, but to avoid a ritualistic reauthorization of a permanent law enforcement agency every 3 years. It will be particularly important to bear in mind that the close call the USPC had in the Third Circuit, could be repeated in the other 11 circuits. It is clear that a timely, simple reauthorization would have been beneficial to all concerned—the USPC, Congress, and the courts. I ask Congress to permanently extend the USPC to ensure the smooth and constitutional operation of the Federal and District of Columbia criminal justice systems.

HONORING VALERIE KUTZLER
AND AUDREY ZAMICHAW FOR
WINNING THE HONORING OUR
FUTURE LEADERS COMPETITION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge two students in my district, Valerie Kutzler and Audrey Zamichaw, from East Islip High School.

Valerie and Audrey will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, they wrote their own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Valerie and Audrey for their academic and personal achievements and congratulate them upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR
REPRESENTATIVE DALE KILDEE

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today to honor Congressman DALE KILDEE on the occasion of his twenty thousandth vote.

Congressman KILDEE has proudly represented Flint area residents in Michigan's State House, State Senate and U.S. Congress for over 46 years.

Only missing twenty seven votes during his thirty three years in Congress, with a large portion of those during a hospital stay, Con-

gressman KILDEE has been nicknamed the "Cal Ripken of Congress". His strong work ethic demonstrated in his exceptional voting record has also translated into many legislative victories.

Throughout his career, Congressman KILDEE has been a champion for children, from serving as a local high school teacher, to Chairman of the House Page Program, to working to establish child protection measures and additional development programs for children as a Member of Congress.

As a senior member of the Education and Labor Committee, and as the Democratic Chairman of the Congressional Auto Caucus, Congressman KILDEE has been a tireless supporter of auto workers in Michigan and around the nation, helping to establish worker retraining programs and new job opportunities. Through these efforts, Dale was able to establish a Job Corps Center in Flint to provide vocational and academic training for young people with the goal of helping them to improve their own quality of life.

I am proud to serve alongside my good friend DALE KILDEE, who has been a fighter for the people of Michigan; from his avid protection of our Great Lakes, to his support for worker protection laws and support of children's education. DALE has served as a mentor to me throughout my career in Michigan public office and I am proud to call him a friend, and happy to be able to congratulate him on the occasion of his 20,000th vote here in the House of Representatives.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN
CHARLIE WILSON

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Congressman Charles Wilson, who passed away on February 10th, 2010. Representative Wilson was a great statesman who served the 2nd Congressional District in Texas from 1972–1996.

Charles was born in a small town in Texas, where he developed a deep sense of pride as a Texan and a strong dedication to the American way. As a young man he served in the United States Navy where he rose through the ranks and was given the privilege to serve as part of a Soviet Union nuclear intelligence unit based out of the Pentagon. While serving in the military, 27-year-old Charles was able to effectively run for and win the office of State Representative in his native Texas. This began a 12-year political career in Texas that earned him the nickname "liberal from Lufkin".

In 1972, Wilson was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he became most recognized for his role in the dismantling of the communist Soviet Union's occupation of Afghanistan. He deeply believed in the sovereignty of the Afghani people and was able to use his influence on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense to help provide the funding for their liberation. Although the media has primarily focused on his accomplishments abroad, Charles always maintained Lufkin, Texas as one of his number one priorities. Some of his greatest domestic accomplishments include the creation of the 100,000-acre

Big Thicket National Preserve and the Lufkin VA Hospital.

Madam Speaker, Charles Wilson was a political giant who brought his Texas-sized gusto for democracy and his passion for serving the American people to our Nation's capitol. He will be greatly missed not only by his wife and sister, but by the American people.

HONORING CHRISTINA CAPUTO
FOR WINNING THE HONORING
OUR FUTURE LEADERS COM-
PETITION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a student in my district, Christina Caputo, from Half Hollow Hills West High School.

Christina will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, she wrote her own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Christina for her academic and personal achievements and congratulate her upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

RECOGNIZING GREG FIRST OF
ZEPHYRHILLS, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Greg First of Zephyrhills, FL. For most of his life, Greg has been a faithful servant to his community, volunteering himself to many causes which have helped to enrich the lives of many.

Born to Jimmy and Mary First in Bedford, Ohio, Mr. First moved to Zephyrhills with his family at the age of ten. After graduating from Zephyrhills High School, he attended the University of Maryland and served in the United States Air Force from 1968 to 1972.

Mr. First has volunteered himself, quite literally, having donated a total of 16 gallons of blood while Director of Public Relations for Blood Net, in addition to volunteering for Meals on Wheels, Relay for Life, and a local hospice. He has kept up the spirits of Zephyrhills residents as an announcer for Main Street parades and high school football games. A three-time president of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. First has been a Christian Radio DJ, a lifetime Am Vet member, and he even started his own local news website, "What's Up Zephyrhills?"

Madam Speaker, on February 26, the city of Zephyrhills will honor Greg's achievements. I ask you to join me today to honor him on the floor of the House. May we all give back to our communities as much as Mr. First has.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Ms. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following rollcall votes on February 23, 2010. I would have voted as follows:

Had I been present on rollcall No. 51: "yes"; rollcall No. 52: "yes"; rollcall No. 53: "yes"; rollcall No. 54: "yes"; rollcall No. 55: "yes."

HONORING EMILY SMITH, ALDA YUAN, JAIME ZAHL, ALYSSA GRIFFIN, AND STEPHANIE SCHNEIDER FOR WINNING THE HONORING OUR FUTURE LEADERS COMPETITION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge five students in my district, Emily Smith, Alda Yuan, Jaime Zahl, Alyssa Griffin, and Stephanie Schneider, from Islip High School.

These students will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, they wrote their own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Emily, Alda, Jaime, Alyssa, and Stephanie for their academic and personal achievements and congratulate them upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

HONORING DOLPHAS TROTTER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Dolphas Trotter upon being honored with the "Trail Blazers Award" by the African American Museum. Mr. Trotter will be honored at the African American History Month Celebration and Banquet on Saturday, February 6th, 2010 in Fresno, California.

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, now 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 Service. 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. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and wishing the best for his family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, February 2 and Wednesday, February 3, 2010, I was unable to be present for votes while I was attending to a health-related matter.

Had I been present on Tuesday, February 2, 2010, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 26 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4495), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 27 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 957), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 28 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1014).

Had I been present for votes on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 29 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 1051), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 30 (on agreeing to H. Res. 1051, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4061), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 31 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1043, as amended), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 32 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 901, as amended), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 33 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1044, as amended).

HONORING LINDSEY LEFEBER FOR WINNING THE HONORING OUR FUTURE LEADERS COMPETITION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a student in my district, Lindsey Lefebber, from Northport High School.

Lindsey will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, she wrote her own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Lindsey for her academic and personal achievements and congratulate her upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

RECOGNIZING HONDA'S MANUFACTURING COMMITMENT TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the extraordinary commitments made by Honda over the last three decades to create jobs and expand its solid manufacturing base in Ohio and throughout the nation.

In 1979, Honda opened manufacturing operations in the United States with small-scale production of dirt bikes in Marysville, Ohio. From that initial footprint, Honda has grown into one of our nation's most important job creators, with nine manufacturing and thirteen research and development facilities located across the nation. Honda directly employs roughly 27,000 Americans—15,000 in my home state alone.

With so much focus on jobs moving overseas, Madam Speaker, it is often too easy to overlook the value and importance of direct foreign investment in this nation. The more than \$12 billion invested by Honda in the United States—with \$7 billion of that invested in Ohio alone—supports not only those 27,000 employees but also more than 340,000 others employed at Honda suppliers, dealers, and servicers nationwide.

