

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO TYLER WEIG

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Tyler Weig for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neighbors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

To be named a Hero of the Heartland, Tyler Weig took it upon himself to change a life forever by donating his own kidney to a stranger in need. Tyler was inspired to donate by researching the vast need for healthy kidneys and discovering nearly 95,000 people across the country and more than 500 Iowans currently on a waiting list. It's fitting, then, that Mr. Weig's selfless action has started the longest kidney transplant chain in Iowa's history. So far, the chain started by Tyler's lifesaving donation has helped five recipients who were facing a combined waiting list of 12 years. Tyler's commitment to a cause bigger than himself is a life-changing example that our State can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Weig's actions that earned him the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Tyler on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL CHRISTOPHER O. MOHAN, USA

**HON. ROB BISHOP**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, for the past two years, Tooele Army Depot, Utah, has been led by an outstanding officer whose record of achievement certainly deserves recognition. Colonel Christopher O. Mohan, USA, assumed command of Tooele Army Depot on July 19, 2011.

From the moment he assumed command, Colonel Mohan's commitment to worker safety became apparent. He implemented solid safety policies and procedures and, as a result, in 2012–2013, the depot achieved more than 350 consecutive days without a loss-time injury. This was the best record in Joint Munitions Command as well as Army Materiel Command, AMC. In 2013, the depot continues to prepare for the Voluntary Protection Program, VPP, Star Status.

In 2013, the Army implemented the Logistics Modernization Program, LMP. Under Colonel Mohan's guidance, the installation continued to succeed with implementation of LMP, which modernizes the systems and processes associated with managing the Army's supply chain at the national and installation levels. LMP also permits the planning, forecasting, and rapid order fulfillment leading to streamlined supply lines, improved distribution, a reduced theater footprint, and a warfighter who is equipped and ready to respond to present and future threats.

Colonel Mohan's leadership led the depot to excel in continuous improvement efforts. In 2011–2012, significant savings were realized through this concerted depot wide effort, with a LLS (\$916K) and Value Engineering (\$1.2) combined total savings and cost avoidance that exceeds \$2.1 million. Considering the depot's \$64 million annual budget, a savings of over \$2 million is a major accomplishment for a small installation with approximately 473 personnel. The realization of these savings was a result to successful partnering with all directorates on the base, and assisting them with their goals and simplifying the process. This year he continued a focus on furthering simple LEAN techniques such as taking "5S" techniques throughout all of Tooele's shops. He also continued to promote Visual Management Boards, which serve as directorate and lower scoreboards.

Tooele Army Depot exceeded the Value Engineering goal last year by 16 percent, and continued that trend this year, exceeding the goal by 23 percent with actual savings of \$1.2 million which is even more remarkable taking place during a difficult time of defense budget cuts and limited dollars for projects and infrastructure.

Colonel Mohan's guidance was instrumental in continuing to utilize simplified acquisition procedures that maximize the use of standard commercial items and services procured using combined solicitation and synopsis. Tooele Army Depot has promoted the use of the Government Purchase Card to the maximum extent practicable. Usage for FY12 was 11,003 purchase card transactions and Tooele's percentage of purchase card orders placed was 99 percent, exceeding the Army goal of 90 percent.

In 2012, Tooele Army Depot shipped approximately 34,892 tons of conventional ammunition and received 36,328 tons of conventional ammunition. Colonel Mohan supported the Ammunition community in demilitarizing 3460 tons of outdated ammunition.

During Colonel Mohan's command, the Garrison Office exceeded the Joint Munitions Command, JMC, Commanding General's goal of reducing energy consumption by 10 percent with a total energy consumption reduction of 15 percent. In addition, Tooele has reduced energy consumption 96.68 percent from its Army Energy and Water Reporting System, AEWRS, 2003 base year. Tooele's wind turbine produced approximately 2.051 MW of power during 2012.

Colonel Mohan contributed to the organization and planning of the 1.5MW Stirling solar electrical generation project. A groundbreaking for this planned and funded alternative energy project occurred in August 2012, and will lead to the eventual installation of 430 power dishes over 30 acres of depot property. In recognition of the importance of this project, Colonel Mohan was privileged to host a visit by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Dempsey, as well as top Army officials and State and Local government officials, to this groundbreaking event.

Colonel Mohan's guidance and leadership led the depot to excel in financial management. During 2012, the planned revenue was \$60 million, but actually received \$74.5 million. Planned direct labor hours were 441K and actual labor hours used as 464.7K. 2012 was the third consecutive year that Tooele Army depot execution rate was reduced.

Colonel Mohan's command of Tooele Army Depot will conclude on July 10, 2013, as he will assume another assignment of leadership within the Army Materiel Command.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I join with all of the Utah Congressional Delegation in thanking Colonel Christopher Mohan for his distinguished service to Tooele Army Depot, to the State of Utah, to the United States Army, and to the Nation. He leaves behind an admirable record of dedicated leadership that is to be commended, and we wish him and his family the best in their new endeavors.

CYBER INTELLIGENCE SHARING AND PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2013*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 624) to provide for the sharing of certain cyber threat intelligence and cyber threat information between the intelligence community and cybersecurity entities, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Chair, every day cyber-networks in this country are attacked. These attacks cause substantial disruption to our networks and drain billions of dollars from our economy each year. Today we consider a bill designed to strengthen our protections against cyber threats by encouraging private entities to share information and intelligence

• 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.

among themselves and with the government. I certainly support that goal. However, I cannot support this bill in its current form because I believe it does not sufficiently protect the privacy of Americans. Specifically, the bill does not include sufficient protections against the disclosure of sensitive personal information.

Under the bill, companies are not required to extract personal information from the data they collect and share. Sharing un-scrubbed personal information with other companies or with government agencies can potentially put the civil liberties of Americans at risk if the data is misused or handled improperly. The bill also grants companies excessively broad immunities from legal responsibility for the disclosure or misuse of this data.

Many of the amendments accepted on the floor this week provide increased protections for information once it is received by the government, but that is no substitute for protecting it when it is initially collected by companies or when they share the data with each other. The White House has threatened to veto this bill if these issues are not adequately addressed.

I opposed this bill last year for similar reasons. I welcome the changes made to the bill this year to address some of those concerns. For example, no longer can receiving government agencies use information for national security purposes. Additionally, increased protections for personal data have been added for the information when it is placed in government hands. These changes improve the bill, but they do not go far enough to prevent the unwarranted and unnecessary disclosure of private information.

I believe that the cyber threats we face in this country are real, present and destructive. However, I believe that we can address these cyber threats without opening the door to unnecessary disclosure of private information. The companies who collect sensitive data about Americans should be required to safeguard that data to the fullest extent of their ability. The shortcomings of this bill can be easily addressed and I hope the Senate will make these necessary changes. I look forward to supporting a future bill that achieves that goal.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 1549, HELPING SICK  
AMERICANS NOW ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 24, 2013*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule on H.R. 1549, the so-called "Helping Sick Americans Act."

This ill-conceived and misguided legislation takes funds from the Prevention and Public Health Fund to increase financing of the Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Program, PCIP. This sounds laudable but the facts are that this bill hurts an important program that our nation needs. The rule for the bill does not address the problems with this legislation.

Cutting funding from public health funds is a risky move. We know from countless studies

that money invested in public health is a solid investment. It improves the lives of thousands of Americans, especially our most vulnerable members: the elderly, the young, the sick, the disabled and the poor.

In March 2010, Congress passed and President Obama signed the historic health reform law, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. In addition to extending life-saving health insurance coverage to 31 million by 2019, the law includes a suite of provisions that have the potential to substantially reform our nation's health care system.

One of these provisions is the establishment of the Prevention and Public Health Fund. This is the nation's first dedicated mandatory federal funding stream for public health and prevention activities.

The Prevention Fund was created to increase the nation's investment in prevention in order to improve health outcomes and decrease health care costs.

In the first two years of its existence, 2010 and 2011, the Fund provided \$1.25 billion for critical programs that prevent tobacco use, decrease HIV rates, increase physical activity and healthy eating, increase immunization rates, and many other activities.

States and communities across the nation are already implementing and benefiting from these programs.

Public health is an essential component of the U.S. health system: its infrastructure and prevention-based programs wrap around clinical health systems to improve population health and reduce health care costs.

Local health departments work with a wide range of community partners to create conditions and policies that help people make healthy choices, such as avoiding tobacco use, becoming more physically active, and eating healthier foods. All these proactive measures contribute to the prevention of chronic diseases and associated risk factors like obesity and smoking.

For all of these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this rule.

RECOGNIZING THE ARMENIAN  
GENOCIDE

**HON. JOHN P. SARBANES**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the memory of the innocents that perished in 1915 during the Armenian Genocide.

With a systematic barbarism visited upon them, countless Armenians made their way to Syria seeking refuge from persecution. Today, the world is aghast at the horrific violence engulfing Syria and the Armenian people are once again threatened with upheaval and displacement.

Each year, the United States Congress has the opportunity to stand with justice and recognize the Armenian Genocide. Such action would fortify America's moral standing in the family of nations and send a strong message to our NATO ally Turkey that it must examine the dark chapters of its past and the discriminatory impulses of its present.

Turkey has repeatedly thwarted efforts by Congress and successive administrations to recognize the Armenian Genocide by threatening all manner of retaliation should recognition be accorded. I submit that we do no favors to Turkey by acquiescing in its cynical campaign. Turkey's path to the European Union, its abysmal relations with its ethnic and religious minorities, particularly its violent conflict with the Kurdish people, would all improve if the Armenian Genocide was addressed openly and honestly.

As we approach the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in 2015, it is time for the United States to formally recognize this tragic chapter in world history and to bring some measure of peace and healing to those of Armenian descent.

CELEBRATING "LITTLE WALTER"  
AND THE INAUGURAL LITTLE  
WALTER MUSIC FESTIVAL

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebrating "Little Walter" and the inaugural Little Walter Music Festival which will strike a chord in Alexandria, LA, on Saturday, May 4, 2013. Additionally, I would like to call attention to this much-anticipated festival for enhancing economic development and quality of life by unifying and celebrating Louisiana's interests.

The festival, honoring Rock & Roll Hall of Famer, Blues sideman and bandleader Little Walter, will take place on the Red River. Headlining the event is the "Louisiana Music Hall of Fame, LMHOF, Little Walter Legends." Multiple Louisiana Blues harp artists, LMHOF member Henry Gray, who played with Little Walter in Chicago, and a cast of Louisiana Blues All Stars will help usher "Little Walter" into The Louisiana Music Hall of Fame with a presentation from LMHOF President Mike Shepherd. Closing the event is a jam session featuring Lady Liz Neville, former lead vocalist in the Hotel Bentley's Mirror Room, along with the LMHOF "Legends" band on Little Walter's classic hits, "Juke" and "My Babe."

