

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CHESTER H. SANFORD

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a challenge-oriented young man who understands that it takes tenacity and self reliance to reach the highest success, Mr. Chester H. Sanford.

Chester H. Sanford was born November 26, 1995 in Chicago, IL, to the proud parents of Travis and Nora Stanford. He attended St. Elizabeth Catholic School in Chicago, IL, for two years, kindergarten and first grade. It was at this institution that he credits for giving him an advanced perspective of what knowledge is and what can be done to obtain it.

In September 2003 Chester and his mother relocated to Vicksburg, MS to care for his grandmother. Chester believes the responsibility of caring for his grandmother in the absence of his mother is what taught him the value in giving and caring for others.

Chester is a member of the The Vicksburg High School JROTC in which he credits for molding his character. Chester has climbed the ranks in JROTC: starting his freshmen year he went from being a cadet private to cadet corporal. In his sophomore year he progressed from cadet corporal to cadet second lieutenant and gained the position of the battalion training officer; and currently during his junior year he has climbed to cadet captain from cadet second lieutenant. Through this program Chester has learned what service truly is. He has led several community projects at nursing homes, the elementary schools, community outreach events. He has also participated in charity events for the local Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Center through the culinary arts program, in which he, along with twenty other students prepared thousands of hot meals that were sold to gain money for the organization.

Chester credits his mother for being the backbone of the family and directing his path. His motto is, "that all things can be done through the love and service of your fellow man."

Chester is a member of Mt. Carmel M.B. Church where he has served as secretary of the Sunday School Department since 2008 and in 2011 became a Sunday School Teacher.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Chester H. Stanford for his hard work, dedication and a strong desire to achieve through adversity.

STUDENT LOANS

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following:

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA,
STUDENT GOVERNMENT,
Gainesville, FL, June 5, 2013.

Hon. Corrine Brown,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN BROWN: A well-educated workforce is essential to the growth of our country. I firmly believe that higher education is what drives our economy and gives our country its competitive advantage in the current global economy. As the colleges and universities in the United States make progress towards curing cancer and finding alternative energy sources, the cost of a college degree has increased progressively.

According to the SFA Funds Management Report from the University of Florida, over 10,000 students have received \$37,122,091 in subsidized Stafford Loans. Across the board, the cost of a college degree has increased by more than 1,000 percent in the past 35 years and many students simply cannot bear the cost of a college degree.

I do not want to see student loan rates increase, but I recognize the need for long-term solutions to the problems that students face. I, along with the 50,000+ students at the University of Florida, support a bipartisan solution that will contribute to the success of students and support them in today's economy. This is an issue that we care about and it is a discussion that we want to be a part of.

Economics teaches us that stability is one of the greatest influences in any market. Students need to be able to plan for the financial responsibilities of college and a stable loan market is crucially important to providing stability and security. I think that everyone can agree that students should be focused on their education and college graduates should be focused on their career. Unfortunately, the current loan crisis has students and graduates focused on the amount of money they owe instead of studying and contributing to the nation's economy.

Ensuring that all stakeholders' voices are heard during the discussion is our main priority in finding a long-term solution to student loan rates. We are receptive to entertaining different possible solutions until the best one is found. Students and their families deserve financial stability instead of crippling adjustments or rate increases that would hinder their success. I look forward to discussing this issue with members from the state of Florida, and would gladly share my viewpoint with other Members of Congress.

Go Gators.

CHRISTINA BONARRIGO,
Student Body President,
University of Florida.

HONORING CAMERON MILLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cameron Miller. Cameron is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizen-

ship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 214, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Cameron has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Cameron 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, Cameron has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Cameron reconstructed a hiking trail inside the Parkville Nature Sanctuary in Parkville, Missouri, overlaying the path with mulch and providing a better walking experience for hikers in the sanctuary.

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

IN APPRECIATION OF MS. LAVENA PACE

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I have the opportunity to recognize the remarkable career of Ms. Lavena Pace as an integral member of my staff. After 10 years of service in my Monroe District Office, my staff and I wish her the best on her retirement.

Ms. Pace's kind-hearted and Christian character made her a natural in assisting the constituents of the 5th Congressional District. During her tenure, Ms. Pace has helped countless individuals, earning the respect and admiration of everyone she has met along her journey.

Over the years, I have watched Ms. Pace give tirelessly to her work. Ms. Pace's dedication, positive attitude, and work ethic will be deeply missed.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Lavena Pace on an exemplary career as she celebrates her retirement.

RECOGNIZING BERKLEY CHARTER SCHOOL, RECIPIENT OF THE SUPPORTMUSIC MERIT AWARD

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate Berkley Charter School of Polk, Florida on earning the SupportMusic Merit Award for academic excellence. The SupportMusic Merit Award is a national designation sponsored by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation

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

(NAMM Foundation), which acknowledges communities throughout America that support and advance musical education curriculum.

In order for communities and schools to be awarded this designation, they must first complete a rigorous application process. Berkley Charter School was selected by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation due to their high quality music education program. The Central Florida community is blessed to have an educational institution such as Berkley Charter School that is committed the educational development and successes of its students.

On behalf of the Central Florida community, I am pleased to recognize Berkley Charter School, and I congratulate the students and faculty on their accomplishment of achieving excellence in musical education. May their hard work and dedication inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

HONORING SHANNON GUNIER OF
LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Shannon Gunier, who is retiring after 20 years of service to the Lake County Winegrape Commission.

Shannon Grunier and her husband, Rick Gunier, moved from Southern California to Lake County in 1991, where she began as the Executive Director of the Lake County Winegrape Commission. Without any prior experience in grapegrowing or winemaking, her strong marketing background and her resolve to learn about wine helped her become one of the most successful promoters of the Lake County Winegrape region. Mrs. Gunier has cultivated the image of Lake County as a producer of premium quality wines.

In the time since Mrs. Gunier began as Executive Director, the Lake County Winegrape Commission has spent over three million dollars in marketing Lake County wines. In her role with the Commission, Mrs. Gunier helped Lake County's wineries expand from three in her first year to 40 and growing today. Today the wine industry employs over 900 people in Lake County and pays over \$26 million dollars in annual wages.

Though Mrs. Gunier moved on from the Commission in February 2013, she is still active in promoting the Lake County winegrape growing region. She and her husband co-own North Coast Winegrape Brokers, a winegrape broker sales and marketing firm which services Lake County's independent growers. Additionally, in 2000, Mr. and Mrs. Gunier worked on the first Lake County Revitalization Grant.

Mrs. Gunier has received several awards for her leadership and service in the region, including an award of merit from the U.S. Forest Service, a certificate of appreciation from the Lake County Board of Supervisors, a Stars of Lake County award, a Kelseyville Business Association certificate of appreciation, and a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition. In addition to her work with winegrapes, Mrs. Gunier has also served as a teacher at Yuba Community College, a consultant for the

Small Business Center, and an author of a forthcoming book: *You're Fired, I Quit—The Art of Being Married and Working Together*.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Gunier has a long and distinguished career of service to Lake County, most notably to the Lake County Winegrape Commission. It is therefore appropriate that we acknowledge Mrs. Gunier today and wish her well in her future endeavors.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NA-
TIONAL DRAFT GOLDWATER
RALLY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, a week from today is the 50th anniversary of an historic event in Washington, which helped launch a successful political revolution resulting in the development of the two-party system in the South.

On July 4, 1963, I participated with a busload of Republican activists and Teen Age Republicans, TARS, for the National Draft Goldwater Rally at the DC Armory addressed by Senator John Tower of Texas, Congressman John Ashbrook of Ohio, and Governor Paul Fannin of Arizona. The bus was organized by the visionary J. Drake Edens, a key founder of the modern Republican Party.

This event galvanized a movement, which has transformed the South culminating in 2012 with Republican legislative majorities in all states from Virginia to Texas and Oklahoma. Under the current President, the Southern states evolved from 49 percent population with Republican majorities to 100 per cent, 51 per cent Democrat for a century to zero, completing a 50-year shift. In 1961, State Representative Charlie Boineau of Richland County was the first Republican elected to any State office in the 20th Century in the State of South Carolina. In 1962, State Representative Floyd Spence of Lexington County became the first elected official of the Century to courageously switch parties explaining he felt more comfortable with Northern Republican philosophy than Southern Democrats. In 1964, U.S. Senator Strom Thurmond of Aiken County switched parties to support Barry Goldwater for President and he hired Tom Moss of Orangeburg as the first African-American staff member of a deep south U.S. Senator. Aiken County was a pioneer promoting local Republican candidates because of a high percentage of transplants from the Northeast and Midwest who worked at the Savannah River Site. South Carolina led the way for the South's first Republican legislative Speaker electing David Wilkins in 1994.

On the national level, this movement fulfilled the dream of Senator Barry Goldwater in his 1962 book *Why Not Victory?* with the defeat of the world-wide communist threat and the liberation of dozens of nations inspired by Ronald Reagan's peace through strength.

On the state level, South Carolina is a symbol of Republican achievement with the first Republican Governor, James Edwards, recruiting Michelin Tire Corporation of France that has resulted in South Carolina being the nation's leading exporter of tires. Governor Carroll Campbell attracted BMW to build a Ger-

man manufacturing facility in Greer, S.C., which led to South Carolina to becoming America's number one automobile exporter and Governor Nikki Haley promoted Boeing for South Carolina to be a major exporter of 787 jetliners worldwide.

In 2010, for the first time in 130 years, all statewide elected officials shifted to the Republican Party. The success was diverse with Governor Nikki Haley being the first female governor of South Carolina in 340 years and only the second Indian-American governor in American history. TIM SCOTT was elected to Congress as the second African-American in 100 years, and with Alan Wilson, age 37, being elected the youngest Attorney General in America. The Republican Party today is a broad coalition inclusive for limited government and expanded freedom.

I am grateful to have lived the Southern Republican Revolution, which has been so successful promoting a positive philosophy of limited government and expanded freedom abroad and at home. The future is bright for the principles of limited government as inspired by the Draft Goldwater Rally because it works. Equally we know that whenever big government is imposed, it fails and the freedoms of citizens are at risk.

COMMENDING THE GOVERNMENT
OF KAZAKHSTAN

HON. ENI F. H. FALEOMAVEAGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. FALEOMAVEAGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Kazakhstan's Foreign Minister Erlan Idrissov back to Washington.

I also want to commend the Government of Kazakhstan for hosting the international talks between Iran and five permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany, namely the P5+1 group, on Iran's nuclear program. Thanks to the voluntary abandonment of nuclear arms and firm adherence to enhancement of global non-proliferation, Kazakhstan is a perfect location for such talks. I hope that the parties will find constructive solutions in the best interests of the region and the whole world.

I thank the Government of Kazakhstan for its support of international efforts to stabilize Afghanistan and the constructive role played by Kazakhstan in developing the Northern Distribution Network, NDN, and its assistance to Afghanistan's security forces. Kazakhstan plays an important role in rebuilding Afghanistan, both in the provision of humanitarian, financial and technical aid to the Afghan government, and through regional initiatives aimed at stabilizing and developing Afghanistan's economy.

Kazakhstan's role in promoting the "New Silk Road" initiative and in developing regional confidence-building measures through the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, CICA, as well as its participation in the Istanbul Process on Afghanistan should be recognized and applauded.

I appreciate the work Foreign Minister Idrissov is doing to promote President Nazarbayev's initiatives and, once more, I welcome him back to Washington on his first official visit as Foreign Minister having previously

served as Kazakhstan's Ambassador to the United States.

HONORING ANTWANETTE KEYS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable student, Antwanette Keys. Ms. Keys is the daughter of Ms. Thelma West of Shelby, Mississippi and Mr. Alex McRae of Rosedale, Mississippi.

She began school at an early age, attending the Shelby Head Start Center in Shelby, Mississippi from 1998–2000. Noticeably excelling, she was promoted to elementary school in 2001 attending Brooks Elementary in Duncan, Mississippi. She quickly found a place inside her new school by becoming a member of the Girl Scouts Club.

In 2004 she had to adapt to a different kind a school, Shelby Middle School. At Shelby Middle School she held numerous titles including: Miss Fourth Grade, Miss Seventh Grade, and Miss Shelby Middle School. While upholding these titles she remained academically successful maintaining all A's and B's. Middle school had definitely paved the way for her new found interest in dance. A lifelong passion, she has diligently sought the strength to go above and beyond with the talent that God has blessed her with.

Performing a wide range of dances, she can choreograph anything from Jazz to Hip Hop to Contemporary. Being taught by the best has instilled in her the ability to always strive for the best. In doing so, she swiftly walked the halls of Broad Street High School with an upright attitude and focal point based on success. Knowing that her work never stops, she became Freshman Class President in 2009 followed by Miss Homecoming in 2010. Determined to create a positive image she became Miss Student Council in 2011 and went on to achieve her biggest accomplishment, Miss Broad Street High. She was a member of the Broad Street High School Marching Band for four years and member of D.R.E.A.M.S. Step team. She is a member of the National Technical Honor Society and the Student Council at Broad Street High School.

Antwanette works for the Bolivar Community Action Senior Select Program, which assists high school seniors in finding work while encouraging school attendance and community service. She has also worked for Peer Power for 3 years. This is a program dedicated to providing after school tutorials and enrichment activities for young scholars.

Antwanette currently attends Christian Union Missionary Baptist Church in Drew, Mississippi where she boldly embraces her faith as a Christian. She is active in the Youth Choir, a member of the CUC Praise team and secretary of Sunday School Department.

Antwanette is a mentee in a program through Coahoma Community College Tri-County Workforce Alliance in Clarksdale, Mississippi. Since community service is essential to her, in 2010 she and other students participated in Students Involved for Community Change summer school. It is a highly selective summer leadership program focusing on civil rights, community organization, and edu-

cational advancement. Upon graduating, she plans to further her education and major in nursing to become a Registered Nurse. After completing nursing school she will pursue medical school to become a Gynecologist.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Antwanette Keys for her dedication in being an outstanding student.

FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS: 4 MILLION MORE REASONS TO END THE SEQUESTER

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, like many of my colleagues, I am hearing from constituents who are looking but unable to find jobs, and who are now faced with cuts to their Federal unemployment insurance (UI) benefits because of the sequester.

These are people like Janice in Chicago, who last month wrote me, "Yesterday, I received an email from the Illinois Department of Employment Security stating that starting in June and through the month of September, my unemployment benefits will be reduced by 16.8%" because of the budget sequester.

Or Mary in Arlington Heights, who emailed me, "I am currently unemployed. These cuts will cost me \$200 a month. This is a lot of money for a single woman living on her own. These effects are real. They're more than just numbers on a piece of paper."

Mary is right—the effects of the sequester are happening to real people—people like her and Janice and their families. The Department of Labor estimates that by October 1, as many as 3.8 million unemployed workers could see reductions in their federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits as a result of the sequester.

For these families, the sequester means that they will have less money available to pay their mortgage or rent, doctor's and grocery bills. UI cuts ripple out into local communities, since unemployed workers will spend less on goods and services. Experts tell us that a \$1 spent on UI benefits results in higher consumer spending and increased economic activity of between \$1.50 and \$2.00—so a \$1 cut from UI benefits means an even greater loss in the effort to strengthen local economies. As Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics says, "if you cut unemployment insurance, then the economic impact is outsized." ("Unemployment Benefit Cut Adds to Drag on U.S. Spending: Economy," Bloomberg News, May 6, 2013.)

The National Employment Law Project has released an excellent analysis, "The Sequester's Devastating Impact on Families of Unemployed Workers and the Struggling Unemployment Insurance System." It estimates that, if the sequester continues for the rest of FY2013, federal EUC benefits could be cut by more than \$2.3 billion—an average of more than \$400 per family.

The NELP analysis also points out that the sequester's impacts do not stop at federal UI cuts—they also mean cuts to the training, job matching and reemployment initiatives designed to help unemployed workers get back

to work. Those cuts, too, impose real harm on families and our economy by making it harder for unemployed men and women to get back into the workforce.

I am a cosponsor of H.R. 900, the Cancel the Sequester Act, because it will stop these very harmful cuts to Federal UI benefits and job creation efforts. I urge my colleagues to come together now so that we can stop these across-the-board, meat-ax sequester cuts that are so damaging to our constituents.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THOMAS J. ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 287, 288: my flight from Florida was canceled; the next flight arrived after first votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes," on both.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FLEXIBILITY FOR WORKING FAMILIES ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, across all sectors and industries, flexible work arrangements are a key to meeting the 21st century's diverse workforce needs. Such voluntary arrangements have been shown to boost employee satisfaction and their physical and mental health as well as improve businesses bottom line by helping to retain key talent, reduce absenteeism, and enhance employee productivity.

Flexible workplace policies are a win-win for business and workers. To help promote these policies, I am introducing the Flexibility for Working Families Act. This legislation guarantees employees the right to request flexible work arrangements and provides employers with flexibility by encouraging them to review these requests, propose changes, and even deny them if they are not in the best interest of the business. Such voluntary arrangements between employees and employers include changing the time, amount, and/or place that work is conducted.

Over the last 50 years the American workforce and demographics have shifted tremendously. Last month, Pew Research found that "breadwinner moms" are the sole or primary provider in more than four in ten households with children under age 18. Furthermore, more households are caring for older relatives as medical advances mean people are living longer, with studies showing that almost 60 percent of those who provide unpaid care to an adult or to a child with special needs are employed. It's important that this workforce have options such as flexibility to help them handle even the most basic demands of work and family.

I urge my colleagues to support the Flexibility for Working Families Act, and I thank Senator BOB CASEY for introducing Senate companion legislation.

HONORING A'MYA IREANNA DAVIS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. A'Mya Ireanna Davis, who is a remarkable student that is making a difference in her community.

A'Mya Ireanna Davis, a Crystal Springs, MS native, is the daughter of Mr. Roderick and Monica Davis. She is the eldest of two siblings, Malik Jones and Eunicesia Jones.

