

Development Corporation has been attempting for several years to construct senior housing on the campus of the Dayton VA Medical Center. St. Mary's was able to obtain an enhanced-use lease from the VA to construct the housing and also obtained HUD Section 202 funding to allow for the financing of the construction for low-income senior housing. So we had VA providing the land and HUD providing funding, and both VA and HUD agreeing that this would be an excellent project to help homeless veterans, provide low-income housing for veterans, and respond to the needs of seniors in the community.

However, HUD asserted that St. Mary's was unable to use these critical dollars if the VA lease required a specific preference for veterans to occupy the proposed facility on the VA grounds. The VA rules and regulations require that the VA assert and request a preference for veterans for housing to be built on its campus.

In the 111th Congress, this body unanimously approved and the President enacted into law a provision I authored to solve this issue. Specifically, the Fiscal Year 2010 appropriations measure included a prohibition on enforcement of HUD's restriction against a veterans preference. However, this solution was only temporary.

To ensure that these conflicting regulations do not present further, long-term obstacles for our veterans and seniors, I have introduced the Senior Veterans Housing Assistance Act. My bill will permanently ensure that organizations that seek to provide our senior veterans with affordable housing with HUD funds on VA property are able to overcome the HUD and VA conflicting rules and regulations. Specifically, the bill will allow HUD funds to be used for supportive housing for the elderly that provide preference to veterans if the property is or would be located on VA land, or is subject to an enhanced-use lease with the VA.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this important measure.

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#### WORLD AIDS DAY

### HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 1, 2011*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of World AIDS Day, December 1, 2011, and in support of the more than 33 million people worldwide living with AIDS, including over one million Americans.

World AIDS Day began in 1988 to raise public awareness for one of the most deadly pandemics in history. Since 1981, over 25 million people have died from HIV or AIDS related illnesses, and in 2008 alone more than 2.7 million people were newly infected. In the United States, more than one million people are living with HIV, with one in five of those cases currently unaware of their condition. HIV disproportionately affects people of color, men who have sex with men, and those without access to affordable birth control.

2011 marks 30 years since the discovery of the first AIDS cases in the United States. To date, the work we've done here in the United States and abroad has been effective as HIV infections worldwide are at their lowest levels since 1997. There is much more to be done,

but I'm proud of the commitment we've made—research at the National Institutes of Health, prevention and education programs at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Ryan White CARE Act, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria—and it is my hope that we will continue that great work.

Mr. Speaker, World AIDS Day provides us with an occasion to raise awareness about HIV prevention measures. With continued commitment to public health programs, research, early testing and screening, and age appropriate sexual education programs, we can work together to protect ourselves from HIV, and eradicate this disease for good.

I urge my colleagues to stand with me in supporting the Americans and people across the globe infected with HIV, and to support the efforts that will bring an eventual end to this deadly disease.

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#### TRIBUTE TO BILL HOYT

### HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 1, 2011*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and share with you and my colleagues the story of Mr. Bill Hoyt and his lifelong efforts to support agriculture and ranching, which are so important to jobs and the economy in rural Oregon. Over the past two years, Bill has done a tremendous job serving as the president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association. Later this week, Bill's term as president will come to an end. Before he hands over the reins I would like to pay tribute to his steadfast leadership.

Prior to serving as president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, Bill served as president of the Douglas County Livestock Association and as president of the Oregon Polled Hereford Association. On top of his duties with the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, he serves on the board of the Oregon Forage and Grassland Council and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. In 2009, the Oregon Agribusiness Council recognized Bill's service to Oregon's agricultural and ranching community by presenting him with the 2009 Voice of the Industry award.

During his tenure as president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, Bill has worked to promote and protect the interests of ranchers throughout Oregon. Bill has made a concerted effort to engage the general public about issues facing ranchers. He has spent many hours and miles traveling to meetings with rotary clubs, chambers of commerce and the environmental community, telling the story of Oregon's cattle ranchers, whose \$700 million industry provides jobs throughout rural Oregon. His efforts to educate the public and build relationships with other interested groups culminated in the passage of the Livestock Compensation and Wolf Co-Existence Act during Oregon's 2011 legislative session. This precedent-setting legislation goes beyond what other states have done to compensate producers for livestock loss by allowing local county-level authorities to address compensation for and deterrence of livestock losses.

