

prosecute the perpetrators of anti-union violence, and to provide basic internationally-recognized worker rights, I cannot vote for the agreement before us today.

HONORING THE HONORABLE
JUDGE RUSTY LADD

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the Honorable Judge Rusty Ladd, a great man, a tireless public servant, and an advocate for the homeless. Larry Brown "Rusty" Ladd passed away Friday, September 30, 2011, and he is missed by all of us who knew him. I was privileged to know Judge Ladd, and I know the legacy he leaves behind will not be soon forgotten by his family, friends or community.

Rusty was born in Breckenridge, Texas on August 8, 1952, as the oldest son of a cotton ginner. He graduated from Lubbock Christian College in 1975 with a degree in Biblical Studies and joined the police force in 1977. In 1988, he graduated from Texas Tech Law School and started his own practice as a defense attorney in Dallas. He then moved back to West Texas as a prosecutor in Amarillo and Plainview. In 1996 he continued his practice in Lubbock as Assistant and then Deputy District Attorney at the Lubbock County District Attorney's Office.

In 1999, Rusty assumed the judge's bench of the Lubbock County Court-at-Law No. 1. When taking the bench, he said, "I'm a new judge, and in taking the bench, I'm going to be able to fulfill my oath to defend the laws of the state in an absolutely fair and impartial way." He was true to his word, serving fairly and impartially, compassionate when possible and firm when necessary.

Rusty showed kindness not only in the courtroom, but also on the streets of Lubbock. He opened his heart to the homeless in the Lubbock community, serving on the homelessness committee of the Lubbock City Council since 2010 and volunteering through Carpenter's Church. Rusty dedicated his time and effort to serving the poor and marginalized. "The thing a homeless person misses the most is not food or shelter," Ladd said in a 2010 interview, "it's a genuine relationship with somebody that's got a stable life going on." His Christ-like attitude toward the poor is inspiring, and I hope and pray we can continue the selfless acts that he carried out.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my sincere thanks to Judge Rusty Ladd, for leaving this world a better place than he found it. I am truly honored to recognize his accomplishments. He will certainly be missed, but he will never be forgotten by those who knew him and were touched by his life.

HONORING DENVILLE VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Denville Volunteer Fire De-

partment located in Morris County, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 85th Anniversary.

At a meeting of the Denville Athletic Club on June 6, 1926, a committee was formed to investigate the terms under which a fire department for the Township of Denville could be formed, to research the type of fire fighting apparatus most suitable for use and, most importantly, the costs involved in the undertaking. At this same meeting, the first officers of the Denville Fire Department were elected.

Though the founding members of the fire department were initially met with some resistance by the governing body, the persistence of its dedicated volunteers paid off. After the township passed the ordinance establishing the official status of the department, many volunteers offered their garages as home for the first fire apparatus. On New Year's Day 1927, the final push was made to finish the structure that would be the department's first official home. After furnishing the building, complete with a siren, the first meeting was held on March 22, 1927.

Through dedicated fundraising and the support of their community, the Denville Fire Department managed to keep their facility up and running and to acquire the necessary tools to keep the community safe. In July 1935, the Denville Board of Education gave the department the Old School House property on Main Street. The building was demolished to make room for a fire house and remains of the structure supplied additional material for the department's new home.

Over the years, many changes came to the Denville Fire Department. In 1940, the department formed a first aid squad. In April of 1956, it was decided that an additional fire house was needed. Construction of the Union Hill Firehouse began in early 1957 and was completed by February. In 1963 the Denville Board of Education donated a piece of land to the Department for construction of an additional firehouse. This would become the location for the Valley View Firehouse. Groundwork on the structure began on May 8, 1963. The finishing touches were made in January and February of 1964.

By the 1970s, the department boasted a 100 plus membership with five fire engines in service at three firehouses. With their ever-growing group, new construction began on a new facility for the Main Street Fire Station in 1973. By the fall of 1974 their completed, present home was open. Continuing in their growth, the department established the Junior Fire Auxiliary in 1983.

Over the last 20 years, the fire department has continued to flourish. Recently they acquired a new engine and two new ambulances. The 2009 Smeal 1,000 gallon Engine replaced a 1989 ICME 750 gallon Engine. The two ambulances replaced the ambulances at Union Hill and Valley View Fire Houses. Every year, they answer approximately 500 fire and 1,000 first aid calls and assist surrounding departments as they respond to calls in neighboring communities. In the summers, they hold the annual Denville Firemen's Carnival which brings Denville and surrounding communities together for lots of food and fun.

The past and present members of the Denville Volunteer Fire Department have gone above and beyond their call of duty. From their dedication to the safety of their community, to raising funds to maintain each fire house, their unwavering and resilient efforts

are truly commendable. With each hour of training with every call answered, firefighters give up their precious time to help and protect others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Denville Volunteer Fire Department as they celebrate 85 years of community service.

HIGHLIGHTING THE NATIONAL
DEBT CRISIS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to highlight the National Debt Crisis. We are in the midst of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. Our deficit has ballooned to the highest sum in history, 14.8 trillion. Our nation's unemployment hovers at 9.1 percent and a record 46.2 million Americans live in poverty. This problem cannot be sustained without running the risk of destroying our Great Nation.

As I stand before you, I make a plea to our spiritual leaders throughout the United States to be heard and to speak out for the gridlock that exists here in Congress. It seems to me whether we're dealing with the Koran or the Bible or the Torah, one thing that is abundantly clear is that we have a moral obligation to take care of the vulnerable among us, especially during our current economic crisis. This great nation now has broken all records in terms of our middle class actually being shrunk as people are forced into poverty. Therefore, cutting funding to entitlement programs will exacerbate this problem. Let the churches, synagogues, mosques and the temples be open so people can express themselves. Our spiritual leaders could encourage people not just to pray but to become active. So whether you're a Protestant, Catholic, Jew, Gentile, Mormon or Muslim, this is a time when America needs you.

The Congress has an obligation as well. Let this Congress attempt to be more civil and recognize that we have a responsibility that goes beyond the election. We have a responsibility to the American people and our National Debt is a priority that we must address.

Since the 1970's Keynesian economics has been the guiding principle for both parties. It stated that you should spend when times are bad to stimulate the economy and balance the budget when times are good. Therefore, the Government must increase spending to fill the void left by the private sector in a Recession. However, the Republican Party has abandoned this principle of economics in favor of "Reaganomics." The Republican Party has prioritized cutting taxes and decreasing spending. While this would make sense when the economy is strong, trying to balance the budget this way in a Recession is dangerous. The tax cuts will cost the Federal Government \$65 billion for 2011 alone. They will continue to add to the debt, while the Government struggles to raise revenue. Without revenue the Government cannot fund vital social programs such as Medicare and Medicaid, among others.

Moreover, with low revenue the Government cannot pay its bills and its debts. As a result,