

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TOWN OF RUSSELLVILLE, MO

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 175th Anniversary of the town of Russellville, MO. The town of Russellville, MO traces its roots back to May 3, 1838 when Richard Morris, Buckner W. Russell, and Benjamin P. Griffen had the land surveyed. The town was later named in honor of Buckner W. Russell.

The first settlers arrived in the area around 1830 and found a plentiful supply of large oak trees, wild game, and fertile farm land. The town grew steadily thanks to the hard work of its founding families. Businesses were added and additional settlers made it their home. It later became a stop on the Missouri Pacific Railroad.

The town has several churches that were established early in its history. The first were Catholic, Methodist, and Presbyterian. It now includes churches representing the Assembly of God, Baptist, and Lutheran denominations. The first Sunday School was organized in 1858 by James Banister.

As early as 1895, Russellville had the only weekly newspaper in Cole County, the Russellville Rustler, edited by Gutman Wilson. The community found music to be an important part of entertainment. A music club was organized in 1906 at the home of Mrs. L.L. Sullins. The club studied the history of music, prepared programs for their meetings, and gave several public performances.

Today Russellville continues to be a small, but strong rural community, home to new residents as well as descendants of some of the original settlers. The town is home to a great school system, local businesses, and an important agriculture industry.

HONORING DR. WILLIAM M.
NOVICK

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor one of the most distinguished men in my home state of Tennessee.

Dr. William M. Novick has helped many, many thousands of children all over the world in more than 30 countries. He is someone for whom I have the greatest respect.

Dr. Novick currently serves as the Paul Nemir Endowed Chair of International Child Health, Department of Surgery at the University of Tennessee. I cannot think of a more capable or distinguished person to have in this role.

During the past 20 years, Dr. Novick has performed more than 6,000 pediatric heart

surgeries on the world's poor. Last year alone, he performed more pediatric heart surgeries than the Mayo Clinic.

This year, he has devoted his time and talents toward the Caribbean, performing more than 100 surgeries on Dominican and Haitian children.

Dr. Novick is currently taking more than 400 cases per year in Iraq, Libya, Egypt, and the Middle East, and he has even operated on children of Chernobyl.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. William M. Novick is an example of American grace and generosity all over the world. It is fitting he has found a place at the University of Tennessee, home of the Volunteers.

I call his accomplishments as the Paul Nemir Endowed Chair of International Child Health, Department of Surgery at the University of Tennessee to the attention of my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD. I hope to see Dr. Novick's work continue for many years to come.

J. WALTER CAMERON CENTER

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, on April 23, 1973, the J. Walter Cameron Center opened its doors in Wailuku, Hawai'i, with a mission to assist people with special needs by providing a home for Maui's social service agencies. Since then, more than 120,000 Mauians, and their families, have found hope, help, and healing.

The Cameron Center is the vision of two remarkable men, J. Walter Cameron and Douglas Sodemani, who saw that an innovative public-private partnership could serve Maui's people with one of the nation's first multi-tenant social service centers. A designated 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the center is governed by a volunteer, community-based Board of Directors and operated by a dedicated and hard-working staff.

The Cameron Center is the home to sixteen Resident Social Service Agencies including: American Cancer Society; ARC of Maui County; Best Buddies International; Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Hawaii; Fun Day Foundation; Heritage Hall, Inc.; Hui No Ke Ola Pono, Inc.; Imua Family Services; Ka Lima O Maui; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Maui Community Mental Health; Maui County Office on Aging, Mediation Services of Maui; Mental Health Association of America; MEO K'hi Kamali'i; and the Pacific Cancer Foundation. Together, these agencies—through meetings, workshops, training sessions and other community events—serve more than 40,000 people annually.

The Cameron Center has also kept pace with changing times with its "Going Green" Program. Through the installation of a photovoltaic electricity system and energy efficient

mechanical systems, appliances and lighting, it has been able to save \$42,000 in energy costs each year while significantly reducing environmental impacts.

Congratulations to the J. Walter Cameron Center, its board, staff and volunteers for a job well done in serving those in need for two generations. The Center will be celebrating its 40th anniversary on Saturday, June 8, 2013, at the Yokouchi estate in Wailuku.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained due to a long-standing commitment and missed rollcall vote 192, on consideration of a motion to recommend with instructions for H.R. 2216, and rollcall vote 193, on passage of H.R. 2216, the Military Construction, Department of Veterans Affairs and Other Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2014. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 192 and "aye" on rollcall 193.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND
VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RE-
LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIA-
TIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2216) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chair, I rise in support of this bill.

I agree with my colleague and our ranking member on the full committee, Rep. LOWEY of New York, that this bill will help us do all we can to help bring down the disability claims backlog, which unfortunately is at record levels. I am also very grateful to the committee for including an additional \$20 million dollars for suicide prevention and outreach services for our veterans—the third such year I've made such a request. I also noted with satisfaction the committee's inclusion of language directing the VA to work far more closely with community-based organizations that have successful programs to prevent suicides. Indeed, the most successful of these programs in the nation is the Vets4Warriors program at the University of Medicine and Dentistry in New Jersey. My late friend, Senator Lautenberg, worked closely with me to support this program and bring it to the attention of senior VA

• 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.

and Pentagon officials. The VA should have a direct partnership with Vets4Warriors and I will certainly continue to press for that, and am very happy to have the committee's support for that effort.

Madam Chair, while I will support this bill I do not support the process that brought it to the floor today. This bill came up under a rule that enshrines sequester, cutting another \$90 billion in overall funding for the government at a time when it has become clear to all but the most obtuse among us that the sequester has caused real harm to real people. The self-executing rule under which this bill is being considered will cause still more harm—not directly to our veterans, but to millions of other Americans from the additional draconian cuts the majority is seeking to impose. That's why this bill and the Homeland Security bill are under a veto threat from the President, and rightly so. I urge my Republican colleagues to abandon the budget gamesmanship, drop Sequester 2.0, and work with us and the President to implement a budget that is fair to all Americans.

RAISING THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHINA

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding President Obama's upcoming meeting with President Xi Jinping of China.

Tuesday marked the 24th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre in Beijing, an event that reminds us of the importance of human rights, democracy and freedom across China and the world. I encourage the president to remember the tragic events of June 4, 1989, and to bear in mind the important issue of human rights when meeting with President Xi.

I also believe it is important that, as he prepares for his weekend meeting with President Xi, President Obama continues to recognize the important relationship between the United States and Taiwan. We have built an important alliance, one that has positive implications for both our economy and national security and, most importantly, helps with the spread of democracy and freedom throughout Asia and the world.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in encouraging President Obama to be mindful of the many intricacies of our relationship with China and advocate for stronger human rights standards in China and for improved coordination and partnership with Taiwan.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF BARDSTOWN POLICE OFFICER JASON SCOTT ELLIS

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Bardstown Police Officer Jason Scott

Ellis. Officer Ellis was shot and killed while on patrol in the early morning hours of Saturday, May 25. Believed to be an ambush, this senseless act has left Bardstown and its surrounding communities mourning the loss of a husband, father and police officer.

A seven-year veteran of the force, Officer Ellis also served as Bardstown's canine officer and training officer. He is the first police officer in the history of the Bardstown Police Department to be shot and killed in the line of duty.

Bardstown Police Chief Rick McCubbin was quoted as saying Officer Ellis "paid the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved: being a police officer." Mayor Bill Sheckles said, "The city and community of Bardstown lost a class act officer of the law in Jason Ellis, and his shoes will be hard to fill." I could not agree more.

I join with the Bardstown community and all of Kentucky's Second District in sending my thoughts and prayers to the family of Officer Ellis, especially his wife Amy and their sons, Hunter and Parker.

HONORING CHRISTOPHER BRIZENDINE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Brizendine. 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 214, 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 34 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. Christopher researched and reconstructed sheep feeders at Watkins Mill State Park in Lawson, Missouri, to be used during historical reenactments at the historic site.

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

VA BACKLOG

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, America's veterans deserve better.

Right now there are more than 865,000 claims pending before the Veterans Administration, and, of these, more than 575,000 have remained unresolved for 125 days or more.

It is completely unacceptable that the brave men and women who have served our nation

in uniform should have to wait months, or even years, before they receive the benefits they have earned.

That's why I'm proud to join my colleagues in supporting a package of ten bills that would help clear the existing backlog and fix the flaws in the current system.

The VA Claims, Operations and Records Efficiency Act, H.R. 1729, would help to reduce the amount of time spent waiting for the Department of Defense to provide information in a more timely manner.

The Claims Adjudication Centers of Excellence, H.R. 2088, would establish a pilot program to help expedite the adjudication of the most difficult medical conditions afflicting American veterans.

There are eight other bills that would help remedy a range of problems and enable policymakers to get more definitive information to solve this problem. I encourage my colleagues to join us in this important effort.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EQUAL PAY ACT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, 119 years ago, in 1894, a study by the AAUW and the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor found that men were making more than twice as much as women for jobs like bookkeeping.