Honda was the first Asian automaker to build products in the U.S., recognizing the value of siting manufacturing plants in sales markets. Since 1996, three in four Honda and Acura automobiles sold in this country have been manufactured in North America. The company's total U.S. auto production reached one million in 2007—with 700,000 produced at Ohio's Honda plants.

Three communities in my district are home to major Honda facilities. More than 2,750 are employed in Anna, which produces engines, drivshafts, and brake components. The transmission manufacturing facility in Russells Point employs an additional 1,050. The 2,500 workers at the plant in East Liberty assemble the Crosstour, CR-V, and Element. Thousands more in my district work at the dozens of companies of all sizes that provide parts to these facilities.

Madam Speaker, direct foreign investments in the U.S. put more Americans to work and strengthen our manufacturing base. Especially in these tough economic times, I am proud of the strong role that Honda plays in the U.S. and Ohio. I applaud everyone at the company on its distinguished record of manufacturing quality, corporate citizenship, and job creation over the last 30 years.

HONORING THE 68TH ANNIVERSARY OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize February 19, 2010 as a day of remembrance, on the occasion of the sixty-eighth anniversary of Executive Order 9066.

February 19th will forever be a reminder of the injustice and racial prejudice of World War II internment. This day marks the anniversary of a momentary erosion of America's core principles—a time when over 120,000 Americans were denied their civil rights and imprisoned against their will. At the same time, this anniversary represents our nation's incredible ability to reaffirm our commitment to protecting the freedoms of all Americans.

Following the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, our government succumbed to apprehension and hysteria by targeting many of its own citizens who had nothing to do with the attacks. Executive Order 9066, which was neither justified nor necessary, was issued as a way to assuage growing fears that Japanese-American citizens constituted a threat to national security. This unfortunate decision was shaped by panic and prejudice, and demonstrated that courageous political leadership in this most trying of times was lacking. By commemorating and remembering the failure of our government to uphold the Constitutional rights guaranteed to every American, future generations will hopefully avoid repeating these past mistakes.

Over 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were sent to internment camps and wrongly imprisoned. And though our country's participation in World War II may have ended in triumph, the mistreatment of Japanese, Italian, and German Americans cannot be excused.

In the decades following Executive Order 9066, we have taken several substantial steps to study, remedy, and learn from the negative legacy of the internment while preserving the heritage of those affected. The directive was officially repealed in 1976, and a commission was formed to study the impact of relocation on Japanese Americans. In 2008, we celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act, which was a major step forward in righting the wrongs perpetrated during this difficult period in our nation's history. It is for these reasons that I rise today to call on all Americans to reaffirm our commitment to inalienable, constitutionally-provided rights. This dark period in our history must always be remembered critically, while also appreciated, as a symbol of our ability to acknowledge and rectify mistakes. As I look back to this time in our nation's history and see how far we have come in the intervening years, I see great hope for our future.

HONORING COREY ANDERSON FOR WINNING THE HONORING OUR FUTURE LEADERS COMPETITION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a student in my district, Corey Anderson, from Sayville High School.

Corey will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, Corey wrote a personal rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Corey for outstanding academic and personal achievements and congratulate Corey upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

COMMENDING THE U.S. NAVY FOR ITS WORK IN HAITI

SPEECH OF

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1048 which honors the work of the men and women of the USNS *Comfort* and the United States Navy in the immediate response to those affected by the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010.

The Navy's support is ongoing and to date, the *Comfort* has treated more than 900 Haitians and has performed more than 750 life saving surgeries. Together with her sister ship, the USNS *Mercy*, these vessels serve as ambassadors of good-will during periods of desperation all around the world. Their mission is always a benevolent one and their commitment to areas of strife and devastation highlight the best qualities of what it means to be an American—that we stand by always ready to assist and will never forsake those who are in need.

The earthquake that hit Haiti was the most devastating it has seen in 200 years. Words cannot adequately describe the destruction that took the lives of more than 200,000 people, leveled the capital city, and left thousands of survivors with an uncertain future coupled with worries about hunger, disease, and injuries. Into that morass of suffering we stepped in as a nation to assist the good Haitian people with the USNS *Comfort* and the Navy as part of the vanguard.

The USNS *Comfort* has a storied history. Among its most notable deployments were:

—In 2007 when it embarked on a four month humanitarian assistance mission throughout Latin America and the Caribbean that treated more than 98,000 people in 12 countries. This type of mission highlights the diplomatic role our military plays as it works in concert with the State Department in being ambassadors of good-will.

—In 2005 when *Comfort* responded on our own shores after the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, providing treatment to thousands in the Gulf Coast region. Despite regional devastation, the USNS *Comfort* was

able to provide critical emergency hospital services for residents and first-responders before regular service was restored.

—In 2003, when *Comfort* deployed to war and served as an afloat trauma center for two months during the initial stages of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

—In 2001, immediately in the aftermath of the 9-11 attacks, when *Comfort* deployed in support of Operation Noble Eagle and provided meals, housing, medical and psychological services to volunteer and relief workers at New York's ground zero.

This is just a sampling of the ship and crew's operational history since *Comfort* was delivered to the Navy in 1987. Untold thousands have benefited from these missions.

Madam Speaker, while many know of *Comfort* and *Mercy's* life-saving work, few realize that these ships almost did not come into the Navy's fleet. USNS *Comfort* and USNS *Mercy* began their lives as oil-tankers a decade before being delivered to the Navy as hospital ships. In fact, they were destined for the scrap yard, if not for the intervention of Congress and specifically the Appropriations Committee.

It was a Congressional Initiative that was the catalyst for the birth of the *Mercy* Class Hospital Ships. My colleagues and I on the Appropriations Committee saw a need for this life-saving capability when others sought to scrap these ships. We saw the value in these *Mercy* Class Hospital Ships, to provide a unique capability of being some of the largest U.S. trauma centers with the distinction of having world-wide mobility. Even in the face of airfield closures, destroyed infrastructure, and interrupted communications, as long as the sea is navigable, the USNS *Comfort* and USNS *Mercy* can get there. Once on the scene, a fully crewed ship brings 1,000 medical professionals, a hospital with a full spectrum of surgical and medical services including four X-rays, a CAT scan unit, a dental suite, two oxygen-producing plants, and 5,000 units of blood. The ships have 12 operating rooms and a total bed capacity of up to 1,000. In short, they are fully functional floating hospitals able to give first-rate care where otherwise there would be no treatment options.

Madam Speaker, As we take the time today to honor the men and women who proudly serve this country aboard the USNS *Comfort*, let us also remember the broad scope of compassionate contributions that our servicemen and women are providing around the world in both non-hostile and hostile environments. Often times we forget that our military performs many humanitarian functions that other agencies and nations depend upon, be it logistical support or whole-scale nation-building. Their efforts and their sacrifice go beyond expressions of remorse and tangibly demonstrate our level of commitment to peace and prosperity for all.

RECOGNIZING DON ANDERSON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Boone, Iowa Police Department's Assistant Chief, Mr. Don Anderson, who, with over three decades of law enforcement service to his community, will officially retire on March 1, 2010.

Assistant Chief Anderson graduated from Boone High School in 1973 and shortly thereafter joined the United States Army. Following six years of service as a military policeman with the Army, he returned to Boone and joined the police force in July of 1979. After serving six years as a desk officer and taking criminal justice classes at the Des Moines Area Community College Boone Campus, Mr. Anderson became a patrolman. In 1993 he was promoted to captain, and by 2002 Mr. Anderson had ascended to Assistant Chief of the Boone Police Department.