Little Walter, born Marion Walter Jacobs near what is now Spring Bayou Road in the small town of Marksville, LA, revolutionized the sound of the Blues harmonica through amplification just by claspings a microphone to the harmonica as he played. He spent several years in Alexandria before making his way to Chicago to eventually become a member of Muddy Waters band, where he began recording his unique style of Blues. According to his 2008 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame induction, Little Walter "could make a harmonica moan and roar like a full horn section or produce an unearthly, haunting wail."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the Little Walter Music Festival the best of luck, and for its part in retaining the charm and spirit of our region. Lastly, I rise in celebration of Little Walter and his accomplishments making the Blues sound what it is today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE  
VESTAVIA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL  
WE THE PEOPLE TEAM

**HON. SPENCER BACHUS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to commend the We the People program for its continuing commitment to promoting civic knowledge and responsibility among students in our elementary schools and high schools. As a source of special pride, I would like to bring the House's attention to the representatives of the State of Alabama in this year's 26th annual national competition, the Vestavia Hills High School academic team from the Sixth District.

We the People helps to shape our next generation of leaders by instilling the principles of good citizenship and active participation in the democratic process. More than one million students from every state take part in this program each year. Students learn to be enlightened citizens by studying the enduring ideas of America's founders and the principles of constitutional government.

After competing locally in a hearing-styled, question and answer competition based on the U.S. Constitution, the top performing teams are invited to Washington to participate in the national finals on Capitol Hill. It is here that they gain firsthand knowledge of Article I, Section 1 of our Constitution—the legislative branch—by competing in a format that simulates the congressional hearing process. As Chairman Emeritus, I am pleased to announce that the Financial Services Committee hearing room will be used in this year's competition.

It takes hard work and commitment to qualify for the We the People national finals. At this time, I would like to extend recognition to the students from Vestavia Hills High School who are representing the State of Alabama. With teachers Mrs. Amy Maddox and Mrs. Jane Schaefer, I congratulate: Christian Sitarz, Carrie Clower, Reagan Cline, Patrick Sipe, Rachel Caskey, Aashka Patel, Anna Dennis, Enrico Camata, Daniel Moran, Amy Li, Sisi Zheng, Peter Adamo, Farhan Khan, Luis Jimenez, Hopson Nance, Hannah Skjellum, Botong Ma, Joseph Stahl, Molly Rhodes, Brian Stahl, Shannon Bewley, Marisa Pierluisi, and Kaustubh Udipi.

The knowledge and commitment demonstrated by all of the students who take part in We the People should give us all great confidence in the future of our precious American democracy.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL OF  
THE BOROUGH OF ALBURTIS

**HON. CHARLES W. DENT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to honor the people of the Borough of Alburtis, both past and present as they prepare to celebrate the Borough's Centennial.

Mr. Speaker, the Borough of Alburtis is located in Lehigh County. It was formally incorporated on May 9, 1913 out of the neighboring town of Alburtis and the village of Lockridge.

While it was incorporated in 1913, the Borough's history dates back into the 1850's. As with so many communities across the United States, development was sparked by the arrival of the railroads. These included the Philadelphia and Reading, the Catasauqua and Fogelsville and the East Pennsylvania railroads. In fact the Borough takes its name from Edward K. Albutis, a civil engineer and Board Director of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad.

The railroads were drawn by the presence of iron ore in the area. The village of Lockridge grew as a result of the presence of the Lockridge Iron Company operating an iron furnace, Lockridge Furnace, in the area. Housing and a church sprang up around the furnace.

In a testament to the spirit, skill and entrepreneurial spirit of the people who lived in the area, other industries soon developed including a silk mill, shirt factories, and a shoe factory in the late 1800s.

Alburtis had a population of 700 people in 1914; on the advent of its Centennial, 2,300 people now call the one square mile Alburtis Borough their home.

Eventually, in 1921, Lockridge Furnace ceased operation. Lehigh County bought the property in 1970 and now the former industrial site serves the community as the picturesque Lockridge Park and Museum which opened its doors in 1976, the year of America's Bicentennial.

The Furnace serves the people of Alburtis as a wonderful recreational site and a great draw for those interested in the history of Lehigh County. Indeed, the residents' commitment to their heritage is shown by their outstanding historical preservation efforts on display in Alburtis' downtown.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to represent the people of Alburtis in the Congress of the United States at the time of their Centennial celebration and, with the blessings of Divine Providence; it is my great hope that one hundred years from now another Representative of the United States Congress stands in this Chamber to offer their words of praise in support of the intrepid people of Alburtis on the occasion of its Bicentennial.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL DAY  
OF REASON

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thursday, May 2, 2013 as the National Day of Reason.

The National Day of Reason celebrates the application of reason and the positive impact it has had on humanity. It is also an opportunity to reaffirm the Constitutional separation of religion and government.

I have the privilege of representing Silicon Valley, where every day scientists and engineers employ the scientific method and apply reason to develop innovative technologies that help advance humanity. The application of reason, more than any other means, has proven to offer hope for human survival upon Earth, improving conditions within the universe, and cultivating intelligent, moral and

ethical interactions among people and their environments.

Our Founding Fathers based the Constitution of the United States, the basic document governing the affairs of people within the United States, upon philosophical principles that have their origins in the historical Age of Reason. It is important that on the National Day of Reason, we take time to remember and celebrate this history, including the First Amendment's guarantee of freedom of religion and freedom from the imposition of religion by the state. Our nation's founders knew that the best way to protect religious freedom was to keep the government separate from religion.

The National Day of Reason is also a time to continue the effort our Founding Fathers began to form a more perfect union. Every year, events such as food drives and blood drives are held on this day in which Americans help their fellow citizens and our nation as a whole. These community service events are just some of the many ways Americans will be working to help those in need on the Day of Reason and throughout the year.

I encourage all citizens, residents and visitors to join in observing this day and focusing upon the employment of reason, critical thought, the scientific method, and free inquiry to the resolution of human problems and for the welfare of human kind.

THE 98TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the ninety-eighth anniversary of the onset of the Armenian Genocide, one of the ugliest chapters in the bloodiest century in recorded human history. Over the course of the Genocide, 1.5 million innocent Armenians were slaughtered; those Ottoman Armenians that survived were the tiny and miraculous remnant of a forced march conducted by the Ottomans under the most savage of conditions.

Those murders were not only a tragedy for the Armenian people, who bear its scars to this day. The barbarity inflicted on the Armenians also opened the floodgates on a century of genocide and ethnic-cleansing. We've all seen Hitler's sneering statement "Who after all speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?" That statement makes clear the link between indifference to the Armenians and the murder of six million Jews. And it expresses the mindset of so many thuggish leaders after Hitler, leaders convinced that their nationalist aims could easily be achieved through a policy of murder that carried no punishment. The victims of this mindset have spanned the globe, as we know too well.

"Who after all speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?" Mr. Speaker, I want to affirm today that we do remember, and we remember with reverence. We recall with sorrow the massive loss of life as the result of a deliberate policy of murder. We also know that we owe it to humanity and history to remember, if only to help erect a deterrent against future such tragedies. And let me add that Turkey owes it to the Armenians to acknowledge and come to terms with what its forbears perpetrated—and, at a minimum, to apologize.

Turkey also owes that to itself, too, for Turkish society will be stronger for having ended the charade of denying what the whole world knows to be true.

Mr. Speaker, to the Armenian people, including the very few remaining survivors, I want to express my great sorrow and deepest condolences. And I say to them, as we say regarding the Holocaust, "Never again."

21ST ANNUAL NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS NATIONAL FOOD DRIVE

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I show my support for the 21st Annual National Association of Letter Carriers National Food Drive, which will take place on Saturday, May 11, 2013.

Every year, NALC members across the country work together to execute the largest one-day food drive in the United States. To participate, those who are able to make a donation need only place a box of non-perishable food items by their mailbox. On May 11, letter carriers will pick up the contributions along their route and pass them along to local food banks.

Donations to the NALC stay local and help feed needy Americans in our own communities.

I urge my colleagues to stand with me and support the 21st Annual NALC National Food Drive.

AWARDING CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO ADDIE MAE COLLINS, DENISE McNAIR, CAROLE ROBERTSON, AND CYNTHIA WESLEY

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 24, 2013*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a sense of indignation, sadness, and deep and abiding pride in the memory of four little girls from Alabama who were callously murdered by the bomb of a homegrown terrorist.

Addie Mae Collins, Carole Robinson, Cynthia Wesley and Denise McNair did not get a chance to celebrate any more birthdays, run through the fields of Alabama, go to the prom, dance at a wedding, or simply grow up and enjoy life as Americans.

As was reflected in the prayer given last week in this Chamber by world-renowned soul and gospel singer Yolanda Adams we have been taught to embrace God's grace and mercy, and for those who will listen, to stand in the sunlight of joy as one looks toward the hopefulness of the future, while standing tall as a Black woman in the memory of my four little girls, your girls—these little girls were America's children, and bore the brunt of a very ugly side during a very nasty, ugly, vicious, cruel, and inexorably painful era in the history of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, on August 27, 1963, at the March on Washington, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered the speech that both challenged and inspired a nation. "I have a dream," he said, that "one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers."

Nineteen days later, on September 15, 1963, the nation learned that there was still a long path to travel before it realized Dr. King's dream. For on that day 50 years ago, the nation was shocked—and the City of Birmingham was rocked—by an explosion at the 16th Street Baptist Church that severely damaged the church, injured 22 people, and claimed the lives of four beautiful and innocent little girls: Addie Mae Collins, Carole Robinson, Cynthia Wesley and Denise McNair.

But the horror and heartbreak of that tragedy galvanized a nation to act. Less than two years later, the nation responded to one of the worst and cowardly acts of hatred with two great acts of justice that have changed America for the better and still stand today as monuments to what can be achieved when challenged to live up to the true meaning of its creed.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 are a part of the legacy of Addie Mae Collins, Carole Robinson, Cynthia Wesley and Denise McNair.

Today we celebrate their lives—lives cut down as they should have been learning to bake cakes, play hopscotch, and learn the violin, instead they were murdered in a place which should have been a safe haven, a sanctuary. The death of the four girls drew national attention to the fight for civil rights and is credited with creating a surge of momentum for the civil rights movement.

It is also important that we pass on the lessons learned through this deep tragedy so that we do not repeat it. Little girls and little boys around this great nation should hold hands and walk together regardless of race, color, religion, or creed.

This bill simply directs the Speaker of the House and the president pro tempore of the Senate to arrange for the posthumous award of a Congressional Gold Medal to commemorate the lives of Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robinson and Cynthia Wesley in recognition of the historical significance of the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church. But this bill is more than that. It is a reckoning.