A'Mya is a ninth grade honor student at Crystal Springs High School where she serves as President of the Freshman Class. Known as a busy-body, A'mya is very active in her school, church, and community. She is a member of the Crystal Springs High School Band, the Soccer team, the Track and Field team, Student Council, the Drama Club, a member of My Sister's Keeper, an Usher, member of the church choir at Brushy Creek MB Church and serves as Youth Secretary and Treasurer for the Fran's Branch New Hope Sunday School Institute.

A'Mya is very passionate about her city and community. In 2012, she became the youngest person to serve on the Crystal Springs Mayor's Youth Council. While on the Council, she was involved in community organizing, performing at youth summits and serving as a representative for the youth in Crystal Springs at state-wide leadership conferences. Throughout all of her accomplishments at the very tender age of 14, A'Mya is a normal teen who loves to sing, dance, write music and poetry, and recite speeches. After high school, A'mya plans on attending Harvard University to become a prominent attorney.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an energetic and dedicated student, Ms. A'Mya Ireanna Davis, for her determination to make a difference in the Crystal Springs community.

RECOGNIZING GEORGE
WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize George Washington Middle School in Lyons, Illinois, for being named to the list of top performing middle grades schools in the country by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform.

George Washington represents one of only 103 middle grades schools from around the United States that were recognized as a "School to Watch" by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform. To achieve this honor, George Washington had to prove that they are academically excellent, developmentally responsive, and socially equitable. They are among the best schools in the country in those regards, and I am glad to see these schools recognized for their excellence.

Achieving such a high level of performance is not easy. Schools must establish an educational culture that creates structures, norms, and organizational support to sustain their im-

proving trend toward excellence. Principal Johnny Billingsley has demonstrated a sense of purpose that drives his decision making. Further this performance could not be possible without teachers who work tirelessly for their students and communities, and administrators, who work to provide a professional atmosphere to let teachers do what they do best. This hard work and dedication has created an exemplary learning atmosphere.

This achievement is made possible through the hard work and dedication of the students, and the loving guidance by their parents and guardians. The students' work ethic and the values that their parents have instilled within them made this award attainable.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding faculties and students at George Washington Middle School, and congratulating them for being recognized as one of the outstanding middle grades schools in the country. May they continue to exhibit excellence and create one of the best learning environments in the country for our future leaders.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF ANN DEMATTEO**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to take a moment to pay tribute to a very special member of the Greater New Haven community, Ann DeMatteo, who was taken from us much too soon when she lost her battle with breast cancer. Daughter, sister, aunt, colleague, mentor, and friend, Ann was a remarkable woman whose passion, good nature, and infectious laugh touched the lives of many and will long be remembered by all of those fortunate enough to have known her.

Ann was a journalist spending the majority of her career as a reporter for the New Haven Register but also serving as the editor of the Middletown Press during the last years of her life. Anyone who has ever worked with Ann or been interviewed by her will tell you that no one knew more about the towns or issues they covered than she did. She delved into any story she was covering and served as a mentor to many up-and-coming reporters at the New Haven Register. Tough, but fair, Ann earned a distinguished reputation among her colleagues and in the community.

When Ann was diagnosed with breast cancer, she did what she did best—shared the story. The result was her column, "Inspirations," which she continued until the very end. She not only wrote about her own battle but shared the stories of others as well. Ann did not just write about breast cancer, she was actively involved in the fight to find a cure. She assisted local charities, serving as honorary chairwoman of the annual Silver Bullets Hamden Police Benefit game as well as Hamden Lights for Life, raising thousands of dollars for much needed research. She was named the New Haven Register's "Person of the Year" in 2008 and I was honored to join the National Organization of Italian American Women in recognizing her as one of the 2012 Wise Women.

Her friends and family will tell you that as dedicated as she was to her professional and charitable work, Ann was also known as the life of the party. She loved karaoke and was always ready to dance. But it is her compassion, generosity, and kind heart that they will remember most. Her friend and colleague, Helen Bennett Harvey may have put it best when she recently said of Ann, "In the end, what she gave so many of us also was an example of true grace under fire. Cancer took Ann's body, but it did not take the beauty and love that emanated from within her."

As I stand today to pay tribute to Ann DeMatteo and honor her legacy, I extend my heartfelt sympathies to her family—her mother, Ann; her brother and sister-in-law, Joseph and Patricia; her nephew and godson, John; and her niece, Rebecca. Put simply, Ann was one of a kind and her presence in our lives will be deeply missed, however, the indelible mark that she left on our community and on our souls will continue to inspire us every day.

HONORING COMPASS, THE GAY
AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CEN-
TER (GLCC) OF PALM BEACH
COUNTY FOR THEIR 25TH ANNI-
VERSARY**HON. LOIS FRANKEL**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Compass, the Gay and Lesbian Community Center (GLCC) of Palm Beach County for their 25th anniversary and for their continued advocacy on behalf of the LGBT community.

On Saturday, June 29, Compass will hold its annual Stonewall Ball, a party that attracts over 1,000 attendees each year. This ball connects public leaders and elected officials with members of the LGBT community, an essential step in creating opportunities for LGBT citizens of South Florida to participate in public life.

Since its inception, Compass has acted as a true champion of the LGBT community. As the largest gay and lesbian community center in Florida, Compass is visited by more than 25,000 individuals each year. It provides social and health-related support groups for LGBT people and case workers who help obtain treatment for those living with HIV/AIDS. Compass also organizes the Pride Business Alliance, a group that promotes gay-owned and gay-friendly local businesses.

In honor of Compass GLCC's 25th anniversary, I am proud to recognize the entire Compass community for their achievements in promoting awareness and sensitivity to LGBT issues in South Florida.

HONORING MS. ALKEIRA GOOCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a future leader of this country, she is currently a student making a

difference in her school and hometown of West Tallahatchie High School, Ms. Alkeira Gooch.

Throughout her life, Alkeira says she has been nothing less than determined to succeed and I quote her, "I was only given one life to live, to not take chances, accomplish the impossible, and take advantage of everything that is available to me." You see, sometimes things that are not so good can be great inspirations. Alkeira lives in a community that is limited in resources and opportunities.

So, let me share with you why Alkeira is a student making a difference. In school she is involved in many organizations that reach out to others. She participates in a group that reads to younger children and donates gifts during Christmas. Alkeira is a member of the Student Government Association, Future Business Leaders of America, and the Senior Beta Club. In her evening hours she makes time to tutor other students and volunteers at the local community center. Alkeira's well rounded participation has given her the experience that will help her become that future leader and pediatrician she wants to be.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Alkeira Gooch for her current active role as a student making a difference.

RECOGNIZING CHRIS WALLS

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chris Walls, one of my constituents from Wilmington, Ohio. Mr. Walls pulled his community together to help the 33,000 victims from the May 2013 tornadoes in Oklahoma.

Many of those affected by the tornadoes lost their homes and all of their possessions. When Mr. Walls found out about the extensive damage done, it reminded him of the time his home was ruined by a fire. Mr. Walls remembered how much he appreciated the support of his community when he lost so much and felt it was his job to help the tornado victims.

The way Mr. Walls felt he could best help the victims was by starting a drive for needed supplies. He called upon our community in Wilmington and opened up his tattoo shop as a drop-off point for the drive. The Wilmington community donated many supplies including bandages, bottled water and toothpaste. Then, on June 10, 2013, Mr. Walls and his wife drove out to Oklahoma to personally deliver supplies to the tornado victims.

I am very thankful for Chris Walls' hard work in helping the people of Moore, Oklahoma. I ask that all Members of Congress stand with me to recognize Mr. Walls and the people of Wilmington, Ohio, for their acts of selflessness and kindness.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took of-

fice, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,738,580,905,836.39. We've added \$6,111,703,856,923.31 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.

RECOGNIZING EVERGREEN ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Evergreen Academy Middle School in Chicago, Illinois, for being named to the list of top performing middle grades schools in the country by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform.

Evergreen Academy represents one of only 103 middle grades schools from around the United States that were recognized as a "School to Watch" by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform. To achieve this honor, Evergreen Academy had to prove that they are academically excellent, developmentally responsive, and socially equitable. They are among the best schools in the country in those regards, and I am glad to see these schools recognized for their excellence.

Achieving such a high level of performance is not easy. Schools must establish an educational culture that creates structures, norms, and organizational support to sustain their improving trend toward excellence. Principal Marian L. Strok has demonstrated a sense of purpose that drives her decision making. Further, this performance could not be possible without teachers who work tirelessly for their students and communities, and administrators who work to provide a professional atmosphere to let teachers do what they do best. This hard work and dedication has created an exemplary learning atmosphere.

This achievement is made possible through the hard work and dedication by the students, and the loving guidance by their parents and guardians. The students' work ethic and the values that their parents have instilled within them made this award attainable.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding faculty and students at Evergreen Academy Middle School, and congratulating them for being recognized as one of the outstanding middle grades schools in the country. May they continue to exhibit excellence and create one of the best learning environments in the country for our future leaders.

HONORING MAYOR WILLIE JAMES JONES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable civil servant, Mayor Willie James Jones. The Honorable Mayor Willie J. Jones is a resident of

Coahoma, Mississippi and he is affectionately known to many as Mayor W.J. Jones.

He has devoted his entire adult life providing selfless service, energy and resources to ensure that others fare well. When Mayor Jones initially came to the tiny town of Coahoma, Mississippi, many of its residents lived in two room shacks with no indoor plumbing. As Mayor of the town of Coahoma since 1981, and one of the longest running tenures in the State of Mississippi, he has launched multiple efforts to improve the living conditions of its residents and revitalize the community. Under his leadership and armed with the motto of "Go and Grow", the community began to change. Today, with a cadre consisting of concerned World Vision, Habitat for Humanity, and volunteer residents, over half the town's families now live in HUD approved two, three, or four bedroom homes.

Mayor Jones skillfully led a coalition composed of Coahoma Utilities, Coahoma Community Development Corporation, and Coahoma Habitat for Humanity to pull the community together. In addition, through Mayor Jones' lobbying efforts, the Town of Coahoma has been the beneficiary of federal funding for a sewage system to replace open sewers and a well and water tank to improve its drinking supply. Because of these efforts, Mayor Jones has been honored by the Mississippi Conference of Black Mayors.

In addition to improving the living conditions of the town, Mayor Jones has a dedicated interest in the education of all. After graduating Rust College in 1954 and serving two years in the U.S. Army, Mayor Jones and his wife, Vivian Virginia Moore, moved to the Mississippi Delta and worked in the Coahoma County School system for 40 years before retiring in 1996. He has a vested interest in education. In 1956, he was among those fighting for equal salaries for all educators, for equal school funding and for equal treatment in use of public facilities.

While serving as principal of Hull Elementary and Jonestown Middle Schools he saw that all students were clothed and fed in addition to receiving an education. For his contributions toward making the 1966 merger of the National Education Association (NEA) and the Black American Teachers Association a success, Jones was recognized in 2006 at the 40 Year Merger Anniversary Celebration. On the college level he promotes access to higher education for students of all ethnicities. He received the 1990 Rust College Alumnus of the Year and has received annual Outstanding Contribution Appreciation Awards at his alma mater since 1997.

In 1996, as an educator, human and civil rights activist, Jones was among only a dozen veteran educators recognized nationwide and honored by the National Education Association at its annual Human and Civil Rights dinner. He was presented the H. Council Trenholm Memorial Award for his efforts to free the education system of inequities based on race and his leadership in advancing intergroup understanding within the education profession. On the state level the Mississippi Association of Educators (MAE) has presented him with the Lifetime Achievement Award, the MAE Humanized Education Award and the 1996 Member of the Year Award.

Through the years as a community servant, Mayor Jones has served as Chairman of Diversified March of Dimes, Chairman and Member of the Board of Directors of Coahoma Opportunities, Inc., President of Third District Teachers Association and North Delta Uniserv-MAE, and Representative of the Board Scouts of America. He is also affiliated with NAACP; Tri-County Workforce Alliance Board of Directors, Mississippi Delta Council for Farm Workers, Inc., local, state and national education associations, the Mississippi Conference of Black Mayors, the National Conference of Black Mayors, the Mississippi Municipal League, and the Mississippi Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials.

Despite his many achievements, affiliations and recognition, Mayor Jones' focus remains the town of Coahoma. He is currently working on a drainage and street improvement project with federal and state support. He believes that the largest room in the world is the room of improvement and is continuously seeking ways and funds to improve the quality of life for his citizens in all areas—educationally, economically and socially.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mayor W.J. Jones for his dedication to serving others.

ACCURACY IN MEDICARE
PHYSICIAN PAYMENT ACT OF 2013

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Accuracy in Medicare Physician Payment Act of 2013. This bill will give the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) important tools and resources to continue alleviating our dire shortage of primary care physicians. As Congress tries to come together around the challenges of how to repeal and replace the broken Sustainable Growth Rate formula, I want to make sure that we do not neglect the Medicare physician fee schedule and the impact it has on our physician workforce.

It is no mystery that relatively depressed salaries are driving new doctors away from primary-care fields like family medicine and pediatrics and into more lucrative specialties and subspecialties like radiology and orthopedic surgery. I don't begrudge anyone for making that choice; when I graduated from medical school 50 years ago I could not have fathomed being loaded down with six figures of medical school debt. And to be sure, we need talented specialists. But we have a stubbornly small proportion of primary care doctors—just over 30 percent, when most experts agree that 50 percent is the "sweet spot" in terms of maximizing quality and minimizing cost.

I am proud that Congress gave primary care a shot in the arm in the Affordable Care Act, under which Medicaid pays higher Medicare rates for primary care through 2015, and Medicare makes quarterly incentive payments to primary care physicians through 2017. The ACA also expanded the National Health Service Corps, which eases the steep cost of medical education for doctors and allied health practitioners willing to practice in an under-

served area after graduation. These are meaningful steps, but to make more enduring progress in this area, I believe that Medicare must repair structural inaccuracies in the Medicare physician fee schedule that have eroded the value of primary care. Simply put, Medicare contributes to this imbalance by underpaying for the critical yet undervalued job of managing complex patients with multiple chronic conditions and keeping them out of the emergency room and hospital.

A major obstacle to reform is Medicare's continued reliance on a committee of mostly specialist physicians to help set payment rates for the 7,400 services on the Medicare physician fee schedule. Since 1991, Medicare has outsourced its work of appraising the value of these services to the AMA's Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC)—a 31-member panel of physicians who decide how services should be valued and updated. Only a handful of the 31 committee members perform primary care. The RUC meets in private and provides limited release of the minutes of its proceedings. In formulating its recommendations, the RUC also relies heavily on anecdotal and self-serving surveys, rather than forensic evidence.

CMS has begun to update misvalued codes in the fee schedule, but it needs more muscle and resources to do the job. This bill would establish a panel of independent experts within CMS that would identify the distortions in the fee schedule and develop evidence to justify more accurate updates. Medicare could continue to request work from the RUC, but the expert panel would both initiate such requests and review RUC's work product. The panel members would not have a direct interest in the fee schedule, and would include beneficiary representatives. It would be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, which requires advisory bodies to hold open meetings and publish the minutes of such meetings.

In addition to payment accuracy and fairness, this is also about reining in a conflict of interest. After looking at this for several years I believe that we give the physician specialty societies, through the RUC, an undue influence on their own payments. In no other area—whether it be hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, or any other setting—does Medicare ask the providers to play such an active role in setting their own reimbursement amounts. Medicare certainly needs clinical expertise to evaluate the resources necessary to perform physician services but should not look to an outside organization whose members directly benefit from the fee schedule to apportion some \$70 billion in annual public spending, without some checks and balances. No matter how well-intentioned, such a system contains structural biases that need safeguards to prevent abuse.

Medicare is not only one of America's most important social insurance programs and a bulwark of the middle class, it also establishes economic incentives that ripple through all of health care and contribute to our shortage of primary care physicians. As we continue to pursue a permanent doc fix, let's also talk about how we will use Medicare to incentivize the appropriate mix of physicians in the workforce to serve beneficiaries and the public health.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district and missed the votes on Tuesday, June 25, 2013 and Wednesday, June 26, 2013.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 287, H.R. 2383—To designate the new Interstate Route 70 bridge over the Mississippi River connecting St. Louis, Missouri, and southwestern Illinois as the "Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge";

"Yea" on rollcall No. 288, H.R. 1092—To designate the air route traffic control center located in Nashua, New Hampshire, as the "Patricia Clark Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center";

"No" on rollcall No. 289, Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1613, H.R. 2231, and H.R. 2410—Democrats are urged to vote no on the Previous Question so that Mr. HASTINGS of Florida can offer his amendment to the Rule, which allows for Mr. COURTNEY of Connecticut's bill, H.R. 1595—Student Loan Relief Act of 2013, to be considered under an open Rule. H.R. 1595 would amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, extending the freeze on subsidized student loan interest rates for two years, which would prevent rates from doubling from 3.4% to 6.8% on July 1. Immediate action is necessary to protect college students and families, given the short time remaining before rates double. Republicans should not allow the House to go into its 8th full week of recess this year without addressing this critical issue with a bipartisan solution that can become law; and

"No" on rollcall No. 290, H. Res. 274—Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1613—Outer Continental Shelf Transboundary Hydrocarbon Agreements Authorization Act, H.R. 2231—Offshore Energy and Jobs Act, and H.R. 2410—Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2014.

HONORING AURELIO HURTADO OF
ST. HELENA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Aurelio Hurtado of St. Helena, California, on the occasion of his retirement as the Director of the Farmworker Services Program for California Human Development, after 45 years of advocacy work.