In addition to keeping the streets of Boone well protected, Assistant Chief Anderson has been a key figure in various local outreach projects, including the "Shop with a Cop" and "Safety Pup Officer" programs, which have helped educate the community about law and safety related issues.

With his retirement from the Police Department, Assistant Chief Anderson plans on spending more time with his wife, Maria, as well as his children and grandchildren. In true devotion to his community, even in retirement, Assistant Chief Anderson plans to work part-time for the Boone County Attorney's Office.

Madam Speaker, it is individuals like Don Anderson who exemplify the dedication and willingness to serve that keep our nation running safe and strong. I sincerely appreciate the work Assistant Chief Anderson has done and I am proud to serve him, his family and his fellow law enforcement colleagues in the United States Congress.

HONORING THE HEROISM OF THE
SEVEN AND/DEPLOYED TO HAITI

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my support for H. Res. 1059, honoring the bravery and heroism of our local urban search and rescue teams for their lifesaving efforts in Haiti.

The earthquake of January 12, 2010 was a horrific event that wreaked untold devastation and tremendous loss of life on Port-au-Prince and its surrounding areas. In a matter of minutes, 200,000 people lost their lives. It was a sobering reminder of how fragile life is. The response, worldwide, to this awful tragedy has been a comforting reminder of our resilience and willingness to lend aid and hope to those in need.

The men and women of the Fairfax County, Virginia, New York City, Los Angeles, Miami, Miami-Dade and Virginia Beach urban search and rescue teams immediately left for Haiti, risking their own lives to save others. Day in and day out, these men and women serve their local communities, providing lifesaving care at home, but when there are people in great need, America's local urban search and rescue teams always rush to answer the call. During the initial days after the quake, these men and women brought relief to worried families and hope to an anxious nation with daily rescues from the rubble.

We should all be thankful for their efforts, and I am especially proud of Virginia Task Force 1 from Fairfax, which I represent. During its time in Haiti, Virginia Task Force 1 participated in the rescue of 16 people. While the untold loss of life was horrific, the efforts of all of our urban search and rescue teams made a difference.

I continue to offer my deepest sympathy to the people of Haiti as they cope with the aftermath of this terrible tragedy. I commend the heroic men and women of Virginia Task Force 1, and all our urban search and rescue teams, for so richly embodying the American spirit that says if you are in need, we will help. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010, H.R. 3326.

Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

H.R. 3326

RDTE, AF

Louisiana Tech University, 700 W. California Ave, Ruston, LA 71272

Remote Language—Independent Suspect Identification \$2,560,000. Louisiana Tech University seeks funding for research in remote language-independent suspect identification. Our researchers have developed technologies that use mathematical models for identity verification. Aspects of this work have been commercialized in the private sector. The University has worked with the Air Force and industry partners in further development of the algorithms and software for military applications. These funds will support our faculty and partners identified by the Air Force in extending the development of these algorithms.

Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

H.R. 3326

RDTE, A

Pennington Biomedical Research Center, 6400 Perkins Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Military Nutrition Research: Four Tasks to Address Personnel Readiness \$800,000. Provide ongoing research to continue the Army's responsibility for military nutrition research across all branches of military service. The work focuses on the improvement of health and performance of the American Armed Forces.

Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

H.R. 3326

RDTE, N

C&C Technologies, Inc. 730 E Kaliste Saloom Rd., Lafayette, LA 70508

Semi-Submersible UUV for Sensor Enhancements \$1,400,000. The ideal vehicle for providing risk reduction for technology and operations is the unmanned semi-submersible vehicle. Rather than requiring costly and complex acoustic navigation and telemetry systems, semi-submersible unmanned vehicles

may be integrated with standard GPS and radio communication systems. This project also supports NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration.

Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

H.R. 3326

RDTE, N

QinetiQ-North America, 40201 Highway 190 East, Slidell, LA 70461

Sonobuoy Wave Energy Module (SWEM) \$800,000. The Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) is currently seeking alternatives to batteries as long-term energy sources for long life environmental and anti-submarine warfare sonobuoys. SWEM technologies have near term application to NAVAIR's Sensor for Environmental Assessment buoy project as well as to a wide range of evolving sonobuoy types and classes. SWEM power modules enable longer term, continuous operation of systems without battery replacement.

MICHAEL G. RIPPE

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Michael G. Rippe and the renaming of the Metro Parkway Extension in Fort Myers to the Michael G. Rippe Parkway.

Mr. Rippe earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mining Engineering Technology from the West Virginia Institute of Technology. He joined the Florida Department of Transportation in August 1989. From 2000–2004, he served as the Director of the Southwest Area Office. Throughout this time, Mr. Rippe was an integral part in keeping Florida's roads safe and efficient.

In 2004, Mr. Rippe was appointed Director of Transportation Development for Florida Department of Transportation, District One. His work contributed to the development of many roads and bridges in Southwest Florida. Mr. Rippe's contributions to the Department of Transportation have been a huge asset for my district and the entire state of Florida.

Throughout his career, Mr. Rippe had worked closely on many major highway and bridge projects. He assisted in resolving various design and construction issues with local government and private citizens. His work on U.S. 41 projects accelerated job schedules and saved millions of taxpayer dollars.

I would like to recognize Mr. Rippe for his numerous contributions to the citizens of Lee County, and I speak on behalf of all Floridians when I say that we are proud of his accomplishments. I strongly support renaming the Metro Extension Parkway in Lee County, Florida to the Michael G. Rippe Parkway.

Thanks to Mr. Rippe's commitment, the citizens and visitors of Southwest Florida will benefit from his lasting legacy of safe, modernized roads for many years to come. Madam Speaker, it is a true honor to represent dedicated public servants like Mr. Rippe in Congress.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF HARLEM'S BELOVED JAMES E. BOOKER, SR. FONDLY KNOWN AS THE DEAN OF BLACK JOURNALISTS & FORMER SPECIAL ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise with great pride, admiration and sadness as I pay tribute to my dear friend and life-long buddy, Brother James E. Booker, Sr., as we celebrate the passing of one of Harlem's greatest National Correspondents and Political/Community News Columnists at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Harlem.

As I speak with profound honor and respect for my friend Jimmy, I ascend to celebrate a life well-lived and to also remember the many journalistic professional accomplishments of this remarkable man. Always dressed in his signature bowtie look, Jimmy Booker penned his name in history. He was the classic newspaperman, a writer with a remarkable flare for accuracy, integrity and style. Jimmy's columns, "The Uptown Lowdown" and "Top Drawer Stuff," were informative, edgy and insightful capturing unfolding stories about Harlem, Black New York. City Hall, Albany and our Nation's Capital.

James E. Booker, Sr., was born in Riverhead, New York to Fletcher and Elizabeth Booker on July 16th, 1926. He was reared, attended school, and worked on his father's farm in Riverhead, New York. In 1948, Booker graduated from Howard University in Washington, DC, with a Bachelor's in Arts in Journalism, and then moved to New York City to begin a career in Journalism working as a reporter for the Amsterdam News in Harlem. In 1950, he served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He later returned to his job as a Journalist with the New York Amsterdam News.

Jimmy referred to his 16 years at the Amsterdam News, where he eventually became Executive Editor, the most exciting of his journalistic career. He traveled the country, interfacing with such notables as the Rev., Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, National Urban League Director, and Whitney M. Young, all of whom he developed a first name relationship with.