This legislation, which I am proud to cosponsor and strongly support, is intended to complete some of the nation's most important unfinished business. And that is to address one of the most depraved acts of violence against school-aged girls belonging to a racial group which was vulnerable, politically powerless, and innocent, and against those persons who risked life and limb to help them secure the rights promised in the Declaration of Independence and made real in the Constitution.

The Congressional Gold Medal recognizing the 50th Anniversary of 16th Street Baptist Church bombing is long overdue. I thank my CBC colleague who hails from Alabama, Congresswoman TERRI SEWELL of Birmingham, who sponsored this legislation, and Senator RICHARD SHELBY of Alabama, who leads the Senate effort for this special recognition as America comes to terms with its rich and often painful history.

Mr. Speaker, in 1989 the Civil Rights Memorial was dedicated in Montgomery, Alabama,

the birthplace of the modern Civil Rights Movement. The Memorial honors the lives and memories of 40 civil rights martyrs who gave their lives in the struggle for justice and equality. But we know that many more people lost their lives to racial violence during that era. In honoring the four little girls of Birmingham today, let us resolve to remain steadfast in the quest to obtain justice for these other heroes.

Mr. Speaker, fifty years later we have made much progress from the dark days of Birmingham. In those days there simply was no justice for African Americans because the criminal justice system—from the police, to the prosecutors, to the juries, and to the judges—was perverted by racial bigotry.

Inspired by the sacrifice of four little girls in Birmingham, Americans of good will and of all races and creeds, worked to hasten the day when all would be treated equally before the law and every person would be judged by the content of their character.

It is, of course, fitting and proper that H.R. 360 bears the names of Addie Mae Collins, Carole Robinson, Cynthia Wesley and Denise McNair. Although forever linked together in history, we must not forget that each of them was an individual. Each had her own hopes and dreams for the future. Sadly, they were robbed of that future by the cowardly act of persons motivated by racial hatred. But in sacrificing their futures, Addie Mae Collins, Carole Robinson, Cynthia Wesley, and Denise McNair helped to transform America into a place where little girls and little boys today can know that their dreams can come true and their futures will be bright and that racial hatred is no longer an insuperable barrier to realizing the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, nearly 50 years ago, on June 11, 1963, President John F. Kennedy addressed the nation from the Oval Office on the state of race relations and civil rights in America. In his historic speech to the nation President Kennedy said:

We are confronted primarily with a moral issue. It is as old as the scriptures and is as clear as the American Constitution. . . .

[T]his Nation, for all its hopes and all its boasts, will not be fully free until all its citizens are free.

H.R. 360 is intended to help bring justice to those whom justice has been delayed for more than two generations. In doing so, this legislation will help this Nation fulfill its hopes and justify its boast that in America all persons live in freedom.

And Mr. Speaker, let us also remember young Virgil Lamar Ware, a thirteen-year-old black boy who was killed by segregationists while riding on the handlebars of his brother's bicycle. His killers had just attended a segregationist rally held in the aftermath of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church bombing.

It is a sad but unfortunately not uncommon occurrence that it is innocent children who suffer when adults give in to hate. But as the scriptures teach us, unearned suffering is redemptive. And the blood of the innocents—Addie Mae Collins, Carole Robinson, Cynthia Wesley and Denise McNair—helped to redeem our country and make it better.

I urge all Members to join me in supporting this fitting tribute to their heroism and sacrifice by voting to pass H.R. 360.

IN HONOR OF MARANATHA  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. WALTER B. JONES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor Maranatha Baptist Church in Jacksonville, North Carolina.

This month, Maranatha Baptist Church will celebrate 30 years of faithful service to the Lord and to the citizens of Onslow County. The church especially has a heart to reach the servicemen and women in the area for Christ.

The first members of Maranatha Baptist Church met in a small pawn shop under the leadership of Pastor Randy See. His work laid the foundation for the congregation to expand and move first to a piece of property on Anne Street and then to the church's current location on Onsville Drive.

Following in the footsteps of Randy See, Pastors Don Jones, Chuck Lindley, and Jon McConkey have blessed Maranatha Baptist Church with their leadership over the course of the last three decades. Each of these men contributed uniquely to the growth of the church from its humble beginning to the well-known community that it has become.

I am honored to represent Maranatha Baptist Church, and I am pleased to have the congregation and current Pastor Jon McConkey recognized by the United States Congress as they celebrate 30 years of service to Onslow County.

HONORING THE 2013 RECIPIENTS  
OF THE OWENS COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, the Owens Community College Alumni Association takes great pride in its annual Outstanding Service Awards celebration, now in its tenth year. The awards honor the selfless contributions of area police, fire, and emergency medical service professionals to our communities. I wanted to share the inspiring stories of two of my constituents who will be recognized at this year's ceremony.

Last April, A.J. Green of Gibsonburg was a passenger on a bus traveling on the Ohio Turnpike. The bus collided with another vehicle that had been involved in a multi-vehicle accident. It was subsequently hit by another vehicle unable to stop due to dark, rainy conditions. The bus driver was knocked unconscious and was trapped behind the steering wheel, which was rendered inoperable by the wreck. Together with another passenger, A.J., who serves with the Lindsey Volunteer Fire Department, took control of the bus and shut off the engine. He then guided the passengers to safety at a nearby travel plaza where they were attended by emergency personnel.

A.J. has since coordinated a bus safety training day for area police, fire, and other emergency responders, turning this catastrophe into a learning experience. The asso-

ciation is presenting him with the 2013 Outstanding Firefighter Award for his exceptional efforts.

Keith Loreno, fire chief for the City of Fostoria, will be presented with the 2013 Outstanding Service to Community Award. Chief Loreno's three-decade career began with the Perkins Township Fire Department, where he served as a firefighter/emergency medical technician. Since then, he has worked as a corrections officer, a deputy sheriff, a top official with the Division of the State Fire Marshal, and as owner of an ambulance service.

Keith's devotion to volunteerism is an example to all who know him. A United Way board trustee, he has worked to ensure successful fundraising campaigns to aid vital community organizations. He also spearheads an annual clothing drive campaign and coordinates smoke-detector giveaway programs. His dedication to civic duty is further shown in his work with local students: Chief Loreno runs a Safety Town program for preschool children and coordinates mock-crash events to teach teenagers about the dangers of drinking and driving.

Mr. Speaker, this year's Outstanding Service Awards celebration will be held on Friday, April 26. I appreciate the opportunity to join the Owens Community College Alumni Association in recognizing the ongoing commitment and sacrifices of these first responders.

IN MEMORY OF CHIEF WARRANT  
OFFICER 2 JARETT YODER

**HON. PATRICK MEEHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues from Pennsylvania, the Honorable CHARLES W. DENT and the Honorable JIM GERLACH, for the solemn purpose of remembering and honoring the life of Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jarrett Yoder. On April 9, 2013, CW2 Yoder was tragically killed while serving our country. CW2 Yoder was just 26 years old when his AH-64 Apache Helicopter crashed in Nangarhar Province Afghanistan. A Berks County, Pennsylvania native, CW2 Yoder was a 2005 graduate of Oley Valley High School in Oley, Pennsylvania and attended Reading Area Community College.

CW2 Yoder joined the military in 2005, first serving in Company C of the 1st Battalion of the 111th Infantry of the Pennsylvania National Guard as an infantryman. He was then deployed to Iraq in 2008 with Company C and the rest of the Guard's 56th Stryker Brigade. In 2010, he then transitioned to the role of an aviation life support equipment officer and Apache pilot.

CW2 Yoder was an exceptional Pennsylvanian and American who served his state and country with honor and great courage. His military decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, and Driver and Mechanic Badge.

We send our deepest condolences to CW2 Yoder's wife, Heather Garay-Yoder, and his parents, Gary and Diane Yoder. CW2 Yoder goes to his rest with the eternal thanks of a most grateful nation.

HONORING COLONEL MARK C.  
GARDENER

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Mark C. Gardener and to recognize his lifetime of service to our country.

On June 28, Col. Gardener will retire from the Georgia National Guard after thirty years of sacrifice and service to this great nation.

While he currently serves as the Georgia National Guard's State Inspector General, he has worked in many different capacities. In 1983, Col. Gardener's first assignment was with U.S. Army Missile Command, and he has since been assigned to infantry, maintenance, and forward support duties across the world. His career has taken him to Korea, Panama, Afghanistan, Iraq, and several military installations here in the United States.

For his distinguished leadership throughout his career, Col. Gardener has been awarded with decorations like the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korea Defense Service Medal, the Army Reserve Service Medal, the Parachutist Badge, and the Air Assault Badge.

Col. Gardener has played an invaluable role in the U.S. Armed Forces for decades and he will surely be missed.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 11th District of Georgia, my deepest thanks to Col. Gardener for devoting his life the upholding the Constitution of the United States and to the protection of its citizens. I wish him a happy—and well-deserved—retirement.

CONGRATULATING THE AUXILIARY  
OF THE JFK MEDICAL CENTER  
FOUNDATION ON ITS 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Auxiliary of the JFK Medical Center Foundation on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Since 1962, the Auxiliary has provided critical fundraising for special projects and contributed countless hours of volunteer service that directly impact and improve the lives of patients served by JFK Medical Center. Due to the remarkable efforts of the Auxiliary over a half-century of service, JFK Medical Center has grown into a highly respected health care facility that provides clinical excellence to the people of Edison Township, Middlesex County, and throughout Central New Jersey.

The Auxiliary actually predates JFK Medical Center by five years. Indeed, the idea of building a hospital in Edison was little more than a dream of late Edison Mayor Anthony M.

Yelencsics when he called local resident Joanne Wira in March 1962 to request her assistance in seeing his vision come to fruition. Mayor Yelencsics asked Mrs. Wira to create an Auxiliary to support the creation of a hospital that would serve the rapidly expanding populations of Edison, Woodbridge, Metuchen, and surrounding communities.

Mrs. Wira accepted the challenge and served as the first President of the Auxiliary, which held its initial meeting on November 19, 1962 with 163 women in attendance. The Auxiliary's first pledge was made at that meeting: \$30,000 to fund the construction of the future hospital's Gift Shop and Coffee Shop. This seemed like an enormous undertaking at the time, but it has been dwarfed by the subsequent efforts of the Auxilians. By the time the hospital opened its doors on August 7, 1967 as a 205-bed facility (it has since expanded to 498 beds), the Auxiliary had contributed over \$110,000 in pledges raised from the community.

Over the years, the Auxiliary has contributed significantly to every major expansion of JFK Medical Center, including \$500,000 towards the construction of the JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute, JRI, in the mid-1970s. Over the past three decades, JRI has developed into a national leader in rehabilitation care and performs cutting-edge research that has benefited patients worldwide, including service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with traumatic brain injuries.

The Auxiliary's work continues unabated today. At the Auxiliary's annual Fall General Meeting in 2012, final payment was made on the most recent pledge of \$2.5 million, which benefitted the JFK Emergency Pavilion Expansion Project. Its cumulative contributions to JFK Medical Center now exceed \$15 million.