Mr. Hurtado left his small town of Jerez, Mexico in 1955 to work in the agricultural fields of Texas and New Mexico. When he moved to Northern California to work in the vineyards of St. Helena, Mr. Hurtado fell in love with the region and decided to make it his home. It was a conference with farmworker advocate Cesar Chavez that pushed Mr. Hurtado to dedicate his life to improving educational, social, and economic aspects of the Napa Valley community.

In 1967, Mr. Hurtado was one of the founders of the North Bay Human Development Corporation, currently known as California Human Development Corporation, whose core services include job training, affordable housing, criminal justice services, community services and training, and community integration for individuals with disabilities. In 1968, he became the Director of the On the Job Training and Adult Work Experience Programs where he served migrant and seasonal farmworker families in Napa, Sonoma, and Solano Counties. In 1982, he joined the Farmworker Services Division as a Deputy Director, advocating on behalf of Northern California farmworkers' rights.

Mr. Hurtado is an integral member of our community and has worked diligently toward its improvement. He formed and was involved in several community organizations including Organización Latinoamericana de Liberación Económica of Napa County, Credit Union "El Porvenir" of Napa County, Community Health Clinic Ole and Bronze Development Corporation. He has also worked with the Comité Mexicano de Beneficencia, Legal Aid of Napa Valley, the Napa Valley Migrant Farmworker Housing Committee, and the Instituto de los Mexicanos en el Exterior, among others.

Mr. Hurtado received his degrees in Accounting and Business Administration in Mexico. He has shared the majority of his life with his wife, Mrs. Rogelia M. Hurtado.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we acknowledge Mr. Hurtado for his extraordinary work as a lifelong community organizer who works to bring equity to the lives of Latinos throughout the Napa Valley.

HONORING ELAINE BAKER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable Civil Rights leader Dr. Elaine Baker. Dr. Baker is a resident of Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

She is the only child to the late Joseph and Louise Marjorie Baker. She was born on June 30, 1949 in the historical independent black community of Mound Bayou, Mississippi, which was founded in 1887 by former slaves led by Isaiah Montgomery. Growing up in this community she was nurtured by a community of proud, loving and generous elders and peers and teachers.

She was influenced by a socio-cultural environment in Mound Bayou that had great expectations and surrounding communities that communicated messages of dual citizenship for people who looked like her. For example, the separate waiting room in the doctor's office in Merigold in stark contrast to the openness of Friendship Clinic in Mound Bayou. The "colored only" water fountains in Cleveland spoke a deafening sound of discrimination. And the "colored only" bathrooms in Clarksdale, which reinforced that something was not right.

The violent death of Emmett Till, as memorialized in the Jet magazine photo story remains indelibly etched in the forefront of her reality that danger could be lurking anywhere for people who looked like her. The news stories

about bombings and lynchings and murders and arrests that Jet, Ebony and other Afro-American news media carried either in print or through audio media brought home the chilling messages of "less than" and "more than" solely, it seemed, based on skin color. These incidents and family discussions let her know that she could not sit back and not become an advocate for change.

The importance of education was always at the forefront of discussions in her home. Her grandmother, with an elementary education reminded her to get an education. She told her with an education it will matter how you look or what you have or don't have, you'll know." Her mother, a 1944 graduate of Bolivar County Training School, was an avid reader and teacher. Both of these women set the reading example for her—whether it was the Bible, various news media, or other options including the catalogs. From Mound Bayou to Tougaloo College the meaning of civil rights took on very significant meanings. Those meanings led her to Brown University where she was a semester exchange student from Tougaloo to Atlanta University now known as the Whitney M. Young School of Social Work to the University of Georgia. There she was exposed to socio-economic and racial divides that urged her into action and she became part of change.

Her love of people and a desire to understand human behavior in the social environment underpinned her selected academic majors: Sociology at Tougaloo College where she was a B.A., Cum Laude graduate, earned a Master of Social Work and Public Administration Ph.D., with emphasis in Organization Development, Health Resources Administration and General Public Administration. Her involvement in community-based organizations was transformative in focus and diverse in the individuals engaged.

She knows life is the gift that keeps on giving and memories of civil engagement include Fannie Lou Hamer, Unita Blackwell, Marian Wright Edelman, and many others. She believes that what she has been gifted which is not hers to keep. She is truly an advocate for change.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Elaine Baker for her dedication to civil rights.

HONORING REGINALD MAYO, PH.D.
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with my heartfelt thanks and appreciation that I rise today to recognize an outstanding member of our community and my good friend, Dr. Reginald Mayo, Superintendent of Schools as he celebrates his retirement from the New Haven Public School system. In a career that has spanned 46 years, Reggie has dedicated a lifetime to education, quietly touching the lives of thousands by providing our young people with a strong foundation on which to build their future success.

Reggie Mayo has devoted most of his professional career to the New Haven Public

School system. He began as a science teacher at Troup Middle School in 1967 and rose through the ranks serving as Assistant Principal of Troup and then Principal of Jackie Robinson Middle School. He was promoted to K-8 Director of Schools and later Executive Director of School Operations until his appointment as Superintendent in 1992. During his tenure, Reggie earned a distinguished reputation for his commitment and vision.

As superintendent, Reggie has steadily guided the District to set new standards in education. One of his earliest accomplishments was making New Haven the first school district in Connecticut to effectively end the practice of social promotion. As the State was rocked by the school desegregation case *Sheff v. O'Neill*, Reggie quietly and effectively built the largest interdistrict magnet program in Connecticut—with 1,300 suburban students enrolled it is a model program of urban-suburban exchange. Partnering with the city's mayor, John DeStefano, Reggie undertook a master plan which included the renovation or reconstruction of every school—every school—in the district. And in what will likely come to be known as his crowning achievement as superintendent, in 2010 Reggie, in cooperation with the Board of Education, teachers unions, and the city administration, launched what has become a nationally recognized school reform plan. This outstanding initiative, collaboratively built by administrators and educators, involves evaluating schools and teachers as well as intervening and implementing improvement plans in poor-performing schools.

Over the course of the last two decades, Reggie Mayo, along with Mayor John DeStefano, has transformed the educational environment in New Haven. Schools have been rebuilt, outfitted with the latest in technology and resources, curriculum has been rewritten, graduation rates have risen dramatically while drop-out rates dropped significantly, and real education reform has been launched. His is a remarkable legacy that will continue to inspire learning and nurture creativity for many years to come.

I would be remiss if I did not extend a personal note of thanks to Reggie for his many years of friendship and support. During my tenure in Congress and before, I have had many opportunities to work with him and am always inspired by his unwavering energy and commitment. His presence in the New Haven Public School system will most certainly be missed, however, I have no doubt that he will continue to serve our community and enrich the lives of others.

For his invaluable service to our city—by most importantly our children—I am proud to stand today and join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered in extending my deepest thanks and sincere congratulations to Dr. Reginald Mayo. His vision, leadership, and contributions have changed the face of education in New Haven and made all the difference in the lives of our young people. We owe him a great debt of gratitude for the indelible mark that he has left on our community. I wish him, his wife, Patsy; their children, Reggie, Jr., Shawn, and Lisa, and his grandchildren, Reginald III, Ryland, Riece, and Shawn Jr., all the best for many more years of health and happiness.

IN RECOGNITION OF 50 YEARS OF SERVICE OF AMBASSADOR GEORGE W. LANDAU AND ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RECEIVING THE 2013 AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE ASSOCIATION DIPLOMACY AWARD

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ambassador George W. Landau for his 50 years of service to our Nation and to congratulate him for receiving the American Foreign Service Association 2013 Lifetime Contributions to American Diplomacy Award. This award is bestowed in recognition of extraordinary contribution to diplomacy and to recognize the recipient's continued contribution in retirement to the advancement of the profession of diplomacy and U.S. foreign policy.

Ambassador George Landau served as U.S. Ambassador to Paraguay, Venezuela, and Chile, where he played a crucial role in solving the murder of Chilean politician Orlando Letelier, who died in a car bombing in Washington, DC in 1976. By preserving evidence which led to the identification of the organizers of the bombing, Ambassador Landau helped to expose a large, concerted effort to kill South American rebels and dissidents. His efforts helped to bring to justice those responsible for the crimes. Following his retirement, he served as the President of the Americas Society and Council of the Americas, and as President of the Council of Advisors, Latin America, of Guardian Industries (AS/COA).

During his tenure as president of AS/COA, Ambassador Landau worked tirelessly to persuade Congress to grant "fast track" negotiating authority to the president in support of the North American Free Trade Agreement. His efforts helped to lay the foundation for the U.S.-Chile Free Trade agreement of 2004 and the current Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations. As an acknowledgment of his service and key role in the promotion of trade, Ambassador Landau was twice appointed to the board of the Export-Import Bank and received decorations from the governments of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela.

Ambassador George W. Landau personifies the ideals and values that are the basis of the U.S. Foreign Service. On behalf of a grateful nation I thank him for his long service to our country and congratulate him on his award.

CONGRATULATING THE BOCA RATON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAM

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Boca Raton Community High School Science Olympiad team and their incredible achievements in the 2013 National Science Olympiad Tournament.

The team has won the Southeast Regional Championship in each of its five years in exist-

ence, as well as three consecutive Florida State Championships. This year, the National Tournament happened to occur on the same day as graduation. Six graduating seniors chose to miss the ceremony in order to represent their school, demonstrating their extraordinary commitment and leading the team to a top 25 national ranking. Two team members, Montita Sowapark and Brian Lopez, followed their 2012 national first place ranking in the "Water Quality" event with an outstanding second place finish, emphasizing the amazing scientific talent at the high school.

Once again, I would like to congratulate everyone involved with the remarkable Boca Raton Community High School Science Olympiad team, and I look forward to their continued success. To the seniors, I wish the best of luck in college and all their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING FLEET MARINE FORCE NAVY CORPSMAN JOHN J. CROWLEY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful nation to recognize Fleet Marine Force Navy Corpsman John J. Crowley from Hilliard, Ohio, for his selfless acts of bravery and valor while deployed to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom. A true American hero, Crowley risked his life to ensure the safety of others in his squad when he aided them after the explosion of two Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

Corpsman Crowley has served in the Marines since 2009 where he has rightfully received numerous honors including the valor-designated Bronze Star and a Purple Heart. On June 13, 2012, his squad was on night patrol and struck by two IEDs. The first strike resulted in a dual-amputee casualty, which Corpsman Crowley promptly stabilized. The second explosion occurred as Marines swept a path toward the original casualty, resulting in three additional casualties. Corpsman Crowley was in close proximity to the second device and suffered wounds to his face and a ruptured eardrum.

Despite his injuries, Corpsman Crowley maintained composure and treated an additional double amputee, as well as the squad leader, who had severe fragmentation wounds to his hands, body and face. He then helped move the Marines with casualties to a collection point and provided life-saving updates on the patients' status until the medical emergency evacuation helicopter arrived. His decisive actions were instrumental in saving the lives of three critically injured Marines. By his guidance, initiative, and dedication to duty, Corpsman Crowley reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

I ask that all Members of Congress join me in offering our appreciation for Fleet Marine Force Navy Corpsman John J. Crowley and his meritorious service to this great nation. He went to the greatest extent in order to secure our freedom here at home, which deserves the highest of recognitions.

HONORING DR. JUNIPER YATES TRICE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable Civil Servant, Dr. Juniper Yates Trice. Dr. Juniper Trice is a resident of Rosedale, Mississippi and has been an exceptional and inspirational figure in the City of Rosedale. He has devoted his life to community service and community development. He is affectionately known to many as Dr. J.Y. Trice.

Throughout the course of his career, Dr. Trice contributed to job creation as Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the Bolivar County Council on Aging which provides transportation services to rural residents. Since opening the Bolivar County Council on Aging in 1975 the organization has received national recognition from the Community Transportation Association of America, and the Mississippi Department of Public Transportation for outstanding service and leadership in serving residents of Bolivar, Sunflower, Washington and Yazoo counties. He has received numerous awards and accolades for his service to humanity.

Dr. Trice has been instrumental and a driving force in the political arena; he served as Mayor of the City of Rosedale for 16 years, and stressed to others the importance of being involved in the political process for progressive change. He has held other prestigious positions such as being the first black appointed President of the South Delta Economic Planning and Development District, and first black Chairman of the State Educational Finance Commission.

Through his dedicated work in education Dr. Trice has touched lives with his teaching abilities in Prentiss, Tishomingo, Itawamba and Bolivar Counties School Districts; and as Assistant Superintendent in Itawamba and Bolivar Counties School Districts. Dr. Trice has had a profound impact over the years in many people lives through his love of the Lord and as Presiding Elder over 41 churches throughout the State of Mississippi. His compassion has been a source of comfort and inspiration throughout his life's work.

He has traveled extensively throughout the United States and foreign countries promoting the State of Mississippi. Dr. Trice has been, and continues to be a tremendous gift to the people of Rosedale, Bolivar County and the State of Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my Colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Juniper Y. Trice for his dedication to serving others.

TRIBUTE TO NANYA FRIEND OF THE CHARLESTON DAILY MAIL

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nanya Friend, a resident of Charleston, West Virginia. Friend has greatly contributed to the tradition of journalism in the

Mountain State during her tenure as Editor of the Charleston Daily Mail.

The Charleston Daily Mail is a Pulitzer-winning publication, and under the direction of Friend it has served a vital role in updating and informing West Virginians. Under the direction of Friend, the Daily Mail has maintained high standards of journalism, while adapting to the challenges and technologies of the digital age.

Friend, a graduate of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, has served as editor of the publication since 1996, and its publisher since 2004. Friend's intellect, unwavering devotion to the truth, and high standards of journalistic integrity have made a mark in West Virginia. They have also earned her the West Virginia Press Association's Adam R. Kelly Premier Journalist Award in 2009, which is the association's highest honor.

Nanya Friend and her husband Rod have been married for 36 years, and together they have two children Kara and Keith. She is also a proud grandmother to Lydia and Meredith.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Nanya Friend for her extraordinary service to the people of West Virginia and for the advances she has made in her field.

TRIBUTE TO LT. GENERAL
RICHARD J. SEITZ

HON. TIM HUELSKAMP

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and pay tribute to the life of Lt. General Richard J. Seitz of Junction City, Kansas. On June 8th, 2013, General "Dick" Seitz completed a storied life at the age of 95.

Born in Leavenworth, Kansas on February 18th, 1918, he grew up in that city and then attended Kansas State University where in 1939 he began dating his first wife, Bettie Jean Merrill. That same year Dick, foreseeing World War II looming on the horizon, accepted a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Army. He went through the sixth jump school class the Army ever had—thus becoming one of its first paratroopers.

With the advent of the war, Dick rose rapidly. At the age of only 25 in March 1942, as a Major, he was given command of the 2nd Battalion of the 517th Parachute Infantry Regimental Combat Team. Thereafter, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and, as the Army's youngest battalion commander, led his battalion throughout its historic combat operations in Europe with the personal radio call sign of "Dangerous Dick."

The 517th was flung into combat at Anzio at the time of the breakout from that beachhead followed by fighting up the Italian peninsula. They then made the combat jump into the southern invasion of France at 4 a.m., on August 15th, 1944 as the airborne element of Operation Dragoon with its subsequent heavy combat in the French Maritime Alps. Finally, put in reserve in Northeastern France in December 1944, Dick was drawing up Paris leave rosters for his men when Adolf Hitler launched the Battle of the Bulge.

At that point, Dick's 2nd Battalion was married with a Regiment of the 7th Armored Divi-

sion to form what became known as "Task Force Seitz." It was pushed in to plug the gaps on the north slope of the "Bulge" every time the Germans tried to make a breakout. In doing so, his battalion went from 691 men to 380 through combat losses in some of the worst fighting of the second World War. The battalion went on from the "Bulge" to see even further bloody combat in the subsequent battles of the Huertigen Forest.

Before shipping out to Europe, Dick and Bettie continued to see each other whenever they had a chance to do so. In 1942, after graduating from Kansas State, Bettie joined the Red Cross and was subsequently sent to England in late 1943 to support the bomber groups of the Army Air Corp's 8th Air Force. In the fall of 1944, she was moved to Holland to run an Army rest and rehabilitation center. There, in January 1945, she read in Stars and Stripes that Task Force Seitz was heavily engaged in the fighting around St. Vith. By herself, she drove from Holland to the front in Belgium and managed to find the Regimental HQ of the 517th. But they would not allow her to go onto the very front lines where Dick was. However, this put them back in personal touch which led to their marriage in June 1945 in Joigny, France with one Red Cross bridesmaid and 1,800 paratroopers in attendance in one of the greatest love stories of the war.

Dick ended the war with the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, and the Purple Heart plus, besides his Parachute Wings, what he most treasured—the Combat Infantryman's Badge. Thereafter, during his lifelong Army career including nearly 37 years of active duty he also received numerous other decorations and awards including the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit and the French Croix de Guerre and Legion of Honor. Along with these awards, his commands included the 2nd Airborne Battle Group, 503rd Infantry Regiment and the 82nd Airborne Division, which he led into Detroit and Washington, DC in 1967 to quell those cities' riots. He also commanded the XVIII Airborne Corps and was Chief of Staff U.S. Army Vietnam in 1965 through 1967 under General Westmoreland. As a Portuguese speaker he served two tours in Brazil, the last as Chief of the Joint U.S./Brazilian Military Commission and one year in Iran as a military advisor. He likewise served in Japan with the occupation forces immediately after World War II.

Dick and Bettie retired to Junction City in 1975. Unfortunately, Bettie died of a heart attack June 1, 1978. Thereafter, Dick was blessed to marry Virginia Crane, a widow, in 1980. She also predeceased him in 2006. In retirement, Dick remained extremely active with the Army through Ft. Riley as well as in the Junction City Community and in Kansas generally. During the Iraqi and Afghanistan Wars he would go out to Ft. Riley to see off and greet the deploying and redeploying units from those fights, no matter the hour day or night. He was past Chairman of the Ft. Riley National Bank, very active with the Coronado Council of the Boy Scouts, a Trustee of St. John's Military Academy, on the Board of the Eisenhower Presidential Library, President of the Fort Riley-Central Kansas Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, and Chaired Junction City's Economic Redevelopment Study Commission among many other activities. He was also honored as an Outstanding Citizen of Kansas, received the prestigious

AUSA Creighton Abrams Award, and most recently had the General Richard J. Seitz Elementary School named in his honor on the post at Ft. Riley. He felt a particular affection for the faculty and students of that school whom he visited as often as he could. The best way to describe Dick is that he lived his life "Airborne all the way!" to the very end.