On December 22nd, 1956, he married the former Jeanne Carol Williams, in New York, and moved to the newly erected Lenox Terrace, where he lived for the remainder of his life. In 1964, the couple had a son, James E. Booker Jr. (Reverend James E. Booker, Jr). In 1966, Jimmy took his family to Washington, DC, to work as Special Advisor to President Lyndon Baines Johnson. In 1968, Jimmy returned home to Harlem, and opened up his own public relations business, "James E. Booker Associates" on 527 Madison Avenue in New York City.

Jimmy leaves behind a great written legacy of stories, history, adventure, and legendary achievements that will continue to uplift all of our African American families to the highest levels of advancements. Jimmy story includes some of the most important historic episodes of the 20th century. When Fidel Castro arrived

in Harlem in 1960, Jimmy Booker was there, interviewing the young Cuban for one hour at the famed Theresa Hotel. Figures like Malcolm X, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. and National Urban League founder, Whitney M. Young.

Even the notorious Bumpy Johnson who ruled the streets of Harlem did not escape the pen. Jimmy knew first hand how dangerous a man he was. "He put a gun to my head and told me he didn't like what I had been writing," Booker once told a group of friends one night at the Theresa Hotel where he frequented, amusing listeners with many incredible tales.

He covered us many times, Percy Sutton, Basil Paterson and David Dinkins, the infamous Gang of Four with those same remarkable attributes that made us so revered in his famous national and local weekly columns. He served the cause of justice by covering the biggest stories of the Civil Rights Movement, giving the world insight on groups like the NAACP and the Black Panthers Party.

For years his column in the Amsterdam News was chocked full of tidbits and gossip about Harlem, the kind of "who shot John" stuff that never failed to keep readers' attention. Later, during his tenure at the New York Beacon, he maintained his tireless contact with every facet of the community's activities, roving from board meetings, to funerals, to rallies, to wherever the action was. Booker's Columns were published weekly in many independent and syndicated news and community publications including: "The Afro Times," "The Daily Challenge," "Big Red," and "The Twilight."

Jimmy was also a very close advisor to many politicians, activist and community organizations, past and present, including Lloyd E. Dickens, "The Fox" J. Raymond Jones, Fred E. Samuels, Professor Preston Wilcox, Dr. John Henrik Clarke, Edward Fordham, Inez E. Dickens, Keith L.T. Wright, C. Virginia Fields, Hazel N. Dukes, Dr. Annie B. Martin and the NAACP to name just a few.

Jimmy was also fond of Harlem's Nightlife where he covered many luminaries, entertainers and personalities like Count Basie, Billy Eckstine, Sammy Davis, Jr., Charles Honi Coles, Leroy Myers, Gregory Hines, Pop Brown, George Benson, Nat Davis, Irene Reid, Jimmy "Preacher" Robins, Gloria Lynne, Savion Glover and the Prince of Harlem, Lonnie Youngblood, at the Theresa Hotel and later at Harlem's famous Showman's Jazz Café. Mr. Booker held court on a regular basis with his longtime friends Al Howard, Mona Lopez, Diamond Lil Pierce, Tanya Alfonso, Ida Fernandez, and members of "The Showman's Elites" and "The Disciples."

He will long be remembered for his extraordinary commitment, humor, liveliness, energy, wisdom, discipline, principle and clear purpose which won the admiration of all who were privileged to come to know and work with him during his distinguished career. Jimmy E. Booker, Sr. was called home on Friday morning, February 5th, and his home going services took place on February 9th, at Harlem's historic Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, which was a major stop on the Underground Railroad.

Madam Speaker, I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to observe and experience his example as a personal inspiration. Though Jimmy is no longer with us, we will continue to keep his memory alive in our

hearts and minds, and continue to honor his legacy with our advocacy for the issues he cared about the most. We are all blessed to have known, Jimmy E. Booker, Jr., a titan of a man who witnessed history with a pen that gave us all life.

HONORING HUGH GOODWIN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Hugh Goodwin upon being honored with the "Trail Blazers Award" by the African American Museum. Mr. Goodwin will be honored at the African American History Month Celebration and Banquet on Saturday, February 6th, 2010 in Fresno, California.

Mr. Hugh Wesley Goodwin, Sr. was born on May 6, 1921 to James and Anna Goodwin. He was the youngest of seven children. The family settled in Steelton, Pennsylvania where his father worked both as a steel worker and a Baptist minister. Mr. Goodwin served in the military during World War II. Upon his discharge he graduated from Harvard Law School and moved to California to practice law.

Mr. Goodwin was the first African American lawyer and judge in Fresno County. He opened his law practice in Fresno during the early 1950's. In 1957 Mr. Goodwin married Frances Jones. Together they raised four children; Hugh, Paul, Anna and Tom.

Over the next fifty years, Mr. Goodwin continuously advocated for disadvantaged people and challenged the racial boundaries at the time. Through his perseverance and advocacy, he earned a wide range of respect from his peers, as well as members of the community. Mr. Goodwin was very active in the community. He was a member of the Equal Opportunities Commission Legal Council and volunteered at the Fresno Rescue Mission. Mr. Goodwin served as President of the Fresno Black Caucus and President of the West Fresno Little League. After the little league games, Mr. Goodwin would take the scores and highlights to The Fresno Bee to be published in the paper the next day. He was a devout Christian; he attended Second Baptist Church and served many years as a deacon and a Sunday school teacher.

In 1976, Mr. Goodwin was appointed to the municipal court bench in Fresno County. While serving on the bench, he gained national attention when he sentenced convicted defendants to church rather than serving jail time or paying fines. Throughout the controversy, he remained committed to his beliefs. Mr. Goodwin returned to private practice in 1978 and remained practicing until 1996. Mr. Goodwin passed away in 2004.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Hugh Goodwin. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and wishing the best for his family.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

As Chair of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel and Co-Chair of the Women's Caucus Task Force on Women in the Military and Veterans, I am privileged to honor these women who, almost 70 years ago, became pioneers for women's equality in the Armed Forces.

And now, on March 10, 2010, we will honor their legacy as the first female aviators in American military history with the award of the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Women Airforce Service Pilots are referred to as the WASPs.

Unlike many acronyms used in the military, this is an apt name.

Like wasps, their work demanded a unique combination of feistiness and strength, underlined by loyalty to their fellow WASPs and their country.

I am astounded by their tenacity and their bravery.

And yet, despite that dedication, these women have encountered difficulties in being recognized for their service.

This ceremony will be an illustrative example of our indebtedness to their service, and I hope all of my colleagues will join me in thanking the WASPs.

This group of unsung heroines demonstrates the courage of servicewomen in the past, the integrity with which women serve today, and the enthusiasm of the young women who dream of serving this great nation in the future.

I am therefore honored to ask for authorization for the use of Emancipation Hall for the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony.

TRIBUTE TO DIANE BERRY CAVES

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, our nation lost an extraordinary public servant on January 12, 2010, when a catastrophic earthquake devastated the island nation of Haiti. Diane Berry Caves died tragically in Port-Au-Prince helping others in the impoverished country through her work at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Her life and her dedication to public service are an example and high standard for us all.

This remarkable young woman accomplished more in her 31 years than many people contribute in a lifetime. A devoted wife, daughter and sister, Diane dedicated her life to helping those less fortunate. Her profes-

sionalism and commitment to improving the world around her was recognized twice with outstanding service awards. In 2008, Diane was awarded the Public Administration Achievement Award from the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, one of the country's best policy schools. Last year, Diane was chosen from 6,000 other Federal workers and honored as the Atlanta Federal Executive Board Employee of the Year.