Unsurprisingly, the Auxilians are not resting on their laurels and already are moving forward with raising funds to meet their newest pledge of \$3 million, the largest pledge to date. These funds are earmarked to benefit JFK Medical Center's new 5th floor Maternity and Pediatrics facility, which will offer private rooms to every patient so as to allow mother and newborn to be physically proximate and extend every comfort to fathers and other family members. The Auxiliary has presented JFK Medical Center with the first \$100,000 contribution towards the pledge as it moves seamlessly into its second 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, the tremendous efforts of the Auxiliary of the JFK Medical Center Foundation over the past 50 years are to be highly commended. The civic pride and community spirit demonstrated by the Auxilians is remarkable. I particularly would like to single out the efforts of the Auxiliary leadership, especially current Auxiliary President Barbara Braynock and the Auxiliary Board, for volunteering their time and effort to this great cause, and note their great collaboration with the JFK Board of Directors and President & CEO Ray Fredricks.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I once again would like to congratulate the Auxiliary of the JFK Medical Center Foundation for 50 years of incredible service to their community. I have no doubt that the next 50 years will build upon this great legacy.

HONORING DR. DEWEY BROWDER

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, the mark of a great community is found in its leadership. Hard working, always professional, and dedicated to long-term vision are the key qualities of a strong local leader. The mark of a great country is found in those willing to serve her cause. I rise today to honor a leader of a great community and country, Dr. Dewey Browder.

From mentoring students at Austin Peay State University to highlighting veterans in Montgomery County, Dr. Browder's hard work helped make Clarksville a nobler place to call home. His awards are numerous and far too few for his contributions. Serving as a member of the Kiwanis Club, the Mayor's Veterans Service Organization, the Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, the Clarksville-Montgomery County Military Affairs Committee, and the Wings of Liberty Museum, Dr. Browder's time, talents, and treasures are unmatched.

Shaping the next generation of students, of veterans, and of citizens is a sacred act. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Dewey Browder. Along with his family, friends, and coworkers, I offer my gratitude for his life's work.

**TRI-CAUCUS HEALTH CHAIRS,  
LEAD BY ROYBAL-ALLARD, OR-  
GANIZED ONE-MINUTES IN REC-  
OGNITION OF NATIONAL MINOR-  
ITY HEALTH MONTH**

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise as co-chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus Healthcare Task Force to recognize April as National Minority Health Month.

Communities of color—in California and throughout the country—continue to face persistent health disparities and barriers to quality care.

By expanding access to care, education, and prevention, we have the tools necessary to address this issue—and we must use them.

That is why I was pleased by yesterday's announcement of the new National Standards on Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services, which is needed to ensure that all individuals receive health care that is high quality and meets their diverse needs.

And while successful implementation of the Affordable Care Act is critical to ensuring our communities have access to quality, affordable, culturally competent care, we must do more.

This is why the congressional tri-caucus continues to champion the Health Equity and Accountability Act.

I urge my colleagues to join us in securing health equity for all.

CONGRATULATING THE U.S. ARMY  
RESERVE

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the U.S. Army Reserve on their 105th anniversary, and to thank the almost 201,000 reserve soldiers across the country—including 8,000 from my home state of Georgia—for their dedication and service to our great nation.

In 1908, Congress' creation of the Medical Reserve Corps became the official predecessor of today's Army Reserve.

In 1916, the program was transformed into the Organized Reserve Corps in order to provide a peacetime resource of trained soldiers for use in unexpected conflict. Since then, the Reserve has continued evolving in order to meet the needs of our citizens and respond to global threats.

Currently, the Army Reserve makes up almost 20 percent of the total U.S. Army, and is comprised of soldiers who are specially trained in areas such as engineering, mechanics, and medical expertise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking the soldiers of the United States Army Reserve for their sacrifice and congratulating them as they celebrate 105 years of patriotic service.

**INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION  
RECOGNIZING THE SEQUENCING  
OF THE HUMAN GENOME AS ONE  
OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT SCI-  
ENTIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF  
THE PAST 100 YEARS AND EX-  
PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE  
DESIGNATION OF APRIL 25, 2013  
AS "DNA DAY"**

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 60th anniversary of James D. Watson and Francis H.C. Crick's discovery of the double-helical structure of DNA. Their discovery launched a field of inquiry that explained how DNA encoded biological information and how that information is duplicated and inherited. This field of study has led to untold scientific advances in the past 60 years.

I also rise today to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the completion of the Human Genome Project. This month, ten years ago, an international consortium of scientists led by the National Human Genome Research Institute and the Department of Energy announced the successful sequencing of an entire human genome, the genetic blueprint that makes each of who we are.

The past ten years have seen a revolution in biomedical research, sparked by the completion of the Human Genome Project. With the availability of a compendium of all our genes, scientists have been able to link diseases to the genes that cause them, learn about how those diseases progress, develop therapies to stop them, and ultimately improve

the health and welfare of the American people. We now sit at the cusp of a new era in medicine, genomic medicine, where we can use a person's genetics to target therapies for their specific illness. Genomic medicine will allow us to give the right treatment to the right patient at the right time. These advances in healthcare would not have been possible without the Human Genome Project.

Although genetic information can be enormously valuable to patients and their doctors, it also has the potential to be abused. In 1995, knowing that these scientific advances were coming and that people would have fears about how their personal information might be used, I introduced the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA). GINA protects people from losing their health insurance or their job based simply upon their genetic makeup. More importantly, it alleviates people's fear of participating in research studies that benefit all of us through the advancement of medicine, because they know the results cannot be used to discriminate against them. Although it took us 14 years to get GINA passed into law, every step of the battle was worthwhile, as evidenced by the tremendous progress medicine has made since the completion of the Human Genome Project.

Not only did the Human Genome Project give us insights into human health, it also fueled two decades of remarkable economic growth. The past decade has seen great advancements in the technology necessary to decipher a genome. Sequencing the first human genome cost over \$1 billion dollars and took 6–8 years to complete. Today, it costs less than \$5,000 and can be done in 2–3 days. These advances have been made possible because federal investment in research has been translated into commercial technology by U.S. entrepreneurs and companies. According to a recent study, each dollar of federal money that was invested in the Human Genome Project resulted in \$141 of economic activity, resulting in more than \$796 billion dollars of economic impact and the creation of hundreds of thousands of jobs over the last two decades. These figures underscore the essential nature of federal research and development in driving U.S. innovation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in taking this opportunity to designate April 25th as "DNA Day", when we honor the 10th anniversary of the completion of the Human Genome Project, the 60th anniversary of Watson and Crick's discovery of the structure of DNA, and all of the remarkable advancements our scientific community has made to the health of our nation's people.

HONORING THE MONTCLAIR AMBULANCE UNIT'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Montclair Ambulance Unit, located in the Township of Montclair, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 60th Anniversary.

In the early part of the 20th century, Emergency Medical Services were just beginning to organize formally. As populations increased,

towns began to establish their own ambulance services, including the Township of Montclair. In December 1952, the first meeting of the Montclair Ambulance Unit took place, and appointed Lawrence W. Sanders as chairman. During that first meeting, trustees and the first officers were also appointed. Donald Miller was elected as Vice-President, Donald Hobart as Secretary, Fred Scharfenberg as Treasurer, and Chairman Sanders was elevated to President.

In the next six months, the new Montclair Ambulance Unit organized; formulating by-laws, obtaining a Cadillac Ambulance, and finding the necessary space and equipment. Finally, on June 20, 1953, the unit officially began operations with its first assignment, which was a discharge from Montclair Community Hospital. After nearly two years of operation, in March of 1955, the Trustees of Montclair Ambulance Unit began a search for their own headquarters to accommodate members and rigs. After nearly six months, in August of that same year, negotiations began for 69 Portland Place, a location strategically situated close to Valley Road and Bloomfield Avenue. By January of 1956, Gabriel Aiello signed over the deed and gave the Montclair Ambulance Unit its first official home. Prior to this the unit had been operating out of the Red Cross building on Park Street, and storing the ambulance at the Arthur K. Brown Funeral Home.

By 1958, the Montclair Ambulance Unit had responded to 2,620 requests for service, had an active membership of fifty-seven men and six women, and several administrative volunteers from the Junior League who worked in the office and initiated the "phone tree" when requests came in. With the impending retirement of Montclair Ambulance Unit's first Captain, Captain Maclachlan, the trustees decided to create a paid position to handle the day-to-day business operations. In 1962, after an extensive search, the unit contracted John Rankin for this role. A new Captain, R. Stan Berry, was elected by the active members. Again in 1964, a new Director was named; a retired Montclair Police Officer Frederick "Bud" Kupper.

The year 1970 marked another milestone year for the Montclair Ambulance Unit, as they relocated their headquarters to what is now 86 Valley Road. This location served the unit for the next 35 years. By 2005, the Montclair ambulance unit sold the Valley Road building, and moved to the old Walnut Street Firehouse, renovated and provided at a nominal rate by the Township of Montclair. The proceeds from the sale helped to finance operations, the maintenance of the ambulance fleet and the cost of equipment, and the staff of highly trained EMTs. Since the first meeting in 1952, the Montclair Ambulance Unit has responded to over 175,000 requests for service, and overcome the challenges of lack of volunteerism, higher standards of training for staff, and the changes in the economic, political, and social world. The unit now has an around the clock, career staff whose training covers the entire range of EMS. Additionally, they follow an effective, new organization model consistent with other public safety entities. They have added a Chief and Deputy Chief of Operations, a full time Lieutenant, two part time Sergeants, and a Special Events Coordinator.

In addition to responding to medical emergencies and transportations, the Montclair Am-

bulance Unit has always also responded to all fires in Montclair to aid the Montclair Fire Department while simultaneously providing mutual aid to surrounding towns, and, post 9/11, provided service to New York City. In 2012, the Unit became a New Jersey EMS Task Force agency, which allows it to be requested for aid in any declared emergency in New Jersey or across state lines, should the need arise. Most recently, they provided aid following Superstorm Sandy. Over the years the Montclair Ambulance Unit has improved and expanded services, and gone above and beyond expectations in the community. Currently, the Montclair Ambulance Unit operates a fleet of four Basic Life Support Ambulances licensed by the New Jersey Department of Health, and three support vehicles, including two supervisor/first response vehicles, and a Special Operations vehicle provided by the Department of Homeland Security. They continue to provide professional, responsive, patient-first care, and are dedicated to being a community based, industry leading, emergency medical service organization.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Montclair Ambulance Unit as they celebrate their 60th Anniversary.

HONORING CHIEF MASTER  
SERGEANT PETER W. LINCOLN

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Master Sergeant Peter W. Lincoln and to recognize his lifetime of service to our country.

