York and in my congressional district. Since coming to Congress, I have benefited from his knowledge and experience in our efforts to improve Plattsburgh Harbor, attend to the district after Hurricane Irene, and strengthen Fort Drum. His dedication to these efforts has always helped to keep New York moving forward, and I am proud to have worked with him.

It has been a pleasure and honor to work with Col. Boulè. On a personal note, I am glad to have John as a friend and look forward to seeing him in Plattsburgh visiting with his family in the years ahead. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating him on his retirement and wishing him well in whatever comes next.

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

Monday, September 10, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Emily Sabo, Carolyn Grant, Ashley Stafford and Jodie Reese—members of the Hippie Pandas Girl Scout team of Rochester, NY. Along with their coaches Cheryl and Christa Lawniczak, the Hippie Pandas recently pioneered an invention that is preventing disease, and saving lives.

The young ladies of the Hippie Pandas recently partnered with engineers at the Rochester Institute of Technology and Eastman Kodak Company to design and build a device to change the world. Through extensive research and hard work, the young women created a solar-powered pasteurization system that processes raw milk. As I write, this invention is providing women in developing countries with an easy and inexpensive way to access safe milk for themselves and their families.

This invention was spurred by a desire to help women in Nicaragua, where unpasteurized milk has caused women to suffer from higher-than-normal rates of miscarriage and disease. They've done exactly that, as their invention has already been put to use in Nicaragua, and requests have come in to expand its use to other countries.

Across the world, women face the tremendous challenge of accessing safe, affordable and secure health care. Indeed, in many countries, lack of resources and gender discrimination conspire to leave women vulnerable to contracting preventable disease. Every day, some of the most accomplished and heralded professionals in the world work to address these challenges. Yet, quietly, a small group of dedicated young women in Western New York solved one such challenge with an incredible invention.

Through their hard work, the Hippie Pandas have helped change the course of life for women a world away. In the process, they have shown this Congress, and this country, the important role that science and technology play in making our world a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent such intelligent, innovative, and accomplished young women. Through their work, the Hippie Pandas have shown the best that the Rochester area has to offer. Their scientific and technological knowledge, together with a deep passion for serving a greater good, embodies the values that serve as a foundation for my hometown and our Nation.

In honor of the Hippie Pandas' service to the global community, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Emily, Carolyn, Ashley, Jodie, Cheryl and Christa, and their mentors at Rochester Institute of Technology and Eastman Kodak Co. for their innovative work and dedication to science and technology. I speak for all of Western New York in expressing our pride and gratitude for the life-changing work the Hippie Pandas have done.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD AND DARLENE LUNDQUIST

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Edward and Darlene Lundquist on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. Their milestone took place Saturday, September 8, 2012.

Mr. and Mrs. Lundquist have been a happy couple since their days as high school sweethearts in Corning, Iowa. Never ones to waste time, Edward and Darlene eloped in neighboring Missouri on September 8, 1942 and haven't looked back.

Edward and Darlene have resided in Osceola, Iowa since 1959 when they purchased a lumberyard that is now in its third generation. In addition to building their successful business, Mr. and Mrs. Lundquist have also raised three children—Nancy, Jim and Alan—who have blessed them with eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, with another on the way. The Lundquists continue to be a visible and important part of their community, and it is an honor to represent them in the United States Congress.

Edward and Darlene's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. I salute this lovely couple on their 70th year of life together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

DR. MURTAZA BAXAMUSA—FELLOWSHIP HONOREE OF THE YEAR!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proclaim that there are several unsung community leaders in our nation that deserves our utmost admiration and recognition.

One such leader hails from my 51st Congressional District, Dr. Murtaza Baxamusa, the Director of Planning and Development for the Family Housing Corporation of the San Diego County Building and Trades Council, as well as an Adjunct Faculty with the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Sothern California. He is a certified planner by the American Planning Association. He has over 10 years experience in economic development and sustainable urban planning and works with several non-profits to expand affordable housing in the San Diego area.

Dr. Baxamusa is a founding board member of the Middle Class Taxpayers Association and serves on the Board of Directors of the San Diego City-County Reinvestment Taskforce, Utility Consumer Action Network, and Cleveland National Forest Foundation. He writes the blog, Middle Class Thinker for VoiceofSanDiego.org and serves on the real estate panel for the San Diego Union Tribune.