Last year my family and I had the privilege to meet General Dick Seitz when he served as the Grand Marshal at the Independence Day parade in Junction City. I quickly came to understand why General Seitz was admired by so many. Not only was he revered for his extraordinary military service, but also for the care, generosity and affection he offered others throughout his life. General Seitz epitomized what it means when people refer to his generation as "The Greatest Generation."

WAYZATA BOYS WIN STATE
TENNIS TITLE

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of the Wayzata Boys Tennis Team, which recently won the Boys Minnesota State High School Tennis Championship title.

The team had a phenomenal season. After finishing second the past two years, this victory—which marks Wayzata's first boys tennis state title since becoming part of the Class 2A division—was especially rewarding. And everyone can honestly say it was a team effort, with freshman Nicholas Beaty securing the championship for the team and senior Dustin Britton, who was forced to sit out the previous season with a shoulder injury, ending his high school career with a win and a team state title.

Their dedication included running miles even after victorious matches and shoveling off the courts during our frigid and extended Minnesota winter. Their success this season is a tribute to their unparalleled determination, one that I am sure they will continue to display in all aspects of their lives.

It is truly an honor to congratulate and represent these hard-working student-athletes. Go Trojans!

RECOGNIZING THE VOLUNTEERS
FOR SIX WEEKS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE PROGRAM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the volunteers for Six Weeks to Make a Difference program.

These dedicated volunteers for Six Weeks to Make a Difference program helped seven conservation projects from March 16 through April 27 at local natural areas. Many of the families volunteered at several of the sites. Through the projects, they improved trails, disposed of tons of debris, tires and invasive plants, planted over 1000 trees and bushes, corrected erosion problems, and left our community better than the way they found it.

It is my honor to submit the names of volunteers for the Six Weeks to Make a Difference Program: Adam Family, Adams Family, Assefa Family, Awtry Family, Bean Family, Bebar Family, Bolton Family, Bradley Family, Bresnahan Family, Brown Family, Chenault Family, Chesonis Family, Cohen Family, Ferrufino Coronel Family, Cooper Family, Conners Family, Cunningham Family, Ekoh Family, Furman Family, Fyock Family, Gates Family, Gonzalez Family, Guidry Family, Hileman Family, Johnson Family, Johnston Family, Jones Family, LeBlanc Family, Marcucci Family, Martinez Family, McGhee Family, McNary Family, Melusen Family, Mitchell Family, Porterfield Family, Rosendale Family, Sanchez Family, Smallwood Family, Sullivan Family, Svetlecic Family, Verosko Family, Warner Family, Walther Family, Wright Family, Yeboah Family, York Family, Young Family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending these families for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to environmental conservation in our community.

TRIBUTE TO JOHANNA MAURICE
OF THE CHARLESTON DAILY MAIL

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Johanna Maurice, a resident of Charleston, West Virginia. I wish to congratulate Maurice on her retirement, and the contributions she has made to editorial journalism during her outstanding career.

Johanna Maurice has served as Editorial Page Editor of the Charleston Daily Mail, a Pulitzer-winning newspaper, since 1986. During that time period, Maurice has contributed greatly to the political discussion throughout the state of West Virginia. We have all benefited from her ability to foster meaningful and respectful discussions. She has also served as a strong voice for fiscal conservancy and business economic growth.

A proud Mountaineer, Maurice graduated from the West Virginia University with a degree in journalism. Before joining the Daily Mail in 1978, she worked as a reporter with the Beckley Register-Herald. Her remarkable tenure as opinion editor underscores the value of having an informed and challenging discussion in the public forum.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Johanna Maurice for her contributions and service to the people of the Mountain State.

RECOGNIZING ST. MARK'S UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH TEENS OP-
POSING POVERTY PROGRAM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the volunteers of the St. Mark's United Methodist Church Teens Opposing Poverty (T.O.P.s) Program.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church T.O.P.s Program is a youth ministry initiative that teaches youth the true meaning of volunteerism through service to others. On the third Sunday of each month, Prince William County T.O.P.s program volunteers donate prepared meals and clothing to a Washington, D.C. homeless shelter. Spreading the goodwill of Prince William County in the Nation's capital, these teen volunteers learn the true value in serving others by humbly aiding those in need.

It is my honor to submit the names of volunteers for St. Mark's United Methodist Church Teens Opposing Poverty Program: Pam Bryan, John Tyler Cumberland, Shelly Cumberland, Allysa Hartman, Michell Housum, Maureen Kopp, Alexis Liller, Bill Liller, Bernie Posey, Rachel Rannebarger, Brittany Ripper, Robin Russell, Andrea VanPelt, Joel VanPelt, Cody UnThank, Michell Housum.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers for the St. Mary's Methodist Church Teens Opposing Poverty Program for their efforts to assist those who are less fortunate. They faithfully promote a church without walls and we would do well to follow their example.

RECOGNIZING THE VOLUNTEER
PRINCE WILLIAM BOARD OF DI-
RECTORS AND SPECIAL EVENTS
VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Volunteer Prince William Board of Directors and special events volunteers.

Founded in 1981, Volunteer Prince William connects generous and selfless citizens throughout the county with volunteer opportunities and charity work. The program fosters a civically engaged public sensitive to community needs and ready to donate their time and energy when needed. Dozens of nonprofits are able to fill out their ranks of volunteers using the connections and referrals made by Volunteer Prince William.

It is my honor to submit the names of the members of the Board of Directors of Volunteer Prince William: JP Godoy, Sarah Harrover, Michael Higgins, Nora Jewell, Uriah Kiser, Nancy Lindgren, Mark Mason, Eileen Pugh, Lianetta Ruetgers.

The Un-Trim-A-Tree Holiday Gift Program is one example of how Volunteer Prince William leverages individual volunteers into organized programs that have an impact on the community. In October 2012, the Ladies of the Blue and Gray Ball organized the first annual Boo Ball fundraiser. The Ladies were able to provide gifts to over 100 children at the Boo Ball and aid in the funding of 7,540 gifts for children at the Un-Trim-A-Tree Holiday Gift Program.

It is my honor to submit the names of the Ladies of the Blue and Gray Ball who organized the Boo Ball to support the Un-Trim-A-Tree Holiday Gift Program: Sarah Harrover, Nora Jewell, Nancy Lindgren, Sandie Myers, Bridget Mullins, Andrea Oswald, Sharon Owen.

Additionally, it is also my honor to submit the names of the volunteers who volunteered their time and efforts for the Un-Trim-A-Tree Holiday Gift Program: Nyeem Braxton, Barbara Breyfogle, Steven Breyfogle, Birdie Carrier, Kaleil Cherry, David Cobb, Shiayn Cooper, Kelly Cooper, Ashley Dennie, Maria DiBisceglie, Dominique Fontenot, Michael Hale, Mary Hull, Chris Kennedy, Natalie Kennedy, Wendy Minke, Keiona Morris, Dasha Quinn, Karen Raiford, Mitze Roman, Kim Roman, Jody Senna, Kathy Simmons, Jacki Tinsley, Shirley Vance, Adam Will, Kathy Wortman.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the members of the Board of Directors of Volunteer Prince William, the Ladies of the Blue and Gray Ball, and the volunteers who assisted with the Un-Trim-A-Tree Holiday Gift Program.

CONGRATULATING MINNETONKA
TRACK AND FIELD STATE CHAM-
PIONS

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the members of the Minnetonka Girls Track and Field Team, which recently won the Girls Minnesota State High School League Track and Field championship.

Minnetonka didn't hold the top rank going into the championship meet, but they quickly showed that they deserved it as they secured first-place finishes in both the 4 × 800 relay and the long jump on the first day of competition. Rising senior Elizabeth Endy also broke a school record with her second-place finish in the 400-meter race. Some of the team's stars may be graduating, but others—like freshman Lucy Hoelscher, who was a part of two championship relays—are only beginning their high school careers.

I look forward to tracking their progress in the upcoming years. Their success this season is a tribute to their high level of commitment, one that I am sure they will continue to display in all aspects of their lives.

I am proud to honor these hard-working student athletes. Go Skippers!

RECOGNIZING THE PRINCE WIL-
LIAM COUNTY RETIRED AND
SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Prince William County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).

RSVP is a federally funded program with over 750 chapters nationwide, with approximately ½ million senior volunteers giving more than 81 million hours annually to their communities. Retired and Senior Volunteer Program volunteers work on many different jobs. RSVP is the nation's largest network of volunteers 55 and over. The volunteers contribute to our community in a variety of ways

including tutoring at eight elementary schools, providing literacy skills to adults, helping with cultural events, working with the Sheriff's office, and volunteering with the Hospital Auxiliary and Red Cross.

It is my honor to submit the names of volunteers from the Prince William County RSVP:

Kathy Adams, Marjorie Adams, Joann Amidon, Martha Andrews, Lynn Ashe, George Ashley, Louis Balboni, Marie Balboni, Ruby Bellinger, Bertram Benson, Margaret Binning, Nancy Bireley, Doris Bodwin, Dena Bost, Marge Brault, Carol Brauzer, Barbara Breyfogle, Steven Breyfogle, Dorothy Brooks, Matthew Brooks, Chester A. Burke, Jr., Kathryn Burns, Keating Carrier, Nancy Chen Tsou, Noma Chittenden, Roger Chittenden, Cynthia Colborn, Phyllis Coleman, Gwendolyn Coles, Lillian Coney, Iris Cooper, Marlys Daack, Ronald Daack, Anna May Davis, Rick Davis, Gretchen Day, Dorothy Dimartino.

Lawrence Earl, Betty Edenhart, Mary Jane Ellis, George Fahmy, Bob Finch, Carol Fischer-Nickum, Claire Flaherty, Suzann Flatequal, David Forcier, David Ford, Glorious Ford, Jayne Frelin, Joan Galvin, Susan Gillion, Sidney Goldsby, Ethel Gorham, Helen Graves, Beulah Green, Alane Greyson, Ronald Grieff, Sieglinde Hall, Joan Haneklau, Barbara Harris, George Harris, Richard Harris, Carol Henderson, Clydie Hinton, Iris Hodges, Geraldine Hogan, Nancy Holland, Norma Holmgren, Patricia Hoyle, Elizabeth Hudson, John Hull, Mary Hull, Elizabeth Irvin, Larry Jackson, Marina Jackson, Sandra Jackson, Ellen Jaeger, Harold Jenkinson, Michael Johnson, Janet Jones, Marie Kelleher, Margaret Kirby, Robert Kirby.

Adenia Kitt, Frederick Knox, Theresa Koger, Carol Korb, Rainer Korb, Martin Kruger, Terence Kuszewski, Therese Lang, Mary Lerner, Ron Lawray, Jane Lehman, Rene Lehman, Susan Levin, Carolyn Lewis, Linda Ligon, Patricia Lozinak, Lawrence Lum, Irma Machado, Donald Macintosh, Carolyn Maghan, George Maghan, Ellie Marshall, Annie Mason, Mary McCabe, Teresa McCall, Dianne Metzler, Wendy Minke, Murray Minster, Sadhna Minter, Mary Anne Money, Esther Moniba, Dorothy Moore, James Moore, Leo Moore, Virginia Morales, Constance Mosakowsky, Sue Murphy, Sandra Myers, Susan Myint, Ruth Natale, Susan Nestor, Ellen Newdurf, Martin Newdurf, John Nirich, Carol Ann Nolan.

Clifford Nolan, Phyllis Norling, Clancy Olson, Susie O'Neal, Al Osborne, Nancy Osborne, Margaret Palomares, John Parker, Dinubhai Patel, Edith Peel, Linda Perry, Wayne Perry, Dianne Peyton, Joseph Phoenix, Marie Phoenix, Joyce Pieritz, Kathleen Plutz, Jacqueline Potter, Velma Pridemore, Patricia Prochnow, Eileen Pugh, Marlene Puglisi, Linda Pulley, Wanda Pulliam, Doris Quick, Anita Rasmusson, Sanae Richardson, Sandra Richmond, Charles Rigby, Mary Jo Rigby, James Riley, Valerie Ritter, William Ritter, Stephen Rodkey, Willow Rolfe, Edward Roman, Mitzi Roman, Nanette Ross, Suzanne Rucker, Lianetta Ruettgers, Bertha Russ, Gwen Ryfinski, Anna Ryman, Mohinder Saini, E.L. Schneider, Andrea Schu, Joseph Schu, Shirley Shaffer, Raj Singla, Trudy Slater, Sam Slowinski, Sal Smeraglo, Cheryl Smith.

Eleonore Smith, Ellen Smith, Philip Smith, Sandra Smith, Michael Somma, Penny Spatzer, Cyme Spicer, Sharon Steff, Anita Steidel, Marianne Stevens, Ruth Storaker, Dyanne Street, Ralph Sutherland, Mary

Sweesy, Helen Tang, Shirley Temple Van Ess, Michael Timko, Lana Tobey, Sharon Tomochak-Owen, Charles Trepel, Alan Turner, Marilyn Turner, Ronald Turner, Wilma Turner, James Van Ess, Patricia Venti, Sally Vincent, Sherry Wagenbach, Claudette Warner, William Warner, Brenda Warren, Anna Mae Washington, Helen Wells, Janis White, David Whitman, Patricia Whitman, Doris Wiesenhahn, Pearl Wilson, Mary Wingard, Theresa Winiesdorffer, Bruce Wood, Kathy Wortman, Sherri Wussow, Susan Young.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending these dedicated volunteers. I would like to extend my personal appreciation to the men and women who participate in the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. We all owe a debt of gratitude to these selfless community activists.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OUTSTANDING CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2013 Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Corporate Citizenship Awards.

For more than 85 years, the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce has provided a strategic link between local businesses and the region through participation in community activities, networking opportunities, marketing, support and education. Fairfax County has witnessed extraordinary growth, and the Chamber of Commerce has been a consistent, guiding voice for business.

Fairfax County is considered by many to be one of the best communities in the country in which to live, work and raise a family. A significant factor in that distinction is the thriving partnership between the public and private sectors. Corporations, non-profit organizations, and educational institutions work hand-in-hand with their counterparts in local, state and federal government agencies. A thriving business community is essential to maintaining a high quality of life for all residents, just as ensuring strong community institutions and educational opportunities for all residents are essential to fostering continued economic growth.

The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce annually recognizes individuals and businesses that have demonstrated exceptional leadership and have excelled in their efforts to better our community through social responsibility. More than 44 nominees were considered for the 2013 awards, and each is deserving of recognition and appreciation.

It is my honor to submit the names of the recipients of the 2013 Fairfax Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Corporate Citizenship Awards:

Emerging Influential of the Year: Gayle Bailey.

Non-Profit of the Year: Girls on the Run.

Executive Leader of the Year: Todd Rowley, Capital One Bank, N.A.

Woman Owned Business of the Year: Transformation Systems, Inc. (TSI).

Outstanding Corporate Citizen of the Year—Large Business: Balfour Beatty Construction.

Outstanding Corporate Citizen of the Year—Mid-Size Business: Excella.

Outstanding Corporate Citizen of the Year—Small Business: Integrity Management Consulting.

In addition to the Corporate Citizenship Awards, the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce also bestows awards in three unique categories: the Chairman's Awards which recognize extraordinary leadership by companies and individuals within the Fairfax Chamber, the James M. Rees Award which recognize lifelong leadership and service to the Northern Virginia business community, and the NOVAForward Award which is presented to an individual for extraordinary efforts to move Virginia forward. This year's honorees are:

Chairman's Awards: Fran Fisher, President, Revenue Recovery Consultants, Inc; Bruce Gemmill, SVP & Chief Marketing Officer, John Marshall Bank; Arthur E. (Bud) Morrisette, IV, Group President, Interstate Relocation Services, Inc. and Interstate International, Inc.

James M. Rees Award: Donna S. Morea, CEO, Adesso Group & Former President, U.S., Europe and Asia, CGI; Milton V. Peterson, Principal and Founder, The Peterson Companies.

NOVAForward Award: Bob Chase, President, Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of the 2013 Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Corporate Citizenship Awards and in thanking them for their many contributions that have supported not only our high quality of life but also the robust business community we enjoy in Fairfax County.

CONGRATULATING EDEN PRAIRIE LACROSSE STATE CHAMPS

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the members of the Eden Prairie Boys Lacrosse Team, which recently won the Minnesota State High School League Lacrosse Tournament.

The Eden Prairie Boys had a phenomenal season. Not only did they win the state championship, they also finished the year going undefeated, with a record of 18-0. Their championship game against second-ranked and defending state champion Eastview was won on a last-second goal by freshman J.D. Spielman. This year's team was led by senior attackman Brooks Armitage, who ended up with 50 points this season. The Eden Prairie lacrosse team persevered through multiple second-place finishes in the state tournament to truly earn this year's state title.

Adding to the pressure of the final game was that it was a rematch of last year's championship. The Eagles started off strong with a 3-0 lead, but by the end of the second quarter, the game was a tight 5-4 in favor of Eden Prairie. The teams traded goals throughout the second half, until the game was tied 8-8 with only a few minutes remaining. Spielman called for the ball and scored with just 12.4 seconds left in the game.

Our community is proud of this team earning the state's highest collective achievement. Their success this season is a tribute to their high level of commitment, one that I am sure they will continue to display in all aspects of their lives.

Go Eagles!