Diane grew up in the heart of my congressional district and graduated from Oak Ridge High School, where teachers remember her as an outstanding student and her classmates described her as adventurous. In addition to her work at the CDC and graduate studies at Georgia State University, Diane furthered her thirst for knowledge through book clubs and even found time to hike both the Andes Mountains and European Alps. There is no doubt, Diane's work ethic and zest for life left a lasting impression and inspired those around her.

The void she leaves in public health, outreach and volunteerism will be felt far beyond the CDC in Atlanta and her hometown of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. May Diane's family be comforted by her memory and may her extraordinary legacy serve as an example to others.

LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT EXCHANGE EXPANSION AND JOB CREATION ACT OF 2010

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Exchange Expansion and Job Creation Act of 2010," legislation combating the housing and unemployment crises.

The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit is the nation's largest and most successful affordable rental housing production program. It has financed more than two million homes since 1987 and about 120,000 annually in recent years. This program provides tax credits to developers who agree to build or rehabilitate affordable housing. It includes both "9 percent" credits, which state housing finance agencies can allocate in amounts up to a state-level ceiling, and "4 percent" credits, which are available to all developers who receive allocations of tax-exempt bonds to build rental housing.

The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) of 2009 contained a provision that enabled the temporary exchange of unusable low-income housing credits. This exchange has enabled more than 600 affordable housing developments to proceed around the country, providing affordable homes to more than 30,000 low-income families and creating more than 35,000 jobs. The ARRA provision allowed investors to exchange low-income housing credits for grants at 85 percent of the value of the credits at virtually no cost to the federal government. Unfortunately, this provision only applied to 9 percent housing credits.

My legislation would expand this temporary credit exchange opportunity to include 4 percent credits. In 2007, prior to the financial markets crisis, states partnered with private

developers using 4 percent housing credits to create nearly 70,000 rental homes affordable to low-income working Americans and 85,000 housing-related jobs. In 2008 and 2009, the number of affordable homes and jobs produced by the 4 percent credit program fell by nearly 50 percent as capital available for investment disappeared.

I am introducing this bill because our country cannot afford to let this valuable 4 percent tax credit program fall into disuse due to the economy's downturn at a time when our country is in desperate need of more jobs and more affordable places for low-income families to live. Providing a safe and stable home gives families the critical foundation to find employment, get an education, and play an active role in their communities. Passage of this bill will allow cost effective investments leading to both more jobs and more housing for low-income working Americans and benefit our communities for years to come.

I hope that you will join me in supporting this legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN M. HITCHCOCK

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John M. Hitchcock, who will be retiring as Executive Director of Hillside Home for Children in March 2010.

John M. Hitchcock was born in New York, NY on April 23, 1940. He received his BA in Math and Chemistry from the University of Michigan in 1963 and his MA in Social Work from Wayne State University in 1965. John and his wife, Ida, have been married for over 40 years and reside in Pasadena. The Hitchcocks have two sons, David and Bob, and one granddaughter, Kate.

In 1971, John joined Hillside Home for Children as Assistant Director and then became Executive Director and President of Hillside Education Center in 1981. Since then, John has been responsible for the overall operation of Hillside, which encompasses the management of the 17-acre campus, the operation of three local group homes, and planning, directing and coordinating Hillside's activities.

Under Mr. Hitchcock's leadership, Hillside has become an exemplary residential treatment program for children. The Hillside Education Center continues to be an invaluable resource for the community, and the scope of programs and services provided by Hillside has expanded to serve not only abused, abandoned and neglected children but also children and families in crisis living in Los Angeles County. John helped provide residential care, community-based support, special education and transitional assistance to emancipating foster youth, and in 2006, opened a large apartment complex, which serves as a transitional living facility for 20 emancipated foster youth.

Mr. Hitchcock has served on many boards and commissions including Planned Parenthood of Pasadena, Camp Wrightwood, Coalition for a Non-Violent City, Gooden Center, and the Association of Community Human

Service Agencies, and he has served as Chair of the Episcopal Commission on Advocacy for Children and Youth. John is actively involved in the Foster Care Project at All Saints Episcopal Church, and he is a Canon in the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles.

For over 40 years, John has truly been a voice for at-risk children. His kindness, foresight, leadership and extraordinary energy have profoundly impacted the lives of the 25,000 children and their families in his care over the years. By maintaining a deep awareness of the children's current needs as well as personal knowledge of each of the residents in Hillside's care, John has created a warm, loving environment where children feel secure enough to rebuild hope for the future.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring John M. Hitchcock for nearly 40 years of dedicated service to Hillside's Home for Children and the entire community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is 12,409,374,679,862.09.

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 \$1,770,948,933,568.29 so far this Congress. The debt has increased \$6,347,500,206.80 since just yesterday.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL LARRY DODGEN

HON. PARKER GRIFFITH

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American who was a good friend of mine and a good friend of north Alabama—Lieutenant General Larry Dodgen. General Dodgen passed away this past Saturday leaving a void in our Huntsville community. He was a battle tested soldier, having led his battalion into war in 1993 during Operation Desert Storm. Later in his career, he became commander of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM) at Redstone Arsenal. He assumed this command on September 10, 2001, and led during a trying and transformative time in our nation's history. Following that duty, in 2003, he was tapped to command the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command headquartered at Redstone (SMDC/ARSTRAT). He was fully invested not only in the Arsenal, but also in the Huntsville community. He was a leader in the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process on Team Redstone. Following his retirement from his distinguished career in the United States

Army, he remained in the community and became the corporate lead executive of Northrop Grumman's Huntsville operations. Men such as General Dodgen are rare; he was a true servant who was fully involved both in his profession and his community. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Leslie, and his many friends and family who are mourning at this time. Next month I will join with many others to honor him as he is laid to rest among his fellow heroes at Arlington National Cemetery. We will all truly miss this great man, and are better for having had the opportunity to know him.

HONORING GLOBAL FAMILY DAY FOUNDER LINDA GROVER

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, on February 20, 2010, we lost a dedicated and tireless voice for the pursuit of peace and global sharing and cooperation, Linda Grover. I joined Ms. Grover in the founding of Global Family Day, an effort to celebrate and promote harmony within the global family every January 1st, but it was Linda whose every undertaking was in the name of Global Family Day.

Linda Grover, an author, writer, and activist, was resolute in her belief that all people, regardless of race, culture, religion, or economic status, celebrate life on earth together as one human family. It was in the promotion of this ideal, that Linda Grover and her children conceived Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing, an international holiday that would allow people around the world to engage in global fellowship.

Linda's Global Family Day initiatives were supported by the Congress and United Nations. In 2000, the 106th Congress unanimously passed S. Con. Res. 138 and in 2006, the 109th Congress unanimously passed H. Con. Res. 317 and S. Res. 582. These Congressional resolutions urged the President of the United States to issue an annual proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe Global Family Day. In 1999 and 2001, United Nations General Assembly resolutions, UNRes54/29 and UNRes56/2, were passed, recognizing a day of peace on January 1st and encouraging Member states to observe the global holiday.

This Congress, I introduced another Global Family Day resolution, H. Con. Res. 221. In this purpose, I was joined by Representative DENNIS KUCINICH and Senators HARRY REID and DANIEL INOUE. It was Linda's hope, as well as ours, that there finally be a proclamation issued by the President asking that the citizens of the United States celebrate Global Family Day, thereby resulting in the Day's widespread observance.