Forty-eight years later, as millions of women like my mother entered the factories to help fight World War II, the War Labor Board issued General Order 16, declaring that men and women working the same job in the same factory should be paid the same wage.

In 1945, the first Equal Pay Bill was introduced in the House by Chase Going Woodhouse, the second woman and first Democratic woman to be elected to the House from Connecticut. It was reintroduced every year for 18 years. President Dwight Eisenhower called it "a matter of simple justice" in his State of the Union.

And 50 years ago this week—on June 10th, 1963—President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law.

The Equal Pay Act was supposed to end, and I quote, "the unconscionable practice of paying female employees less wages than male employees for the same job." But fifty years later, women are still paid only 77 cents on the dollar compared to men.

It has been 50 years since the Equal Pay Act, and 120 years since we first studied pay inequity. Haven't America's women waited long enough? It is time to come together, give the Equal Pay Act real teeth. It is time to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act so that men and women in the same job—get the same pay. It is that simple.

RECOGNIZING MIRIAM HUGHEY-GUY FOR HER EXTRAORDINARY WORK AT BARCROFT ELEMENTARY

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Miriam Hughey-Guy on her retirement following 20 years of extraordinary service as the principal of Barcroft Elementary School in Arlington, Virginia.

For 20 years, Ms. Hughey-Guy has been the energizing force motivating Barcroft students to be active learners. The innovative educational programs she brought to Barcroft have produced one of the best, most flexible schools in the County, which has some of the best schools in the country.

Ms. Hughey-Guy was the first to introduce the modified school year to Arlington County, reorganizing Barcroft's school year to provide more continuous learning, dividing the long summer vacation into shorter, more frequent breaks. Ms. Hughey-Guy recognized the benefit children received from these shorter breaks, and ensured that the intersessions between telms kept the students engaged, supported, and challenged.

She was also the leader in bringing the Leonardo da Vinci Project to Barcroft, which brings creative and scientific thought to the learning experience, challenging students with focused thinking and problem-solving activities. Ms. Hughey-Guy promotes this type of learning every day, by engaging the children directly in conversations about experiential learning and consistently calling on them to make a difference with their new found knowledge.

Her dedication, and these innovations, are just part of the reason she is consistently recognized as a leader within her profession. In 2001–02 she was awarded the Woman of Vision Award. In 2002–03, she was Arlington Public Schools' Principal of the Year. In 2003, the Washington Post awarded her with a Distinguished Leadership Award. And, in 2003, Miriam Hughey-Guy was given the Ebone Image Leadership Award from the National Coalition of 100 Black Women's Northern Virginia Chapter. Further, she is recognized as a leader among the numerous organizations that call on her to speak, such as NPR, CNN, the Virginia State Reading Association, and within the Arlington County school system.

Miriam has shared her life with hundreds of children and families over the years, many who continue to call for her advice. She has supported her staff with their ideas, goals, and professional growth. Mrs. Hughey-Guy has truly led by example. She is a mentor, boss, leader, teacher and advocate for Barcroft's children, their families, and the teaching profession.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to salute her for a job well done and wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

HONORING BEN LAUGHLIN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ben Laughlin. Ben 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.

Ben has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ben 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, Ben has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

THE KIDNAPPING OF FORMER MARINE ARMANDO TORRES IN MEXICO

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my deep concern for former Marine Corporal Armando Torres who was reportedly kidnapped by members of the Mexican Cartel during a visit to Las Barrancas, Tamaulipas, Mexico while visiting his father and uncle.

On May 14, 2013, Mr. Torres crossed on an Internat'l bridge into Mexico and had planned to return the next day. Family members in Mexico report that Mr. Torres along with his father and uncle were forcibly taken by members of the Mexican Cartel.

Corporal Torres is a combat veteran who served his country honorably in Iraq. I have asked the F.B.I in McAllen, Texas and the U.S. Consulate General in Matamoros, Mexico to help bring this marine and his relatives back safely to their loved ones. Each agency has been working on this case every day. They report the Mexican Government is cooperating with them on their efforts to find the victims of this outrageous crime.

I commend the quick action taken by both the F.B.I. and the U.S. State Department. I urge them to continue to do all they can to find and return our former Marine, Armando Torres, back safely to the U.S. and to bring his relatives back home.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2216) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this important amendment.

As I'm sure my colleagues know, last November Coloradans voted overwhelmingly in favor of Amendment 64, which legalized the recreational use of marijuana in our State.

Marijuana policy is a public health issue, and should be regulated like one.

Americans across the country already know that the so-called 'War on Drugs' is a failed Federal policy that clogs our prisons, drains Federal resources and disproportionately penalizes African-American and Latinos.

But Amendment 64 represents even more than an acknowledgement of failure and a Triumph of common sense.

For Colorado veterans who suffer from post traumatic stress disorder, Amendment 64 measure offers them something more: relief.

And for combat veterans who have tried everything the VA has thrown at them to fight their symptoms medical marijuana may be their only relief.

Colorado service men and women have fought valiantly for their country in every American military conflict.

It is not just Iraq and Afghanistan—from Korea to Vietnam to military engagements around the globe, over 420,000 veterans live in Colorado today.

Our commitment to our veterans should not end once they are back on American soil, and in most cases, it does not.

But for a number of veterans—those who the system denies when they try to access one of the few treatments that actually works for them—we are not living up to our promise.

If we continue to prescribe powerful, addictive drugs with dangerous side effects—but prevent even preliminary medical research into the efficacy of medical marijuana—we are not living up to our promise.

Some estimate that nearly 20 percent of returning Iraq and Afghanistan war vets are suffering from PTSD.

If we continue to fail to provide relief to veterans suffering from this condition, we are not living up to our promise.

Eighteen States and the District of Columbia currently allow some form of marijuana use. A third of Americans live in one of these States, and more States are approving these common-sense measures every year.

But the Federal Government continues to stand in the way of progress. Is there any other situation where this would be acceptable? Where some of our bravest men and women could be denied effective care by their own government?

Our servicemen and women deserve better treatment from the country they defend.

I believe the Federal Government should get out of the business of telling states they can or cannot do something that States are perfectly capable of regulating themselves.

But that's a big step. At the very least, the government that sent our troops into harm's way should not turn around and stop them from accessing treatment that works for them—sometimes the only treatment that works for them.

How many more veterans have to suffer the emotional and physical scars of war before we listen to what they have to say?

I urge my colleagues to support this important amendment.

GREAT FALLS MEMORIAL DAY
SERVICE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, on Memorial Day I had the privilege of attending a ceremony in Great Falls, Virginia, honoring those who have fought for our great Nation.

I was joined at the service with dozens of Great Falls residents, along with other community leaders, to pay tribute to the 25 men and women of Great Falls who died in battle or from attacks on America.

The service began with a friendly welcome from Mr. Bruce Ellis Fein, a member of Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial. In 2002, Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial was created with the goal of building a memorial site in Great Falls dedicated to those residents who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

The highlight of the service was the keynote speech by Lt. Gen. Norman H. Smith who served our country in the Marine Corps for over 35 years. In his address, Lt. Gen. Smith discussed his recent trip to the island of Iwo Jima, specifically, his visit to Mt. Suribachi with several surviving veterans of the Battle of Iwo Jima.

Lt. Gen. Smith has had an established military career and has been awarded numerous decorations for his service. He now serves as president of the Iwo Jima Association of America and currently resides in my congressional district in Winchester, Virginia.

I submit Lt. Gen. Smith's remarks from the Great Falls Memorial Day Service and a recent news article from the Great Falls Connection.

ADDRESS BY LIEUTENANT GENERAL NORMAN H. SMITH, USMC (RET) OF WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA AT THE MEMORIAL DAY 2013, THE GREAT FALLS FREEDOM MEMORIAL

Good Morning.

I'm going to take a bit of keynote speaker's prerogative to point out one special guest for today's service, and he is Marine Tommy Cox, a veteran of the Iwo Jima campaign of World War 2.

I'm honored to speak to you this morning on this particular day, in this particular place, which is dedicated to those residents who have given their lives in the cause of freedom.

I'm a Marine, but it is my great privilege to be here today to represent all of our

Armed forces. All of them contribute mightily to the security of our nation. It is an even greater honor, on this Memorial Day 2013, to speak about the tens of thousands of our fellow citizens who have given their lives in the defense of our country, its people, and its principles.

For me, Memorial Day came early this year, in mid-March on the island of Iwo Jima. I went there with a group that included military historians, writers, students from the Young Marines organization and, first and foremost, 14 veterans of the battle of Iwo Jima and the Pacific campaign of World War 2.

These men who are now in their late 80's and early 90's were, most of them, teenagers in February of 1945, when the battle began. The ultimate goal of the Iwo Jima campaign was to gain ever closer access to the Japanese home islands in the event that an invasion of Japan would be necessary in order to end the long, bloody war.