IN HONOR OF THE 2013 LITERACY COUNCIL OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the recipients of the 2013 Literacy Council of Northern Virginia Community Partner Awards and Volunteer of the Year Awards. Founded in 1962, the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia (LCNV) is a non-profit educational organization that recruits and trains volunteers to teach adults who need help reading, writing, speaking, and understanding the English language.

The mission of LCNV is to empower adults by providing a wide range of programs that teach the basic literacy skills needed in order to become self-sufficient and full participants in society. These programs include Basic Adult Literacy Tutoring, which works with adults who speak and understand English but are beginning readers and writers, and ESOL tutoring programs that teach reading, writing, listening comprehension, and speaking to those in our community for whom English is not their native language. In addition, LCNV offers two classroom programs: The ESOL Learning Center program, which serves low-income immigrant adults and teaches life skills important in the work place and community, and Family Learning Programs, which teach English proficiency to parents while their children participate in separate literacy-related activities.

Over the course of the last 50 years, thousands of people and families have been helped through LCNV programs. This would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of the many volunteers and community partners. It is my great honor to recognize the following recipients of the 2013 Literacy Council of Northern Virginia Awards:

Recipients of the Community Partners Awards: Acumen Solutions, City of Alexandria, and the Meyer Foundation.

Recipients of the Volunteer of the Year Awards: Susan Kral, Anne Spear, Audrey Lipps, and Mark Troppe.

This year, LCNV learners were invited to submit writings around the theme for this year's Annual Recognition Event: "New Beginnings." Learners worked with tutors, teachers, and classmates to formulate ideas, construct drafts, edit, and polish their writing in order to create final products that were published in LCNV's annual report. I commend each of the learners who submitted a writing and congratulate them on the incredible progress that they have made.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the contributions of the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia and in congratulating each of the 2013 Award Recipients. Their dedication, hard work, and commit-

ment improves the quality of life for the students, as well as the community, by providing program participants with the life skills that are necessary to become active and productive members of society.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 TOWN OF DUMFRIES VOLUNTEER AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2013 Town of Dumfries Volunteer Awards.

The Town of Dumfries was chartered on May 11, 1749, by the Virginia General Assembly, eventually becoming Virginia's oldest continuously chartered town. The town covers a land area of 1.6 square miles in eastern Prince William County, and it is located 31 miles southwest of Washington, D.C. Dumfries served as a busy tobacco port for the Virginia Colony during the 17th and 18th centuries until the onset of the American Revolution. Today, more than 4,900 residents call the Town of Dumfries home. Several of these residents have volunteered their time and energy over the past year to help the town government organize a wide variety of activities and events, and the work of these volunteers deserves recognition.

It is my honor to submit the names of the 2013 Town of Dumfries Volunteer Awards honorees:

Volunteer of the Year Award: Sonia Hoehn.

Spirit of Community Service Award: Melonie Bennett.

Partner in Community Service Award: Pillar Church.

Community Hero Award: Dumfries-Triangle Rescue Squad.

Friend to the Community Award: Quantico Marine Corps Band.

UnSung Hero Award: William O'Kelly Russell.

Further, it is my honor to submit the names of the volunteers for the Town of Dumfries:

Joann Baron, Richard Bell, Jill Borak, Ericka Bridges, Nigel A. Clay, Lakesha Clements, Danny Cosner, Gina Critchley, Matt Critchley, Derek Ester, Carmella Foreman, Michael Futrell, Ana Garcia, Colby Garman of Pillar Church, Gunnery Sergeant Kevin A. Glave of the Quantico Marine Corps Band, Dr. Amy Goodwine, Becky Guy, Bill Hoehn, Teriyaki Jefferson, Jen Jones, Persephone Jones of Brownie Troop 5894, Uriah Kiser, Marc Lamelin, Sandra Lamelin, Carrie M. Lee, Meredith Lopez, Lisa Manion, Michael McDonald, Tishami Clay McDonald, Ed McGlothlin, Mike, Selonia Miles, Lisa Miller of Cub Scout Pack 176, Shawn Miller of Cub Scout Pack 176, Amir Nehemiah Neville-Majeed, William Noaker, Mr. Pack, Nicole Pack, Kristina Padberg, Mary Padberg, Thomasina Perkins-Washington, Paul Peterson, Bruce Potter, Potomac Senior High School NJROTC, Bob Price, Chase Rivers of DMV Dynasty, Pequitte Schwerin, Mike Sheperd, Pete Singh, Sue Stalder, Kayla Straub, Terry Swirchak, Liletta Thompson, Eileen Thrall, Danya Tolpolcai, John Tolpolcai, Penny Toney, Sharon Turner, Glenn Vickers, James Vincent, Gary West,

Kenya Whitener, Raymond Williams Sr., Ronald Wilson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking the volunteers for the Town of Dumfries and in congratulating our award recipients. These volunteers appreciate the value of community action and work tirelessly to support the long-standing civic mission of the Town of Dumfries.

RECOGNIZING THE EDEN PRAIRIE BOYS GOLF TEAM ON STATE TITLE

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Eden Prairie Boys golf team for winning the 2013 Boys Minnesota State High School Golf Championship. Their efforts were nothing short of excellent and their victory was earned through hard work and commitment.

The boys team worked hard to improve their skills throughout the season. The winning 10-foot putt was sunk by junior Zach Peters, allowing the Eagles to win over the defending state champion by a single point, truly marking the Eden Prairie team as worthy champions. Together, this team has exemplified perseverance and dedication.

I would also like to commend the coaches for leading this Eagles squad to the state title. This is the first time the Eagles have secured the state title since their initial championship in 1999, and Head Coach Ty Armstrong has promised the team that they can throw him into a pond to celebrate.

It is a noteworthy achievement to win a state championship title, and the team members and coaches of the Eden Prairie boy's golf team should be proud. They set a great example to fellow students and athletes. Congratulations to these student athletes, their parents, and the coaches. Go Eagles!

SUPPORT EUROPE/EURASIA ENERGY SECURITY AND HELP STRENGTHEN OUR STRATEGIC ALLIANCES—THE SOUTHERN GAS CORRIDOR RESOLUTION

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the U.S. Delegation to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Parliamentary Assembly, I am introducing a bipartisan resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that it is in our national interest to support and enhance Europe's energy security through opening of the Southern Gas Corridor.

Many of our allies in Europe are heavily dependent on natural gas supplies from one country or from unstable regions. For example, several European countries have experienced natural gas supply disruptions from Russia, the largest supplier of natural gas to Europe, over various disputes. In addition, Turkey relies on Iran for 20 percent of its natural gas imports. And earlier this year, Islamist

militants attacked a natural gas facility in Algeria, which is the third largest exporter of natural gas to Europe.

The Caspian Sea region holds significant energy resources and proven natural gas reserves. In particular, the Shah Deniz field in Azerbaijan is one of the world's largest gas fields, with over 30 trillion cubic feet of recoverable gas. The Southern Gas Corridor will help our European allies diversify their energy resources by providing an alternative and reliable source of natural gas. This will bolster their energy security and help improve geopolitical stability in the region. Specifically, the pipeline will route natural gas from Azerbaijan through Georgia and Turkey to Europe.

Current and past administrations have expressed support for the Southern Gas Corridor. At the U.S.-Azerbaijan Convention in late May 2013, U.S. Ambassador to Azerbaijan Richard Morningstar stated:

“... Azerbaijan's importance to European energy security will remain strong, helping to guarantee that our European partners are not overly reliant on any suppliers. Azerbaijan is now in the final stages of establishing a southern corridor for natural gas.

“... our overriding interest is that Azerbaijani gas reaches vulnerable markets in Europe...”

Additionally, a December 2012 report by Senator Richard Lugar's Foreign Relations Committee staff entitled “Energy and Security from the Caspian to Europe” states:

“... the Southern Corridor would advance several U.S. and NATO foreign policy objectives: it would further isolate Iran, assist in cultivating partners in the Caucasus and Central Asia and bolster their sovereign independence, and perhaps most importantly, curtail Russia's energy leverage over European NATO allies.”

Mr. Speaker, the Southern Gas Corridor will contribute to regional energy security for our allies in Europe and Eurasia, and help to strengthen our strategic partnership.

I urge all my colleagues to support this important resolution.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JOHN
MCLAIN FOR HIS SERVICE WITH
THE UNITED STATES NAVY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and commend Captain John McLain of Woodbridge, Virginia, on the occasion of his retirement after 25 years of honorable service with the United States Navy.

Captain McLain graduated from Florida State University with a Bachelors Degree in International Relations and English in 1987. He attended Aviation Officer Candidate School and was commissioned an Ensign in March 1988.

Designated a Naval Aviator in June 1989, Captain McLain was assigned to the Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (Light) Forty-Three (HSL-43), where he deployed twice to the Persian Gulf, participating in Operation Desert Shield with the USS *Chancellorsville* (CG 63) and as Detachment Maintenance Officer with the USS *Paul F. Foster* (DD 964).

In April 1993, Captain McLain was assigned to Air Test and Evaluation Squadron One (VX-1) in Patuxent River, Maryland, where he served as Operational Test Director for all SH-60B programs.

In April 1996, he reported to USS Boxer (LHD 4), in San Diego, as the Assistant Air Officer, deploying again to the Arabian Gulf and Red Sea with the 15th MEU (SOC).

Following refresher training in the SH-60B, Captain McLain reported to the “Easy Riders” of HSL-37 in NAS Barber's Point, Hawaii. He served as Officer in Charge of the LAMPS detachment aboard the USS *Port Royal* (CG 72) with the USS *John C. Stennis* Battle Group and as the squadron Maintenance Officer.

Captain McLain reported to the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, where he graduated with honors from the College of Naval Command and Staff with a Master's degree in National Security Affairs. Following graduation, he was selected as an Associate Fellow with the Chief of Naval Operations' Strategic Studies Group (CNO SSG) during SSG XXII.

After SSG, Captain McLain was assigned to the Joint Staff in Washington, D.C. where he worked in the Directorate for Intelligence, Deputy Directorate for Intelligence Capabilities and Requirements (J2P).

He was selected for command in August 2005 and reported to NAS Whiting Field, Florida, where he served as Executive Officer of Helicopter Training Squadron Eighteen (HT-18) and as the first Commanding Officer of Helicopter Training Squadron Twenty-Eight (HT-28).

Captain McLain reported to the Center for Naval Analyses (CNA) as a Federal Executive Fellow in August 2008. After completing his fellowship, he reported to the Strategy Branch, Strategy and Policy Division, Office of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans and Strategy (OPNAV N513) where he completed his 25 years of service in the United States Navy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise to join me in recognizing and thanking John McLain for his committed and selfless service to his colleagues and our country. We are fortunate to have among us veterans with Captain McLain's sense of duty and continued commitment to our national security. We wish Captain McLain, his wife, June, and their two sons, Jack and Finn, well during this next chapter of their lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF A LANDMARK
COURT RULING RECOGNIZING
CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORITY TO
GRANT CITIZENSHIP TO PER-
SONS BORN IN U.S. TERRITORIES

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of a landmark decision handed down yesterday by the District Court for the District of Columbia in *Tuaua v. United States*. The decision reaffirms the plenary authority of Congress to grant citizenship to people born in the U.S. territories. The plaintiffs in the lawsuit are five non-citizen U.S. nationals born in

American Samoa and the Samoan Federation of America, a nonprofit organization serving the Samoan community in Los Angeles. The defendants are the United States, the State Department, the Secretary of State, and the Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs. The plaintiffs brought the lawsuit seeking a declaratory judgment that would assert that the Fourteenth Amendment's Citizenship Clause extends to American Samoa. I submitted an amicus curiae brief in support of the defendants. The Court granted the defendants' motion to dismiss on June 26, 2013 after finding that the plaintiffs failed to state a claim.

Mr. Speaker, the plaintiffs in the Citizenship lawsuit sought to reverse years of legal precedent and usurp Congressional authority to bestow citizenship to people living in the U.S. territories. The Court correctly found the plaintiffs' arguments unpersuasive and held, “To date, Congress has not seen fit to bestow birthright citizenship upon American Samoa, and in accordance with the law, this Court must and will respect that choice.” When the people of American Samoa vote in favor of citizenship, I will work with Congress to ensure that the people of American Samoa become U.S. citizens. However, the people of American Samoa have yet to vote on whether they want to become U.S. citizens.

Mr. Speaker, in the early 20th century the Supreme Court in a series of cases known as the Insular Cases, firmly established the extent to which the Constitution applies to the territories. In these cases the Court defined “incorporated” territories as territories that are expressly made part of the United States by an act of Congress and “unincorporated territories” as territories that had not yet become part of the United States and were not on a path toward statehood. The Insular Cases established that only “fundamental” constitutional rights are extended to persons born in unincorporated territories.

The plaintiffs argued that citizenship is a “fundamental” right that applied to unincorporated territories. Recent federal court cases have not supported this argument. Similarly, Judge Richard Leon in his opinion in *Tuaua v. U.S.* correctly reasoned that the Insular Cases suggested that citizenship was not a “fundamental right” that applied to unincorporated territories. Judge Leon found the plaintiffs' evidence too speculative in the face of contrary overwhelming legal precedent and constitutional authority. The plaintiffs were unable to provide a single federal court case that has recognized birthright citizenship as a guarantee in unincorporated territories.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Michael Williams, Thea Cohen and Michael Fragoso and their law firm of Kirkland & Ellis, LLP for their generous support in working collaboratively with my office in support of the people of American Samoa.

In conclusion Mr. Speaker, I thank the Court for its well reasoned opinion in *Tuaua v. U.S.* and for reaffirming the authority of Congress to grant citizenship to the people of American Samoa. This decision will allow the people of American Samoa to decide whether they want to become citizens. Once the people make a decision I can work with my colleagues in Congress to grant citizenship to the people of American Samoa.

REGARDING SUPREME COURT DECISION IN SHELBY COUNTY VS. HOLDER

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, in the case of *Shelby County v. Holder*, decided this past Tuesday, the justification relied upon by the conservative majority of the Supreme Court to strike down Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act today essentially comes down to this: "Times change." Chief Justice Roberts is right, times have changed. What he neglects to add is that the change is due almost entirely to the existence and vigorous enforcement of the Voting Rights Act.

In the same way that the vaccine invented by Dr. Jonas Salk in 1953 eradicated the crippling effects but did not eliminate the cause of polio, the Voting Rights Act has succeeded in stymying the practices that resulted in the wholesale disenfranchisement of African Americans in the southern region of our country but not in eliminating the motivations underlying them. And that is why the vaccine of the Voting Rights Act is needed as much today as Dr. Salk's vaccine is needed to prevent another polio epidemic.

In his opinion, the Chief Justice applauds this remarkable progress brought about by the Voting Rights Act and concludes it was so successful in preventing the states with the worst and most egregious records of voter suppression, intimidation from disenfranchising minority voters that those States should no longer be subject to the federal supervision responsible for the success he celebrates.

But in a record exceeding 15,000 pages in length compiled after holding 21 hearings and receiving testimony from more than 150 witnesses, Congress carefully and meticulously documented why the covered States could not yet be trusted to refrain from a return to their days of shame. And because of Section 5, they could not do so even if they tried.

Without Section 5, Congress recognized that many of the advances of the past decades could be wiped out overnight with new schemes and devices, such as the mid-decade redistricting conducted in my home State of Texas, which the U.S. Supreme Court struck down in part in *LULAC v. Perry*, 546 U.S. 399 (2006) or the attempt to eliminate the North Forest Independent School District in my congressional district.

I call upon the leadership of the Congress and President Obama to follow the example of their predecessors during the 109th Congress and begin immediately to work together to come up with the legislative remedy needed to repair the damage caused by the Supreme Court's misreading of history and disregard of its own settled precedents when it comes to Congress's power to protect the right to vote guaranteed by the 15th Amendment.

While the Congress works to come up with the pre-clearance legislative fix, the administration in the meantime should begin redirecting its resources to wage the many "post-clearance" battles that lay ahead.

RECOGNIZING RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 GREATER RESTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARDS FOR CHAMBER EXCELLENCE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize recipients of the 2013 Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce Awards for Chamber Excellence.

The Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1982 as a business roundtable in the growing community of Reston, Virginia. For more than 30 years, the Reston Chamber has facilitated business growth and entrepreneurship through its programming, advocacy and engagement throughout the community. The Reston Chamber currently has more than 600 member businesses that together employ more than 10,000 people. It is the 6th largest chamber of commerce in the Washington DC-metropolitan region and is deeply embedded in the community.

The Reston Chamber hosts annual events such as Taste of Reston, Oktoberfest Reston, and Best of Reston, and it has received national recognition for its Ethics Day, a workshop for high school students on ethical decision making. Members use the INC.spire Education Foundation and free SCORE business coaching programs to help create and grow their enterprises. INC.spire has assisted more than four dozen entrepreneurs create 500 jobs and \$45 million of business investment.

The Chamber was recognized by Fairfax County Public Schools for its involvement in local classrooms, received the Community Service Award from the Reston Community Center, and received the Best of Reston Corporate Philanthropy Award in 2012.

Each year, through the Awards for Chamber Excellence, the Chamber recognizes member companies, individuals, and volunteers who have demonstrated excellence, innovation and exceptional dedication to the Reston community. I am pleased to join the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce in recognizing the following Awards for Chamber Excellence (ACE) recipients:

Committee of the Year: Business Education Committee, Angela Inzerillo and Cindy Simons-Bennett (co-chairs).

Small Business of the Year: Conversion Pipeline.

Medium Business of the Year: Atrium Catering and Design.

Large Business of the Year: Access National Bank.

Member of the Year: Cynthia Hyland, Northrop Grumman.

New Member of the Year: Lindsay Mensch. Volunteer of the Year: Laura Lee Spatzer.

First Responder of the Year Award: Sally Dickinson, North Point Fire Station 439.