Dr. Baxamusa received his doctoral (PhD) in Planning from the University of Southern California (USC) in 2008. His study on community benefits agreements received the award for the best doctoral dissertation in planning use at USC and was published in the academic journal of record in American planning education. He received a Master's degree in Planning at USC, and a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from the Indian Institute of Technology.

In his last position as the Deputy Director at the Center on Policy Initiatives, Dr. Baxamusa authored numerous policy briefs and studies on issues concerning working families and is frequently cited by the media and legislators as an expert on these issues. His public policy accomplishments include: expanding the living wage to outsourcing, economic prosperity in the General Plan, and responsible contracting. His report on city finances, "Bottom Line," is one of the most referenced municipal budgets in the city of San Diego. The City of San Diego proclaimed June 17, 2008 to be "Dr. Baxamusa Day" in recognition of his work in the city.

Prior to moving to San Diego, Dr. Baxamusa was a researcher at the USC Center for Economic Development. He worked on sustainable development strategies for several cities in Southern California. The Center was recognized as the National Center for Eco-Industrial Development by three federal agencies.

Congratulations are indeed in order today as we honor and recognize Dr. Murtaza Baxamusa as the John S. Lyons Foundation's Fellowship Honoree of 2012!

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE, CLEVELAND BRANCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Cleveland Branch.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded in 1909 by W.E.B. Du Bois, and Ida B. Wells-Barnett, among others. The NAACP initially began as an organization fighting against discrimination and for protection under the law for African-Americans. The NAACP's mission

is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

The Cleveland Branch of the NAACP was established in 1912 by a small group that consisted of a cook, machinist, engineer, caterer, janitor, tailor, barber and seven postal workers. By 1914, the Cleveland Branch had 214 members. Throughout its history, the NAACP Cleveland Branch has worked to end discrimination in area schools, businesses, public establishments, and hospitals. It has fought for equal justice from the law, employment opportunities and voting rights among other campaigns. It has been led by 32 presidents, including former Cleveland City Council president George Forbes, who served from 1993 to 2012. Today, the NAACP Cleveland Branch is comprised of 15,000 members and is led by James L. Hardiman.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the National Association of Colored People, Cleveland Branch on 100 years of working for civil rights.

HONORING POWELL'S BOOKSTORE

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Powell's Bookstore, a Portland landmark, on the occasion of its 41st anniversary.

One of the benefits of my job is an opportunity to become a part of a lot of exciting events: Groundbreakings, anniversaries, ribbon-cuttings, commencement speeches. On August 25th, in Portland, I shared a truly unique moment. It's one of the reasons why people come from all over the world to share in the Portland experience. No tour of Portland is complete without a visit to Powell's City of Books. This is not just because this bookstore is the one attraction in Portland that's open 365 days a year, and bad weather doesn't stop you. In fact bad weather makes the trip to Powell's even more fun. It's iconic but I think few people really understand why and how it got to be that way.

Portland is the livability capital of the United States. And livability is about things like bikes and beer, about restaurants that are locally owned, gluten-free organic and free-range with everything sourced from less than four blocks from the restaurant. It's a powerful concept, to be local, human-scale and high quality.

Think about Powell's. It's local in the extreme, but it's been on the web for almost 20 years now. The staff is amazing! It's full of Reed college double majors in physics and philosophy who are members of the longshoreman's union and speak Swahili and Gaelic.

It's probably the best place in Portland for a first date. You really get to know someone wandering through the stacks at Powell's with them. It's a great place to ditch a kid for a long period of time, although that sometimes makes Michael and the staff a little nervous. It is the ultimate Christmas experience as all of the last-minute shoppers flock here. It's not just what you get, it's what you do, sharing in the frenzy of the wild-eyed, strange people who are wandering the aisles at the last moment.

Powell's is uniquely Portland because it is a family enterprise. On August 25th, I was joined by Alice Powell who is Michael's partner in life and a professional in terms of counseling that I think often has helped move the institution along. There may have been a few moments in the history of taking risks in this enterprise where maybe another income made a difference.