Bill was raised on a beef ranch in Montana. After high school, he earned degrees in both

political science and education. Bill served his country in the U.S. Air Force for four years before moving on to teach high school history. In 1977, Bill began working as the operations manager for his family ranch in Montana. In 1979, Bill expanded the operation to include the ranch from his mother's family in Oregon. Bill and his wife Sharon now own and operate the Hawley Land and Cattle Company in Oregon with Bill's father and younger brother.

The ranch that Bill operates has been in the family for 159 years and Bill makes an effort to implement cutting edge stewardship practices for forage and livestock production. Bill and Sharon have diversified their operation over the years and now raise sheep, goats and beef cattle and sell grass-fed lamb and beef direct to markets and top-rated restaurants in Oregon and Washington. Through changing techniques, diversification and advocacy on behalf of the industry he loves, Bill hopes that agriculture and the livestock industries will continue to flourish in Oregon 150 years from now.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Bill Hoyt, who has served so ably as president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association.

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#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 16TH ANNIVERSARY OF WE CAN

### HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 1, 2011*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 10th anniversary of WE CAN, Women's empowerment through Cape Area Networking in Harwich Port, Massachusetts.

Recognizing that every community member's well-being contributes to that of the whole community, WE CAN's mission has been to empower Cape Cod women of all ages undergoing challenging life transitions. It includes services that bring increased opportunity, self-sufficiency, stability, and lasting positive change for themselves, their families and, ultimately, the entire community. After ten years, WE CAN remains committed to that mission.

WE CAN had its beginnings at Cape Cod Community College in a program called Women in Transition, WIT, which was designed to help women of all ages and demographics improve their lives through education. A year later, WIT became WE CAN. In its first year, they helped 15 women. Early services included emergency financial aid; programs that provided guidance on reenrolling in school and mentorship; help filling out forms for emergency fuel assistance, financial aid for education, job applications; and information and referrals to other organizations on the Cape. Now, ten years later, at the half mark of this year, WE CAN, had already handled more than 2100 contacts and served close to 1000 women.

WE CAN has a true tradition of excellence thanks to its outstanding leadership, superior volunteers, board, staff, generous community partners and motivated program participants. Based on evolving needs of the Cape population, they continued to grow in terms of the number of women and their families served;

the development of their programs and services; and in terms of their ability to attract volunteers, secure grants and donations from area businesses and individuals.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating WE CAN, its staff, board, volunteers, community partners, and program participants on the celebration of 10 years of service to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HONORING GABRIEL ZIMMERMAN

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 1, 2011*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Gabriel Zimmerman, who tragically lost his life in the senseless shooting on January 8, 2011, that took 5 other lives and resulted in the serious wounding of our wonderful and resilient colleague, Representative GABBY GIFFORDS.

Gabe dedicated his life to helping others. On that day, he had organized a Congress on Your Corner event so that constituents could bring their problems to Representative GIFFORDS and her staff to get them solved. We have learned a lot about Gabe's commitment to service—his practice of going the extra mile to help improve the lives of so many.

In January 2007, Gabe began serving as Constituent Services Supervisor for newly-elected Congresswoman GIFFORDS. In that role, he oversaw an extensive constituent advocacy program, working directly with the people of Arizona's Eighth Congressional District every day. He then served as Congresswoman GIFFORDS' Director of Community Outreach, where he organized hundreds of events to allow constituents all over southern Arizona to meet with Congresswoman GIFFORDS. I know how much my colleague, Congresswoman GIFFORDS, relied on Gabriel and how much she valued their work together.

Margaret Bowe, a close college friend of Gabe, described him as "a warm, funny, energetic, smart, interesting person who was passionate about life." She went on to explain "Gabe's purpose, his motivation, his passion, was to help people, he believed in the ideals of our political system."

I remember that day well—my thoughts and concerns went out to those involved in that horrific event but also to my own staff, who work extremely hard, putting in long hours to serve the constituents of the 9th District of Illinois. Every one of them is committed to helping people and they are regularly in the same role that Gabriel was on that January morning. They do not get the recognition that they deserve, often enough.