Joe Ritchie Pinnacle Award: Marion Myers, Myers Public Relations.

President's Award: Bill Byers, First Virginia Community Bank.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating this year's award recipients and in thanking them for their contributions to the local economy and outstanding service to our community. I also commend the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce for its

role as an invaluable partner to local businesses, nonprofits and schools. The efforts of the Chamber, the member businesses, and volunteers have helped make Reston a truly special place live, work and raise a family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, due to an unforeseen death in my family, I was absent for rollcall votes 287–290. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yea," rollcall No. 287 H.R. 2383. To designate the new Interstate Route 20 bridge over the Mississippi River connecting St. Louis, Missouri, and southwestern Illinois as the Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge

"Yea," rollcall No. 288 H.R. 1092. To designate the air traffic control center located in Nashua, New Hampshire, as the Patricia Clark Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center.

"Yea," rollcall No. 289. On Ordering the Previous Question.

"Yea," rollcall No. 290. Providing for consideration of H.R. 1613, Outer Continental Shelf Transboundary Hydrocarbon Agreements Authorization Act; providing for consideration of H.R. 2231, Offshore Energy and Jobs Act; and providing for consideration of H.R. 2410, making appropriations for Agriculture, FY 2014.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 SHELTER HOUSE, INC. VOLUNTEER AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the remarkable efforts of Shelter House, Inc., and to congratulate the recipients of the 2013 Volunteer Awards. Shelter House is a community-based, non-profit organization that works to break the cycle of homelessness by offering support to those most in need in the Northern Virginia community. Shelter House provides crisis intervention, temporary, transitional and permanent housing, training, counseling, and programs to support self-sufficiency. Of course, none of this would be possible without the hard work of dedicated volunteers.

Shelter House was founded in 1981 by several faith groups, which came together to better serve low-income individuals and families. Shelter House operates three shelters: The Katherine K. Hanley and the Patrick Henry family shelters, which provide temporary housing for local families who become homeless, and Artemis House, Fairfax County's only emergency shelter for families and individuals fleeing domestic and sexual violence and human trafficking. In 2013, Shelter House added permanent housing to its portfolio by partnering with Falls Church Presbyterian Church to open the Ives House to three homeless/unstably housed families to provide additional case management support to increase their self-sufficiency.

The programs operated by Shelter House have contributed greatly to breaking the cycle of homelessness. In FY2012, Shelter House decreased the average length of stay for families in its shelters by 30 percent, and 72 percent of families at the Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter and Patrick Henry Family Shelter moved into permanent housing, representing a 12% increase over the previous fiscal year. At Artemis House, 67% of households moved to safe and stable housing—an increase of 5% from FY2011. In FY2012, Shelter house prevented 40 households from becoming homeless, and 80 percent of families staying in its transitional and permanent supportive housing programs increased their employment income by an average of more than \$650 per month. Volunteers and community partners are essential to this success, as they provide the tools necessary to combat homelessness. Their time, money, and effort compose the foundation of Shelter House's commendable work.

This year, Shelter House has recognized the following individuals and partners for their outstanding commitment to ending homelessness in our community: Changing Lives Awards—Passion 4 Community, Lord of Life Lutheran Church, and St. Luke's United Methodist Church. Community Champions—Falls Church Presbyterian Church, Madison Ridge, and McLean Bible Church. Ending Homelessness & Domestic Violence Awards—Pat Kuehnel, Keller Williams Fairfax Gateway Office, and Lori Tagami. Youth Volunteer Award—Natalie Hancher, Molly Sullivan, Charlotte Lackey, Girl Scout Troop #1732, and Rock Spring UCC YORS (Youth of Rock Spring). These individuals and organizations certainly deserve special recognition for their dedication to Shelter House. However, we also must acknowledge the importance of all Shelter House volunteers, as well as the private sector and government partners who constantly strive to better our community through efforts to provide secure, structured environments, as well as indispensable support, for families in need.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our sincere appreciation to Shelter House and its many volunteers and community partners. Their selfless work benefits the entire Northern Virginia community and improves the lives of many of our neighbors.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAKEWOOD 4TH OF JULY PARADE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Lakewood 4th of July Parade. On July 4, 1964, the Lakewood 4th of July Parade consisted of two children riding their bikes down the sidewalk on a block of Lakewood Boulevard. From these humble beginnings, the parade has expanded to become an institution of the Lakewood neighborhood.

For the past 50 years, the Lakewood 4th of July Parade has worked hard to promote a sense of community for its residents. While the parade has grown tremendously over the

past five decades, it remains true to its purpose of having a parade for the benefit of kids of all ages. The Lakewood 4th of July Parade is truly helping make our community a better place to live.

My wife, Melissa, and our two young children enjoy participating in the Lakewood 4th of July Parade. The annual event is important, not just to those who live on the neighboring streets, but to all who come to Lakewood to enjoy the patriotic festivities.

On behalf of all Lakewood residents, I would like to congratulate the Lakewood 4th of July Parade organizers and volunteers on their tremendous accomplishments and thank them for their continued valuable service to our community and country.

ADDRESSING THE NEGLECTED DISEASES TREATMENT GAP

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, which I chair, held a hearing that examined the neglected diseases that affect a relatively small but significant number of children around the world.

These diseases are not only debilitating for their victims but are too often fatal when untreated. Such diseases largely impact poor people in poor countries. They are not only small in numbers, but they are unable to pay market prices for treatments and are unlikely to lead social movements to force action on their diseases. That means that research on detection, vaccines and drug treatment for their ailments does not receive the priority that diseases such as HIV/AIDS, often seen in pandemic levels, are given.

The World Health Organization has identified 17 neglected tropical diseases or NTDs. The list ranges from chagas to rabies to leprosy to dengue fever. However, there are others not on this list of 17 diseases that also receive less attention. These include such diseases as polio and smallpox, which have largely been eliminated from the planet, and fatal, fortunately rare NTDs such as kuru and ebola.

This hearing will consider the current U.S. government handling of these neglected diseases to determine what more can or should be done to address this situation. Current U.S. law favors research on those diseases threatening the American homeland, but in today's world, diseases can cross borders as easily as those affected by them or the products imported into the United States. For example, chagas is most prevalent in Latin America, but it has been identified in patients in Texas, and cases of dengue fever have recently been reported in Florida. We cannot afford to assume that what may seem to be exotic diseases only happen to people in other countries. Ten years ago, West Nile Virus, another NTD, was not seen in the United States or anywhere else outside the East African nation of Uganda, but in less than a decade, it has spread across this country and much of the rest of the world. Last year, 286 people died from West Nile Virus in the United States alone. As re-

cently as the mid-1990s, this disease was seen only sporadically and was considered a minor risk for human beings.

Generally, NTDs affect the health of the poor in developing countries where access to clean water, sanitation, and health care is limited. Roughly 2 billion people are being treated for at least one NTD, although most individuals are infected with several NTDs at once. Several NTDs are difficult to control by drug treatment alone because of their complicated transmission cycles that involve non-human carriers such as insects. Furthermore, some of the drugs have significant side effects (including death) and cannot be used by young children or pregnant women.

A study done in 2001 found that research and development of drugs to treat infectious diseases had ground to a near-standstill. From 1975 to 1999, the report stated, 1,393 new drugs were brought to the market globally, but only 16, or 1.1 percent, were for tropical diseases (including malaria) and even tuberculosis, although these diseases represented 12% of the global disease burden. A 2012 update of that study found that the gap between the percentage of research and development on NTDs and their percentage of the global disease burden had narrowed, but there is still a long way to go to reach an adequate balance. Of the 756 new drugs approved between 2000 and 2011, 29 (or 3.8 percent) were for neglected diseases, although the global burden of such diseases was estimated at 10.5 percent. Of these, only four were new chemical creations, three of which were for malaria, but none for tuberculosis or neglected tropical diseases.

It is unprofitable for companies to create treatments for diseases with few victims and no certain way to recover research and development costs. Our heart goes out to those who suffer from these neglected diseases, and we want our government to speed up research and development in cooperation with universities and private companies. However, research and development take time and effort and costs money that private companies cannot easily justify to their stockholders, including many of us, without incentives. We should consider such incentives and look at the system in place to forge successful efforts to deal with NTDs.

We had with us representatives from the National Institutes of Health, which was established to understand, treat, and ultimately prevent the many infectious, immunologic and allergic diseases that threaten millions of human lives. Their government partner in the system for developing solutions to the problem of NTDs and other diseases is the Food and Drug Administration, which, among other responsibilities, is charged with protecting and promoting public health through the regulation and supervision of prescription and over-the-counter pharmaceutical medications, vaccines and biopharmaceuticals.

Also joining us yesterday were representatives from a network specializing in providing medicines at the lowest possible cost to those suffering from NTDs, a major pharmaceutical company that develops new drugs for the treatment of diseases rare and otherwise, and a new organization seeking to extend the benefits of proven interventions to improve the lives of the poor in developing countries. If a solution to the gap between existing research and development and successful strategies to

meet the challenges of NTDs is to be found, it will take the collaboration of the organizations represented here today, as well as numerous others.

What yesterday was a disease affecting a tiny population in a remote area of the world can tomorrow become an unexpected, global epidemic. We must be better prepared to deal with new challenges to public health.

IN RECOGNITION OF PLYMOUTH'S
SIX FALLEN HEROES

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and sacrifice of six fallen heroes hailing from the great town of Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Since September 11, 2001, Plymouth has lost six of its own citizens who answered the call to defend their Nation. These selfless individuals will now be memorialized by family, friends, and neighbors in their hometown when Plymouth's Fallen Heroes Memorial is officially unveiled next week. Today, I would like to express my gratitude for their service by presenting the names of the fallen to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Sergeant First Class Robert E. Rooney, Army National Guard

Killed in action September 25, 2003 in Kuwait

Lance Corporal Jeffrey C. Burgess, United States Marine Corps

Killed in action March 25, 2004 in Fallujah, Iraq

Private First Class Kevin J. King, United States Army

Killed in action April 18, 2007 during a training exercise at Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Sergeant Benjamin W. Sherman, United States Army

Killed in action November 10, 2009 in Western Afghanistan

Staff Sergeant Matthew A. Pucino, Army National Guard

Killed in action November 23, 2009 in Pashay Kala, Afghanistan

Specialist Steven E. Gutowski, United States Army

Killed in action September 28, 2011 in Ghanzi Province, Afghanistan

These courageous, distinguished men embodied the best ideals of our country and dedicated their lives to its security. I sincerely thank these six Plymouth natives for all that they have given in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to recognize the outstanding sacrifice that these veterans made for their country. I ask that my colleagues join me in this remembrance, and in thanking all of our servicemembers deployed across the globe.

RECOGNIZING ALEXANDER
MIRANDA AND ANGEL VALVERDE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize two students, Alexander

Miranda of Davenport, Florida, and Angel Valverde of Orlando, Florida, on their acceptance to attend a People to People World Leadership Forum next week in Washington, D.C.

The People to People Leadership Ambassadors program brings together middle and high school students from over 140 countries and offers unique, hands on educational experiences that prepare students to assume the mantle of leadership in the future. While in Washington, D.C., students will participate in daily educational activities constructed around a leadership development-focused curriculum to assist students in identifying and applying their personal leadership style.

To be selected for a People to People World Leadership Forum, these students have demonstrated the requirements of academic excellence, leadership potential and exemplary citizenship. Their commitment of time and dedication to their education and future is outstanding. I wish the best for Alexander and Angel as they continue to advance toward even higher pursuits.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to congratulate Alexander Miranda and Angel Valverde on their acceptance to a People to People World Leadership Forum this summer. May their hard work and steadfastness inspire many to follow in their footsteps.

H.R. 1947 THE FEDERAL AGRICULTURE REFORM AND RISK MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2013

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the harmful "King Amendment" to the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2013 (H.R. 2217). I believe it will negatively impact Michigan's agricultural industry and hinder states' ability to maintain high dairy standards and to protect its citizens from livestock diseases and invasive pests.

I am disappointed that the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture adopted the controversial King amendment and that floor amendments to strip this harmful provision were not allowed to be voted on by the full House. The King Amendment precludes positive state regulation because it authorizes the federal government to nullify state laws and to change current animal welfare standards.

I have consistently made animal protection a priority. In 2010, I co-authored the Animal Crush Video Prohibition Act that was later signed into law by President Obama. During my time in Congress I have supported and championed legislation aimed at protecting the welfare of animals. I will continue to fight to uphold ethical animal welfare standards.

While I have deep concerns with the substance of the King amendment and a legislative process that barred full House consideration thereof, I believe it is critical to provide necessary resources to our agricultural producers in Michigan and across our nation. I look forward to working with my colleagues in both the House and Senate to enact a farm bill that supports our agricultural industry while maintaining high animal welfare standards.

A TRIBUTE TO DENNIS P. ZINE,
MEMBER OF THE LOS ANGELES
CITY COUNCIL

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary leadership and public service of Dennis P. Zine, Member of the Los Angeles City Council. For the last twelve years, Councilmember Zine has represented the interests of the San Fernando Valley on the Los Angeles City Council, expanding recreation opportunities for Valley residents, fighting against waste and abuse in public agencies and supporting law enforcement efforts to keep our streets safe.

Councilman Zine has a well-earned reputation in the San Fernando Valley for his deep commitment to local community and non-profit groups as well as his lively presence at community events. Every year I look forward to sharing the stage with the Councilman at the appropriately titled "Dennis P. Zine 4th of July Fireworks Extravaganza at Warner Center."

Before his election to the City Council, Dennis served for 28 years on the front lines of the Los Angeles Police Department. During that time, Dennis rose to the rank of Sergeant, was honored as officer of the year by the California Highway Patrol and was elected three times to the Board of Directors of the Police Protective League.

Always working to improve the quality of life for the residents of the San Fernando Valley, Councilman Zine formed P.O.S.S.E. (People Organizing a Safe, Secure Environment), a volunteer group in which hundreds of concerned citizens can work to rid their communities of graffiti, neglected properties, abandoned cars and other nuisances.

Dennis is blessed with two sons, Chris and Eric. Like his father before him, Chris is a Sergeant with the LAPD while Eric is a champion race pilot and flight instructor.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my gratitude to Dennis Zine and thank him for his tenure of outstanding public service to the residents of the San Fernando Valley. Dennis Zine is an extraordinary leader whose service deserves to be recognized for all that he has done and will continue to do for our community.

OFFSHORE ENERGY AND JOBS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2231) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to increase energy exploration and production on the Outer Continental Shelf, provide for equitable revenue sharing for all coastal States, implement the reorganization of the functions of the former Minerals Management Service into distinct and separate agencies, and for other purposes:

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the Flores Amendment.

This amendment would seriously undermine the smart ocean planning activities called for

by the National Ocean Policy. I fail to see why my colleagues on the other side of the aisle oppose smart management of our ocean and coastal resources.

We depend heavily on our oceans. In 2010 alone, maritime economic activities supported 2.7 million jobs and contributed 258 billion dollars to our GDP. But there is increasing competition for the use of our oceans. Offshore energy facilities, commercial fishing, recreation, renewable energy, and shipping are all competing for ocean space and resources.

Yet, despite this complex network of competing interests, our current haphazard system makes planning decisions about each industry individually, rather than looking at the big picture and planning accordingly. Our discussion this week about expanding offshore oil drilling is a perfect example of this piecemeal approach that results in an inefficient use of our ocean resources.

Smart regional planning is one answer to this problem. Planning processes allow us to work together and find the best solutions that offer the most benefits for our oceans and our economies—two systems that we all know are deeply intertwined and highly interdependent. Smart decisions are based on mathematical analyses, ecological assessments, and stakeholder deliberations—not politics. And with the guidance of the National Ocean Policy, these processes will happen at the regional level, which puts ocean management decisions closer to the people on the ground—the industries and jobs that will be impacted by ocean management decisions.

The National Ocean Policy is not a big government initiative, but a mechanism for efficient planning and giving regions and states more control. The amendment in question would disenfranchise states, businesses, and citizens who engage in developing ocean plans.

Mr. Chair, smart ocean planning is the clear way forward to make the most of our ocean resources. The Flores amendment would undercut this process, and I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

OFFSHORE ENERGY AND JOBS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2231) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to increase energy exploration and production on the Outer Continental Shelf, provide for equitable revenue sharing for all coastal States, implement the reorganization of the functions of the former Minerals Management Service into distinct and separate agencies, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair the Offshore Energy and Jobs Act, which raises several issues important to every Member of the House:

Energy production and independence
Environmental protection and preservation;
and

Job creation for minorities and women

Given the importance of these issues, I believe the House would have benefitted from a

bill I introduced during the 111th and the 112th Congress. H.R. 3710—The Deficit Reduction, Job Creation and Energy Security Act of 2011 and of 2012.

My bill proclaimed a placement for the next generation. The introduction of H.R. 3710 indicated a collaborative approach in response of the call from Americans across the U.S., calling for jobs today. H.R. 3710 will do exactly that plus provide huge benefits to our national and local economies, and increase our energy supply and independence from foreign oil.

The energy bill I offered calls for the secretary of interior to increase the total lease acreage set forth in the proposed outer continental shelf oil & gas leasing program for 2012–2017 by an additional 10 percent.

This 10% increase shall be known as the deficit reduction acreage. As such, the secretary shall lease 20% of the deficit reduction acreage each year from 2012–2017. All proceeds from the deficit reduction acreage shall be deposited into the deficit reduction energy security fund.

For 15 years after issuance of the first lease or receipt of the first payment coming from the deficit reduction energy security fund, all proceeds shall be deposited into an interest bearing account for a period of 2 years. Upon expiration of the 2 year period, these proceeds shall be distributed as follows:

The interest gained during 2 year period shall be placed in the Coastal and Ocean Sustainability and Health Fund (COSH);

And the principle from the deficit reduction energy security fund shall be deposited into the U.S. Treasury and applied directly toward deficit reduction.

