

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 2010–2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—SAMANTHA TODD

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 6, 2011*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Representatives that the students of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council, CYAC, from the Third District of Texas have completed a total of 500 community service hours, fulfilling and far-surpassing the requirements of their assigned CYAC in the Community service project.

This year 46 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 10 through 12 made their voices heard by joining CYAC. As the Third District's young ambassadors to Congress, these bright high school students met with me on a quarterly basis to discuss current events and public policy. These impressive young people recognize an important truth: the heart of public service is found when giving back to the community. CYAC students volunteered their time and talents with over 30 organizations including Adopt-A-Highway, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Teen Court, and the USO, to name a few. As one student shared, "CYAC in the Community has allowed me to realize my calling to serve those in the U.S. Armed Forces." I am beyond thrilled that CYAC has helped students unleash their full potential and chase their dreams.

President George H.W. Bush once said, "A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see; who can feel what most do not feel. Often, such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers, but as citizens—citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization."

With this statement as a benchmark, I am proud to congratulate the members of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council for showing themselves to be outstanding young citizens of this nation. It is my privilege to submit summaries of their work to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to be preserved for posterity and antiquity. To these young public servants, thank you, and keep up the great work! I salute you!

A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

Volunteering in my community has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Each event provided me with a unique life experience and has added to my sense of community. One of the events I volunteered at was Matthews Elementary School's Fall Carnival. Seeing the interactions between the families and friends was amazing and brought back memories from when I was that age. I also volunteered at Huffman Elementary School's Math Night where I super-

vised math oriented games. Another place I earned service hours was at Mustang Creek Nursing Home, where I played bingo and talked with the residents. I have sincerely enjoyed the time I have spent at Mustang Creek and I plan on continuing to visit the residents there. One of the longest events I have volunteered in was at my church's aide station in Dallas's Whiterock marathon. I spent six and a half hours helping set up and run the station. These volunteering experiences have changed my perspective and made me feel like a greater part of my community. In the future I plan on continuing to volunteer in my community and help other people.

—Samantha Todd

THE RESTART ACT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 6, 2011*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bipartisan bill to avert a U.S. rare earth supply crisis by restoring our nation's production of rare earth metals. This bill, the Rare Earths Supply-Chain Technology and Resources Transformation Act of 2011 (RESTART Act), would achieve this by reestablishing a domestic rare earth industry in the United States.

Currently, the world is nearly 100 percent reliant on Chinese exports for these critical materials and China's trade policies of restricting rare earth exports pose a serious threat to both the economic and national security of the United States. China supplies about 95 percent of the world's rare earth metals, used in everything from wind turbines, electric car batteries, television sets, smart phones, and advanced weapons systems. Chinese officials have announced a decision to cut exports of rare earth metals by 35 percent in the first half of 2011. The Chinese government-ordered reduction in rare earth metals exports demonstrates the urgent need for us to act to correct our rare earth supply chain vulnerability.

I became alarmed early in 2009 when I learned that many U.S. defense contractors rely heavily on Chinese exports of rare earth metals to make everything from night vision goggles, tanks, and fighter aircraft, to precision guided munitions. This reliance on China poses a key vulnerability.

My comprehensive, bipartisan legislation will put in place mechanisms to assist U.S. companies with meeting their needs for rare earth metals and ensure our national security needs are met in the near term.

The legislation does not waive environmental laws, but it directs appropriate federal agencies to expedite the permitting process in order to increase the exploration and development of domestic rare earth elements, and the legislation establishes a multi-agency Task Force to carry out this process. The legislation makes federally-backed loans available to start rare earth production only when private

capital is not available. The bill sets-up a Defense Logistics Agency rare earth domestic inventory to generate a domestic market and facilitate the domestic sourcing of rare earth alloys and magnets. It establishes a rare earth program at the U.S. Geological Survey, and it require the various cabinet Secretaries appoint Executive Agents for rare earths.

Our Nation must act to protect our security interests with regard to rare earth elements. China is neither an ally of the United States nor is it a reliable trade partner when it comes to these strategic metals.

My legislation has the support of the Coalition for a Prosperous America, CPA, the United States Magnet Materials Association, USMMA, and their members who are most affected by the disruption in the rare earth metals market.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT  
JOSHUA S. GIRE

**HON. STEVE AUSTRIA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 6, 2011*

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, while we can never fully express the depth of our appreciation for those who give their lives to protect us, I rise today on behalf of the constituents of Ohio's seventh congressional district to recognize and honor the life of Army Staff Sergeant Joshua S. Gire.

Gire, 28, lived a purposeful life. He served the United States with honor. Regrettably, it was Staff Sergeant Gire's duty as a soldier defending the interests of this great country of ours that led to his death. He was killed in combat in Afghanistan on March 22, 2011. Staff Sgt. Gire showed exceptional courage and bravery while defending the United States.