On August 1, Chief Master Sgt. Lincoln will retire after 26 years of sacrifice and service to this great Nation.

While he currently serves as the National Superintendent for Officer Accessions at Air Force Reserve Recruiting in Georgia's Robins Air Force Base, he has worked in many different capacities. In 1987, Lincoln was first assigned to the 437th Avionics Maintenance Squadron in Charleston, South Carolina, and he has since been deployed to Iraq during Operation Desert Storm, amongst other contingencies across the globe. Since January of 1996, Lincoln has become a nationally recognized recruiter for his service in Ohio, Alabama, and Georgia.

In his role as a recruiter for 18 years, Chief Master Sgt. Lincoln has recruited 6500 new airmen, which include eight hundred physicians, and one thousand nurses. For his efforts, he has been decorated with a Top Recruiter of the Year Award, a Top National Physician Recruiter Award, two Century Club recognitions, and three Top National Health Professional Recruiter Awards.

Lincoln attributes much of his success to the support of his wife Kimberly, his children Robert, Lauren, Emily, Alonna, Matthew, and Stephanie; and his grandchildren Carley, Riley, Cheyenne, Preston, and Katie; his grandparents Maudie and Armond Paiser; his parents Nancy and Robert; and the rest of his family.

Chief Master Sgt. Lincoln has played an invaluable role in the U.S. Armed Forces for decades and he will surely be missed.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 11th District of Georgia, my deepest thanks to Chief Master Sgt. Lincoln for devoting his life to the upholding the Constitution of the United States and to the protection of its citizens. I wish him a happy—and well-deserved—retirement.

#### HONORING CHARLES ROBERTS

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Charles Roberts. Charles is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Charles has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Charles has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Charles has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Charles Roberts for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, on April 23 and 24, 2013, I was out of town due to a family situation. Unfortunately, I was not present for rollcall votes 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, and 123.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all six.

#### HONORING BILLY STOKES

### HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, recently the Halls Shopper News in my district profiled a long-time friend of mine, Billy Stokes.

Billy is a very patriotic American and someone I really admire and respect. This article is a great tribute to him, and I call it to the attention of my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

[From the Halls/Fountain City Shopper News, April 22, 2013]

WORKING-CLASS HERO

(By Betty Bean)

Billy Stokes was playing quarter tonk with a guy named Moses when he had a sudden flash of clarity.

A 1970 Rule High School graduate, Billy had gotten a job tending bar at Sam &

Andy's after the University of Tennessee had invited him to take a quarter off, and somehow that quarter stretched out into a year and a half as he whiled away slow afternoons between lunch and happy hour with his friends.

"It dawned on me that in 18 months, none of us had moved an inch. So I went back to school and got my degree," he said.

Forty-plus years later, he's a lawyer with a reputation for being aggressive, competent, thorough, and for winning some huge settlements. A politically active Republican who doesn't mind occasionally going off the reservation—like when he supported Madeline Rogero for mayor in a nonpartisan city race—he's got a Rule High School baseball cap on one side of the shelf behind his desk and a Jellico cap on the other side.

In his desk drawer sits a picture, soon to be framed, of the tiny shotgun house in Lonsdale where he grew up. He's also got a picture of the Howard Johnson's where his mother waited tables and the ET&WNC truck his father drove for a living.

On another wall there are pictures of him with presidents, senators and governors, including several from his stints as state commissioner of employment security and as special assistant to the governor during the Don Sundquist administration, including one of him dressed in full Santa Claua drag sitting on the back of his Harley-Davidson.

"I'm an old school dude. I like to ride motorcycles, go fishing and am pretty much true to my southern Appalachian roots. I'm probably a typical Scots-Irish male. Whether you got money or I got money, we're all even. Doesn't matter who you are.

"Redneck? That's all right with me. Pre-tentious is probably not something anybody calls me—I hope. RINO (Republican in Name Only)? I don't care. Madeline Rogero was by far the best candidate in that field of three. A chief executive needs to be a competent manager."

#### GROWING UP

His family originally came from Saxton, Ky., just across the state line from Jellico, before they moved to Knoxville. His mother, Thelma, is 89 and still living independently. His father, J.P., died in 1999 and was a truck driver for a company called East Tennessee/Western North Carolina—ET-WNC.

"We called it 'Eat Taters and Wear No Clothes.'"

When he was little, he spent weekends in Jellico with his grandparents while his mother waited tables in the D&M, which formally stood for Davenport and Miller, but was popularly called the Devil's Mansion. He's the youngest of three children, and Stokes says his family was faring much better financially by the time he hit adolescence.

"Jimmy Hoffa negotiated a national contract for the Teamsters, and I was the only kid at home, so I had it a lot easier than my brother and sister. I grew up working-class and that's what we need more of today."

So how did this son of a Teamster become a Republican?

"You'll have to remember—Hoffa didn't have much use for the Kennedys. A lot of Teamsters were Republicans at that time."

After he finished up at Rule, Stokes enrolled in Maryville College to play football, but injured his "good" shoulder. He'd already had surgery on his left shoulder after his senior season.

That forced a decision:

"Being short and slow, I decided to quit football and go to UT."

#### BECOMING A COP

After his Sam & Andy's epiphany, he went back to school full-time, supporting himself by working at the General Products ware-

house. He graduated in 1975 with a major in psychology and minors in political science and sociology, and started thinking about what to do next.

Like so many Lonsdale boys before him, he became a cop.

Theondrad "Sarge" Jackson, a retired sergeant from both the U.S. Army and the Knoxville Police Department and proprietor of Sarge's BBQ on Texas Avenue (famous for its C'mon Back Smoke) helped him get hired under a federal program at KPD. He was there for less than two years when the new safety director decided to eliminate the program.

"I got laid off in June of '76 and started law school in September of '76. That's when I met Richard Bean."

He counts the director of the Richard Bean Juvenile Detention Center as one of the three most influential men in his life, along with his father and longtime Republican political boss Loy Smith. Two old police officers—Rass Scruggs and Calvin Housewright, recommended that Bean hire Stokes while he was in law school.

"I benefitted from the good ol' boy system. I worked 3-11 and Juvenile Judge Richard Douglass gave me the key to his office with his law library and I'd sneak over to the court side to study. During finals, Richard would go home and eat supper and then come in and work for me while I'd go sit in the judge's office and study. We were on the quarter system, so we'd go through this every two or three months, and Richard would take care of me because he wanted me to get through law school. We were kindred spirits. I brag about working full-time through law school, but if Richard hadn't helped me, I never could have done it."

Stokes got his law degree in 1979 and joined the Army JAG Corps, where he served three years.

Another thing Bean did for him was to introduce him to Bay Crawford, a school-teacher from Roanoke who worked at Shannondale Elementary School. They've been married for 33 years, have two daughters, three granddaughters and a grandson on the way. They are also active members of Second Presbyterian Church.

#### ENTERING POLITICS

Stokes came back home in 1982 and went to work for Bond, Carpenter and O'Connor, and became president of the 5th District Republican Club (at Bean's urging). In 1984, Bean and Loy Smith urged Stokes to run for county GOP chair. He served nearly four years.

"It required me to be a lot more partisan than I normally am. I'm an old school conservative and I believe that compromise is not only possible but beneficial. Howard Baker and Bob Dole are my heroes."

He has good memories of his two years with Sundquist, particularly of working with leaders of both parties on the 1996 Workers Compensation Act, and of taking on the state's tire recycling program. His favorite memory is the time he spent as Tennessee's point person on the Ocoee Olympic events at a time when the Atlanta Olympics committee was considering pulling the plug on kayaking and canoeing.

He returned to Knoxville in 1997, and two things happened that altered his world:

Loy Smith died suddenly, and Stokes' law partner, Daryl Fansler, a Democrat, ran for chancellor. Stokes supported Fansler, upsetting many Republicans.

After Fansler departed for the bench, Stokes put together the highly successful firm that has become Stokes, Williams, Sharp & Davies.

In 2004, he took on something that he calls "a serious miscalculation," running against state Rep. Jamie Hagood for state Senate and losing badly.

"I'd suffered a pretty serious injury the year before in a fall-down, and I decided that life is short and you better grab it fast. I had some people encouraging me, and a lot of great help and I'd always wanted to serve in that capacity.

"But I ran an inept campaign. I wish I hadn't gotten beat quite so badly and I let a lot of good people down, but otherwise I've moved on."

And then he grinned:

"Tim Hutchison got beat worse."

HONORING CHRISTOPHER SEWARD

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Seward. Christopher is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Christopher has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Christopher has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher Seward for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness of an issue that harmfully affects many individuals both in my district and throughout the United States. April represents Sexual Assault Awareness Month, which was instituted as a means to spread the word about the frequency and aftermath of sexual assault, as well as to garner support for community programs focused on prevention.

April 26th marks the 2nd Annual "Wear Teal to Work Day," an event organized by the Network of Victim's Assistance (NOVA), a community group located in my district with a mission to support, counsel, and empower victims of sexual assault. Several businesses and organizations throughout Pennsylvania have readily agreed to endorse this initiative, and I applaud them for their contributions.

INTRODUCTION OF FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE INCLUSION ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is time to bring our nation's federal workplace policies into the 21st Century. Signed into law 20 years ago this past February, the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides protections to almost 60 percent of the American workforce. This means approximately 90 million workers are covered and eligible for leave under current FMLA policies that allow for up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave from work to care for a new baby or to care for a spouse, child under age 18, or parent who has a serious health condition. While this leave has provided critical work protections to individuals in times of great need, this landmark law does not go far enough in accommodating our modern workforce and families.

Polls related to recent cases before the Supreme Court show that more and more Americans support marriage equality and recognize the need to extend federal rights and privileges to all American families. With that goal in mind, I am introducing the Family and Medical Leave Inclusion Act that will allow same sex spouses and partners, grandparents, and other loved ones eligible to take family and medical leave to care for a sick family member. Under current federal law, such individuals do not qualify for FMLA, making it impossible for some employees to be with their loved ones during times of medical need.

Almost 600 employers, including more than two hundred fortune 500 companies, several states, the District of Columbia, and some local jurisdictions have extended these protections to individuals not originally included in the original Family and Medical Leave Act. The legislation I am introducing today would allow an employee to take unpaid leave from work if his or her same-sex spouse or domestic partner has a serious health condition. It also permits employees to take FMLA to care for a parent-in-law, adult child, sibling, grandchild or grandparent if that person has a serious health condition. Additionally, given repeal of don't ask don't tell, this legislation includes domestic partners of service members as permissible candidates for FMLA.

I thank Senator RICHARD DURBIN for introducing this legislation on the Senate side as well as my colleagues who have signed on as original supporters. I urge swift passage of this bill.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE ANNIVERSARY

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, this week marked the 98th anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

I have long been a cosponsor of a resolution introduced in multiple sessions of Congress which reaffirms the United States record on the Armenian genocide.