Our staffs are out there in our communities every day, embodying the same values Gabe worked so hard for. In remembering Gabe, we also must salute the thousands of staffers across the country, who keep his memory alive by proudly serving their communities and country.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Gabe's family and friends, among them my colleague GABRIELLE GIFFORDS, who so deeply mourn his tragic death.

HONORING EMMA H. NEWSOME

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 1, 2011*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Thirty-five years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Atlanta Field Office of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and Whereas, Mrs. Emma H. Newsome began her career working in various positions, she rose to the rank of Regional Director's Liaison and has served the citizens well and our community has been blessed through her service; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents as a Coordinator, Deputy Director, Liaison and Motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all who wants to advance the lives of the citizens in our region; and

Whereas, Mrs. Newsome is formally retiring from her governmental career today, she will continue to promote civic duty because she is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Emma H. Newsome on her retirement from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and to wish her well in her new endeavors;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim November 4, 2011 as Mrs. Emma H. Newsome Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 4th day of November, 2011.

HONORING MICHAEL D. "MIKE" WALDEN

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 1, 2011*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Veterans of Foreign Wars Chowchilla Post 9896 Life Member Michael D. "Mike" Walden who served his country honorably from a very young age.

Mike was born in Los Angeles in 1946; he attended local area schools before enlisting in the United States Army in June of 1963, at the age of seventeen. He completed his basic training at Fort Ord, California, and later completed specialized training in armor warfare in Fort Knox, Kentucky. Mike was next sent to Korea for twelve months for duty with the 2nd Battalion of the 10th Cavalry, 7th Division at Camp Hansen located in the demilitarized zone. The unit provided security and conducted patrols while observing North Korean communist forces across the DMZ. Soon after, Mike returned to the States for duty with the 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry, and 5th Division. After extensive training, the division was transitioned into duty with the First Infantry Division, known as the "Big Red One". The "Big

Red One" remains one of the most storied divisions of the U.S. Army, having led the way for American troops in WWI, and during WWII, was the first Army Division to fight the Germans on North Africa, Sicily, the beaches of Normandy, and the Battle of the Bulge. During the summer of 1965, his division was the first Army division called to fight in Vietnam. Throughout 1965, his unit was involved in significant and major combat engagements.

Mike completed a twelve month tour in Vietnam; he returned to the United States in 1966 and was discharged five days after his twentieth birthday. After serving three years and two tours in Korea and Vietnam, he was still not old enough to legally purchase a beer. For his service, he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Korea Defense Medal, among others.

After his retirement from the U.S. Army, Mike graduated from West Valley College and St. Mary's College and worked as a project support engineer. He and his wife, Gayla Darlene, make their home in Chowchilla with their two children. Mike is a Life Member of the Chowchilla VFW Post 9896 and an active member of his church.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Mr. Michael D. Walden for his honorable service to our great country, and wishing him the best of luck and health in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF ROSA PARKS

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 1, 2011*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the heroic spirit of one of the most remarkable women in our nation's history by celebrating National Transit Tribute to Rosa Parks Day. Commonly known as "the first lady of civil rights" and "the mother of the freedom movement," Rosa Parks is a heroine who will be forever remembered for her courage to stand up for what she believed.

On that fateful December 1st evening in 1955, Rosa Parks had the strength to refuse to sit in the back of the bus, where blacks at the time were segregated from white riders in the front. By this simple yet heroic protest she inspired blacks across America to fight for their rights. I am honored to have been part of the Civil Rights Movement she helped fuel. Because of her vision for equality, America has made great strides toward a more perfect union.

It was a great privilege to attend the ceremony on October 28, 2005, when our nation bestowed Rosa Parks the highest honor by allowing her body to lie in honor in the Capitol of the United States Congress. She was the first American who had not been a government official to be paid this tribute. She was also the first woman and the second black person to lie in honor.

The story of Rosa Parks is proof that everyone in our great democracy, in this case a 42-year-old black woman from Montgomery, Alabama, can change the course of our country and help pave a better tomorrow for future generations. I hope we can be inspired by Rosa Parks to continue our fight for equality and justice for all Americans.