The cosh fund will establish grants for States (coastal and disaster grant program an) a national grant program) for addressing coastal and ocean disasters, restoration, protection, and maintenance of coastal areas and oceans, including research and programs in coordination with State and local agencies.

My bill also establishes an Office of Ocean Energy Employment and Training at the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, which shall be empowered and directed to oversee the efforts of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement Ocean Energy Planning, permitting and regulatory activities to carry out the purposes, objectives and requirements of this act.

And my bill establishes the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion that will require the Secretary to take affirmative steps to seek diversity in all levels of such department, and to be responsible for all matters of the Department of the Interior relating to diversity in management, employment, and business activities.

As a representative from Houston, Texas, representing the energy capital of America, I realize that energy is the lifeblood of every economy.

I also realize that the oil and gas industry provides many jobs for many of my constituents and opportunities for small businesses in my district.

Therefore, it is critical that while seeking solutions to secure more energy independence within this country, we must strike a balance that will still support an environment for continued growth in the oil and gas industry that creates millions of jobs across the entire country.

My bill guarantees to pay down the deficit, create grant dollars for local government enti-

ties, and creates a job training and employment office for minorities and women at the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement.

Mr. Chair, I ask the Chairman and the Ranking Member to work with me on my bill, H.R. 3710, to create a robust job creation bill that pays down the deficit, creates grant dollars and establishes an office for employment and job training for minorities and women.

H.R. 2231 touches the surface but does not penetrate into the crust of a real offshore job creation bill.

My bill, H.R. 3710 requires the department to utilize its authorities regarding the leasing and development of offshore oil and gas resources to accelerate job creation and economic revitalization to the fullest extent practicable, taking into account the department's responsibilities regarding conservation, safety and protection of the environment; promotes expansion of domestic employment opportunities; responds to the Nations increased need for domestic oil and natural gas resources; and supports the utilization of the outer continental shelf for oil and gas production and transmission.

H.R. 2231, does not provide the key components, in which I propose in H.R. 3710, and for these reasons, I am opposed to the bill and cannot support it.

HONORING JOHN DINGELL

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on December 8, 1941, a page stood on the House floor as President Franklin Roosevelt spoke of a “date which will live in infamy” and asked the Congress to declare war on Japan.

The son of a Congressman, ready and willing to serve his country, this young man enlisted in the Army in 1944 and fought on distant shores in World War II. In 1955, he followed in the family tradition of public service, ran for his father's seat in Congress, and won.

Today, that page, that young man, is the Dean of the House and the longest-serving Member of Congress in history: JOHN DINGELL.

Over the course of nearly six decades, JOHN DINGELL has had a hand in almost every issue vital to the American people: from the air that we breathe and the water that we drink, to how the government serves its citizens, to essential consumer protections.

Yet, among his countless achievements, none hold greater significance than his contributions to the health of the American people. Indeed, it has been the constant theme of his career.

Health care was the family families—as his father had introduced the first-ever national health care legislation. In 1955, carrying forward that legacy, JOHN DINGELL ran for Congress on the platform of health care for all. In 1965, Medicare became the law of the land with the bang of JOHN DINGELL's gavel.

With each new Congress, he would introduce bills, hold hearings, build momentum for health reform. And in 2010, after half-a-century of fighting for his cause, he sat by President Obama's side to see the Affordable Care

Act signed into law—a dream long overdue, a dream of the Dingell family, a dream finally realized for all Americans.

To work alongside JOHN DINGELL is to be inspired by his strength and passion, by the history of our institution, by the seriousness of our work. This year, we recognize JOHN DINGELL as the longest-serving Member in Congress. But it is not only about the length of his service—it is about the quality of his leadership.

It is an honor to serve with him as a colleague. It is a privilege to know him as a friend. It is a source of pride to work with this living legend in the Congress of the United States.

May we all continue to be moved and strengthened by the dedication, commitment, and conviction of the great JOHN DINGELL.

OFFSHORE ENERGY AND JOBS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2231) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to increase energy exploration and production on the Outer Continental Shelf, provide for equitable revenue sharing for all coastal States, implement the reorganization of the functions of the former Minerals Management Service into distinct and separate agencies, and for other purposes:

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Chair, I strongly oppose the offshore drilling bill before the House. Sadly, this legislation is representative of the unbalanced, partisan, and ultimately self-defeating approach that the Republican Majority has taken on energy issues.

H.R. 2231 would mandate lease sales along the east and west coasts and elsewhere with inadequate environmental review and scant attention given to local concerns. In total, leasing would be mandated off the coasts of 14 states, whether they want it or not. If this heavy-handed giveaway to the oil industry seems familiar, that's because it is. Last July, the Republican leadership brought a nearly identical bill before the House. That bill never advanced beyond the House, and this drilling bill won't either. The Senate won't take it up. The President has said he'd veto it, so other than demonstrating the Majority's fealty to Big Oil, why are we again wasting the House's time on this?

We're told that this bill is about making the U.S. more energy independent. Let the record show that domestic energy production is booming under the current Administration's policies. In 2012, American oil production reached a 20-year high. Natural gas production is at an all-time high. The U.S. is expected to surpass Saudi Arabia as the world's top oil producer within seven years.

We're also told that this bill is all about driving down gas prices for American families. What guarantee do we have that the oil and gas production mandated by this legislation would actually stay in the United States? Over the last decade, U.S. exports of petroleum products like gasoline and diesel fuel have nearly tripled. Every day U.S. refineries export

millions of gallons of refined petroleum products, including gasoline and diesel. This is no doubt good for the petroleum industry's bottom line, but it's hard to argue that it helps consumers at the pump.

At the end of the day, the country needs an all-the-above energy strategy, including responsible oil and gas development, increased energy efficiency, support for renewable energy, and investment in advanced energy research and development. Unfortunately, the House Majority remained locked in an oil-above-all policy. The oil drilling bill before the House deserves to be defeated.

CELEBRATING THE HUNTERDON MEDICAL CENTER

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Hunterdon Medical Center for sixty years of excellence in medicine. The Hunterdon Medical Center is a product of community initiative, with county residents petitioning the Hunterdon County Board of Agriculture to build a hospital—the last county in the state without one. In 1953, the medical center opened its doors and has since built an esteemed reputation providing expert care.

The Hunterdon Medical Center attracts excellent doctors from our finest medical schools. They come to practice in Hunterdon and to live and work in one of the most beautiful areas in the country. The Family Practice Residency Program is among the oldest in the Nation, and one of the most respected.

New Jersey is a world leader in medical and biopharmaceutical research and development and the Hunterdon Medical Center is a proud partner in this distinction. I commend the physicians, nurses, support staff and community of the Hunterdon Medical Center for sixty years of fine work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, June 27, 2013, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on rollcall No. 296, "yea," on rollcall No. 297, yea, on rollcall No. 298, yea.

HONORING CARL BENNETT, A FOUNDING FATHER OF MODERN PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL AND THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mrs. BROOKS. Indiana. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Carl Bennett. I was honored to know Carl for over two decades

and will mourn his passing. He passed away on May 15, 2013, at the age of 97½, but his legacy will continue to inspire basketball coaches, players, and fans for generations to come.

Carl Bennett was born in Rockford, Indiana, in 1915. He began his illustrious career first by playing for Fred Zollner's Pistons softball team and later served as the head coach and general manager of the Fort Wayne Pistons professional basketball team, also owned by Zollner. Under his leadership, the Pistons were invited to leave the National Basketball League and become part of the Basketball Association of America. This meeting in Carl's Fort Wayne home led to the merger of the two leagues and, ultimately, to the modern National Basketball Association. As a result of his involvement, Carl served on the NBA's executive committee and is considered one of the founding fathers of professional basketball.

Carl's influence led to many changes in the way basketball, Indiana's favorite game, is played. He encouraged Zollner to buy a team plane, a first for a sports franchise, and his coaching of the Pistons in a 1950 win over the Minneapolis Lakers led to the introduction of the 24-second shot clock. This major change resulted in a dramatic increase in average game scores. One of Carl's foremost contributions to the game was widening the lane from six feet to twelve feet, a change that is still in effect today. He also successfully campaigned for Fred Zollner's enshrinement in the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Carl Bennett was a man of vision and determination. My condolences and well wishes go out to his wife, Mrs. Carol Popp Bennett, his children Kirk and Gary Bennett, Sandra Dodane, Catherine Popp Hoffman, their spouses, his sister Bertha Bennett Christie, his eleven grandchildren, thirty great-grandchildren, and five great-great grandchildren. His loving touch will be missed by everyone who knew him, and he will be always remembered for transforming so many lives through the wonderful sport of basketball.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERSTATE LAND SALES UPDATE ACT OF 2013

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Interstate Land Sales Disclosure Act Update of 2013.

The Interstate Land Sales Disclosure Act was enacted in 1969 to protect consumers from being sold property where the property's description in the contract and related materials was not what was to be delivered to the buyer.

It was intended to protect out-of-state buyers who were sold land that was not what was advertised and provides a right of action to rescind the contract and walk away from the deal. However, Courts have ruled over the years that ISLA applies to condominiums, and developers are required to file redundant paperwork that is unnecessary and out of keeping with modern condominium development.

During the economic downturn, some buyers have used the recording requirements of

ILSA to rescind otherwise valid contracts for economic reasons, an unintended consequence of the act and its intent. The law now needs a technical fix to distinguish condominium sales from other types of land sales and to recognize the unique conditions under which these units are sold in today's market.

I fully support the consumer protections that were enacted through ILSA, and this proposed legislation does nothing to affect those protections. But I also believe that we need to make distinctions for condominiums in order to allow the condominium development industry to rebound from the recession. The bill would only exempt condominiums from ILSA's registration requirements but will maintain the consumer protections to ensure consumers still have the right to rescind contracts in cases of fraud. Developers would, of course, still be required to comply with state laws that require specific disclosures.

As we recover in this still fragile economy, we want to encourage, not discourage, buyers and sellers to enter into real estate deals responsibly.

That is why this bill is important to ensure development and the return of an important industry in our country, residential condominium sales. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HONORING MONTICELLO MIDDLE
SCHOOL

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding achievement of the Monticello Middle School in Monticello, Illinois, a town of 5,500 people located in my district.

Monticello Middle School has been recognized as one of only 103 institutions throughout the country as a School to Watch by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform in 2013.

The National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform is an alliance of over 60 educators, researchers, national associations, and officers of professional organizations and foundations.

The Schools to Watch program dates back to 1999 when the Forum selected its first schools.

There are numerous criteria which schools on this distinguished list must meet.

Among them, all students are expected to meet high academic standards, teachers use a variety of methods to assess and monitor student progress, the faculty and master schedule provide time to meet rigorous academic standards, and teachers know what each student has learned and still needs to learn.

This dedication to success is why I am proud to stand up and recognize the Monticello Middle School. Go Sages.

HONORING THE GRADUATION OF
JOSHUA OLIN WILLIAMS FROM
THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ACADEMY

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Joshua Olin Williams as a member of the United States Air Force Academy Class of 2013.

Joshua graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy with a degree in English and a minor in Russian, and he received a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force on May 29th.

His career in the service has just begun, but it is a testament to Joshua's unselfish devotion to the people of this great nation. The challenges will be many and the time, although it may seem like an eternity, will fly by almost unnoticed. The challenge for this young man will be to retain as much as possible, pass what he learns to others, and live life for every moment.

South Mississippi is proud of Joshua and his accomplishments, and we look forward to his continuing to represent not only Mississippi, but also the entire nation, as a United States Air Force officer.

As Joshua embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he may always recall with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment graduating from a program as prestigious as the Air Force Academy. I would like to send Joshua my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors, thank him for his service, and congratulate him on this momentous occasion.

PANCREATIC CANCER

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share my concerns about the future of an essential cancer research program which suffered dreadful cuts from sequestration.

As you know, our country made great strides in overall cancer research efforts, but we must do more. There is a long way yet to go in the pancreatic cancer battle in particular. There is still no way to detect the disease early, or to treat it effectively after diagnosis. Pancreatic cancer is the only major cancer where less than ten percent of those affected live for five years, and this is heartbreaking.

Last year, Congress passed the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act, a bipartisan bill which I was proud to support. In doing so, we tasked the National Cancer Institute with the responsibility of developing a strategy for fighting pancreatic and other deadly cancers. The Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act will support new research programs and will help find diagnostic tools and more effective treatments for pancreatic cancer and similar diseases.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, none of that progress will be realized without protecting the resources which allow the National Institutes of Health and the National Cancer Institute to

accomplish this law's life-saving goals. With sequestration in effect, the NIH has already lost \$1.55 billion in funding necessary for grant programs and other projects.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to protect these resources. We must come together to fight one of our greatest health challenges, and finding a positive, sustainable solution to sequestration. Too many people, too many families are praying and expecting a solution. Sequestration must come to an end. We must come together, and we must end this terrible reality now.

IN HONOR OF MARINO BERTINI

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Marino Bertini on his 80th birthday. Mr. Bertini began his career working at the Portsmouth Naval Hospital. After a ten month stint at the hospital, he spent the remainder of his career as a medic aboard the USS Randolph. While in the Navy, Mr. Bertini traversed the globe, visiting Europe, North Africa, Turkey, India, Madagascar, Zanzibar, Cuba, and Hong Kong. Over the course of his service he dealt with a variety of injuries and assisted in saving many lives.

In addition to his service to his country, Mr. Bertini is a loving family man. He married the love of his life, Sylva, and the couple have three wonderful daughters: Lisa, Vanessa, and Sonya. Mr. Bertini has always given them unwavering love, support, and dedication. Mr. Bertini is proud of his Italian heritage, a trait he showcases through his penchant for storytelling and his love of history.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the first district of New Jersey, I would like to thank Mr. Bertini for his service and wish him the very best on his 80th birthday. Happy birthday, Marino.

THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF
TRANSBOUNDARY HYDROCARBON
AGREEMENTS AUTHORIZATION
ACT (HR 1613) AND THE OFF-
SHORE ENERGY AND JOBS ACT
(HR 2231)

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, while I support the responsible development of our nation's resources, this week's legislation prioritizes drilling over protecting investors, improving rig safety, respecting coastal communities and conducting appropriate environmental review. For these reasons, I will be voting no and encouraging my colleagues do the same.

The Outer Continental Shelf Transboundary Hydrocarbon Agreements Authorization Act (HR 1613) provides specific authorization for the recently negotiated U.S.-Mexico transboundary agreement and establishes standards for all future offshore oil and gas agreements with potential foreign partners like Canada, Russia, the Bahamas and Bermuda. If

HR 1613 were a clean bill, it would be completely non-controversial. Instead, HR 1613 also proposes to waive a provision of the Dodd-Frank Act requiring disclosure of otherwise secret payments made to foreign governments in connection with oil and gas development. Repealing this right-to-know protection is harmful to investors and has no place in this otherwise non-controversial legislation.

The so-called Offshore Energy and Jobs Act (HR 2231) would seek to open huge swaths of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts to drilling—including waters off my home state of Maryland—as well as a number of sensitive areas in Alaska. It would do this without implementing any key safety reforms recommended by the bipartisan BP Oil Spill Commission and without proper environmental review. Furthermore, it would do so at a time when domestic oil production is at a 20 year high, domestic gas production is at an all time high, and the oil and gas industry is already sitting on 30 million acres of offshore leases containing an estimated 17.9 billion barrels of oil and 49.7 trillion cubic feet of natural gas it is not yet producing. Rather than focusing on a real “all of the above” strategy that strengthens our energy security through diversifying our energy mix with more clean, homegrown renewables, HR 2231 reverts to the same reckless “drill, baby, drill” approach to energy policy that has already been summarily rejected by the Senate and is certain to be rejected again.

IN RECOGNITION OF SERGEANT
MAJOR JOHN K. GILSTRAP

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Sergeant Major John K. Gilstrap, who is retiring from his service to the United States Marine Corps on October 1, 2013.

For three decades, SgtMaj Gilstrap faithfully served this country in various capacities, rising to the highest enlisted rank of Sergeant Major. He began his Marine Corps career entering basic training in September 1983 at Parris Island, South Carolina. From there he went on to serve at Camp Pendleton, and Okinawa with his Marine Attack Helicopter Squadron. SgtMaj Gilstrap then participated in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Operation Sea Angel, and Operation Restore Hope.

In the spring of 1996, then a Staff Sergeant, Gilstrap had the distinct honor of personally building and shaping young men into harden Marine warriors as a Drill Instructor and Senior Drill Instructor at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. In the Marine Corps, there are few honors higher than being a Drill Instructor, having the responsibility of training the next generation of Marines to defend this great nation—Gilstrap did this with great honor.

In May 2001, SgtMaj Gilstrap reported to 1st Battalion, 11th Marines and its during this time that I had the distinct honor as a new Marine Lieutenant to serve with him overseas. While with 1st Battalion, 11th Marines, SgtMaj Gilstrap deployed to Iraq where he held the billet of Battery 1stSgt for Battery A and Headquarters Battery. At this time, he was also promoted to his current rank of SgtMaj.

While serving in Iraq, SgtMaj Gilstrap was awarded the Purple Heart when his vehicle was hit by an IED. Other decorations SgtMaj Gilstrap has received include the Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, the Air Medal with 1st Strike Flight Award, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with gold star and combat Distinguishing Device, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with gold star, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

SgtMaj Gilstrap currently serves as the Senior Advisor to the Chief Operating Officer at the Marine and Family Programs Division at Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia. Throughout his career, SgtMaj Gilstrap has displayed the very traits and principles that are the core of the Marine Corps. Thank you for you and your family's devoted service to this country.