The Armenian genocide, in which 1.5 million perished, is widely recognized as the 20th century's first genocide. Raphael Lemkin, the Jewish legal scholar who coined the word genocide and tirelessly advocated for international law defining it and preventing it, was driven largely by what happened to the Armenians.

Since that time, the world has witnessed unfathomable horrors during the Nazi-perpetrated Holocaust and subsequent genocides in Bosnia, Cambodia, Rwanda and Sudan. And too often, the world has been silent in the face of such brutality despite claims of "Never Again."

In fact, Sudanese president Omar Bashir, an internationally-indicted war criminal charged with genocide and crimes against humanity, continues to travel the globe with virtual impunity.

Adolph Hitler, in describing his murderous plans and seeking to silence those with reservations, famously said, "Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?"

There is power in speaking the truth, even about atrocities that occurred nearly a century ago, so that others with evil aims will not be empowered by our silence.

Sadly President Obama, despite his campaign promises, has once again failed to characterize the brutal slaughter of one and half million people as genocide.

CONGRATULATING NORWICH TOWNSHIP CITIZENS ON THEIR BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the citizens of Norwich Township, located in Franklin County, on their bicentennial anniversary.

Though the first pioneers west of the Scioto River and South of Hayden Run arrived in 1807, the Township was not officially founded until 1813—a year after the City of Columbus, 56 years before the City of Hilliard was incorporated, and 10 years after Ohio was admitted into the union.

Norwich Township boasts a rich history. The township's one-room schoolhouse known as "Smiley's Grove" opened in 1814, and by 1878 the school system was fully integrated. In fact, many early settlers in Norwich were emancipated slaves.

One of the largest limestone deposits in the world can be found in the southeast corner of Norwich, bringing scores of jobs to the area at the turn of the century.

Wesley Chapel Methodist Church is a historical landmark in the township. It was organized in 1832, and a public cemetery was added on adjacent to the church in 1836. This fall, citizens will celebrate their bicentennial anniversary with a historical walk beginning at the cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I would like all Members of Congress to join me in congratulating Norwich Township and its residents as they celebrate their bicentennial anniversary.

COMMENDING PRESIDENT  
NURSULTAN NAZARBAYEV OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Republic of Kazakhstan on the 10th anniversary of President Nursultan Nazarbayev's initiative in establishing the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions.

In the 111th Congress, the U.S. House of Representatives unanimously passed H. Res. 535, a Resolution I introduced to commend the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions for calling upon all nations to live in peace and mutual understanding.

The Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions has always been based on the premise that religion can be an important arbiter for resolving political differences and conflicts, and I am pleased that The Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions has created a platform for building bridges of mutual understanding. The Congress has become an effective forum for leaders of world religions to promote a united approach to the critical issue of interreligious dialogue.

The Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions also has become a full-fledged platform for multi-track-discussions on the most pressing issues of international religious affairs. Kazakhstan's capital, Astana, has hosted four high-profile gatherings of senior clerics from Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Judaism, Hinduism, Taoism and other faiths. It was my privilege to attend a gathering of the Congress which included participation from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Christian denomination of which I am a member.

A symbol of tolerance, Astana was a center for interreligious discussions during Kazakhstan's 2010 OSCE Chairmanship and the subsequent Organization of Islamic Cooperation Ministerial Chairmanship in 2011–2012. As a secular state with a predominantly Muslim population, Kazakhstan has been working to promote tolerance and interreligious dialogue since the first days of its independence. As the world was recovering from the aftermath of 9/11, Kazakhstan responded to international grievances by convening a Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions.

President Nazarbayev also has met with Pope Benedict XVI and other high-ranking representatives of the Vatican, focusing discussions on the necessity for further development of interreligious dialogue. The visit of John Paul Pope II in Kazakhstan in 2001 as well as a visit to the Vatican by President Nursultan Nazarbayev in 2009 indicates that an active bilateral cooperation exists.

In February 2013, the Chairman of Kazakhstan's Senate and Head of the Secretariat of the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions Kairat Mami also met with Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican and expressed gratitude to the Holy See for support of the Congress.

During these meetings, Pope Benedict XVI praised the efforts of President Nazarbayev in preserving intercultural understanding and ac-

cord, and wished success, especially in the strengthening of peace.

At the Vatican, Kazakhstan's Chairman of the Agency for Religious Affairs Kairat Lama Sharif and the Cardinals of the Holy See also discussed the prospects of the Congress of Astana and the deepening of interreligious relations. As Angelo Sodano, Dean of the College of Cardinals of the Holy See, stated, "I think that the idea of the President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev to hold the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions is very important. This is a great contribution to the development of interreligious dialogue. And very big work has been conducted for the past 10 years. This year the diplomatic relations between Kazakhstan and the Vatican is 21. During all this time the mutual aspiration for interreligious and intercultural concord only has strengthened."

An organized photo exhibition at the Vatican was devoted to the 10th anniversary of the Congress, and the photo exhibition will now be displayed in the U.S. Capitol during a reception to be held on May 7, 2013. I am honored to participate in this worthy cause.

Once more, I commend President Nazarbayev for his visionary leadership. President Nazarbayev is a man committed to peace, and I stand with him as he spares no effort to advance understanding. For historical purposes, I thank him for establishing the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, and for promoting religious dialogue between people of all faiths.

**AUTISM AWARENESS**

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness for the 2 million individuals in the U.S. that have autism. Autism is a brain disorder that affects the mental development of children all across the United States.

Autism is a disease that is being thrust into the national spotlight. One in every 88 children in the United States is now affected by it. That number is a ten-fold increase in prevalence over a period of just 40 years. Indeed, autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States.

Some solace is found in the fact that many organizations are making great strides in promoting awareness of autism. One that is active in my district is the Autism Cares Foundation, located out of Richboro, PA. It is organizations such as this that are on the front lines of combating the challenge that autism is presenting to this country. I am proud of the people at Autism Cares and those in organizations like it that are committed to building awareness and outreach as they continue to serve families living with autism.

**BLACK JANUARY AND KHOJALY  
MASSACRE**

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss several matters of importance to Azer-

baijan. I note that January 20, 2013 marked the 23rd anniversary of an historic and tragic day in the history of the country of Azerbaijan. On the night of January 19, 1990, 26,000 Soviet troops invaded the capital city of Baku and surrounding areas. By the end of the next day, more than 130 people had died, 611 were injured, 841 were arrested and 5 were missing. This event is memorialized as "Black January," and, for the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan this event left an indelible mark on the minds of all citizens.

Soviet troops entered Azerbaijan under the pretext of restoring public order, while actually aiming to forcefully end peaceful demonstrations for independence. However, Soviet incursion further incited aspirations of Azerbaijani people to regain their independence after 70 years of Soviet rule.

In the end, Azerbaijan's pro-Moscow regime grew weaker and by 1991, popular pressure resulted in restoration of independence of Azerbaijan. On August 30, 1991, Azerbaijan's Parliament adopted the Declaration on the Restoration of the State Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and on October 18, 1991, the Constitutional Act on the State Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan was approved. November 1991 marked the beginning of international recognition of Azerbaijan's independence. The United States opened an embassy in Baku in March 1992 and it has remained committed to aiding Azerbaijan in its transition to democracy and its formation of an open market economy.

Some historical observers have noted that the violence inflicted on the citizens of Baku may have been intended to send a message to other Soviet republics that similar aspirations of nationalism would not be tolerated. In the wake of this horrific act and inspired by the strength of the Azerbaijani people's belief in the principles of democracy, the Republic of Azerbaijan has maintained its independence for more than 16 years, despite lingering economic and social problems from the Soviet era. Today, Azerbaijan has developed into a thriving country with double digit growth, in large part due to a freely-elected president and parliament, free market reforms led by the energy sector, and most importantly, no foreign troops on its soil.

The road to independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity for the Azerbaijani people has not come without adversity and sacrifice. Although Azerbaijan thrives today, the people of Azerbaijan recognize those who lost their lives on Black January in 1990 and honor their sacrifice through their commitment to the ideals of democracy. As we reflect on this terrible tragedy, we who believe in the tenets of freedom and the hope of democracy should recognize the incredible sacrifice made by the people of Azerbaijan and by free people all around the world.

I also rise to commemorate the 21st anniversary of the Khojaly massacre perpetrated by Armenian armed forces on February 25 through February 26, 1992 in the town of Khojaly in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. Khojaly, now under the occupation of Armenian armed forces, was the site of the largest killing of ethnic Azerbaijani civilians in the course of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict.

Khojaly, once the home to 7,000 people, was completely destroyed. Six hundred thirteen people were killed, of which 106 were women, 83 were children and 56 were purported to have been killed. In addition, 1,275

people were taken hostage, 150 went missing and 487 people became disabled. Also in the records maintained, 76 of the victims were teenagers, 8 families were wiped out and 25 children lost both of their parents while 130 lost one of their parents. According to Human Rights Watch and other international observers, the Armenian Armed forces were reportedly aided by the Russian 366th Motor Rifle Regiment.

At the time, Newsweek magazine reported: "Azerbaijan was a charnel house again last week: a place of mourning refugees and dozens of mangled corpses dragged to a makeshift morgue behind the mosque. They were ordinary Azerbaijani men, women and children of Khojaly, a small village in war-torn Nagorno-Karabakh overrun by Armenian forces on 25–26 February. Many were killed at close range while trying to flee; some had their faces mutilated, others were scalped."

As part of the Khojaly population that tried to escape, they encountered violent ambushes that led to abuses, torture, mutilation and death. The Russian organization, Memorial, stated that 200 Azerbaijani corpses were brought from Khojaly to Agdam within four days.

Time magazine published the following description: "While the details are argued, this much is plain: something grim and unconscionable happened in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly 2 weeks ago. So far, some 200 dead Azerbaijanis, many of them mutilated, have been transported out of the town tucked inside the Armenian-dominated enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh for burial in neighboring Azerbaijan. The total number of deaths—the Azerbaijanis claim 1,324 civilians have been slaughtered, most of them women and children—is unknown."

The extent of the cruelty of this massacre against women, children and the elderly was unfathomable. This anniversary reminds us of the need to redouble efforts to help resolve the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. The United States as a Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group should intensify its efforts to reach a resolution of this protracted conflict.

Mr. Speaker, Azerbaijan is a strong ally of the United States in a strategically important and complex region of the world. I ask my colleagues to join me and our Azerbaijani friends in commemorating the tragedy that occurred in the town of Khojaly as well as Black January.

