

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ROCHESTER GIRL SCOUT TECH TEAM, THE HIPPIE PANDAS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my esteemed honor and privilege to congratulate the Girl Scout tech team, known as the Hippie Pandas, who participated in the FIRST 2012 Championship—a celebration of science, technology, and robots involving more than 600 student teams from 32 countries around the world. For their innovative work and outstanding professionalism, the Hippie Pandas of Rochester, New York, were awarded the “Gracious Professionalism Award.”

As someone who places great value on science and technology, I am so pleased to see the tremendous success of these four girls from Rochester, New York. The Hippie Pandas, aged 11–14, are not only an inspiration for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education for girls around the country, but they have also found a creative way to help communities in Nicaragua.

After learning that women in Nicaragua experience a high rate of miscarriage and disease because they drink unpasteurized milk, the Hippie Pandas set out to use their skills to develop an inexpensive and accessible solution to address this pressing problem. With the help of their coach and mentor, Cheryl Lawniczak, a chemical engineer at Eastman Kodak Co, and faculty members at the Rochester Institute of Technology, the girls designed and built a solar powered device to heat milk to 145 degrees to kill harmful bacteria.

The Hippie Pandas initially used a thermometer to determine when the milk reached target temperature, but realizing this would be impractical for most Nicaraguan women, they developed a clever and natural alternative—beeswax, which melts when milk has reached 145 degrees.

This solar powered milk pasteurizing device is currently being implemented in Nicaragua to help women treat raw milk so that it is safe to drink. As one of the Hippie Pandas stated, “One thing we definitely learned is how dangerous raw milk can be and how pasteurization helps. . . We also learned that as kids, we can help people around the world to live safer lives.”

At a time when we as a nation have fallen behind in STEM education, the success of the Hippie Pandas is truly inspirational. The life lessons of teamwork, leadership, and dedication can only be learned through hard work and experience.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating each of these girls along with their mentors at Rochester Institute of Technology and Eastman Kodak Co. for their innovative work and dedication to science and technology.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5743) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes:

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I was unable to speak during last week’s floor debate on the FY13 Intelligence bill—the following is the statement I would have made before the amendment was adopted by voice vote:

First, let me thank my esteemed colleague Congressman JOHN CONYERS for giving me the opportunity to speak on this important amendment.

I would also like to recognize Congressman KEITH ELLISON who has been an outstanding leader on issues affecting the Middle East.

Mr. Chair, first let me say unequivocally that we can all agree that we must work to prevent an Iran armed with nuclear weapons—which would never be acceptable.

That is not what this amendment is about, this amendment is noncontroversial.

This amendment is really just about common sense.

It would simply require that the National Intelligence Director give Congress a report outlining their assessment of the consequences of launching a military strike against Iran.

This amendment is necessary because, once again, we have saber rattling voices who are beating the war drum.

If we have learned anything from the past ten years, it is that we have to be deliberate, be thoughtful, be careful, and know exactly what we are getting ourselves into before we launch another war in the Middle East.

These decisions should not be taken lightly, and they must be based on sound reasoning, and the best information, and the best intelligence.

We have a duty to our brave men and women in uniform who have sacrificed so much during the past decade of war to have an informed debate about the consequences of military action.

I urge you to vote “yes” on this amendment.

HONORING ROBERT M. CHUR OF WESTERN NEW YORK

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of Robert M.

Chur, the Chief Executive Officer and majority shareholder of 19 independent, assisted living and skilled nursing companies in my home community of Western New York.

These combined entities, which represent Bob’s hard work and dedication to service, currently employ 2,800 full and part-time employees, and care for more than 5,000 people each year throughout the Western and Central New York area.

Before beginning his outstanding career, Bob served as a Captain in the United States Marine Corps. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from St. Lawrence University, and received his MBA in Marketing Management from Syracuse University.

Remarkably, Bob has been affiliated with over 25 organizations throughout his career; sitting on various Boards of Directors, and serving as Chairman, President, and holding many other esteemed positions.

Bob has also received numerous awards for his service including his 2004 Health Care Hero for Lifetime Achievement award from Business First of Buffalo, and his 2010 ACHA Gold Award for Quality from ElderWood Health Care at Wedgewood.

Nine of Bob’s skilled facilities and five of his assisted living facilities have earned the Bronze and Silver Awards for Quality from the American Health Care Association. As a result, it comes as little surprise that in 2012 Robert was named one of Western New York’s most influential business leaders by Buffalo Business First.

It is very easy to see why Bob’s facilities have won many accolades over the years. In late April, I was proud to visit one of Bob’s facilities, Westwood Village, located in West Seneca, New York, as they welcomed their 1,000th resident, and Bob’s company’s success was self-evident: they care for people in the most dignified and respectful manner, assisting seniors as they transition through new chapters of their lives. Bob’s facilities are not “nursing homes,” in the traditional use of that term. Bob, his family and staff members work as hard as they can to simply make his facilities home for the many thousands of Western New Yorkers whom they serve.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to honor Bob Chur on his exemplary career and celebrate his retirement. I thank him for his warm friendship and for his dedicated service to his country and to his community. I know that you and all of our colleagues join with me in wishing Bob good health and the best of luck in his future endeavors.