In advancing Linda Grover's legacy, we will continue to pursue this proclamation and recognize Global Family Day every January 1st. Just as Ms. Grover believed, I think that, despite our differences, each of us has an interest in pursuing peaceful solutions to many of our contemporary world problems. A better appreciation for one another, practiced at the start of a new year, can only lead to the eradication of human suffering that results from violence, hunger, poverty, and other social ills.

Even in the weeks right before she died, Linda worked diligently to spread the Global Family Day message. Linda said, "it's [Global Family Day] is going to improve our global attitude and give us a slightly better chance to overcome all these global crises that are demanding global solutions. Economy, Environment, Energy, Ethnic Enmity, Education, Employment, Epidemics—and those are just the ones that start with the letter E."

Linda's fight and determination to spread the message of peace and sharing through Global Family Day will be missed. However, I will work to make sure that the message is not forgotten. Linda is survived by three children, who I understand will continue their mother's work to champion Global Family Day, and I will join them in this effort. We must all understand, as Linda did, that by working together as one global family, we can better meet the challenges humanity will face in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker. I was unable to be present for votes on Monday, February 22, 2010. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on Rollcall Vote No. 49 and Rollcall Vote No. 50.

NEXT GENERATION CHOICES FOUNDATION: WORKING TO LESSEN CANCER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, like so many Americans, my family and I have been touched by cancer. I have worked over the years in Congress as a member of the Congressional Cancer Caucus as well as my service on the Appropriations Committee to support measures to help fight cancer, including historic increases in research funding for the National Institutes of Health, NIH. I have always believed that ensuring adequate funding for medical research on diseases such as cancer is an important priority for the federal government.

There is another important component in the fight against cancer being lead today, Madam Speaker, by Bill Couzens, one of my constituents from Middleburg, Virginia. He heads a grassroots nonprofit organization—the Next Generation Choices Foundation—that he founded over 6 years ago, to build awareness for cancer prevention by reducing environmental exposures both known and suspected to be linked with cancer. After the loss of his sister Anne, mother Joan and several close friends, he felt the need to create an organization that would focus on the root causes of the worldwide cancer epidemic and increase awareness on ways to reduce exposures and choices linked with human health and the environment. He says he learned that there are healthy choices that can be made by individuals and communities to work toward a world

with less cancer, including nutritional food options for families.

Next Generation Choices in turn has formed the Less Cancer Campaign, which has grown to become a worldwide leader in cancer prevention awareness, with over 10,000 members, friends, and fans on Facebook. The reach of the Less Cancer Campaign has been wide; numerous other organizations have followed its lead and collaborated to fan the flame for cancer prevention around the globe. These combined efforts have raised awareness for Less Cancer, not just here in America, but around the world.

The Less Cancer and new Healthy Town campaigns are working to help guide communities and individuals on understanding the importance of making strong choices, and providing information on options and resources available to assist them in making healthy decisions. While most often pointing to options for the consumer, the organization in some rare cases has provided food cards, information for healthy food choices, and even shoes for children who need to get out and move, run and play.

While Mr. Couzens' personal experience inspired his passion to help lessen the grip of cancer on society, he also understood the importance of working with scientists and physicians who have a depth of work in evidenced-based science. Next Generation Choices board of directors includes Ronald B. Herberman, M.D., founding director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, associate vice chancellor for cancer research, Hillman professor of oncology, and professor of medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Dr. Herberman is an internationally recognized tumor immunologist who has made major discoveries in his field and has fostered the application of this information to novel approaches in cancer therapy, diagnosis and prevention. The phenomenon of natural killer, NK, cell-mediated cytotoxicity against tumors was first discovered in Dr. Herberman's laboratory at the National Cancer Institute in the early 1970s. In addition to his pioneering investigation of NK cells, Dr. Herberman has played a leading role in multiple areas of tumor immunology.

Other leaders in science and medicine on the board are Maryann Donovan, Ph.D., the director of the Center for Environmental Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, and Thomas M. Sherman, M.D., a gastroenterologist. The board also includes professionals in industry and business. Greg Lam and John Couzens both contribute from their years in business and nonprofit management. Miles M. O'Brien is a 26-year broadcast news veteran. Based in New York City, he owns a production company that creates, produces, and distributes original content across all media platforms. For nearly 17 years he worked as a correspondent, anchor, and producer for CNN based in Atlanta and New York. At various times he was CNN's science, space, aviation, technology, and environment correspondent. Also on the board is Veronique Pittman, a trustee of The Rainforest Foundation and Round Hill Hotels and Villas, and a partner with Rainforest Native, which imports fair-trade ecological products from the Amazon rain forest. In addition, she sits on the Leadership Council of the Green Schools Alliance and is an Advisory Board member of the Sustainable Acai Project and Global Goods Partners.

Next Generation Choices, Less Cancer, and Healthy Town are closely associated with cancer prevention, but also work to reduce all illnesses associated with human health and the environment. As Mr. Couzens has said, "When communities and individuals work to make healthier choices, great strides toward preventing cancer and other illnesses including heart disease, diabetes, and obesity can be made. By educating people and unifying individuals and programs—transformation will occur for the next generation."

Madam Speaker, the battle against cancer will take the work of individuals, communities, businesses and governments, and we salute the effort of Bill Couzens and Next Generation Choices as they raise awareness on ways we can all be involved in this fight.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. KELLY REFFETT'S YEARS OF SERVICE TO ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITIES

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Kelly Reffett's years of work in community service and disaster relief and to wish her well as she retires from her role as President of the Illinois Valley Federation of Labor.

Ms. Reffett began her career in 1979 as an operator for Ameritech in Canton, IL. After working for Ameritech for twenty years, Kelly joined the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago as Director of Partner Relations and AFL-CIO Labor Participation. For ten years, Kelly worked to expand preparedness education opportunities to diverse populations, served disaster stricken communities, and broadened partnerships with corporations and community organizations.

In this position, she directed teams of nearly 100 people at 23 locations, providing executive guidance and program assistance to on-site supervisors and Volunteer in Service to America members. She also served as Partner Services Manager/Officer and Labor Liaison on 25 national relief operations including Hurricane Katrina and World Trade Center 9/11 operations. She co-developed the AFL-CIO's 2009 handbook outlining guidelines and policies for volunteer disaster relief operations. These accomplishments are only a small sampling of Kelly's impressive career.

In addition to her national service, Kelly was also selected to serve at the state and county level. Since 2003, Kelly has served as a commissioner on the Illinois State Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service. In 2008, she was appointed to serve on the LaSalle County Board. Shortly thereafter, she was elected to that office.

Throughout her long career, Ms. Reffett has also remained dedicated to the cause of working families. Serving as President of the Illinois Valley Federation of Labor for over two decades, she always put the best interests of Illinois Valley workers first.

Ms. Kelly Reffett has had a long and proud career, one that is not ending as she retires from the presidency of the Illinois Valley Federation of Labor. Having worked with her over

the years, I am sure she will continue to work to improve her community, as she has done over and throughout her long and successful career.

CONGRATULATING THE TRANSPORTATION TRADES DEPARTMENT ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to congratulate the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO as this strong voice for transportation workers marks its 20th anniversary.

Transportation is at the core of our daily lives and our economy. From ancient civilization through the present day, the quality of transportation serves as a true measure of a society. How well do people live their daily lives? How quickly and efficiently can people and goods get from one place to another? Does the quality of transportation strengthen or weaken an economy?