A TRIBUTE TO ED JOHNSON

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Ed Johnson for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neighbors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes

among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

As principal of Whittier Elementary School in Indianola, Ed Johnson works to improve children's lives every day. But to fifth grader Logan Major, Principal Johnson is truly a life-saver. During a typical lunch period, Logan was eating a carrot that, without warning, obstructed his air supply. Upon seeing this student in distress, Ed wasted no time successfully performing the Heimlich maneuver to avert the life-threatening situation. While Principal Johnson may just see his actions as part of another day on the job, his quick thinking and professional response left an entire community grateful for his commitment to schoolchildren and their safety. Principal Johnson is an example of leadership that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Johnson's actions that earned him the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Ed on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently missed one of the three rollcall votes on Wednesday, April 24, 2013. Had I been present, I would have voted in this manner:

Rollcall vote No. 122—On agreeing to the Rule Resolution, H. Res. 175, Providing for consideration of H.R. 1549, Helping Sick Americans Now Act—"no."

HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE HONOR FLIGHT OF THE QUAD CITIES

**HON. DAVID LOESACK**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. LOESACK. Mr. Speaker, today, over ninety Iowa veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War will travel to our nation's capital. Together, they will visit the monuments that were built in their honor by a grateful nation.

We owe these heroes a debt of gratitude. For many, today will be the first time they will see the National World War II Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. I can think of no greater honor than to be able to greet them and thank Iowa's—and our nation's—heroes for their service to our country.

That is why I am deeply honored to join them for their visit to the National World War II Memorial to personally thank these heroes

for their service to our nation and to pay tribute to the incredible sacrifice they made for our country.

Today's Honor Flight brings together three generations of veterans who will travel together and support one another throughout their trip. It brings together members of the Greatest Generation who defended and then rebuilt our nation to make it even stronger. It also brings together veterans who were never given the homecoming they deserved. Many of the Vietnam Veterans travelling on the Honor Flight will act as volunteer guardians for their fellow veterans—truly bringing together generations of those who have served our nation.

This trip demonstrates that we as a state and as a country will never forget the debt we owe those who have worn our nation's uniform. Iowa's veterans will be able to visit their monuments because their fellow Iowans refused to let their service go unrecognized. Their generosity is truly humbling and should inspire us all to continue to work each and every day on behalf of those who serve our nation.

I am tremendously proud to welcome the Honor Flight of the Quad Cities and Iowa's veterans of the Second World War, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War to our nation's capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our country.

CONGRATULATING DOCTOR KEN ELMASSIAN

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Doctor Ken Elmassian on his new position as President of the Michigan State Medical Society.

Doctor Elmassian is truly one of the great medical professionals and a leader in his community. After graduating from the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1976, Doctor Elmassian completed a residency program in anesthesiology. His impressive career then began in Flint as an attending anesthesiologist at Flint Osteopathic Hospital. After returning to Lansing, he served as the Director of Cardiac Anesthesiology at McLaren Greater Lansing where he held many leadership positions including the chair of the Credentials Committee, member of the Critical Care Committee, vice-chair of the Department of Anesthesia, Medical Staff Secretary, and Chief of Staff as well as a member of the Board of Trustees.

These prestigious positions and titles do not take away Doctor Elmassian's focus and understanding of how patient health and professional development interact within the broader context of our state and local communities. He has held numerous leadership positions in the Ingham County Medical Society (ICMS) as delegate to the Michigan State Medical Society, chair of the Legislative Committee, past treasurer, and past president and continues to serve the ICMS as a member of its Board of Directors.

As an active member of the Michigan State Medical Society, Doctor Elmassian has served

on the Board of Directors and on both the Legislative and Financial Committees of the Board. He also enthusiastically participated for many years on the Committee on State Legislation and Regulations, as well as the MDPAC Board, the Committee on Federal Legislation, as well as other committees and task forces.

Doctor Elmassian's philosophy of engagement puts patients before politics. He believes that organizational relationships, ongoing interaction with state and federal policymakers, and coalition building are integral to developing sound health policy. It is Doctor Elmassian's philosophy that together we will achieve better outcomes for patients and providers.

As a licensed commercial pilot, Doctor Elmassian enjoys vacationing in Glen Arbor in the summer, reading biographies, the opera, mountain treks in New Hampshire, and exercising, all of which he enjoys most with his family, which includes his wife, Georgina and their sons, Joshua and Zachary.

I ask that the House of Representatives join me in thanking Doctor Elmassian for his exemplary service to his community and congratulating him on his installation as President of the Michigan State Medical Society.

#### A TRIBUTE TO ANNE MURR

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Anne Murr for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neighbors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

Anne Murr was named a Hero of the Heartland through her efforts as Drake University's Coordinator of the Adult Literacy Center. For more than 20 years, Anne has continued to do everything she can to change lives at the center, from playing support roles to educating and coordinating activities. Outside of her office hours, Anne also plans community-wide events to connect students, tutors and community members. Anne's work as a teacher and a leader has enriched lives and the world around her. She is truly an example our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Murr's actions that earned her the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Anne on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes

of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.

#### SALUTE TO COAST GUARD STATION, PORT CANAVERAL FOR SERVICE IN SUPPORT OF AMERICA'S SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM

### HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the brave men and women of the Coast Guard Station, Port Canaveral on their reunion which is set to take place on May 4, 2013. I rise to commend the meritorious service and commitment of Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral Active Duty, Reserve, and Auxiliary personnel who supported National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Space Shuttle missions. Their service was critical to the safety of the public and the Shuttle missions. A special thanks, also, to retired Admiral G. Robert Merrilees, who has kept a watchful eye on the Space Coast and played a significant role in this celebration of service.

On April 12, 1981, the Coast Guard Station, Port Canaveral began their service in support of NASA's Space Transportation Program (STS) program and provided that support for 135 manned space flight missions. Responsible for over 550 square miles surrounding the Kennedy Space Center, the Port Canaveral station managed STS recovery and safety missions for 30 years. These resolute men and women successfully carried out their mission to ensure the safety not only of the Shuttle, but also for over 200,000 viewers per Shuttle mission.

This dedication and mission accountability would not be possible without the contributions and calculated efforts of over 100 personnel that supported each launch.

Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral personnel played a substantial role as first responders to the Space Shuttle *Challenger* tragedy on January 28, 1986. Contributing 1,300 hours surveying 150,000 square miles of ocean surface throughout an 11 day mission and recovery operation, Station Port Canaveral deserves recognition for its stamina, professionalism, and commitment to mission execution. Their service was exemplary throughout their 30-year space shuttle support mission.

I offer my sincere gratitude and thanks to Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral and the men and women who served active duty, reserve and auxiliary roles in support of our Space Shuttle program between April 12, 1981 and February 24, 2011. May the Space Coast and our nation always remember the service of these brave men and women.

#### THE DAIRY FREEDOM ACT

### HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Dairy Freedom Act with my colleague, the gentleman from Georgia, DAVID SCOTT.

This legislation will ensure that the American public will not run into another "DAIRY CLIFF." Last Congress, we did not get to vote on a Farm Bill because, among other things, there was a major problem with the dairy policy section.

Every member that represents a Congressional District with dairy farmers is acutely aware of how our current programs failed dairy farmers and the hardship these families experienced. There is no single farm district member who disagrees on the need for fundamental reform of our dairy program. We all agree on the need to reform and improve our current dairy policies—and our bill would do just that. However, our bill would strike the proposed "dairy market stabilization program." This highly controversial piece would attempt to manage the U.S. milk supply, and in the process penalize both consumers of dairy products, and dairy farmers who expand their operations. This program was proposed to be included in the extension of the 2008 Farm Bill—but it was resoundingly rejected by the House and Senate leadership. Do we really want to run into this wall again? I don't think so if we want to get a Farm Bill done this year.

I would ask Chairman LUCAS and Ranking Member PETERSON to include the Dairy Freedom Act, what we consider to be the compromise, in the Chairman's Mark of the Farm Bill. Our bill is largely based on the Dairy Security Act offered last Congress by Ranking Member COLLIN PETERSON (D-MN) and is anticipated to be included again in the underlying Farm Bill. The only fundamental difference is that it would exclude the supply management program, and require more fiscally responsible risk management insurance premium levels for large farmers.

Supply management runs contrary to the goals of limited government and economic growth. A supply control program that will directly intervene in markets and increase milk prices will ultimately hurt producers as well as dairy food manufacturers by stifling industry growth. A national dairy policy that allows the market to determine prices paid—with the addition of a new risk management tool such as Margin Protection Insurance—will help dairy producers withstand unforeseen market conditions. This is no different than how other commodities are treated in the Farm Bill.

Our bill also represents a true compromise on dairy policy. We agree that our dairy programs need to be reformed and we have accepted over 80% of the proposals that have been made by Ranking Member COLLIN PETERSON. We agree a strong safety net is needed for dairy farmers. What we reject is the idea that government also needs to intervene in dairy markets by controlling milk production, and ultimately milk prices.

Many have labeled the disagreement about supply management as a fight between dairy producers and dairy processors. The truth, however, is that because supply management programs are designed to have government artificially manipulate prices, they are opposed by a wide variety of groups. Consumer advocates point out that increased dairy prices mean families will be forced to stretch their food budgets further, and perhaps purchase less nutritious products than dairy. Food manufacturers, retailers and restaurants know that increased dairy prices will hurt their businesses as well. And, finally, all of our major,

non-cooperative owned dairy exporters agree that supply management will have a negative impact on their ability to be reliable suppliers in the world market.

Dairy regulations are complex, outdated and inefficient. Proposed reforms in the Farm Bill should not reduce exports, cut jobs, and add more regulations. The Dairy Title should allow the dairy industry a chance to compete and grow without government regulating the amount of milk a farmer can produce. Our citizens and the world population deserve an abundant, affordable and sustainable food supply.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT and I have developed a viable, bipartisan alternative. Join us to support a revenue insurance program that will help dairy producers without including a government controlled supply management program.

A TRIBUTE TO ANNE THOMAS

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Anne Thomas for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neighbors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

To be named a Hero of the Heartland, Anne Thomas of Clive started the local organization "Let's Soar Together" in 2006 with a group of her friends. Let's Soar Together filled a need in her community to advocate for children with special needs and provide support and resources for their families. Ms. Thomas' organization has donated dozens of iPads and iPods to children with behavioral disorders and autism in the Waukee School District, built adaptive swings for Maple Grove Elementary School, and donated more than a thousand dollars to the Waukee YMCA to install a playground with adaptive play equipment. Anne's commitment to a cause greater than herself continues to change lives and benefit her community.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Thomas' actions that earned her the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Anne on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.

CONGRATULATING HOMEBOY INDUSTRIES ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Homeboy Industries, a non-profit organization which offers comprehensive reintegration services including job skills training and social services to former Los Angeles gang members, on their 25th anniversary.

In 1988, Jesuit priest Father Greg Boyle began Homeboy Industries to address the need for employment opportunities among local youth. Today, Homeboy Industries is much more than a jobs program. Homeboy Industries gives young people who have lost their childhood to gangs a chance to take back their lives as adults by providing former gang-involved youth with tattoo removal, case management and legal services, as well as mental health and substance abuse counseling.