SALVATORE INGRALDI TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Salvatore Ingraldi of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Mr. Ingraldi is a proud

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

American, who served in the Air Force for 24½ years. He joined the Air Force as a Security Policeman, and after a distinguished career retired as a Chief Master Sergeant.

Following his retirement, Mr. Ingraldi's enthusiasm and belief that it is our duty to honor WWII Veterans inspired him to found an Honor Flight Hub, in Southern Colorado, and he was subsequently voted President of the organization. It is through Mr. Ingraldi's passion and leadership that the Honor Flight Hub will be sponsoring its first trip to Washington, DC.

Because of Mr. Ingraldi's efforts, four WWII Veterans who without the help of the Honor Flight Hub would not have been able to come to our nations capital, will now be able to pay respects to their fallen comrades at the national WWII Memorial.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mr. Ingraldi for his great service to our country and its veterans. Through Mr. Ingraldi's hard work the Honor Flight Hub, in Southern Colorado, will continue to give WWII Veterans the opportunity to visit and reflect at their memorial.

PRENATAL NONDISCRIMINATION
ACT (PRENDA) of 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 3541, The Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act, of which I am a proud co-sponsor. This bill would criminalize the performance of an abortion based solely on the sex of the unborn child.

As you know, on May 31, 2012, the House of Representatives failed to approve H.R. 3541 by a vote of 168-246. I was necessarily absent from Washington on the day of this vote due to the death of a close personal friend. Had I been present, I would have proudly supported the passage of H.R. 3541.

I am unapologetically pro-life and am proud to be a member of the Pro-Life Caucus. I believe that the miracle of human life begins at the very moment of conception. I also believe that every human being, both male and female, has the inherent right to life and that this right must be protected by law.

Throughout my tenure in Congress, I will continue to do everything in my power to fight for the unborn, prevent taxpayer money from funding abortions, and to protect our democratic system from the encroachment of an all-powerful judiciary. As a woman, a wife, and a mother of two small children, I will continue to fight for the life of every child—regardless of their gender.

Mr. Speaker, I take my responsibilities as a member of this chamber seriously, and I regret ever having to miss a vote. I am pleased that my attendance record during the 112th Congress remains above 99 percent.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANTONIO
S. RESTAINO, JR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Antonio S. Restaino, Jr., who passed away on Sunday June 3, 2012 at the age of 78.

Mr. Restaino was born in Niagara Falls in 1934 to the late Antonio and Pasqualina Restaino, where he attended local schools until he began his service in the United States Air Force in 1951. Antonio served his country during the Korean War until his honorable discharge on November 5th, 1953.

After returning home from his service in the Air Force, Mr. Restaino married Rose M. (Morreale) Restaino in Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Niagara Falls on June 11th, 1955.

Mr. Restaino began his career working at Bell Aircraft before he was hired by the City of Niagara Falls in 1958 and promoted to the position of Supervisor of Construction and Maintenance in the Sewer & Water Department. In April 1987, he was appointed Deputy Director of the Niagara Falls Convention Center, and in 1988 was assigned to the Niagara Falls Waste Water Treatment Plant as Chief of Buildings & Grounds where he served until his retirement in October 1988.

In addition to his wife of fifty years, Mr. Restaino is survived by his children, grandchildren, sisters and a large and loving extended family. But Mr. Restaino enjoyed a relationship with another extended family—the good people of the city of Niagara Falls.

Following his retirement, Mr. Restaino remained a very active and effective contributing member of his beloved hometown community. He garnered much praise for his work with local organizations and received many awards for his service, which included a 1993 award for Outstanding Service from the Niagara Falls Democratic Committee, a 2004 Diocese of Buffalo Lay Award of St. Joseph the Worker, and a 2010 Cittadini Speciali, "Special Citizen" Award from the Pine Avenue Business Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me and with members of the House to express our deepest condolences to the family of the late Antonio S. Restaino, Jr., and join with me in recognizing the many good works he performed during his long and full life. May he rest in peace, and may his family know and understand the tremendous impact that Mr. Restaino had on the city, state and country that he loved so much.

MAX WATSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Max Watson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Max Watson is an 11th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Max Watson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Max Watson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

SECURE BORDER ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am submitting the following letter exchange between myself and Chairman DAVE CAMP of the House Committee on Ways and Means.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, June 5, 2012.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,

Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Longworth House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CAMP, Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 1299, the "Secure Border Act of 2011." I acknowledge that by forgoing action on this legislation, your Committee is not diminishing or altering its jurisdiction.

I also concur with you that forgoing action on this bill does not in any way prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future, and I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation. The Committee on Ways and Means is considered to be an "appropriate congressional committee" in regards to the reports required by H.R. 1299 with respect to resource allocation for staffing requirements and the level of manpower data available as all ports of entry.

I will include our letters on H.R. 1299 in the Congressional Record, and I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation. I look forward to working with the Committee on Ways and Means as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

PETER T. KING,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, June 1, 2012.

Hon. PETER KING,

Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
U.S. House of Representatives, H2-176 Ford
House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN KING. I am writing to you concerning the bill H.R. 1299, the "Secure Border Act of 2011." This legislation includes several provisions that pertain to the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways & Means with respect to Customs and Border Protection staffing requirements and commercial traffic.

The Committee recognizes the importance of H.R. 1299 and the need to move expeditiously. Therefore, the Committee is willing to forego action on the bill with the understanding that by doing so, the Committee is