

IN HONOR OF FILIPINO AMERICAN  
HISTORY MONTH

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, together with the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, I rise today in honor of Filipino American History Month.

Based on the 2010 Census there are approximately 3.417 million Filipino Americans in the United States, making them the third largest Asian American group. Filipino Americans reside in nearly every Congressional district in the United States, contributing to the diversity and vitality of their communities. The largest population of Filipino Americans resides in California, Hawaii, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Texas and Washington State. In my district of American Samoa, the Filipino population has greatly contributed to the diversity of culture, the business community, as well as health, education, and social service sectors.

The earliest documented proof of Filipinos in the Continental United States was on October 18, 1587, when the ship *Nuestra Señora de Esperanza* under the command of Pedro de Unamuno set ashore in Central California during the Manila-Acapulco galleon trade era. In 1988, on the 225th Anniversary of this historic date, the Filipino American National Historical Society established a year-long, national observance in order to honor the countless ways that Filipino Americans have contributed to the development of our nation over the centuries. That year, the Society also declared October as Filipino American History Month.

Immigration from the Philippine islands in the early 1900s represented the first large wave of Filipinos coming to America as they worked in the agricultural industry. During World War II, over 250,000 Filipinos served alongside American soldiers in the United States military. The Immigration Act of 1965 opened the door for the next wave of Filipinos coming to the U.S.

Today, Filipino Americans are part of every sector of American life, working in health, entertainment, engineering, education, military and the public sector. In the realm of government, for example, my dear friend and colleague and fellow member of CAPAC, Congressman BOBBY SCOTT of Virginia, earned the distinction in 1993 of being the first American with Filipino ancestry to serve as a voting member of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, economically, culturally, and socially, Filipino Americans have contributed in countless ways toward the development of our nation. Today we honor the Filipino American community, those who have served and those who continue to add to the vibrancy and strength of our great nation.

RECOGNIZING SCHOOL LIBRARIES  
AND TEACHER LIBRARIANS

**HON. JERRY McNERNEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the importance of school libraries,

which are changing to better address the needs of students in the 21st Century. School libraries are an important part of our educational system and help prepare students for college and a good career.

Teacher librarians teach students how to conduct good research, how to be critical users of the information they find, and how to avoid plagiarism. They also play an important role teaching online research skills and raising awareness of cyber safety issues.

For these reasons, I rise to recognize the invaluable contributions that teacher librarians and school libraries make to our education system.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,943,613,298,774.71.

On January 6, 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 \$4,305,187,552,480.91 since then. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on May 25, 2011 I was unable to record my vote on the Foxx Amendment to H.R. 1216. If I had been able to vote, I would have voted "no".

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS  
MONTH

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, the late Norm Maleng, a courageous man and King County's former prosecuting attorney, once described domestic violence as ". . . [A] crime against the human spirit." Mr. Speaker, Norm was right. Domestic violence is a terrible scourge that irreparably damages individual lives, families, and communities. Its effects are permanent. It can't be taken back or apologized away.

We like to set up lines of demarcation, Mr. Speaker, and separate each other into distinct groups: women and men, black and white, young and old, rich and poor, urban and rural, and so on. Domestic violence ignores these distinctions in its assault on the human spirit.

The startling statistics send a clear message: domestic violence is a powerful force that recognizes no boundary. Every year, fifteen-and-a-half million children are exposed to

domestic violence in their homes and 2,000 children will die because of it. One in four women and one in nine men will be victimized by domestic violence in their lifetime. In my home state, 755 lives were lost to domestic violence between 1997 and 2010. The majority of homeless women and children in the United States are in that position because of domestic violence. If, somehow, those statistics don't frighten and sadden you, think about it in another way: Every year, the United States spends \$5.8 billion dollars in health care, lost productivity, and lifetime earnings because of domestic violence.

I urge my colleagues to support organizations committed to stamping out domestic violence in their hometowns and across their state and nation. Organizations like the Eastside Domestic Violence Program, EDVP, in the 8th District of Washington. In 2010, EDVP answered 10,069 crisis calls from victims of domestic violence and provided services to 4,700 victims. EDVP not only provides a 24-hour help line for victims, but they also provide shelter and safe places for victims to stay after they've made the difficult choice to leave their home behind. Unfortunately, for every person receiving shelter at EDVP, they are forced to turn away 18. They simply lack the resources needed to meet the full need of the community.

Mr. Speaker, together, as a community and as a nation, we can help prevent domestic violence and better serve those who've been victimized. As we observe Domestic Violence Awareness Month throughout October, I urge every American to take the time to tell their spouse, mother, father, child, brother, sister, or friend how important they are to their life. Hug every single one. Find out how best to extend a helping hand to victims and find the "EDVP" in your area.

HONORING MAYOR RUDOLPH CLAY

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with fond admiration and profound respect that I take this time to recognize a dear friend and one of Indiana's most distinguished citizens, the Honorable Mayor Rudolph Clay, of Gary, Indiana. For his many years of public service and his countless efforts toward improving the lives of Northwest Indiana residents, Rudy will be honored at a celebratory reception at the Genesis Convention Center, in Gary, Indiana, on Friday, October 28, 2011.

Rudolph Clay was born in Courtland, Alabama. Following the passing of his mother, Rudy and his brother, David, were raised by their aunts, Daisy Washington and Mary Lucy Hunter, in Gary, Indiana. After graduating from Roosevelt High School, Rudy continued his education, earning a track scholarship to Indiana University in Bloomington. He would later return to Gary, and it was during this time that he met and fell in love with his wonderful wife, Christine Swan. They were married on November 30, 1957. Mayor Clay then served in the United States Army from 1958 to 1960. Through the Vietnam era and the Civil Rights Movement, Rudy's unwavering passion to serve people, particularly those most in need,