Thanks to Father Boyle's leadership during the past 25 years, Homeboy Industries has grown from a small job development program in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles into the largest, most comprehensive and most successful gang prevention, intervention, and rehabilitation program in the country.

According to a recent study from the Vera Institute of Justice, the five most common reintegration priorities self-reported by individuals exiting Los Angeles County Jail are: employment, housing, substance abuse, relationships, and staying out of trouble. Through the jobs and support services Homeboy Industries provide, men and women in the LA region are finding these needs met. Homeboy Industries has a 70 percent rate of retaining clients in services, while similar programs across the country have 20-30 percent rates of retention. When weighed against the 70 percent recidivism rate nationally among ex-offenders, Homeboy Industries' ability to engage clients in the process of reintegration and personal transformation is particularly revealing. This organization shows the benefits of investing in impoverished communities that have been impacted by gang violence.

Between 240 and 280 people are hired every year in restaurants and stores owned and operated by Homeboy Industries throughout Los Angeles. When hiring, Homeboy Industries doesn't look for diplomas or job experience. They look for visible gang tattoos and juvenile arrest records. As a business, Homeboy Industries isn't concerned with profits or executive bonuses. Their concern is with their staff and ending the cycle of gang violence one person at a time.

Once again I congratulate Homeboy Industries and their inspirational founder and leader, Father Greg. I had the good fortune and honor of representing Father Greg and Homeboy Industries for nearly 25 years, first in the California State Assembly and then in the U.S. House of Representatives. In closing, I want to express my deepest admiration both for Father Greg's tireless and dedicated efforts and for all former gang members seeking to change their lives and end the culture of gang violence once and for all.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,794,349,827,897.30. We've added \$6,167,472,778,984.22 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING STEVEN ORTIZ

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2013 recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Hailing from Willington, Connecticut, Steven Ortiz is the first Costa Rican-American to receive this honor in award's 27-year history.

Steven is the founder and director of The Good Samaritan Project, which donates new and slightly worn clothing throughout Latin America and has provided educational scholarships in Costa Rica. His clear global vision, leadership and philanthropic spirit has ensured that his organization is run completely by volunteers and that 100 percent of donations are used for charitable purposes.

Steven serves in the Massachusetts Air National Guard as the Commander and conductor of the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast. Under his leadership, the band's various ensembles provide support for military units and civilian events, and perform for tens of thousands of people every year throughout the Nation.

He has taught at the elementary, middle, and high school levels in both public and private schools in Connecticut and has led ensembles at the collegiate level. As an undergraduate student, Ortiz founded the Danbury Youth Band and has provided numerous instruments at no cost to children at home and abroad. He has facilitated thousands of hours of free and low-cost music instruction in an effort to keep children safe and engaged in productive activities, while ensuring they learn valuable life lessons.

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor is a prestigious award presented to an immigrant who dedicates his life to helping others, preserves and celebrates the history, traditions and values of his ancestry while proving himself as a valuable citizen of the United States. Recipients like Steven strive for tolerance and acceptance among ethnic, racial, and religious groups in our nation and abroad and above all, they share their personal or professional gifts for the benefit of humanity. I ask that my colleagues join with me in congratulating Steven Ortiz on his impressive achievement.

A TRIBUTE TO DOUG ARMSTRONG

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Doug Armstrong for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neighbors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

As a Senior Fire Medic for the Des Moines Fire Department, Doug Armstrong is dedicated to the welfare of his community on a daily basis. In April of last year, while enjoying an off-duty dinner, Mr. Armstrong noticed an elderly man choking on a piece of meat. Upon seeing the man in distress, Doug wasted no time successfully performing the Heimlich maneuver to avert the life-threatening situation. Even while off-duty, his quick thinking and professional response left an entire community grateful for his actions. Whether on or off the job, Doug is an example that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Armstrong's actions that earned him the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Doug on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL ALFORD

**HON. WALTER B. JONES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor Michael Alford, who has recently been recognized as this year's TIME Automobile Dealer of the Year.

The TIME Dealer of the Year award is presented to an individual who displays both professional excellence and dedication to serving the community. Mr. Alford has exemplified both of these characteristics as the president of Marine Chevrolet Cadillac in Jacksonville, North Carolina, where he resides with his wife Alicia and their three children.

Before becoming involved with the automobile industry, Mr. Alford enjoyed a successful career in banking. After purchasing Marine Chevrolet Cadillac from his father-in-law in 1997, he successfully applied many of the skills he had acquired in banking to his new

position. Under Mr. Alford's leadership, sales at Marine Chevrolet Cadillac have nearly doubled.

Mr. Alford's expertise positively impacted not only his car dealership, but also his community. The presence of Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in Onslow County causes the population to fluctuate often, and Mr. Alford has worked regularly with government officials since 2007 to alleviate the negative consequences of these changes. He also served North Carolina as a member of the Board of Transportation.

Mr. Alford has been a blessing to the residents of Eastern North Carolina in many capacities. His success at Marine Chevrolet Cadillac has allowed him to become a leader in Onslow County, a position in which he has excelled. I am grateful for Mr. Alford's service and pleased to have him recognized by the United States Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NATIONAL POLICE DEFENSE FOUNDATION ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER HONOREES

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nicholas Turturro, Jack Garcia, Tyree Bacon, Christine Levinson, the Honorable BILL PASCRELL, Jr., the Honorable Lenin Voltaire Moreno Garcés, Jose Zhanay and Norma Delgado as they are honored by the National Police Defense Foundation. Each of these distinguished honorees has made significant contributions to the law enforcement community.

Man of the Year honoree Nicholas Turturro has portrayed police officers in a positive light as an actor. He worked on "NYPD Blue" as Detective James Martinez for seven seasons and currently plays Sergeant Anthony Renzulli on "Blue Bloods." He earned two Emmy nominations for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series for his role on "NYPD Blue." In addition to his law enforcement roles on these television dramas, Mr. Turturro has made appearances in several movies and other television shows.

Lifetime Achievement Award recipient SSA Jack Garcia (Ret) served with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for 26 years. He served as an undercover FBI Agent for 24 years, working on over 100 operations against domestic and foreign organized crime groups, corrupt politicians, corrupt police officers and drug dealers. SSA Garcia also helped with National Security Investigations and national and international terrorism cases. He serves as a member of various organizations, including the FBI Agents Association, the Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI and the NYPD Honor Legion among many others. Today, SSA Garcia utilizes his vast expertise as a lecturer as well as Managing Director of security firm Pathfinder Consultants International, Inc.

Valor Award honoree Lt. Tyree Bacon is a New York State Court Officer. During the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack, Lt. Bacon rescued a woman from Tower Two as it collapsed and killed 3 of the responders. He has

received numerous commendations for his heroic actions, including the Medal of Excellent Service and Medal of Valor from New York State and the Senior Court Officers Association. In addition to his service as a court officer, Lt. Bacon is an Ocean Beach Police Department officer and Lieutenant of Islip Volunteer Fire Department Ladder Company One. Lt. Bacon also dedicated 20 years of service to the United States Air Force Reserve, rising to the rank of Master Sergeant.

Profiles in Courage Award recipient Christine Levinson is the wife of Robert Levinson, retired FBI Supervisory Special agent who was kidnapped in Iran while there on private investigation business. Since his disappearance on March 9, 2007, Mrs. Levinson has dedicated her time to finding her husband. She has met with several officials, including President Obama, then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and FBI Director Robert Mueller to impress upon them the importance of the case. She also travelled to Iran with one of her sons and met with Iranian officials in an effort to locate SSA Levinson. Mrs. Levinson continues to search tirelessly for her husband.

Legislator of the Year recipient Congressman BILL PASCRELL, JR. is currently serving his ninth term as the Representative for New Jersey's 9th Congressional District. Mr. PASCRELL is a supporter of firefighters and veterans, authoring the Firefighter Investment and Response Enhancement (F.I.R.E.) Act and fighting for Purple Heart eligibility for victims of traumatic brain injury. He is also an advocate for police officers, creating the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program and has fought to continue the program. Mr. PASCRELL served honorably in the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserve.

Humanitarian Award honoree Lenin Voltaire Moreno Garcés has served as the Vice President of Ecuador since 2007. As a paraplegic, Vice President Moreno advocates for those with disabilities. His work on behalf of the disabled community has earned him several recognitions, including a nomination for the 2012 Nobel Peace Prize.

One of two Member of the Year honorees, Jose Zhanay is the National Police Defense Foundation's (NPDF) Delegate to Ecuador. He immigrated to the United States from Ecuador when he was 16 years old and worked his way up to opening his own jewelry company at the age of 21. A member of the NPDF since its founding, Mr. Zhanay has worked to help Ecuadorian children and U.S. police officers in need of medical assistance. He also dedicates his time to various other organizations and has received numerous commendations for his work.

Another Member of the Year honoree, C.O. Norma Delgado (Ret.) served as a Corrections Officer for the New York Department of Corrections for 16 years. A native of Peru, Mrs. Delgado has worked hard in pursuit of the American Dream. She worked various jobs and attended Bronx Community College in pursuit of a nursing degree and became employed at Jacobi Hospital in the Bronx. Her venture into law enforcement service began on the advice of NPDF Director Joseph Occhipinti. Mrs. Delgado is the recipient of the National Police Defense Foundation Special Achievement Award and the New York City Department of Corrections Hispanic Society's Roberto Clemente Award. She currently serves as the Administrator of the Operation Kids program of the NPDF.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Nicholas Turturro, SSA Jack Garcia (Ret.), Lt. Tyree Bacon, Christine Levinson, the Honorable BILL PASCRELL, the Honorable Lenin Voltaire Moreno Garcés Jr., Jose Zhanay and C.O. Norma Delgado (Ret.) on their recognition by the National Police Defense Foundation and thanking them for their immeasurable contributions to the community.

A TRIBUTE TO TRAVIS HAMILTON

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Travis Hamilton for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neighbors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

To be named a Hero of the Heartland, Travis Hamilton of Johnston dedicated himself to helping sick children through charity and a touching tale of personal sacrifice. Travis is the Director of the Guns-N-Hoses Hockey event, an annual hockey game pitting Des Moines-area police against fire department and EMS employees to raise money for local charities. In the two years Mr. Hamilton has

coordinated the event, it has raised \$50,000 for Children's Cancer Connection and Make a Wish Iowa. Travis also coordinated the event Transplant for Trae to raise money for his son, who needed a kidney transplant at only 17 months old. Travis was able to raise over \$20,000, and he ultimately donated his own kidney to Trae. Through his examples of true selflessness, Mr. Hamilton continues to change lives and be a leader that our State can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Hamilton's actions that earned him the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great State of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Travis on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.