As we map the vision for our future, we must keep asking these questions. Are we doing all we can to invest in modern, safe, and efficient transportation? Are the workers in this industry as well-trained, experienced, and prepared as possible? Are they treated with respect and dignity? Are they trusted and empowered? Do their wages and working conditions help—or hurt—the ability to attract and retain good men and women for these jobs?

The work of the Transportation Trades Department (TTD), of the AFL-CIO lies at the heart of these questions. In every major transportation policy debate in Washington over the past 20 years, TTD has been front and center, providing an honest, substantive, and respected voice on behalf of millions of transportation workers. TTD brings their voices to those in public office, helping forge far better policy and decision-making than if the organization did not exist.

TTD has always had the courage and conviction to demand accountability, to make sure that public and private sector transportation leaders are truly placing safety and our national transportation network's true needs ahead of ideology and profit. In an industry—and world—that has been so turbulent in recent years, the value of TTD's vigilant watchdog role is priceless.

As the Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I can count on TTD to bring integrity, intellectual depth, and refreshing clarity to my Committee and the entire Congress. I have long valued TTD as a trusted friend and ally, and its substantive, bipartisan approach has often been helpful in bringing about consensus on important issues.

As my committee has engaged in enacting critical legislation—from the surface transportation bill to the FAA reauthorization bill, from the Coast Guard reauthorization to Amtrak and rail safety reauthorization—TTD has been a comprehensive and credible resource. Its member unions are on the front lines of our transportation network—whether on the ground, in the air or at sea.

The accomplishments of the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO are far too many to enumerate. But to me, ensuring that transportation workers have a seat at the table, and a voice that is heard in key policy debates, has been the organization's greatest contribution to our nation. I congratulate TTD on 20 outstanding years, and look forward to many more.

HONORING MATTIE MEYERS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mattie Meyers upon being honored with the "Trail Blazers Award" by the African American Museum. Mrs. Meyers will be honored at the African American History Month Celebration and Banquet on Saturday, February 6th, 2010 in Fresno, California.

Mrs. Mattie Meyers was born and raised in Durham, North Carolina. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry and mathematics from North Carolina College at Durham (now known as North Carolina Central University) in 1947. Shortly after completing her education, Mrs. Meyers met a young doctor named Earl Meyers, during his residency at Durham's Lincoln Hospital. Mr. Meyers was from a prominent black family in Fresno, California. When Earl and Mattie married, they moved to Fresno.

Upon arriving in Fresno, Dr. Meyers established a medical practice to serve the nonwhite community of Fresno, which did not have medical services that were readily accessible to whites. Mrs. Meyers was the business manager and together they built the first black owned medical center in Fresno, which contained a clinical laboratory, pharmacy, housed an x-ray facility and was home to several African American physicians. Dr. Meyers served as a catalyst in bringing a number of young black physicians to the Fresno area, providing a higher standard of medical care available to African Americans.

While Dr. Meyers continued to focus on the medical disparities, Mrs. Meyers began to recognize different disparities such as segregation within the schools. She joined with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and eventually Fresno schools adopted an "open enrollment policy" which made it possible for African American children to attend schools outside of West Fresno. Mrs. Meyers' children were among the first to take advantage of the new policy. Her involvement with the NAACP did not end there; she also served as the President of the Fresno Chapter.

During Mrs. Meyers' term as President of the Fresno Chapter of the NAACP, she was able to orchestrate many achievements and milestones for the growing organization. She served during the early 1960s. She was able to bring Andrew Hatcher, the associate press secretary to President John Kennedy, to Fresno as a featured speaker at the NAACP's second annual banquet. Mr. Hatcher was one of the most influential African Americans in the country at that time. Later, Mrs. Meyers was instrumental in bringing Dr. Martin Luther King,

Jr. to Fresno to spearhead a civil rights demonstration and march to Ratcliff Stadium.

Beyond her efforts with the NAACP, Mrs. Meyers was the first African American, and the first woman, to seek election as the Mayor of Fresno. She was not only active in local politics and local civil rights activities; she was also involved with movements around the nation. Mrs. Meyers was influential in the southern United States. She is a founding member of a number of black organizations, including Iota Phi Lambda Sorority.

Mrs. Meyers is the mother of five successful children and grandmother to nine. She is a member of the Westside Seventh Day Adventist Church, lifetime member of the NAACP, charter member of Iota Phi Lambda, a founding member of the Fresno Black Educators Association.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mattie Meyers upon being honored with the "Trail Blazers Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Meyers many years of continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN M. "MITCH" DORGER

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John M. "Mitch" Dorger, who is retiring from his post as Chief Executive Officer of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association this month after ten years of exemplary service.

Mitch graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1968 with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. He earned his Master's degree in International Relations from Tufts University and an Executive Master's degree in Business Administration from Claremont Graduate University.

From 1987 to 1989, he served both in the Office of the Assistant to the Undersecretary of the Air Force and as the Deputy Assistant to the Undersecretary. In 1989, he participated in a year-long program of research and studies for military officers as a Research Fellow at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. From 1990 to 1992, Mitch was a Base Commander at the Keesler Technical Training Center and he served as Chief of Staff and then Vice Commander at the United States Air Force Academy from 1992 to 1994.

From 1994 to 2000, Mitch was the Chief Operating Officer at the Claremont University Center, where he oversaw the three hundred and fifty person, thirty million dollar organization which provided support services to the seven colleges in the Claremont consortium.

On February 1, 2000, the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association appointed Mr. Dorger to the position of Chief Executive Officer. For ten years, Mitch has been an outstanding leader, effectively directing the Tournament of Roses' staff and supporting the nine hundred and thirty-five volunteer members who plan and stage the world-renowned Rose Parade and Rose Bowl Game.

In addition to his duties with the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association, his volunteer activities include serving on the boards of the International Festival and Events Associa-

tion, and the Football Bowl Association, as an Advisory Committee Member for the L.A. Sports and Entertainment Commission, on the Advisory Committee for the Sports Business Institute at the University of Southern California, and as an Ex Officio Member of the L.A. Sports Council.

Mitch and his wife, Barbara, have two grown children and one grandson, and they reside in Pasadena, California.

I ask all Members join me in thanking John M. "Mitch" Dorger for over two decades of remarkable leadership and dedicated service to our community and our country.

CONGRATULATING THE TRANSPORTATION TRADES DEPARTMENT ON ITS TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Transportation Trades Department (TTD), AFL-CIO on its twentieth anniversary as an invaluable advocate for our nation's transportation workers. As the Chairman of the House Committee on Education and Labor, I have seen the critical role that TTD plays in making heard the voices of those on the front lines of our nation's transit system.

TTD is a leader in ensuring that an industry as safety- and customer service-intensive as transportation has the most well-trained and experienced workforce possible. TTD has enabled employees in this industry to present a unified and effective voice, one that helps make policymakers aware of the needs and concerns of the people who form the backbone of the industry. TTD serves as an important check and balance guaranteeing that financial pressures do not lead to cutting corners on safety and security and ensuring that those in government carry out their vital oversight responsibilities in a thorough and effective manner. Our nation owes transportation workers and their representatives a debt of gratitude on these issues.

TTD's fight for workplace fairness has most recently turned to a proposed rule change at the National Mediation Board (NMB) which would allow a majority of voting employees to prevail in a union election under the Railway Labor Act. Currently, the NMB treats non-participating voters as opponents of forming a union. This current rule clearly contradicts the standards under which elections are conducted in this country. It is a matter of basic fairness that workers covered under this Act not have lesser rights than employees in other industries. With the transportation industry facing great uncertainty and change, it is more important than ever that workers have a fair and full voice in the workplace.