Michael Powell is a shy semi-curmudgeon, so it's hard to tell about all the contributions that Michael has made to the community. It's not just about his business. He's one of the people who understand that what's good for the community is good for his business, and what's good for his business is good for his community. For the better part of these 40 years, I've had a chance to work with him on a wide variety of projects, from parks and planning, to transportation and downtown development. Michael has helped lead the charge for business people to tax themselves to improve the quality of the downtown experience. For 20 years he's been not just active, but a leader, in bringing the streetcar to Portland and then expanding it. Because of Michael's efforts, the streetcar is one of those experiences that make Portland unique.

Now with their daughter Emily, it's been three generations of Powell's involved with this institution going head-to-head against the big chain establishments. With all the changes in publishing, all the changes in the economy, they've been a constant. Powell's has been a leader in ways that have made a big difference to us all.

I was asked to share a memory of Powell's, which was kind of hard because I've got so many of them over the years.

There is one experience that stands out. I love books. I'm a library junkie. I have my own study carrel in the Library of Congress, perhaps the most magnificent building in Washington, DC. I was having a tour for some Oregonians that were in town, going through the Library of Congress. We went up the staircase to look over that magnificent reading room, just a spectacular sight. It is hard to believe that it was built by the Corps of Engineers over 100 years ago.

While we're standing there, looking down at the reading room, there were people from another tour crowding behind the Plexiglas, quietly oohing and ahhing. I turn to my right and there's someone wearing a Powell's City of Books t-shirt. I interrupt to say, ''That's cool, I'm from Portland, I represent the Powell's.'' Before you know it, the whole tour is disrupted because people are noticing the Powell's shirt and they're talking about how much they love Powell's. I thought it was a perfect expression of what Powell's means to Portland and to people around the country. Congratulations on 41 years. Thank you for enriching our city and our experience. We look forward to many more years of your success.

RECOGNIZING THE POTENTIAL OF COMMUNITY LENDING

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize some recent innovations in private lending to graduate and undergraduate students in U.S. colleges and universities. I also want to encourage our nation's wealthy individuals to think about participating in these programs as one way to give back to our communities. Since its inception in 2011, the Social Financial company, or SoFi, has offered compelling community-based lending and consolidation programs, and this academic year will assist students from 45 colleges and universities across the country.

At its core, SoFi demonstrates the powerful idea of community lending. It brings alumni, students, and schools together to ensure students' debt burdens are manageable. For the upcoming 2012–13 academic year, SoFi used its equity base and additional capital from alumni to secure $80 million to finance, fund, and support new student loans. This innovative student loan solution benefits students, alumni, higher education institutions, and our nation. The funds from school-specific lending pools allow students to enjoy comparatively low-interest loan rates and opportunities to refinance previous loans. In addition, the alumni that contribute to the pool earn a significant and low-risk return, while schools gain access to low-cost funding.

Mr. Speaker, although I do not expect private lending schemes to supplant available federal loan structures, I believe Social Financial's commitment to the betterment and transformation of the financial services landscape for students sets an example for how to innovate in this field. I commend SoFi for its hard work, community partnerships and innovation, and congratulate SoFi on its continuous expansion to schools across the U.S. In order to tackle student debt, we will need to be creative, in exactly the ways SoFi has been. I encourage those who have the means and desire to give back to follow Social Financial's example and invest in the education of the next generation.

HONORING FANNIE SHERIDAN

HON. HENRY C. ''HANK'' JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman . . . who has given of herself to her community, church and family; and

Whereas, Mrs. Fannie Sheridan's spirit is present in DeKalb County, Georgia for all to see, being a mother, a community worker, neighbor and friend; and

Whereas, this giant of a woman was born in Eufula, Alabama to Maceo and Loftie Tennelle on October 12, 1925, she has been on the move ever since as a woman of God, touching lives in Alabama, Chicago, Illinois, Gary, Indiana and Decatur, Georgia; and

Whereas, this remarkable woman gave of herself, her time, her talent and her life; she never asked for fame or fortune just fairness for the people, she was our quiet storm, a spark that starts a flame; and

Whereas, Mrs. Fannie Sheridan led by doing behind the scenes, she encouraged all those around her who wanted to make a difference, be it her family, her elected officials,