

has distinguished herself as an elected official for the past 24 years. Mrs. Edwards has now retired from elective office but leaves a great legacy that will continue to enrich and strengthen the community for many years to come.

Mrs. Edwards' remarkable tenure included the development and construction of numerous County facilities as well as the expansion and development of critical emergency services including emergency disaster response, centralized communications, rescue services, and full countywide paramedic services.

Mrs. Edwards was a key leader in expanding recreation opportunities, improving services for seniors, enhancing cable television services, improving health care facilities and the County's road system. She has also been a strong and consistent supporter of economic development throughout the region, and a tireless advocate for improving education.

With her background in public education, Mrs. Edwards was a tireless supporter of funding for the Wilson County Public Schools and Wilson Community College. She also supported state and local bond issues for school and community college construction, which included the renovation of multiple schools and the construction of the Darden Middle School and the John W. Jones Elementary School.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to her countless gifts to our community, I have been blessed with her lifelong friendship, by which I have been enormously honored. Mrs. Edwards was married to the late James Edwards and continues to own and operate the family business, Edwards Funeral Home of Wilson. Mrs. Edwards has two adult daughters, Angela Edwards Jones (Tyrone) and Carla Edwards Williams (Daryl). She is also a proud grandmother and great grandmother.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the hard work, dedication and success of the Honorable Josephine Farmer Edwards on the occasion of her retirement from elective office.

HAITI EARTHQUAKE ANNIVERSARY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, January 12, 2010, Haiti was devastated by the most powerful earthquake to strike that nation in over 200 years.

The wave of destruction to follow was unprecedented.

In just 35 seconds, one-third of the country had been directly impacted by the worst natural disaster to ever hit the Western Hemisphere.

Today, one year later, we mark the somber anniversary of this tragedy and honor those who lost their lives that day.

Remarkably, in the midst of such devastation, the people of Haiti have forged on.

And yesterday, I was honored to have the opportunity to travel to Haiti and visit with some of these men and women as they work tirelessly to rebuild their lives, their communities and their nation.

I was struck by their enduring resilience and inspired by their perseverance.

Sustainable recovery in Haiti will depend on strong leadership by the Government of Haiti, a concrete effort to stop corruption, and the implementation of accountability and transparency measures, as well as the involvement of the people of Haiti in the design and ownership of their future.

It will also be important going forward that there be a transition away from dependency on traditional U.S. government assistance and instead a renewed focus on innovative public-private partnerships and grassroots, civil society efforts.

To ensure that U.S. foreign assistance to Haiti remains transparent and effective, I also plan on introducing legislation to that end this Congress, calling for increased and sustained oversight over U.S. funding to Haiti.

Finally, though the official OAS report has not yet been released, it appears that certain changes will need to be made to ensure that the true will of the Haitian people in electing their future representatives is honored and respected.

The Haitian people deserve a leader who believes in effective, good governance and the rule of law.

And it is only in adherence to these principles, that Haiti's recovery may be successful.

FEDERAL FURLOUGH BILL

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as a former small businessman and former state legislator, I am horrified at the unlimited ability of the federal government to deficit spend. Small businesses have to balance the books, or they go out of business. And unlike the spendthrift ways prevalent in this building, state governments generally have to balance their budgets.

Recently, at least 24 states, and nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million workers, have undertaken a budget-cutting maneuver that I believe we should consider at the federal level: short term employee furloughs. These states, across the nation, along with city and county government counterparts, recognize that occasional worker furloughs are necessary to cut budgets and hold down spending. It also has the benefit of ensuring that federal workers are not sheltered from the realities of life in today's economy.

The federal government continues to grow, and continues to rack up debt. I would like to make the U.S. Government as cost conscious as the states. My legislation is a start. It will make Federal civilian employees subject to a non-consecutive two week furlough next year, correspondingly reduce appropriations for salaries and expenses for offices of the legislative branch, and provide a 10 percent reduction in pay for Members of Congress. An exception is provided for national security or reasons relating to the public health or safety, including effective law enforcement. This bill will save the federal government over \$5.5 billion.

Furlough Fridays and other such ideas are becoming a common occurrence for state and local governments. They present slight problems but they provide large solutions to the budget troubles we face. I believe that managed appropriately, with due allowance for

vital and national security implications, as specified in this bill, they can do the same for the federal government.

TRIBUTE TO CORONA CITIZEN OF THE YEAR PAT MILLER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Corona, California are exceptional. Corona has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Pat Miller is one of these individuals. On January 15, 2011, Pat will receive a prestigious honor when the Corona Chamber of Commerce names her Citizen of the Year for 2010 at the organization's 96th Annual Awards and Installation dinner at the Eagle Glen Golf Club.

Pat Miller and her late husband, Roger, owned and operated the Thomas Miller Mortuary for many years before they turned over day-to-day operations to their son Chris and his wife Rhonda. The mortuary has been an integral part of the community of Corona, and has provided care and solace to many families who have lost loved ones.

In addition to her role as a business owner in the community, Pat Miller exemplifies the word "volunteer." She has spent her life donating her time and attention to various clubs, organizations and activities. In 1985, she served as the President of Soroptimist International of Corona, and remains a life member. Through Soroptimist she became involved with the Riverside County Coalition for Alternatives to Domestic Violence.

Thanks to the diligent efforts of Pat, and a group of core volunteers, the services provided by this organization have expanded tremendously. The organization is now known as the Corona Outreach office, and the facility has grown from one small shelter to a 45-bed facility. Pat also served on the Board of Directors and Advisory Board for many years. Her accomplishments did not go unnoticed, and Pat was awarded the Women Helping Women Award in 1985 and the Golden West Regional Award Program.

Additionally, Pat donated much of her time to volunteering with the school district as she raised her children, Chris and Stephanie. She has remained active member of the PTA, the Corona-Norco School District Advisory Committee, and now has a renewed interest now that her grandchildren are in school.

For many years, Pat served on the Corona Regional Medical Center Foundation Board and chaired the main fundraising black tie dinner several times. In fact, she is now in her 15th year serving on the Corona Regional Medical Center Governing Board of Directors.

Other organizations fortunate enough to have Pat's attention include the Women's Improvement Club of Corona, Navy League, Children's Home Society, Pink Ladies Hospital Auxiliary, Boys Club Auxiliary, The United Way, Catholic Daughters, Corona Chamber of Commerce and St. Matthew's Church.