

enjoyment of the entirety of the American public—hunters and non-hunters alike. In addition, sportsmen are an economic powerhouse. They directly support jobs, generate billions of dollars in Federal, State and local tax revenues, and invigorate the economies of local communities by spending their money on travel, lodging, food, sporting equipment, and so much more while participating in their sport.

Hunting and recreational fishing and shooting are the beating heart of conservation in the United States. This year marks the 75th Anniversary of the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program—a program supported and made possible by the dollars of our Nation's sportsmen. Given the current celebration of the success of this program, it seems timely to support our sportsmen by enacting legislation that will provide them with more opportunities to participate in their sport. We as a legislature must come together—overcoming partisanship and working collaboratively with our partners in the Senate—to promote, advance and protect our Nation's sporting heritage. I support our Nation's sportsmen and I urge you to join me in supporting H.R. 4089.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2012*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 158, I was detained while attempting to reach the House floor to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

IN HONOR OF THE RECIPIENTS OF THE PHILADELPHIA DIALOGUE FORUM AND PEACE ISLANDS INSTITUTE'S 8TH ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP AWARD

### HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2012*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor five awardees who are receiving the Philadelphia Dialogue Forum and Peace Islands Institute's 8th Annual Friendship Award. On behalf of the 8th District of Pennsylvania, I would like to congratulate Kail Ellis, Natosha Warner, Dennis O'Brien, Richard Negrin and Dan Gottlieb. Thank you all very much for your fortitude and perseverance in a mission worth striving to accomplish.

In today's society, it is especially important that we all do our best to work together. I greatly appreciate the efforts of the Philadelphia Dialogue Forum and Peace Islands Institute in working to create links of understanding, acceptance, hope and trust amongst different communities, especially the communities in Bucks County.

My Congressional District is very diverse, but it's the efforts of organizations like these that make our community unite. By bringing people together in conferences, lectures, festivals and community service projects, local residents are given the opportunity to interact with one another and work to promote common values. It is more of these efforts that our country really needs.

I am honored to be speaking on behalf of the Philadelphia Dialogue Forum and Peace Islands Institute today, as well as the five awardees who have dedicated their time to promoting peace and tranquility in our society. I look forward to hearing about what you all have accomplished in the future, and I am grateful to represent you in Congress.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW SHOWMAN ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

### HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2012*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Matthew Showman of Willard, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Matthew's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet Class of 2016. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Matthew brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2016. He has served in a leadership capacity as a class officer, student council class representative, and he also tutored elementary students. Matthew volunteered in his community by participating in fundraisers for the Ronald McDonald House and Willard Mercy Hospital. While attending Willard High School in Willard, Ohio, Matthew consistently achieved high honors, with an exceptional grade point average.

Throughout high school, Matthew was a member of the football and wrestling teams and earned varsity letters in each. In addition, Matthew was captain of the wrestling team and was the recipient of the team's Captain Award and Coach's Award. I am confident that Matthew will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the United States Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Matthew on the acceptance of his appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Matthew will excel during his career at the Military Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

HONORING BRIDGET PHILLIPS

### HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2012*

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the extraordinary life of Bridget Phil-

lips and mourn her upon her passing at the age of 79.

Born on December 19, 1932, Bridget Phillips grew to be a woman loved and revered by all who knew her. Mrs. Phillips was the proud matriarch of a three generation Michigan based business. She was gifted with a gracious, thoughtful and philanthropic spirit, generously dedicated to local organizations, such as St. Mary's Hospital, Madonna University, Angela Hospice and The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund.

Regrettably, on April 17, 2012, Bridget Phillips passed from this earthly world to her eternal reward. She is survived by her beloved husband of 57 years, William and her cherished children Lynn, Donna, Lisa, Terry, Scott, Bob, Amy and Sean. She will be long remembered by her much-loved siblings Bill, Derm, Mary, Fran and Terry. She leaves a precious legacy in her grandchildren Sarah, Erin, Meghan, Ben, Lauren, Max, Caleb, Haley, Laine, Jarred, Molly, Amy, Andy, Matt, Alia, Zane, Jack, Will, Luke and Owen. An amiably benevolent woman, Bridget will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, Bridget Phillips is remembered as a devoted wife, loving mother, adored grandmother, treasured sister, compassionate neighbor, and a valued friend. Bridget was a true lady who deeply treasured her family, friends, community and her country. Today, as we bid Bridget farewell, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning her passing and honoring her dedicated commitment to her family, our community and country.

DESIGNATING THE SALT POND VISITOR CENTER AT CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE AS THE “TIP O'NEILL, JR. SALT POND VISITOR CENTER” STATEMENT OF INTRODUCTION

### HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2012*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill renaming the Salt Pond Visitor Center at Cape Cod National Seashore as the “Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Salt Pond Visitor Center.” I am proud to be joined by the entire Massachusetts delegation in the House of Representatives, who are original co-sponsors of this legislation, along with Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI, who has been the greatest Speaker of the House since the legendary Tip O'Neill. Senator JOHN KERRY (D-MA) has introduced companion legislation in the Senate.

This year, on December 9th, Tip would have celebrated his 100th birthday. Tip lived a life dedicated to public service and lifting up the disadvantaged in society, beginning with his election to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1936. In 1949, Tip became the first Democratic Speaker in the history of the Massachusetts State Legislature, serving as Speaker until 1952, when he ran successfully for the United States House of Representatives to fill the seat vacated by Senator-elect John F. Kennedy.

Many of us here who served with Tip remember his warmth, his magnetic personality, and his unyielding support for working families and the middle class. When I was elected to