Iwo Jima in 1945 was a barren volcanic island covered with ash and stone. There was nowhere to take cover, no trees, nowhere even to be able to dig a fighting hole, for the soil was ashy sand that acquired a name of its own: the black sands of Iwo Jima.

Beneath this forbidding surface lay noxious sulphur beds that stank, and many miles of tunnels, caves and reinforced fighting positions crammed with small arms, machine guns, mortars and artillery pieces. The Japanese defenders, well prepared for an assault on the island, intended to inflict massive casualties on their enemies. They did.

Sixty-eight years later, the 14 Iwo Jima vets I traveled with returned to the site of a savage battle that went on without pause and without quarter, on either side, for 36 days. They went back to remember their own experiences and to keep alive the sacrifices they witnessed. Six thousand eight hundred Marines died during the 36-day battle. 22,000 were wounded. More than 20,000 Japanese were killed. In February 1945 the Iwo Jima veterans of today were fighting for their lives and the lives of their brother Marines and sailors. They were fighting, too, for the lives of many Army Air Corps crewmen who would have died were it not for the emergency landing field built by Seabees while the battle still raged. It is estimated that more than 20,000 U.S. airmen were saved by landing their battle damaged B-29s and B-24s as they returned from bombing raids over Japan. All the American Armed Forces contributed to the victory on Iwo: the Army, Navy, Navy Air, the Army Air Corps, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard and the often forgotten Merchant Marine.

The almost accidental photograph of the flag raising on Mt. Suribachi became an iconic image of American valor. Today, Mt. Suribachi is the site of a very different annual ceremony, a ceremony that none of the 14 returning veterans could have believed possible in 1945. This, the annual Reunion of Honor, is attended by American and Japanese alike, who meet every year to commemorate the historic battle and the post war U.S.-Japanese alliance.

The Reunion of Honor began in 1995, when the Iwo Jima Association of America joined with the Iwo Jima Association of Japan in order to honor warriors on both sides who died for their respective countries on that desolate island, 600 miles from Japan. This memorial service is not about lauding the victors nor humiliating the vanquished. Nor does it attempt to glorify war. Far from it. Iwo Jima was a killing ground and, like our own Civil War battlefields in the Shenandoah Valley and other places, it is also hallowed ground where the remains of the missing still lie. To the Japanese families of soldiers whose bodies were never recovered,

it is an annual pilgrimage undertaken to honor their ancestors.

This year the hour-long service took place in perfect weather, on an island that looks far different from the hellish place it was 68 years ago. What was black sand and scarred rock is now green with scrub trees and shrubs. Dirt roads have been paved, memorial markers have been placed. The beaches, however, are still black sand. Japanese and American military and governmental officials spoke during the service and wreaths were laid on the memorial stone markers. A military band played, a band composed of both American and Japanese musicians.

Following the ceremony the American group boarded mini-vans for the trip up the serpentine road to the top of Mt. Suribachi. During the battle, this mountain—about the height of the Washington Monument—was honeycombed with gun emplacements that rained deadly fire on the U.S. forces. On the third day of the invasion, elements of the 28th Marine Regiment made a tortuous and deadly ascent up the steep side of the mountain, to its peak. It was here that the now famous flag raising took place. The photo taken was used to create the magnificent bronze monument in Arlington Cemetery: the Marine Corps War Memorial.

Atop Suribachi the Iwo vets and others visited the unit memorials placed there. Photos were taken and more stories from the vets were forthcoming as they gazed down upon the landing beaches and the now peaceful landscape of Iwo Jima.

As we stood on Mt. Suribachi some of the vets talked about their recollections of the battle . . . and the rest of us listened.

Donald Graves is 87. He was 18 then. He remembered having steak for breakfast at 0700 on the day he went ashore in the 3d wave. Once on the black beach he lay with his face in the sand, very scared. He told me he was clinging to a ledge on Mt. Suribachi with his flamethrower, just a few feet from where the flag was raised.

Bill Montgomery is 89. In 1945 he was not long out of high school. On Iwo Jima he was the only survivor of his small unit. When he saw the flag raised on Suribachi, he thought it was all over . . . but the battle went on for more than a month. He told me that he had not wanted to revisit the scene of so much tragedy, but decided to come now to remember, and to honor his fallen brother Marines.

Lieutenant General Larry Snowden, 92, a native Virginian, was a young company commander on Iwo Jima. When he talks about the battle he never fails to remember the men he lost there. To this day he holds them close in loving memory of their courage and honor.

In today's world, 68 years is a very long time. To the younger generations, it may seem like an eternity. In the 68 years since the battle of Iwo Jima, much has happened that we might prefer to forget. The young men who survived the battle, which was after all, but one of countless such battles in the European and Pacific Theaters of World War 2, may have wanted nothing more than merciful forgetfulness . . . and who could blame them?

The men I stood with on Suribachi have not forgotten. They spoke with quiet dignity about those who died there. They grieve for them still. The stakes during the dark days of any war are so high . . . so high. Those who make the greatest sacrifice have no tomorrows. They have given them to us. For those who have given their lives, we must and will be strong, be faithful, be free. To them we owe all that we now possess. Our duty is clear; we will never forget our Nation's debt of gratitude to those who died in the defense of our liberties.

Thank you.

[From the Great Falls Connection, May 28, 2013]

GREAT FALLS MARKS MEMORIAL DAY

(By Alex McVeigh)

Retired Lt. Gen. Norman H. Smith was commissioned into the United States Marine Corps in December 1955, more than 10 years after the Battle of Iwo Jima. But 68 years later, he accompanied 14 surviving veterans to the Japanese island, and he was struck by the stories he heard.

"As we stood on Mount Suribachi, some of the vets talked about their recollections of the battle. Donald Graves, 87, was 18 then. He remembered having steak for breakfast on the day he went ashore third wave. Once on the black beach, he lay with his face on the sand, very scared. He told me he was clinging to a ledge on Mount Suribachi with his flamethrower, just a few feet from where the [American] flag was raised," Smith said. "Bill Montgomery, 89, was not long out of high school. On Iwo Jima he was the only survivor of his small unit. When he saw the flag raised on Suribachi, he thought the battle was over, but instead it raged on for more than a month. He told me he had not wanted to revisit the scene of so much tragedy, but decided to come to remember and honor his fellow Marine brothers."

Smith was the guest speaker at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial's Memorial Day ceremony Monday, May 27. One Iwo Jima veteran was present at the ceremony. Tommy Cox of McLean was a member of the 5th Marine Division, 28th Regiment, and witnessed the famous raising of the American flag on Mount Suribachi.

Dozens of residents gathered at the memorial to pay tribute to the 25 men and women of Great Falls who died in battle or from attacks on America, as well as the thousands of Americans who had what Abraham Lincoln called "laid so costly a sacrifice on the altar of freedom."

After the names were read, scouts from Boy Scout Troop 55 raised the flags at the memorial from half-mast.

"According to the Flag Code, flags should fly at half staff until midday, to mourn the sacrifices of the past," said Bruce Ellis Fein of the Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial. "The flags should be raised at midday to full staff to celebrate the future that those sacrifices have made possible."

After the ceremony, Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) presented the family of Tony Blankley, a Great Falls resident and member of the Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial who passed away in January 2012.

Blankley was a press secretary for Newt Gingrich while he was Speaker of the House, the editorial page editor for *The Washington Times* and a regular panelist on *The McLaughlin Group*. He was also a prosecutor with the California attorney general's office and even briefly a child actor, appearing in Humphrey Bogart's last film, "The Harder They Fall."

"It's fitting that we honor Tony today, because he and [his wife] Linda were very committed to the military, and were so involved in setting up this memorial, and Linda continues that legacy today," Comstock said. "Tony was truly a Renaissance man. He led such a rich, interesting and well-led life, and he was well respected by all his friends and colleagues, which many of us here are proud to call ourselves."

Blankley's wife Linda Davis, her mother and their daughter Anna accepted the resolution awarded by Comstock. Davis is still active with many military causes, and spent last weekend volunteering with the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors.

"I'm so thankful for this tremendous honor, and I know Tony would be very humbled by it as well," she said.

Smith said in his concluding remarks that though many of the men and women of the armed forces may wish to forget the tragedies, injuries and losses they have endured in service of country, "Those who have made the greatest sacrifice have no tomorrows," he said. "They have given them to us, and for those who have given their lives, we must be strong, we will be faithful and we will be free."

HONORING WILL ORDING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Will Ording. Will 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.

Will has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Will 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, Will has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL
PETER FORD

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Peter Ford for his extraordinary service to the Nation while serving in the United States Army Reserves and National Guard for the past 32 years.

