

honored last week with the Consumer Product Safety Commission Chairman's Circle of Commendation Award for her tireless advocacy for children's product safety. This is the first time that this award has been presented, and I cannot think of anyone more deserving.

Nancy is the Executive Director of Kids in Danger (KID), an advocacy organization dedicated to protecting children by improving the safety of the products they play with or otherwise use. In the more than a decade that Nancy has headed KID, she has served on the front lines, educating parents and caregivers about the dangers of certain products, promoting the development of safer children's products, and advocating for important legislative and regulatory improvements. She has worked on numerous issues both as a member of panels and as an outside advocate for safety improvements in CPSC standards and recall efforts.

Nancy has played a significant role in the improvement of consumer product safety, ensuring that children and families have a voice and that product-makers are held accountable. In Washington, Nancy's work has served as an invaluable contribution to the creation of CPSC standards and the implementation of recalls, no doubt saving many lives in the process. She has served as an invaluable resource for me and many of my colleagues who are committed to protecting the health and well-being of children.

The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) became law in 2008, and it is the most significant reform of the CPSC and its responsibilities in decades. With Nancy's input, I authored several provisions to the bill, including mandatory standards and testing for infant and toddler products such as cribs and high chairs and a provision requiring that postage-paid recall registration cards must be attached to products. I am proud of those provisions, and the overall bill, which would not have been as strong or protective without Nancy's guidance.

I would like to thank the CPSC, and Chairman Inez Tenenbaum, for recognizing the contributions of Nancy Cowles toward making products safer for children and families. As the Chairman said, Nancy's "contributions to product safety are invaluable."

As a mother and grandmother deeply concerned about preventing injuries to children, I could not be more grateful for Nancy's efforts and I am proud to call her a friend.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM (BILL)  
H. OSBORNE ON 50 YEARS OF  
OUTSTANDING FEDERAL SERVICE  
WITH THE U.S. ARMY CORPS  
OF ENGINEERS

**HON. THOMAS J. ROONEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 7, 2011*

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to congratulate Mr. William (Bill) Osborne of Atlanta, Georgia for 50 years of dedicated Federal service to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He has also served as the Commandant of the 3388th USARF School in

Tampa, Florida with prior assignments in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics at the 81st U.S. Army Reserve Command in Atlanta, Georgia. He retired from the Army Reserve in April 1993 at the rank of Colonel. I hope Members will join with me today to thank Mr. Osborne for his contributions to the Corps of Engineers, his local community and the United States of America.

Mr. Osborne began his career with the Corps of Engineers in 1957 as a summer hire in the Operation Division in the Nashville District. After graduating from the University of Tennessee with a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering he joined the Jacksonville District as a Civil Engineer. In 1970, he transferred to the South Atlantic Division and took a position as the Assistant Chief of the Program Management Office. Since 1988 he has been the Chief of the Civil Works Integration Division. In this position he puts together the South Atlantic Division's portion of the President's Civil Works Budget for Congressional consideration.

Some of the major projects for which he has provided Congress justification documentation include the Tennessee Tombigbee Waterway, Herbert Hoover Dike, Portugues and Bucana Rivers, and two of the largest environmental projects in the country; South Florida Ecosystem Restoration and the Comprehensive Restoration of the Mississippi Barrier Islands projects. Over his stellar career he has justified billions of Federal dollars in support of these and countless other much needed projects. For over two decades he has provided exceptional support to Division Commanders, Chiefs of Engineers and the Assistant Secretaries of the Army in their annual testimony before Congress. Through his expert knowledge of the Civil Works process Mr. Osborne consistently provided outstanding service in the relationship with the public, Congressional Members and their staffs, involving controversial and complex issues.

Mr. Osborne has received numerous awards in recognition of his outstanding efforts to include Superior Civilian Service Awards, the Meritorious Civilian Service Award and he has been nominated for the prestigious Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service from the Secretary of the Army.

Bill Osborne is a tremendous assist not only to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, but also to Members of Congressional Delegations throughout the Southeast and his country. I want to sincerely wish Bill and his wife, Fran, every success in the future.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 7, 2011*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 26, 1995, when the last attempt at a balanced budget amendment passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 300-132, the national debt was \$4,801,405,175,294.28.

Today, it is \$15,071,624,794,970.66. We've added \$10,270,219,619,676.38 dollars to our

debt in 16 years. This is \$10 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

A TRIBUTE TO DEBRA DAVIS-  
SMITH

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 7, 2011*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Debra Davis-Smith for her service to the health and well being of those living in the 10th Congressional District of New York.

Ms. Davis-Smith was born to the late Joyce and Robert Davis, and raised in an extended family that included her maternal grandparents and aunts in Brooklyn, New York. Being the eldest of three, Ms. Davis-Smith always had the instinct to care for and look after others.

Ms. Davis-Smith was educated in both the public and parochial school systems. It was during this time that she recognized her interest in helping others outside of her family by volunteering her services after school as the Candy Striper at Kings County Hospital. On weekends and during the summer months, she volunteered with the Department of Aging which allowed her to work with elders in various senior citizen centers and also work with her local precinct in mentoring teenagers.

After high school, Ms. Davis-Smith attended The City College of New York where she majored in Sociology. During her studies, she continued to volunteer and intern with several non-profit groups. Her focus was always on educating and empowering others whether they be youth or senior citizens.

Following her undergraduate studies, she attended Fordham University and received her Master's in Social Work. While at Fordham her studies focused on individuals and families which eventually led her towards the field of mental health. The National Institute of Mental Health provided support to Ms. Davis-Smith which would also determine her future employment.

Upon graduating Fordham, Ms. Davis-Smith was employed by The Catholic Guardian Society where she worked with children in foster care and adoption service. She remained there for a year until she began working as a social worker at Woodhull Medical and Mental Health Center in their Inpatient Psychiatric Unit. Ms. Davis-Smith would spend the next 25 years with the health center, working alongside dedicated professionals who shared her passion in working with the mentally ill. Within this time she held several positions within the discipline of social work, and is currently in the position of acting Director of Social Work Services.

Ms. Davis-Smith is married to Clifford Smith and has two daughters, Brittany and Morgan. With her family's continued love and support she is able to continue her community service.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the community achievements of Ms. Debra Davis-Smith.