TTD serves an essential role in our nation's labor and transportation policy debates. In a responsible and effective manner, they help policymakers remember the needs and concerns of the women and men whose work contributes so much to our national economy. I congratulate the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO on its many accomplishments over the past 20 years, and look forward to continuing to work with them on

issues of profound public interest, ranging from safety to rebuilding and strengthening our nation's middle class.

HONORING THE COURAGE AND DETERMINATION OF VIRGIL HAWKINS

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the courageous civil rights hero Virgil Hawkins. Mr. Hawkins was the leader in the fight for the desegregation of Florida's universities. Mr. Hawkins is a true role model for his determination and personal sacrifice.

Born in 1906 in Okahumpka, Florida, Mr. Hawkins decided from a young age that he wanted to be a lawyer after witnessing the unfair treatment of African Americans in the judicial system. Mr. Hawkins graduated high school in Jacksonville, Florida, and attended Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. By the time Mr. Hawkins was 42, he had saved up enough money to attend law school by selling insurance and working as a school teacher. In 1949, he applied to the University of Florida Law School in Gainesville.

At the time Mr. Hawkins applied, it was against Florida law for African Americans and

whites to attend school together. Mr. Hawkins was denied admission because of the color of his skin, not because he did not meet the qualifications. He decided to challenge this unjust practice by filing suit with the state Supreme Court. The state offered to pay Mr. Hawkins tuition for an out of state school, but he refused. To prevent similar lawsuits the state opened a law school for African Americans at the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College (FAMC) for Blacks in Tallahassee. In 1952, the Florida Supreme Court dismissed his case, arguing he could attend FAMC. Mr. Hawkins turned to the United States Supreme Court and in 1956 the Court ordered the state of Florida to admit Mr. Hawkins to the University of Florida Law School. Initially, the state did not comply with the Supreme Court's order, citing the violence that would erupt if Mr. Hawkins was admitted. Finally, a district court judge ordered the University of Florida graduate school to open its doors to all qualified students, regardless of race. This was a major step forward in Mr. Hawkins's struggle; unfortunately, University of Florida claimed he was not qualified and did not admit him.

After a nine-year struggle to desegregate Florida universities, Mr. Hawkins attended the unaccredited New England School of Law in Boston, Massachusetts. Due to the lack of accreditation of the law school, he was not allowed to take the bar when he returned to Florida. Mr. Hawkins was not allowed to practice law and worked as a salesman, teacher, a public relations director, and as the director of a community action agency.

Holding on to his dream to practice law, at the age of 69, Mr. Hawkins asked the Florida Supreme Court to admit him to the Florida bar. In 1976, the court allowed Mr. Hawkins to become a lawyer without taking the bar examination. After spending 30 years fighting the discriminatory foundations in the educational system, Mr. Hawkins opened his own law firm in Leesburg, Florida.

Today the law library at the University of Florida is named the Virgil Hawkins Library in honor of the sacrifices he made in his struggle for justice and equality in the admissions processes of the state's university system. A monument honoring Virgil Hawkins stands in his hometown of Okahumpka, Florida, and is located a few blocks from his childhood home. These are just minor tributes to a man who contributed so much to the civil rights struggle in Central Florida, and America as a whole.

Madam Speaker, as Black History Month comes to a close, it is with great honor that I recognize the incredible activism of this civil rights leader. Mr. Hawkins's lifelong struggle for justice is inspirational to all future generations of Floridians, and Americans. As a fellow lawyer, I admire his dedication to seek justice and equal educational opportunities for all. Florida is indebted to Mr. Hawkins for the personal sacrifices and the pathways to equal access to education in the desegregation of our school systems.

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, February 25, 2010 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 26

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2011 for the Department of Veterans Affairs. SR-418

10 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jeffrey Alan Goldstein, of New York, to be Under Secretary of the Treasury, Francisco J. Sanchez, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, and Sherry Glied, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services. SD-215

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the Office of Professional Responsibility Investigation into the Office of Legal Counsel Memoranda. SD-226

10:30 a.m.
Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine the road to economic recovery, focusing on prospects for jobs and growth. 2325, Rayburn Building

MARCH 2

9:30 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Economic Policy Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine restoring credit, focusing on proposals to fix small business borrowing and lending problems. SD-538

10 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine Toyota's recalls and the government's response. SR-253

Judiciary
Human Rights and the Law Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine global internet freedom and the rule of law, part II. SD-226

2 p.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine a legislative presentation from Disabled Veterans of America. 345, Cannon Building

2:30 p.m.
Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to consider certain intelligence matters. SH-219

MARCH 3

9:30 a.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine chemical security, focusing on assessing progress and charting a path forward. SD-342

Appropriations
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To examine the President's proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for the Environmental Protection Agency. SD-124

Veterans' Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine mental health care and suicide prevention for veterans. SR-418

10 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider any pending nominations; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2011 for the Department of the Interior. SD-366

Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine transportation investments relative to the national economy and jobs. SD-406

Finance
To hold hearings to examine the 2010 trade agenda. SD-215

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine encouraging innovative and cost-effective crime reduction strategies. SD-226

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2011 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Fisheries Enforcement Programs and Operations. SR-253

2:30 p.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine oversight challenges in the Medicare prescription drug program. SD-342

MARCH 4

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2011 for the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization and the Future Years Defense Program;

with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session. SH-216

Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine legislative presentations from the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Jewish War Veterans, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Ex-Prisoners of War, Blinded Veterans Association, Military Officers Association of America, Air Force Sergeants Association, and the Wounded Warrior Project. 345, Cannon Building

2:30 p.m.
Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to consider certain intelligence matters. SH-219

MARCH 9

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine U.S. European Command, U.S. Africa Command, and U.S. Joint Forces Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SR-222 following the open session. SH-216

Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine a legislative presentation from Veterans of Foreign Wars. SDG-50

MARCH 10

10 a.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the lessons and implications of the Christmas day attack, focusing on watchlisting and pre-screening. SD-342

2:30 p.m.
Foreign Relations
International Operations and Organizations, Human Rights, Democracy and Global Women's Issues Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the future of U.S. public diplomacy. SD-419

Energy and Natural Resources
Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 2895, to restore forest landscapes, protect old growth forests, and manage national forests in the eastside forests of the State of Oregon, S. 2907, to establish a coordinated avalanche protection program, S. 2966 and H.R. 4474, bills to authorize the continued use of certain water diversions located on National Forest System land in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in the State of Idaho, and S. 2791 and H.R. 3759, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to grant market-related contract extensions of certain timber contracts between the Secretary of the Interior and timber purchasers. SD-366

MARCH 11

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Southern Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program;

with the possibility of a closed session in SR-222 following the open session.

SD-G50

gram; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SH-216

serve Association, Vietnam Veterans of America, and Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America.

SDG-50

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1696, to require the Secretary of Energy to conduct a study of video game console energy efficiency, and S. 2908, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to require the Secretary of Energy to publish a final rule that establishes a uniform efficiency descriptor and accompanying test methods for covered water heaters.

SD-366

2 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine assessing foster care and family services in the District of Columbia, focusing on challenges and solutions.

SD-342

MARCH 23

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command, U.S. Strategic Command, and U.S. Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SH-216

MARCH 16

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Special Operations Command and U.S. Central Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Pro-

MARCH 18

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine legislative presentations from AMVETS, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Non Commissioned Officers Association, Gold Star Wives, The Retired Enlisted Association, Fleet Re-

MARCH 24

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Veterans' Affairs plan for ending homelessness among veterans.

SR-418