Lieutenant Colonel Ford started his military career in 1981 as an enlisted Soldier—an infantryman—in the Virginia National Guard. After graduating from Gustavus Adolphus College, where he was the only ROTC Cadet at Gustavus, Lieutenant Colonel Ford was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Ordinance Corps. After the Officer Basic Course, Lieutenant Colonel Ford in his civilian capacity was sworn in as a Special Agent with the State Department Diplomatic Security Service.

While serving as the Regional Security Officer (RSO) at the embassy in Switzerland, Lieutenant Colonel Ford was assigned as a Military Intelligence Officer at the Military Intelligence Group at the 7th Army Reserve Command in Germany. In 1997, he was called up to support the war in Bosnia. Upon his return to the United States, he joined the Office, Chief of the Army Reserves, as a Reserve Congressional Liaison Officer and also served as a Reservist with the 157th Individual Mobilization Augmentee Detachment.

In 2003, Lieutenant Colonel Ford was assigned as a Congressional Detailee to the

Homeland Security Committee and was named Executive Officer of the 157th that same year. After serving as RSO in Armenia, he was detailed to the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

In the fall of 2007, at the beginning of the "surge" in Iraq, Lieutenant Colonel Ford volunteered to serve as an Army Reservist in Iraq. He was attached to the American Embassy in Baghdad and, as the Director of the Office of Hostage Affairs, was responsible for resolving U.S. kidnapping cases in Iraq. Following the completion of his military tour, Peter continued his service in Iraq. For an additional year, he worked as a DSS Agent with the State Department in the same position.

Returning to the U.S., Peter obtained a Masters Degree from the National Defense Intelligence College and joined Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Affairs as a drilling Reservist. He was subsequently assigned to the Diplomatic Security's Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC). In October 2011, Lieutenant Colonel Ford took command of the 157th Individual Mobilization Augmentee Detachment. During his military and civilian careers, Lieutenant Ford has worked in over 110 countries.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the grateful Nation, I join my colleagues today in saying thank you to Lieutenant Colonel Peter Ford for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to the country throughout his distinguished career in the United States Army.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF AVENEL FIRE
COMPANY NO. 1

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Avenel Fire Company No. 1 on its 100th Anniversary. The volunteer fire company continues to provide exemplary service to the residents of Woodbridge Township's Fire District #5 and is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Organized and chartered as Avenel Chemical Company No. 1, it legally changed its name to Avenel Fire Company No. 1 on July 12, 1913. There were 12 charter members, with Joseph Szabo serving as the first Fire Chief (a position he held through 1915) and Edward Moran serving as the first President. The first firefighting equipment purchased for the company was kept in a shed owned by member Joseph Praver. Over the years, the company was housed at different locations, finally settling at its current property on Avenel Street in 1929. It was renovated in 1995 to update and expand the structure.

Avenel Fire Company No. 1 continues to ensure the safety of its residents by replacing outdated equipment and adding new tools and apparatus to its fleet, including a ladder truck and zodiac boat. In its 100 year history, it has seen the installation of emergency response apparatus throughout the district, including fire hydrants, fire alarm systems and fire alarm boxes. Today, its 42 volunteer members answer approximately 600 alarms each year and service over 5000 addresses.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in recognizing the 100th anniversary of Avenel

Fire Company No. 1. Since its inception, Avenel Fire Company No. 1 upheld its duty to serve and protect the community and its dedication is to be celebrated.

THANKING RODRIC J. MYERS FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire House of Representatives, today I pay tribute to Mr. Rodric J. Myers, Director of House Garages and Parking Security with the Sergeant at Arms. Rod has served this institution with distinction for over 40 years, as an officer with U.S. Capitol Police and with the Office of the Sergeant at Arms. On June 14, 2013, Mr. Myers will retire from the House of Representatives. His capable guidance, trusted mentorship, and steady leadership have been invaluable assets not only to his staff and colleagues, but to every Congressional office.

A native of Indianapolis, Indiana, Rod Myers joined the U.S. Capitol Police in June 1972. He began as a uniform patrol officer eventually working his way to an Administrative Specialist for the Capitol Division. Rod was responsible for nearly 100 officers, the daily roster assignment of those officers, all while still working active policing assignments outside of his administrative duties. His 29 years of service were marked by a remarkable attention to detail, devotion to the institution, and professionalism of the highest order.

During Rod's tenure with the U.S. Capitol Police he had the distinct honor of working ten Presidential Inaugurations, 40 State of the Union addresses, and countless special events in between. Over the years, he met numerous dignitaries and heads of state, but as a loyal Dallas Cowboys fan, those meetings paled in comparison to greeting the Super Bowl Champions. As the U.S. Capitol Police administrative specialist, he knew this assignment needed his personal attention.

On July 9, 2001, Rod was appointed Director of House Garages and Parking Security with the Sergeant-at-Arms. Over the last 11 years, he has worked tirelessly to strengthen parking procedures to enhance the safety and security of Members and staff Coordinating with the U.S. Capitol Police and the Office of the Attending Physician, Rod created comprehensive on-going training programs for all Garages and Parking Security staff, ensuring the House is prepared for any eventuality. His involvement in continuity and contingency planning with the Sergeant at Arms has been invaluable. He worked closely with the Committee on House Administration over the years, and will be sorely missed by our Members and Staff.

Rod Myers' deep and profound commitment to this institution is second to none. From the tragedy of September 11, to the anthrax scare, to an unprecedented earthquake, his gentle nature projected a sense of calm and assurance to all who encountered him. His leadership by example and ability to motivate are benchmarks in a long and distinguished career.

Please join me in commending the outstanding service of Mr. Rodric J. Myers, to the Congress of the United States and congratulating him on his retirement. We wish you well in all your future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE TOWN OF GATES, NEW YORK

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the bicentennial celebration for the Western New York town of Gates, New York, which is appropriately known as "a community for all people."

Incorporated on April 1, 1813, the Town of Gates, New York was named in honor of American Revolutionary General Horatio Gates. The Town was one of the very first in Monroe County, New York, when in the year 1821 the New York State Legislature approved creating a new county named after the 5th President of the United States.

Today the Town of Gates, New York is comprised of over 28,400 residents and remains the geographic center of Monroe County. It is also the proud home and nationwide headquarters of Wegmans' Food Markets. As well, the Town hosts the Greater Rochester International Airport, Rochester Tech Park and other essential businesses which positively impact the economic vitality of Monroe County, the Greater Rochester area and the State of New York.

A most notable former resident of the Town of Gates is the revered leader of the American Women's Suffragist movement, the incomparable Miss Susan B. Anthony. History records that in the year 1845, she and her family first resided in the Town of Gates upon their arrival in the Rochester area and that their Gates farmhouse actually became a meeting place for anti-slavery activists, including Frederick Douglass.

Among notable living Americans who were born, raised and educated in Gates, New York is famed rock vocalist and songwriter, Lou Gramm, who is recognized around the world for his monumental contributions to the American and global music industries.

Today it is my esteemed honor and great privilege to recognize in front of this august body, the Town of Gates, New York and its government and residents, as we joyfully commemorate the 200th anniversary of its establishment.

It is from small towns like Gates where the American Dream was defined. Whether it is a parade through the town square on Memorial Day, the crack of the bat at local ball fields, or the crackle and boom of fireworks on the Fourth of July, towns like Gates imbue our nation with the richness of American life that we hold dear.

So I rise today to commemorate all that Gates, New York has contributed to American life, to congratulate the people of Gates on achieving such a milestone, and to wish this special New York town the fortune and providence to celebrate 200 years more.

HONORING PARKER WRIGLEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Parker Wrigley. Parker 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 1394, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Parker has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Parker has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 34 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Parker has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Parker raised funds for the purchase and installation of a monument sign for Hobby Hill Park in Gladstone, Missouri, in addition to providing landscaping and painting improvements to the park.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Parker Wrigley 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. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 183. I had to return to Georgia due to the death of a longtime friend, and to attend the wake/funeral.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

EQUAL PAY ACT

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Equal Pay Act and to call for the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

On June 10, our nation celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Equal Pay Act.

Yet, women still earn on average only 77 cents for every dollar earned by men. In Columbus, Ohio women are paid only 81 cents for every dollar paid to men.

Equal pay is not simply a women's issue—it's a family issue.

Families increasingly rely on women's wages to make ends meet, and with less take-home pay women have less for the everyday needs of their families.

90,527 households in the Columbus metro area are headed by women. Eliminating the wage gap would provide much-needed income to women whose salaries are of critical importance to them and their families.

When women succeed, so does our economy.

RECOGNIZING DAVID J.
STEINBERG

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. David J. Steinberg for a long and very distinguished career in higher education. It is my honor to recognize my former employer and one of Long Island's most respected leaders on the occasion of his retirement as president of Long Island University.

Over the course of his life and career, David has possessed all the attributes of a strong leader and set a shining example for all those he has taught and guided. He is a brilliant and gifted administrator who has achieved tremendous success and enjoys an impeccable reputation in the higher education community and across New York.