Joshua S. Gire graduated from Huntington High School in 2000 and enlisted in the Army in 2001, just prior to the terrorist attacks of September 11th. This was Gire's second deployment to Afghanistan. He also served time in Iraq and Kosovo. Staff Sergeant Gire comes from a family dedicated to military service. He followed his grandfather, a World War II veteran, and father, a Vietnam veteran, into the Army.

He had recently been promoted to Staff Sergeant. Gire was based in Germany before his deployment to Afghanistan, where he lived with his immediate family. Staff Sergeant Gire is survived by his wife Jackie, as well as their 5-year-old son Nicolas and their daughter Riley, who just turned 3.

Those who know Staff Sergeant Gire speak highly of him, saying he is a role model to young children, and that he did his job and he did it right. My heart goes out to his widow and their children. Joshua S. Gire is a true hero who will never be forgotten.

Thus, today I ask my colleagues to join me and the constituents of the Ohio's seventh

• 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.

congressional district in honoring the life and memory of Staff Sergeant Joshua S. Gire.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. BILL  
SAMUELS, JR.

**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 6, 2011*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Kentuckian, Mr. Bill Samuels Jr. On April 15, Mr. Samuels will retire as President of Maker's Mark Distillery in Loretto, Ky., leaving a legacy of old fashioned integrity and quality craftsmanship.

Our Commonwealth produces many incredible products. Along with Kentucky grown horses and tobacco, we are also known for our fine bourbon.

Samuels has dedicated his career to Kentucky's signature industry, helping to make Kentucky bourbon world renowned and contributing so much to such a vital part of the Commonwealth's heritage that provides thousands of jobs.

A seventh-generation distiller, Samuels took over the family business from his father, Bill Samuels, Sr., who invented the Maker's Mark recipe.

Samuels followed his father's lead in crafting a superior product by continuing the tradition of small, closely supervised production—keeping the bottling to about 600,000 cases per year, a fraction of most distilleries.

Though Samuels grew up around the bourbon industry, playing Lincoln Logs with an aged Col. Jim Beam, he had other ideas for his future. Samuels played basketball in high school; however, he realized he was not very good.

He then went to college at Case Western Reserve University where he studied rocket science and solid propellants. When solid propellants became obsolete, Samuels decided to attend law school at Vanderbilt University.

When he finished law school, he returned to Kentucky to work temporarily for his father, but 13 years later he was still with the company, and his father, Samuels, Sr., passed him the mantle of Maker's Mark.

Of the Nation's bourbon distilleries, Maker's Mark is the oldest distillery, continuously operating on its own site. I am proud to represent them here in Washington and look forward to their continued success.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Bill Samuels, Jr., for his dedication and contributions to the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010-2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—ZACHARY STUBBLEFIELD

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OF TEXAS

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A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

I assisted with an Eagle Scout project at the Heritage Farmstead in Plano, Texas. The project consisted of planting eight trees along a fence. This required digging holes about four feet deep and four feet wide. After placing the trees in the holes, we had to fill the holes back up with soil, then place mulch around each tree, and finally water the trees. I also played in the orchestra for the Christmas performance at the Custer Road Methodist Church. This allowed me to work with some of the professionals in our community. This opportunity allowed me to gain more experience as a musician, as well as contributing as a member of the orchestra for my church. I played in the King's Players for the Church on two different occasions. This gave me an opportunity to give back to my church.

—Zachary Stubblefield

HONORING MAX POMERANC

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 6, 2011*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Max Pomeranc. Mr. Pomeranc has been a member of my staff since 2007. For almost four years, he has served the

United States Congress and the people of Brooklyn and Queens with honor and distinction.

Max is a native New Yorker who brought the characteristics associated with being a New Yorker to work with him every day: hard-nosed determination, a keen sense of justice and fairness, and a strong willed refusal to allow any of my constituents to get anything less than fierce advocacy and unyielding assistance from my office.

Over his many years of service, Mr. Pomeranc helped secure millions of dollars for the communities I represent. He worked with all levels of government to get the 9th district in New York as much funding as possible. Max oversaw the operations in my office that protected the elderly and disabled, give a voice in government to the disenfranchised, and honored the sense among citizens that elected officials are here to help people, first and foremost.

Max steered my district ship through many battles. There was an historic presidential election, budget battles with an all-time feverish pitch, and the passing of the most sweeping health care reform legislation since the creation of Medicare.

This chapter of Max's storied career gives way to his next adventure, and I rise to give him due recognition. He will be missed by his colleagues, my constituents, and by me.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 6, 2011*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to record my vote on the House floor during the vote on H.R. 1246 on Monday, April 4, 2011 because of family commitments in Wisconsin. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1246 (Roll no. 225).

RECOGNIZING THE 2010-2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—TINA SHARMA

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