

A TRIBUTE TO DR. JERRY MILLER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career and retirement of the Interim Vice President for Extension and Outreach at Iowa State University, Dr. Jerry Miller.

Dr. Miller is a professor of agronomy and is well known in the soil and conservation community for his numerous contributions to enhancing water quality and soil conservation. Dr. Miller has given 35 years of his life to Iowa agriculture and in the process has given Iowa greater clarity in a subject we hold very dear.

In addition to his illustrious career at ISU, Dr. Miller also served Iowa in an entirely different way through his efforts in the Iowa Army National Guard. Dr. Miller retired from service several years ago as the Commanding General of the 34th Infantry Division.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to represent Dr. Jerry Miller in the United States Congress. Dr. Miller is a true testament to Iowa's reputation of service and commitment. I know my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating Dr. Miller and I wish him the best of luck in the future.

**VIOLENCE AGAINST COPTIC
CHRISTIANS IN EGYPT**

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, since the start of the Egyptian unrest earlier this year, religious minorities have been specifically targeted by Muslim extremists. Taking on the brunt of the attacks are Coptics, Christians who have lived peacefully in this part of the world for millennia. Recently, terrorists burned two Coptic Churches to the ground, killing 16 and injuring over 300. Coptic churches—rich in culture and architecture—were destroyed forcing innocent Christians to flee their home communities in order to protect their lives. This comes only a few months after twenty-four Christians were killed in yet another church bombing.

I am proud to represent a vibrant Coptic community in southeast Michigan and privileged to consider the clergy of St. Mark's Church in Troy, Michigan as my friends. I rise today to share their concerns—and the concerns of Coptics across our nation—about the future of their community and the desire to preserve their ancestral homeland.

For millennia, Coptic Christians have lived and worshipped in Egypt but some extremists are attempting to capitalize on the political vacuum created by the uncertainty in the country to drive them out of their homes and places of worship. While we are hopeful for democratic change in Egypt, it is imperative that we maintain support for religious minority communities such as the Coptics and seek to preserve and allow for the continuity of their community.

As a member of the Religious Minorities in the Middle East Caucus, I ask my colleagues to join me in being mindful of these Christian minorities that need a voice and demand an

end to extremist violence that is destroying this peace loving community.

THANKING MR. ALI QURESHI FOR
HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to commend a loyal and valued House employee on the occasion of his departure.

Ali Qureshi joined the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer in February of 2003 in the House Information Resources Unit. His hard work and diligence were quickly acknowledged and he rapidly rose within the organization, finally achieving the position of Senior Deputy Chief Administrative Officer where he served as a senior advisor to the Chief Administrative Officer. In this role, he has overseen House operations and maintained direct oversight of House Information Resources; Administrative and Financial Services; Strategic Initiatives and Assets, Furnishings and Logistics.

Prior to joining the House, Mr. Qureshi served as a consultant in the private sector. He has a graduate degree from the Wharton School of Business and University of Pennsylvania School of Engineering and a bachelor's degree in environmental engineering from Wilkes University in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, every day we go about conducting the business of the American people. We are able to do this because of the tremendous men and women that support our efforts. Staffers in our personal offices, House Committees and the House Officers work tirelessly and with dedication. They perform a tremendous service for us and for the American people. Mr. Qureshi is an example of that commitment, dedication to excellence and loyal service that allows us to do what we do every day. I wish him all the best as he transitions to a new and exciting chapter in his life and sincerely thank him for his years of service to the House. He will be missed.

ANGELA Z. MCCOLLOUGH

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Angela Z. McCollough, an employee of the Congressional Budget Office, who is retiring on June 3, 2011 after nearly 40 years of service to the Federal government. Angie started her federal career in 1972 when she began working for the Environmental Protection Agency. In August of 1975, Angie joined the Congressional Budget Office, just a few months after CBO was founded. From 1975 until 2008, she served as the secretary and administrative assistant to the Assistant Director of the Natural Resources and Commerce Division (since renamed the Microeconomic Studies Division). In October of 2008, Angie was promoted to Executive Assistant to the CBO Director.

Angie has been an invaluable member of the CBO team. She received two CBO Direc-

tor's Awards—in 1984 and again in 2003. She has also received several STAR awards for her work in the Microeconomic Studies Division and the Office of the CBO Director. Angie was honored in 2001 for her role in recreating CBO's timekeeping and payroll system and for ensuring that CBO's employees were paid during that difficult period in the Fall of 2001 when the Ford House Office Building, where CBO is located, was closed for the anthrax investigation in the weeks following the tragic events of 9/11.

Angie is one of the longest serving employees in the history of the Congressional Budget Office. Her tenure at CBO spans the agency's lifetime. She has served under all 8 CBO Directors. And throughout her time at CBO, Angie has exemplified the highest standards of dedicated public service. I thank her for her service and wish her all the best in her retirement.

IN SUPPORT OF PROTECTING
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise once again in opposition to the reauthorization of PATRIOT Act provisions. While it will come as no surprise to my colleagues that I find the PATRIOT Act objectionable in its entirety, the roving wiretap, "any tangible thing," and lone wolf provisions of the law are by far the most toxic to our civil liberties.

Nothing has changed that makes the extension of wiretapping of citizens, searches of our private records and information, or warrantless surveillance of individuals not connected to terrorism more acceptable. Now is the time to end what was supposed to be a temporary, state-of-emergency response to the events of 9/11. Over a decade later, organizations from the Cato Institute to the American Civil Liberties Union have documented abuses of the law, and Osama bin Laden has been killed—though there is no evidence that the PATRIOT Act helped to find him.

The government's extension of the PATRIOT Act is hypocrisy, pure and simple. Republicans support smaller government but want continued warrantless searches of their constituents. President Obama campaigned on the promise of abandoning the PATRIOT Act, calling it a "dangerous and shoddy" law, yet has done nothing to make good on that pledge. Let's end this duplicity.

The importance of empowering our intelligence agencies to help protect us does not supersede the importance of preserving our civil liberties. Until a balance is reached, I will continue to vote against the PATRIOT Act and its provisions and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

A TRIBUTE TO LEROY AND LOUISE
CHRISTIANSSEN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize LeRoy and Louise Christiansen of