David began to make his mark when he started teaching in the history department of the University of Michigan, where he soon became a full professor. Before coming to LIU, he served as vice president and university secretary of Brandeis University.

An accomplished scholar, David has written several books and articles about Southeast Asia. He became an expert in the history of the Philippines and was a member of the international observer team that monitored the presidential elections in which Corazon Aquino defeated Ferdinand Marcos.

David spent a year at Columbia University on a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, and he holds three degrees from Harvard University, where he earned his undergraduate degree, and completed his M.A. in East Asian studies and a Ph.D. in history.

In 1985, David was chosen to lead LIU. I was fortunate to be the provost and chief executive officer of the university's Southampton Campus while he was president. It was my privilege to work under him and learn to appreciate that at the core of David's vision was the goal of expanding access and affordability for students in the pursuit of a quality private education.

Since 2009, David has increased institutional student financial aid from \$65 million to more than \$100 million, and he expanded LIU into one of the largest and most comprehensive private universities in the United States, with six campuses and three overseas centers. In addition, LIU's endowment increased from \$4.8 million to nearly \$80 million, and enrollment expanded from 19,000 to 24,000 students.

David's vision has also enabled LIU maintain its competitive edge as a leader in the use of technology in education through LIU Online and LIU Global; the launch of programs in emerging fields like forensic science, genetic counseling, mobile GIS, homeland security management and environmental sustainability; and the realization of a groundbreaking cloud computing initiative, which included the largest iPad deployment in American higher education.

Perhaps most important is David's emphasis on the value of community service as an integral component of LIU's commitment to enhancing the quality of life for the university's neighbors on Long Island. Students attending

LIU Post alone volunteer 27,500 hours devoted to the community each year through local initiatives involving health and wellness; providing resources for individuals and families dealing with autism, aphasia, and post-traumatic stress syndrome; and offering instruction in literacy and life skills. In fact, both of LIU's residential campuses were named to President Obama's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

Additionally, David's leadership forged LIU's long tradition of complementing its educational mission with cultural and artistic endeavors by offering world-class performances and arts programs at the Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, which is located at LIU Post in Brookville. He has indeed nurtured a culture of access and excellence that has transformed the lives of countless students and in the process made an indelible impression on the educational and cultural landscape of New York for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that David will embrace his retirement with his usual enthusiasm and energy. On behalf of New York's first congressional district, I wish him all the health and happiness throughout a long retirement with his wife, Joan, his two sons, Noah and Jonah, and his grandchildren.

HONORING SEAN BAKER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sean Baker. Sean 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.

Sean has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Sean 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, Sean has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 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 \$16,738,778,336,691.59. We've added \$6,111,901,787,778.51 to our debt in 4 and a half years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 179, I had to return to Georgia due to the death of a long time friend, and to attend the wake/funeral.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN MEMORY OF SHARON O'KEEFE
EVANS

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of Sharon O'Keefe Evans. Sharon was an inspirational woman who touched many lives throughout her 56 years. She passed after a brief, yet courageous battle with cancer.

Sharon grew up in the Chicago suburbs and relocated to central Florida to pursue career opportunities. Before moving to Florida, she attended the University of Illinois, Champaign. After graduating in 1974, she became an accomplished advertising executive serving in a variety of senior positions with leading national advertising agencies such as J. Walter Thompson and Foot, Cone & Belding. After relocating to Florida she held account management positions with some of our state's leading advertising firms, including Fry, Hammond, Barr and PP+K. She was an avid golfer, enjoying the many beautiful courses our state has to offer. During her illness, Sharon was treated at Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, a national leader in cancer research and treatment.

Sharon is survived by her parents, William O'Keefe and Gay Japinga of Evanston, Illinois, and her husband, Doug Evans, of Valrico, Florida. As a senior executive with Source Interlink Media, Doug is a leading voice in the motorsports and automotive industry, publishing magazines such as 'Hot Rod' and 'Motor Trend,' which I have read for many years. As a fellow automotive enthusiast, I count him as a friend and offer my heartfelt condolences to him and his family for this great loss.

Sharon's final days were spent with Doug courageously by her side. It is with sadness that we pay tribute to Sharon's life. This is yet another reminder of the need to redouble our efforts to find a cure for cancer so that institutions like Moffitt Cancer Center can successfully treat those, like Sharon, so that their days are no longer cut short by this disease.

HONORING THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA MEN'S GOLF TEAM

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 2013 University of Alabama Men's Golf

Team for having captured its first National Championship. On June 2, the team emerged victorious from a field of 30 qualifying teams over six days to win the NCAA Golf Championship. The Tide golf team represents only the second University of Alabama men's sport other than football to take a national title in school history.

The Crimson Tide defeated Illinois 4–1 in the match play championship round at the par–70, 7,319 yard Capital City Club Crabapple Course in Milton, Georgia. Junior Bobby Wyatt of Mobile birdied five of his first seven holes and finished his match on the 13th green with a chip into the hole from more than 50 feet. Juniors Trey Mullinax and Cory Whitsett as well as senior Scott Strohmeier helped clinch the title by winning their matches.

Before entering into the 2013 NCAA Championship, Alabama was ranked No. 2 nationally behind the University of California. The Crimson Tide went on to win eight of their nine tournaments including the SEC Championship, the NCAA Baton Rouge Regional and the NCAA Championships. Three members of the team entered the championship tournament ranked in the top 10: Bobby Wyatt—No.3, Cory Whitsett—No.4, and sophomore Justin Thomas—No. 8.

The Crimson Tide National Champion team members and staff include: Lee Knox, Dru Love, Tom Lovelady, Trey Mullinax, Robby Prater, William Sellers, Scott Strohmeier, Justin Thomas, Cory Whitsett, Bobby Wyatt, Coach Jay Seawell, and Assistant Coach Rob Bradley.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I wish to extend personal congratulations to Coach Jay Seawell, Assistant Coach Rob Bradley and the University of Alabama Men's Golf Team for their rising to the challenge and bringing home the NCAA Championship trophy to Tuscaloosa. Roll Tide!

HONORING ALEX WESTHUES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Westhues. Alex 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.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex 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, Alex has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

CONGRATULATING DR. TRIFON LASKARIS ON RECEIPT OF HIS 200TH U.S. PATENT

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable individual and prolific inventor whose pioneering research into medical imaging has helped to transform modern day medicine. Dr. Trifon Laskaris, a Chief Scientist at General Electric's Global Research Center, was recently awarded his 200th U.S. patent—a benchmark previously reached by only one other GE researcher—the inventor of the light bulb and founder of the company's research center, Thomas Edison.

For the past four decades, Dr. Laskaris has worked at GE Global Research on technology to advance magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI. He has spent much of his career directing GE's research into superconducting magnets. It is these high-power magnets that make MRI possible. Suffice it to say that without the work of Dr. Laskaris and his team, MRI would not be where it is today—a vital diagnostic tool used in hospitals around the world. There is no telling how many millions of people are leading healthier lives today because of the technology that Dr. Laskaris developed.

New York's Capital Region has a rich history as a hub for cutting-edge science and technology. From the birth of General Electric more than 120 years ago, to the emergence of "Tech Valley" as a center for nanotechnology research and development, upstate New York continues to be at the forefront of invention and innovation that is making America and the world a better place. Dr. Laskaris is an inspiration to us all, and his achievement is a testament to the fruits that creativity and steadfast pursuit of technological advancement can bear.

I congratulate Dr. Trifon Laskaris on this milestone achievement and, on behalf of this body and the citizens of the 20th District of New York, I thank him for his lifelong dedication to scientific research in the service of humanity.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2216) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. FARR. Madam Chair, on Memorial Day, we remembered the patriotic sacrifice of those that have lost their lives in service to our country and today, we renew our commitment to keep our promise to our nation's more than

2 million troops and reservists, their families, 22.2 million veterans, and 35.5 million family members of living veterans or survivors of deceased veterans.

This committee has a strong history of working in a bipartisan way to produce a bill that supports our active duty servicemembers, our veterans and their families, and this bill is no exception.

I commend the Chairman and Ranking Member for their hard work in ensuring that this bill is another significant step in fulfilling the promise our country made to leave no veteran behind.

For example, even though Congress has fully funded the VA budget request for additional staffing and technology, the disability claims backlog continues to grow.

While the VA has taken steps to rectify this deplorable backlog, we owe it to our veterans to exercise our Congressional oversight responsibilities to ensure that the VA actually fixes the backlog.

I am pleased the bill before us today includes language I requested, with some of my Northern CA colleagues, that would add additional oversight requirements for the Veterans Benefits Administration and require regular updates from the VA on the status of the backlog.

Through regular updates from the VA, we ensure accountability and end the backlog.

Additionally, I am pleased to see that this bill again recognizes the burial needs of our veterans in rural areas. The National Cemetery Administration has repeatedly stated that 10% of all veterans will not have access to a burial option in a national, state or tribal cemetery within 75 miles of their home.

While the VA strategy outlined in the FY13 budget request to extend burial services to some rural veterans is a good first step, it fails to address a long-term strategy. The FY13 bill and report instructed the VA to correct this oversight and the FY14 report language reaffirms the need for the VA to develop a long-term strategy to provide burial services for all our nation's veterans, including those who live in rural areas. Veterans in my congressional district do not have access to a VA burial option, so I look forward to the Secretary's report on the VA's long-term strategy to address their burial needs.

I would note that while this bill is \$1.4 billion above last year's enact level, it is also \$1.4 billion less than the President's request. While I am glad to see this bill has been protected from senseless cuts imposed by sequestration, I strongly believe this Congress needs to get back to the balanced approach we agreed to in the bipartisan Budget Control Act.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EQUAL PAY ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago when President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act of 1963, he stated that "when women enter the labor force they will find equality in their pay envelopes." Yet a half century later, women still do not have equality in their pay. In 1963, women made an average of 59 cents

for every dollar earned by men. Today, women nationwide make on average 77 cents for every dollar earned by men. According to a new report from the American Association of University Women, women in my Congressional District still earn only 74 cents for every dollar earned by men—progress, but not nearly enough.

With the 50th anniversary of the Equal Pay Act upon us, and as American women continue to encounter lower pay in the workplace, I can think of no better action to take than to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act.

Here's why.

If the United States adopts a policy of paycheck fairness, it will put \$200 billion more into the economy every year. That comes out to about \$137 for every white woman per paycheck, and approximately \$300 for every woman of color who are doubly discriminated against.

And with a record number of women in the workforce, wage discrimination is hurting the majority of American families, both in terms of their economic security today and their retirement security tomorrow. This means fewer resources to pay the mortgage, send kids to college, or have a decent retirement.

Passing the Paycheck Fairness Act will close loopholes that allow pay discrimination to continue. The bill requires employers to demonstrate pay disparity is related to job-performance—not gender. It prohibits employer retaliation for sharing salary information with coworkers, and it strengthens remedies for pay discrimination by increasing compensation women can seek.

Fifty years after President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act, the law has brought more equity to the workplace, but neither President Kennedy nor today's leaders can say our job is done.

Pass the Paycheck Fairness Act because pay equity means economic growth for America's women and their families.

IN HONOR OF DR. JOSEPH T. COX,
THE 8TH HEADMASTER OF THE
HAVERFORD SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, we honor Dr. Joseph T. Cox, the 8th Headmaster of The Haverford School, who is retiring after 15 truly transformative years at Haverford School, an all boys Pre-K through 12 independent school located in the suburbs of Philadelphia. Dr. Cox came to The Haverford School in the summer of 1998 as a decorated Vietnam War veteran who had risen to the rank of Colonel in the United States Army. Colonel Cox provided great service to our country as a Commander of the 101st Airborne Division Battalion. Not only was Dr. Cox a successful military officer, but he was also a gifted poet who graduated from Lafayette College and earned his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina.

Despite this somewhat unique combination of talents and skills, Dr. Cox came to The Haverford School as a largely unknown per-

son with no experience in the world of independent schools in 1998. However, fifteen glorious years later, Dr. Cox leaves The Haverford School with his personal imprint imbedded throughout the entire community. Dr. Cox's strong servant leadership, his vision, his passion and his compassion had a lasting impact on the many boys and young men who attended Haverford during his fifteen year tenure.

During his tenure, Haverford graduated 1,240 young men. Dr. Cox opened the doors of Haverford to a much broader and more diverse group of boys and young men and he pushed to meaningfully increase the financial assistance for the boys by five-fold in order to assure that Haverford attracted a truly remarkable group of talented boys and young men of character.

Dr. Cox also implemented a nationally recognized and highly acclaimed faculty performance system coupled with a program of performance pay and he obtained a strong commitment from the Board of Trustees to pay Haverford's teachers at the top of the pay scale for local independent day schools. This program was critical to attracting and retaining a group of extraordinary teachers, coaches, and senior administrators to Haverford.

Dr. Cox led and carefully oversaw a facilities renaissance at Haverford with the building of a new Field House, a new Lower School and a new and expanded Upper School during his tenure. He also led a series of record-setting capital campaigns and he led fund raising efforts which resulted in contributions of more than \$100 million to Haverford during his tenure.

Most importantly, Dr. Cox installed and encouraged the development of a series of game changing programs designed to make Haverford a more holistic place. Included among his programmatic accomplishments were development of a novel and now much copied school-wide decision education program. He also put in place a student-run Honor Code, a school-wide servant leadership program, numerous character education programs and an important community guidepost with his Principles of Community.

Dr. Cox encouraged excellence in academics, the arts and athletics. During his tenure, the arts programs flourished with new studios, new programs and the establishment of an annual Arts Week celebration. Athletics enjoyed a strong resurgence during Dr. Cox's tenure with Haverford teams winning 41 Inter-Ac championships.

In short, Dr. Cox, a man of passion, compassion, and vision led a remarkable renaissance at The Haverford School and his servant leadership made a genuine difference in the lives of the entire Haverford School community.

HONORING THOMAS MILTON WILSON, JR. FOR LIFETIME SERVICE
TO OUR NATION

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas Milton Wilson, Jr. for a life-

time of courageous service to our nation as a pilot in the United States Air Force.

Wilson was born on April 12, 1919, following the First World War. As a young man, he entered the U.S. Army Air Corps to begin training to become a pilot, as it was becoming apparent to the world we would soon be at war again. He proudly earned his wings and began flying the first of countless combat missions from North Africa and Italy and into enemy territory in fortress Europe during World War II.

Following his valiant wartime service in the Air Force, Wilson decided to continue the mission of preserving the freedoms we hold so dear. He remained in the USAF Reserves for an additional 20 years and retired as a Colonel.

Our country and many more around the globe are the beneficiaries of his selflessness and vigilance. It is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Thomas Milton Wilson, Jr. and extending thanks from a grateful nation.

HONORING COLONEL MARK C.
GARDNER'S RETIREMENT

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

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

On June 28, Col. Gardner will retire from the United States Army 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. Gardner'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. Gardner 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. Gardner 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. Gardner for devoting his life to upholding the Constitution of the United States and to the protection of its citizens. I wish him a happy—and well-deserved—retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF EVANGELIST DELLA MAE KING SUTTON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to the life and legacy of Evangelist Della Mae King Sutton of Nesbit, Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, Evangelist Sutton was a mighty woman of God. She devoted countless hours to empower those around her in formal and Christian education. Born July 20, 1941 in Desoto County, MS, Ms. Della was the first daughter to the late Turner King, Sr. and the late Remell Bridgeforth King.

Ms. Sutton began her education at Shiloh M.B. Church in Desoto County, MS where her father was the instructor. She continued her education as an honor student at Hernando High School, which taught students up until eighth grade, and completed her studies as class Valedictorian. Upon leaving Hernando High, Ms. Della finished her secondary education at the age of sixteen at Eastern High School in Olive Branch, MS, where she was Salutatorian of her graduating class before enrolling in Mississippi Industrial College in Holly Springs, MS. It was there where she would meet her companion in life, her husband, Mr. Jesse Sutton, Jr. After completing studies at Mississippi Industrial College, Ms. Sutton earned her Master's of Science degree from Jackson State University.

Ms. Della Mae sincerely believed in children and the value of educating them. Ms. Sutton served as a devoted educator for more than thirty years throughout Mississippi. These schools included East Side High School in Olive Branch, Mississippi; Oakley Training School in Learned, Mississippi; Mendenhall Junior High School in Mendenhall, Mississippi; and Northside Elementary School in Pearl, Mississippi, from which she retired.

Throughout the years, Ms. Sutton has been recognized on several occasions. Most notably, she was recognized by former Governor and First Lady Ronnie Musgrove as one of the Most Outstanding Women for the Reach One-Each One Mother of the Year contest. She served as Chairperson of the Elementary Language Arts and was recognized for a host of other achievements. Ms. Sutton was the recipient of a number of awards, among them are the Who's Who Among Teachers, Teacher of the Year and most recently the Jackson District Association's Living Legacy Award.

Ms. Sutton was a socially engaged woman. She was a member of Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, member of "Keep Jackson Beautiful", instructor of the Jackson District Ministers' Wives/Widows group, and an avid supporter of the Mississippi Baptist Seminary. She was an active member of the General Missionary Baptist Convention and a devoted member of the New McRaven Hill M.B. Church, where she served as a Sunday School teacher, member of the Mother's Ministry, devotional leader of the Mission Society and Vacation Bible School teacher.

This spiritual steward for Christ lived a life of both passion and purpose. She was an advocate of education, a champion of civility and a true lover of the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in celebrating the life and legacy of a true champion, Evangelist Della Mae King Sutton.

RECOGNIZING THE 109TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. ROOSEVELT LEE, SR. OF KOSCIUSKO, MS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Roosevelt Lee, Sr. of Kosciusko, MS as a father, husband and agricultural entrepreneur in recognition of his 109th birthday. Born October 23, 1902 to Mr. Tom Lee and Mrs. Mary Young Lee, Roosevelt is the eldest and last surviving of nine siblings, all of which he helped his father care for. Mr. Lee is the father of eighteen (18) children, grandfather to sixty (60) grandchildren, and great-grandfather to more than fifty (50) great-grandchildren.

During a period when educational resources for African Americans were scarce, Mr. Lee managed to receive a third-grade education which was offered out of a local church in Kosciusko, where he is a native. At a very young age Mr. Lee committed his time and talent to working to help support his family; he worked as a farmer, mechanic, and raiser of cattle and other livestock.

He is a devoted Christian and passionate steward of the Lord. He was a member of the Mount Ollie Missionary Baptist Church in Kosciusko, MS for 67 years where he actively served as Sunday school superintendent, treasurer, head deacon, and trustee. Currently, he is a member of the Bell Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clarksdale and has been for the past eight years.

Mr. Lee is a member of the Sir Knight Masons of Clarksdale, MS. He has selflessly devoted his time to helping other local farmers maintain and repair their farming equipment and vehicles. Mr. Lee's work ethic and commitment to providing for his family has allowed his family to keep its farm for 81 years. He was a producer of cotton, corn, soybeans and a number of other crops.

In October of 2007, Mayor Henry Epsy of Clarksdale, Mississippi, declared October 27th as Roosevelt Lee, Sr. Day. At the seasoned age of 109, Mr. Lee does not suffer from commonly prominent illnesses such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart issues or diabetes. He enjoys boxing, wrestling, and he has a passion for the game of checkers. He has frequented Chicago, St. Louis, California, Atlanta and a host of other U.S. cities and states.

Mr. Lee truly believes that his commitment to Christ has sustained him throughout his life. He believes that if you serve the Lord and do the right thing, regardless of what the next person does, God will bless you. He is a true example of the wondrous works of the Lord and what it means to be a provider for your family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating a true champion of life, Mr. Roosevelt Lee, Sr., for his tenacity and zealous work as a farmer, father and fine American.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, on June 3 and 4, 2013, I was unavoidably detained and missed the following rollcall votes: No. 184 for H.R. 1206 and No. 188 on Agreeing to the First Broun of Georgia Amendment to H.R. 2216. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 184 and "nay" on rollcall No. 188.

RECOGNIZING MR. WILLIAM RASPBERRY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the honorable Mr. William Raspberry. Mr. Raspberry was born on October 12, 1935 to proud parents Mr. James Lee and Mrs. Willie Mae Raspberry. A native of Okolona, Mississippi, Mr. Raspberry has become a celebrated writer as a result of his commentary on social and political issues.

Mr. Raspberry received his Bachelor's of Science Degree from Indiana Central College, now known as The University of Indianapolis, in 1958. After receiving his degree, he served as a public information officer with the United States Army from 1960 until 1962, at which time he began working at the Washington Post as a teletypist. In 1966 he was named as a columnist for the Washington Post, and in that same year, Mr. Raspberry married Sondra Patricia Dodson and together they had three children Patricia D., Angela D., and Mark J.

As a result of his exemplary contributions in literature, Mr. Raspberry was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in 1982, and received the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary in 1994.

Mr. Raspberry has dictated his strong opinions about the problems in American society through his work with the Washington Post. He has been noted for writing about education, criminal justice, family, and racial matters in America. Mr. Raspberry has often been quoted in many different publications and has also been asked to speak at various conferences and seminars.

In addition to providing a weekly column in the Washington Post, Mr. Raspberry has also served in other capacities throughout his lifetime. He served as a journalism instructor at Howard University from 1971–1973; Member of the Board of Advisers, Poynter Institute for Media Studies, 1984; Member of the Board of Visitors, University of Maryland School of Journalism, 1985; television commentator for WTTG, Washington, D.C., 1973–1975; Television Discussion Panelist, WRC-TV, Washington, D.C., 1974–1975, and a Member of the Pulitzer Prize Board, 1979–1986. As of 2008, Mr. Raspberry has also served as the President of "Baby Steps", a parent training and empowerment program based in Okolona, Mississippi.

He is also the author of Looking Backward at Us, a collection of his columns from the 1980's. Mr. Raspberry has received honorary

degrees from Georgetown University, University of Maryland, and the University of Indianapolis; he received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Colby College. He was also the Knight Professor of the Practice of Communications and Journalism at the Sanford Institute of Public Policy at Duke University. During his career Mr. Raspberry, has also served as a member of the National Association of Black Journalists, Capitol Press Club, and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. William Raspberry for his exceptional contributions to our community and to our society as whole.

HONORING HOLLIS WATKINS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. Thompson of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. Hollis Watkins who was born in July 29, 1941, in Lincoln County, Mississippi near the town of Summit. He is the youngest and twelfth child of sharecroppers, John and Lena Watkins who were able to purchase a farm during 1949.

Mr. Watkins graduated from Lincoln County Training School in 1960. During his youth, he attended the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) youth meetings led by Medgar Evers. He met Robert Parris Moses, commonly known as Bob Moses, who was organizing for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in 1961. Mr. Watkins joined SNCC and began canvassing potential voters around McComb, Mississippi. He participated in McComb's first sit-in at a Woolworth's lunch counter and was jailed for 34 days. During his time in jail, he was threatened on several occasions, including once being shown a noose and told that he would be hung that night. Later, his participation in a walk out at McComb's colored high school led to 39 more days in jail.

Mr. Watkins' activism had a personal price, as many of his extended family ostracized him and would not recognize him in public for fear of losing their jobs in white reprisals.

Veron Dahmer, president of the Forrest County, Mississippi NAACP asked SNCC for help with voter registration and Mr. Watkins moved to Hattiesburg, Mississippi to help with that project. He worked half days at Dahmer's sawmill to pay his way, and spent the rest of the time organizing voter registration projects.

Mr. Watkins was one of many people spied upon by the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission, which investigated civil rights workers and created files on them for government use. His name appears in the files 63 times. Some of the reports refer to him as a communist, although he had little idea what that even meant at the time.

Mr. Watkins traveled to Atlantic City, New Jersey for the 1964 Democratic Party convention in support of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP), which attempted to unseat the regular Mississippi Democratic Party as the true representatives of the state.

He was present when Fannie Lou Hamer gave her testimony to the credentials committee, and later when Hamer and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. debated over whether the MFDP should accept the compromise of two seats at the convention offered by Lyndon Baines Johnson.

In 1988, Mr. Watkins returned to the Democratic Party National Convention as a delegate for Jesse Jackson, Sr.'s Presidential Campaign. Beginning in 1989 Mr. Watkins joined, and now serves as President of Southern Echo, a group dedicated to providing assistance to civil rights and education-reform groups throughout the south. He was honored by Jackson State University with a Fannie Lou Hamer Humanitarian Award in 2011.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Hollis Watkins for his dedication to serving others.

TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM LEE
AND THE YMCA OF GREATER
NEW YORK

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. William Lee and the YMCA of Greater New York for their impeccable efforts to provide support and services to all New Americans.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, Dr. "Bill" Lee became a student leader at the Korean YMCA. As he immigrated with his young family to New York to complete his graduate medical education, Dr. Lee became aware of the unique challenges facing newly arrived immigrants and he has worked diligently over the past decades to combat these challenges.

Bill Lee has served as a board member of the YMCA of New York City from 1982–1996 and again since 2005. He also served on the YMCA of the USA Board of Directors from 1995–2004, and continues to have a lifelong relationship with the YMCA both in Korea and in the United States. With support from Dr. Lee and others, the YMCA of Greater New York established New American Welcome Centers throughout the City, including the Flushing YMCA in my Congressional District. These Centers help immigrants achieve literacy, cultural competence, and self-sufficiency.

Mr. Speaker, drawing on his own experience as a young immigrant who faced much adversity, Dr. Lee was able to turn his experiences into positive solutions for the newly arrived immigrants he saw in New York City. He successfully fundraised and organized the Korean Center of the Flushing YMCA, a branch of the YMCA of Greater New York that served new Korean immigrants with English-language classes and programs for newly arrived Korean families. As organizing chair of the International branch of the New York City YMCA, he championed the New Americans program, carefully outlining the needs of new immigrants, and the importance of working collaboratively with a strong referral network of service providers. He also closely monitored the

initial years of the start-up and roll-out of six centers.

This week, Dr. Lee and Jack Lund, President of the YMCA of Greater New York, are visiting Washington, DC, to participate in a "Champions of Change" celebration hosted by the White House in honor of the Obama Administration's commitment to expanding programs and services to the immigrant population of the New York City.

A renowned cardiologist, Dr. Lee never fails to give back to his community. He has shaped one of the most successful programs in the YMCA through his belief that helping new arrivals succeed will be repaid many times over in society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me now in paying tribute to Dr. William Lee and to the YMCA of Greater New York for their years of assistance to Korean Americans and to the entire City of New York.

HONORING MRS. SARAH
KIMBROUGH HART

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Sarah Kimbrough Hart, a remarkable public servant.

Mrs. Sarah Kimbrough Hart, a 90 year old native of Lexington, Miss., who is the widow of the late Harrison aka "HB" Hart, a well-known farmer and strong community leader. She was born May 9, 1922 to Daniel and Rebecca Kimbrough of the Shady Grove Community in the hills of Holmes County. She is the third of eight children (all females). Seven of whom are deceased.

Mrs. Hart and her husband marched and protested injustices during the civil rights movement in Holmes County. They were among the very early African Americans who registered to vote after meeting would-be opposition for the County Registrar.

Mrs. Hart often shares the story of how the Voting Registrar would ask them idiotic questions like "how many bubbles are in a bar of soap" or "how many strains of hairs are on a person's head" just to discourage them from registering, but they would not give up. They kept returning to the Holmes County Court House until they were allowed to register. She and her husband also housed civil rights workers (freedom riders) from up north in their home. They contributed money and resources to the movement. They were also integral parts of the efforts to bring the first black doctor to Holmes County. Mrs. Hart is the mother of eight adult children, one deceased, and a number of grands, greatgrands and great-great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Sarah Kimbrough Hart for her dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

HONORING BRENDA LOVE FOR HER INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS AS A MEMBER OF THE WARREN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman of great perseverance and determination, minority business owner Mrs. Brenda Love.

Originally of New Orleans, Louisiana, Mrs. Love and her family relocated to Vicksburg, Mississippi when she was fourteen years old. At an early age, Mrs. Love's mother instilled in her the importance of hard work and dedication. These values coupled with savvy business sense have earned Mrs. Love distinction as one of Warren County's most influential business owners.

For more than 15 years, Mrs. Love has served as a model figure in the business community. She has extended services to her community as a trusted income service provider through her business, Love Income Tax Services. She and her husband are also owners of two other local businesses, Unique Impressions Restaurant and Lounge and Unique Banquet Hall, which provides event space for residents looking to host events in the Vicksburg area.

Mrs. Love is a respected member of the general community as well. Outside of her other businesses, Mrs. Love thrives as a realtor associate with Coldwell Banker All Stars. She is also a member of the Warren County Board of Realtors, and the board for the Vicksburg Convention Center and City Auditorium.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a minority business owner, Mrs. Brenda Love, for her leadership, entrepreneurial spirit, and invaluable contributions to Warren County as a valued member of the business community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SPECIALIST DWAYNE W. FLORES, GUAM ARMY NATIONAL GUARDSMAN

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bravery and service of Guam Army National Guardsman Specialist Dwayne Westfall Flores from the village of Sinajana, Guam. Specialist Flores was one of the 600 Guam Army National Guard soldiers assigned to the 1st Battalion—294th Infantry Regiment that were recently deployed to Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. On May 16, 2013 Specialist Flores was killed during a suicide car bomb attack in Kabul, Afghanistan. He was 22 years old.

Specialist Flores was born on February 26, 1991 to Leonardo Arriola Flores and Eva Westfall Flores. Specialist Flores devoted every Sunday as an altar server at the 5:45 a.m. mass at the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral Basilica in Haga. In his civilian employment, Specialist Flores worked as a body repairman for LamLam Tours, a tour bus operations company.

After graduating from George Washington High School, Specialist Flores enlisted in the Guam Army National Guard on May 19, 2008 and served as a Human Resources Specialist and was assigned to Echo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment. This was his first deployment.

For his service and performance, Specialist Flores received numerous awards and achievements, including the Bronze Star Medal Purple Heart Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M Device, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, NATO Medal, Combat Action Badge, Guam Cross of Valor and Overseas Service Bar.

I join our community in mourning the loss of Specialist Flores, and I extend my deepest condolences to his parents, Leonardo and Eva; his siblings, Stephanie Westfall Flores Taitano and Steven Westfall Flores; and his extended family, close friends, and loved ones.

Specialist Flores served with honor and distinction, and like the many sons and daughter of Guam who served before him, he gave the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country. Our nation will be eternally grateful for his service.

May God bless the family and friends of Specialist Dwayne Westfall Flores and may God bless the men and women of our United States Armed Forces and keep them safe.

HONORING REVEREND WILLIE E. BLUE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a civil rights activist and known legend from Mississippi, Rev. Willie Blue. He is from Charleston, Mississippi.

Civil rights and the movement was a necessary part of American culture. It helped to seal cracks in the American society by making great improvements in its foundation and Rev. Willie E. Blue was a part of that effort.

In 1963 he joined SNCC (Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee). SNCC was founded by Ella Baker at Shaw University as a direct response to segregated public facilities. SNCC's aim was to desegregate those public facilities by organizing "Sit-ins". From 1963–1966 he was the field secretary for SNCC and he has worked alongside people

like Julian Bond, Stokely Carmichael, Kwame Ture, Bob Moses, and Hollis Watkins to name a few. He became a member of the Veterans of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement in 2007.

Although the years have passed since the start of the Civil Rights Movement, Rev. Blue has continued his efforts by working with young people to make sure they are educated on the movement and its contribution to society. He is building the fire inside of them to continue the fight for a better America for all citizens. "It's their turn now" he says, "and the veterans have to show them the way."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reverend Willie E. Blue for his dedication to fighting oppression, discrimination, and injustice in Mississippi.

HONORING ELIZABETH MICHELLE WOODS FOR HER CONTINUED SERVICE TO HER COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran from the Mississippi Delta, Sergeant Elizabeth Michelle Woods.

Ms. Woods's desire to serve her country began at an early age. As a senior in high school she joined the ranks of the United States Army Reserves and served eight years with the 479th Ordnance Company.

Following her tenure with the 479th Ordnance Company, Sergeant Woods served as assistant squad leader during a tour of duty in Operation Desert Storm. Not only did Sergeant Woods return home a decorated soldier with distinctions such as the U.S. Army Achievement Medal and the U.S. Army Certificate of Achievement, but she also obtained an Associate of Arts Degree in Social Work.

As a result of her tireless work and leadership over her twelve years of service to her country, Sergeant Woods garnered the status of sergeant promotionable along with an Honorable Discharge. After her military service, she continued her educational pursuits and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Social Work, a Masters Degree in Social Work, and an Executive Masters of Science Degree in Health Administration.

Sergeant Wood's knowledge of social work and love of serving her community inspired her to enter the field of victim advocacy and develop a Crime Victims Assistance Program within the Department of Veterans Affairs, and serve as Director of Social Work at the Delta Health Center and Aaron Henry Health Center.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sergeant Elizabeth Woods for her dedication to serving our country and her community.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 11

9:30 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Airland
 Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SD-G50

Committee on the Judiciary
 To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Byron Todd Jones, of Minnesota, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and Stuart F. Delery, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice. SD-226

10 a.m.
 Committee on Appropriations
 Subcommittee on Department of Defense
 To hold hearings to examine department leadership. SD-192

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
 To hold hearings to examine the November 6, 2012 referendum on the political status of Puerto Rico and the Administration's response. SD-366

Committee on Finance
 To hold hearings to examine sex trafficking and exploitation in America, focusing on child welfare's role in prevention and intervention. SD-215

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
 Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Strengthening America's Schools Act", and any pending nominations. SH-216

11 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support
 Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SD-G50

2 p.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Personnel
 Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SD-G50

2:30 p.m.
 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard
 To hold hearings to examine deep sea challenge, focusing on innovative partnerships in ocean observations. SR-253

Select Committee on Intelligence
 To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219

3:30 p.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
 Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-232A

6 p.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities
 Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-232A

JUNE 12

9:30 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on SeaPower
 Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-222

10 a.m.
 Committee on Veterans' Affairs
 To hold hearings to examine pending benefits legislation. SR-418

2 p.m.
 Committee on Appropriations
 To hold hearings to examine cybersecurity, focusing on preparing for and responding to the enduring threat; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing in SVC-217. SD-G50

2:30 p.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-222

Committee on Indian Affairs
 To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Yvette Roubideaux, of Maryland, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services. SD-628

JUNE 13

9:30 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-222

10 a.m.
 Committee on Appropriations
 Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
 To hold hearings to examine crumbling infrastructure, focusing on outdated and overburdened highways and bridges. SD-124

2 p.m.
 Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
 To hold hearings to examine Syrian refugees in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) region, focusing on the United States and international response to the humanitarian crisis that threatens to destabilize the entire region. SD-562

2:30 p.m.
 Select Committee on Intelligence
 To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219

JUNE 14

9:30 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-222

JUNE 20

10 a.m.
 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine water resource issues in the Klamath River Basin. SD-366