I am honored to share in the celebration of SgtMaj Gilstrap's military career, recognizing both his extraordinary leadership and his distinguished military service. *Semper Fil!*

IN HONOR OF AITKIN BUCKLER

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of a Kentucky native, Aitkin Buckler, who will be the first inductee to the Bath County Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Mr. Buckler was a lifelong tobacco and beef cattle farmer in Bath County, and was an agriculture leader in the community. He served as President and Vice President of the Bath County Farm Bureau Board, as well as President of the Bath County Cattleman's Board, and was an active member of both organizations for over 20 years. Additionally, Mr. Buckler volunteered on the Bath County Soil Conservation Board for 20 years while serving as vice-chair for seven years. Mr. Buckler recently passed away, but his contributions to Bath County remain.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our condolences to Mr. Buckler's family for their loss, but also join them in the celebration of a life well lived. I would also like to extend my personal gratitude to Mr. Buckler for all that he did to better our community and our Commonwealth.

HONORING THE REVEREND MOSES
L. HARVILL AS HE CELEBRATES
HIS 60TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the many family, friends, community leaders, and congregants of Cross Street AME Zion Church in Middletown, Connecticut as they gather to celebrate the 60th birthday of and pay tribute to Reverend Moses L. Harvill. Marking six decades of life and faith, this is certainly a remarkable milestone!

Born in Birmingham, Alabama, Pastor Harvill attended Alabama A&M University re-

ceiving his undergraduate, degree in business management and later attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where he received his MBA in Human Resources. Almost a decade later, he was called to a different mission. When he decided to pursue the ministry, Pastor Harvill attended Yale University's Divinity School where he earned a Master of Divinity in Parish Ministry.

Pastor Harvill began his ministry at Middletown's Cross Street AME twenty years ago and it has been under his guidance and through his leadership that the Church has grown in every way—spiritually, numerically, and economically. Envisioning a Church where people would not only turn to for comfort but that could serve the community as well. In 2007 construction was complete on what can only be described as a stunning facility with a beautiful sanctuary as well as space to accommodate the more than forty ministries offered at the Church as well as serve as a gathering and meeting space for other community organizations.

Always inspired by his faith, Pastor Harvill's deep commitment to the community extends far beyond his spiritual work within the Cross Street congregation. He is the founder and co-president of Home Ownership Providing Empowerment (HOME), a program that assists families in becoming first-time homeowners; chair of the City of Middletown Jones Fund, where he has been instrumental in raising and distributing funds to area residents in need; and he was actively involved in the organization and development of the Amazing Grace Food Pantry, an effort which continues today to meet the needs of the hungry. Pastor Harvill also hold a deep concern for education which is why he organized and developed Back to School Day, a program that provides school supplies and accessories to more than three hundred families in the Middletown community.

As a religious leader, advocate, and friend, Pastor Harvill have touched the lives of thousands—helping to shape public policy and improving the quality of life for those most in need. Through all of his good work he has inspired others to join in his efforts—instilling hope and promise in those who had long since lost their way. His spiritual guidance has nourished the souls of many and his compassion has encouraged others to give more of themselves through civic service, Pastor Harvill has left an indelible mark on our community and I am proud to stand today to join his wife, Eledia, and all of those gathered in wishing him a very happy 60th birthday and extending my very best wishes for many more years of health and happiness. Happy Birthday!

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE MONMOUTH
MUSEUM

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Monmouth Museum as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary this year. Founded in 1963 as a “Museum of Ideas,” The Monmouth Museum continues to bring art, culture and vitality to the community it serves.

The Monmouth Museum has grown immensely since its founding. Originally housing exhibits in storefronts and temporary spaces, the museum is now one of the largest private museums in New Jersey, boasting an annual attendance of over 50,000 visitors. It has been housed in its permanent location on the Brookdale Community College campus in Lincroft since 1974. It is one of only 778 nationwide museums to earn the American Association of Museums accreditation, the highest honor a museum can receive.

Today, The Monmouth Museum maintains four galleries that host changing exhibitions and programs. In addition to serving as an outlet for the arts, the museum also offers programs on science and history. Its broad collections present educational and cultural experiences for the diverse community to enjoy and provide a means for local creative expression. The Monmouth Museum reaches audiences young and old and of varying backgrounds with its extensive program offerings. It has also recently hosted my district office's judging night for the Congressional Art Competition and provides a wonderful atmosphere to display the students' artwork. The Monmouth Museum is a valuable addition to the community and I commend them for the work they do in promoting artistic, historic and scientific appreciation.

Once again, please join me in congratulating The Monmouth Museum on its 50th Anniversary. The museum enriches the quality of life of Monmouth County and brings new visitors and economic development to the community.

PRIVATE CALENDAR

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, TREY GOWDY, JERROLD NADLER, JOSÉ SERRANO, KAREN BASS and I would like to take this opportunity to set forth some of the history behind, as well as describe the workings of the Private Calendar. We hope this might be of some value to the Members of this House, especially our newer colleagues.

Of the four House Calendars, the Private Calendar is the one to which all Private Bills are referred. Private Bills deal with specific individuals, corporations, institutions, and so forth, as distinguished from public bills, which deal with classes only.

Of the 108 laws approved by the First Congress, only 5 were Private Laws. But their number quickly grew as the wars of the new Republic produced veterans and veterans' widows seeking pensions and as more citizens came to have private claims and demands against the Federal Government. The 49th Congress, 1885 to 1887, the first Congress for which complete workload and output data is available, passed 1,031 Private Laws, as compared with 434 Public Laws. At the turn of the century the 56th Congress passed 1,498 Private Laws and 443 Public Laws—a better than three to one ratio.

Private bills were referred to the Committee on the Whole House as far back as 1820, and a calendar of private bills was established in

1839. These bills were initially brought before the House by special orders, but the 62nd Congress changed this procedure by its rule XXIV, clause six which provided for the consideration of the Private Calendar in lieu of special orders. This rule was amended in 1932, and then adopted in its present form on March 27, 1935.

A determined effort to reduce the private bill workload of the Congress was made in the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946. Section 131 of that Act banned the introduction or the consideration of four types of private bills; first, those authorizing the payment of money for pensions; second, for personal or property damages for which suit may be brought under the Federal tort claims procedure; third, those authorizing the construction of a bridge across a navigable stream, or fourth, those authorizing the correction of a military or naval record.

This ban afforded some temporary relief but was soon offset by the rising postwar and Cold War flood for private immigration bills. The 82nd Congress passed 1,023 Private Laws, as compared with 594 Public Laws. The 88th Congress passed 360 Private Laws compared with 666 Public Laws.

Under rule XV, clause five, the Private Calendar is called the first and third Tuesday of each month. The consideration of the Private Calendar bills on the first Tuesday is mandatory unless dispensed with by a two-thirds vote. On the third Tuesday, however, recognition for consideration of the Private Calendar is within the discretion of the Speaker and does not take precedence over other privileged business in the House.

On the first Tuesday of each month, after disposition of business on the Speaker's table for reference only, the Speaker directs the call of the Private Calendar. If a bill called is objected to by two or more Members, it is automatically recommitted to the committee reporting it. No reservation of objection is entertained. Bills un-objected to are considered in the House in the Committee of the Whole.

On the third Tuesday of each month, the same procedure is followed with the exception that omnibus bills embodying bills previously rejected have preference and are in order regardless of objection.

Such omnibus bills are read by paragraph, and no amendments are entertained except to strike out or reduce amounts or provide limitations. Matters so stricken out shall not be again included in an omnibus bill during that session. Debate is limited to motions allowable under the rule and does not admit motions to strike out the last word or reservation of objections. The rules prohibit the Speaker from recognizing Members for statements or for requests for unanimous consent for debate. Omnibus bills so passed are thereupon resolved in their component bills, which are engrossed separately and disposed of as if passed separately.

Private Calendar bills unfinished on one Tuesday go over to the next Tuesday on which such bills are in order and are considered before the call of bills subsequently on the calendar. Omnibus bills follow the same procedure and go over to the next Tuesday on which that class of business is again in order.

Mr. Speaker, we would also like to describe to the newer Members the Official Objectors Committee, the system the House has established to deal with Private Bills.

The Majority Leader and the Minority Leader each appoint three Members to serve as Private Calendar Objectors during a Congress. The Objectors are on the Floor ready to object to any Private Bill which they feel is objectionable for any reason. Should any Member have a doubt or question about a particular Private Bill, he or she can get assistance from objectors, their staff, or from the Member who introduced the bill.

The amount of private bills and the desire to have an opportunity to study them carefully before they are called on the Private Calendar has caused the six objectors to agree upon certain ground rules. The rules limit consideration of bills placed on the Private Calendar only shortly before the calendar is called. With this agreement of June 28, 2013, the members of the Private Calendar Objectors Committee have agreed that during the 113th Congress, they will consider only those bills which have been on the Private Calendar for a period of seven (7) legislative days, excluding the day the bill is placed on the calendar and the day the calendar is called. Reports must be available to the Objectors for three (3) calendar days. It is agreed that the majority and minority clerks will not submit to the Objectors any bills which do not meet this requirement.

This policy will be strictly enforced except during the closing days of a session when the House rules are suspended.

This agreement was entered into by: The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE), the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. GOWDY), the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS), and the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO).

We request all Members to enable us to give the necessary advance considerations to private bills by not asking that we depart from the above agreement unless absolutely necessary.

HONORING THE CONSERVATION TRUST FUND OF PUERTO RICO

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Conservation Trust Fund of Puerto Rico and specifically one of their renowned scientists, Lee An Rodriguez. Since it was established in 1971 with a Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretary of the Interior and the Governor of Puerto Rico, the Conservation Trust Fund of Puerto Rico has been dedicated to conservation efforts throughout the island. The Secretary and the Governor jointly appoint the trustees. Since that time they have become one of the preeminent conservation groups the Western Hemisphere and the leader in the Caribbean.

Under the leadership of Fernando Lloveras, the Trust Fund has continued the legacy started by the original Executive Director, Francisco Javier Blanco. On an island that is only 35 miles wide and 100 miles long and is home to over four million people they have been able to carve out some magnificent examples of both historical and ecological conservation. The Trust currently has over 18,000

acres under protection and collaborates on a number of projects with government agencies.

The Las Cabezas de San Juan Nature Preserve near Fajardo is a wonderful example of both nature and historical preservation. The site has a bioluminescent lagoon as well as a mangrove forest that allows for visitors to walk through it on a series of boardwalks without disturbing the natural habitat. It also has one of the original Spanish lighthouses, which has been restored and serves as a museum and dormitory for visiting research students.

The Hacienda Buena Vista outside of Ponce is a testament to man's imagination. Built in the 1850's as a coffee plantation it is run on hydropower where the water is drawn from the mountain stream, used to power the plantation, and returned to the stream. It contains a wonderful water turbine engine that was manufactured in West Point, NY and shipped to Puerto Rico.

The Trust is currently restoring a sugar plantation near Manati. It totals 2300 acres and gives a glimpse into the past of Puerto Rico when the sugar industry was a vibrant part of the economy.

Ms. Lee An Rodriguez has been a leader at the Trust in educating others on the importance of land preservation and particularly the importance of having clean water. She is being honored, along with three other scientists, for her leadership in developing citizen science groups under a program funded by the National Science Foundation.

Both Ms. Rodriguez and the Conservation Trust Fund of Puerto Rico are to be commended for their exemplary work in the field of conservation.

Mr. Speaker, I submit an article from the Caribbean Business noting this honor for Ms. Rodriguez.

PR SCIENTIST HONORED AT WHITE HOUSE

Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico development manager Lee Ann Rodriguez is among four scientists who lead citizen science groups funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) being honored in a White House ceremony on Tuesday.

Rodriguez is currently training hundreds of residents of Puerto Rico to lead citizen groups that will study the impacts of urbanization on the biodiversity and cultural resources of the Manati River watershed.

Ultimately, Rodriguez's trainees, who range in age from teenagers to retirees, will cumulatively lead thousands of other citizen scientists, many of whom would otherwise have minimal exposure to science. The data they produce will support long-term watershed monitoring and inform land use decision-making in Puerto Rico.

Rodriguez, the other three NSF-funded Champions of Change, along with eight other Citizen Scientist Champions of Change will be recognized for their exemplary leadership in involving the broader, non-expert community in research on science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM).

The Citizen Science Champions of Change are leaders in a field that is currently exploding in popularity—partly because the Internet and new applications afford quick and effective communication between citizen scientists and scientists. More than 600 citizen science groups are currently engaging more than 100,000 worldwide volunteers.

In addition, data from citizen scientists has been incorporated into more than 1,000 scientific papers in peer reviewed journals. In fact, much of our current understanding about the distribution of plants and animals, the quality of water in streams and rivers,

observed astronomy and the evidence of global climate changes was derived from data produced by citizen science projects.

Operating as a private, nonprofit organization, the Conservation Trust manages a number of the island's environmentally sensitive areas, while promoting the concepts of conservation to schools and the general public through volunteer programs, reforestation projects and various community workshops and events. In this way, the Conservation Trust, founded more than 40 years ago, works toward its goal of protecting and enhancing the precious natural resources of Puerto Rico.

IN HONOR OF "AUNTY" MARY BOURDUKOFSKY

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of a devoted wife and mother, a respected spiritual and community leader, and most importantly, a great Alaskan. On June 2, 2013, the Alaskan community of St. Paul Island lost one of its most revered elders, Mary Nicolai Bourdukofsky.

"Aunt" Mary, as she was affectionately known throughout her community, was a staunch supporter for the continuation and preservation of Aleut culture, language and tradition.

To paraphrase Mary's life in a few sentences would serve only to cheapen it, for her accomplishments were widespread and varied as they were valued. She was an advocate for her Aleut community during years of involuntary internment during World War II, served as a delegate to the Alaska Federation of Natives, and assisted with the development of cultural exhibits at the Alaska Native Heritage Center and for the Smithsonian's Alaska Native Collections. Mary also taught at three universities throughout the state and promoted the importance of cultural education.

Her memory will continue to live on in the hearts and minds of those who had the privilege of knowing her, and the great many that were touched by her tireless efforts and countless deeds. For those who did not, I pray that they too have the opportunity to know someone like Mary, a person whose unrelenting dedication and resolute sense of character cannot be easily duplicated.

Mr. Speaker, today I mourn with Mary's family and community and share my sadness at the loss of one of Alaska's most dedicated daughters. In the words of Thomas Campbell: "To live in the hearts we leave behind is not to die."

IN HONOR OF DR. CHRIS GODDARD FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO THE GREAT LAKES

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Great Lakes Task Force, I rise today to honor Dr. Chris Goddard, executive secretary of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, who

retires this month after nearly 20 years of exceptional service to the organization and a career of commitment to the health of our treasured Great Lakes.

The Great Lakes Fishery Commission is a U.S./Canadian institution established by the 1954 Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries, a treaty between the two nations. Under the treaty, the commission advances science; helps the States, the province of Ontario, and the U.S. tribes work together to manage the Great Lakes fishery; and carries out the essential sea lamprey control program, an effort upon which the very existence of the \$7 billion Great Lakes fishery depends.

Because the commission stands alone in the Great Lakes basin as the locus for multi-lateral fishery management, its executive secretary must be a savvy leader and must motivate cooperation. Chris is enthusiastic, passionate, dedicated to the institution, committed to science, and driven by a deep-seated motivation to simply do what is right for the Great Lakes.

During his tenure, Chris led the commission into the new millennium with a positive vision for the future of the fishery and a plan to create a commission capable of responding to the basin's biggest challenges. He made it a priority to acquire the funds necessary to increase the control of sea lamprey—a destructive, invasive fish that changed the way of life in the basin but is now suppressed by 90 percent. In doing so, he helped create the conditions necessary for a thriving and healthy fishery. Perhaps most notably, he helped the commission make prominent and essential contributions to the President's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative by focusing commission projects on native species recovery and invasive species control.

Chris' time at the commission is the culmination of a long and productive career. A native of Canada, he grew up in Virginia Beach (his father was stationed there while serving NATO), was educated in Toronto, and managed Ontario's fishery assessment, fishery research, client services, and remote sensing programs. He was the district manager of Algonquin Provincial Park and was responsible for Canada's freshwater fishery program. I am proud to note that he lives and works in Ann Arbor, Michigan, part of my district.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Chris Goddard is largely responsible for the active, vibrant, and respected Great Lakes Fishery Commission that we see today. I honor Chris for all he has done for the commission, for the two nations, and for the Great Lakes. Please join me in thanking Chris for his unparalleled leadership. We wish him well in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF SCLERODERMA AWARENESS MONTH

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Scleroderma Awareness Month.

On behalf of the thousands of patients impacted by this disease in my district and throughout the State of New York, I am honored to join Congresswoman CAPPS as the

lead co-sponsor of H.R. 1429, the Scleroderma Research and Awareness Act.

Research supported by the National Institutes of Health has led to groundbreaking discoveries in possible treatments and has enhanced the medical community's understanding of the progression of this disease. As physicians and medical researchers have yet to find a cure or a disease-specific treatment, physicians are left offering treatments that minimize the impact of the disease's progression and alleviate patient symptoms. This legislation provides for continued federal investment at the National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin diseases in basic and clinical research related to scleroderma.

I rise today to encourage my colleagues to join us in supporting H.R. 1429 and to participate in the many scleroderma awareness activities organized by patient and community groups in their communities. Please join me in supporting the efforts of the 300,000 patients and their families to bring awareness to this disease and hopefully, one day a cure.

IN HONOR OF THE BLUE AND GRAY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the service and sacrifice of the brave heroes who fought at the Battle of Gettysburg. As we approach the 150th anniversary of one of the most crucial battles of the Civil War I have been highlighting the unique personal stories of soldiers from my district of Pennsylvania who served at Gettysburg. Each day leading up to the anniversary we recognize that these citizen soldiers were regular people, just like us, who rose to extraordinary challenges in defense of liberty and freedom for all. Today, in the honor of those brave men, I am proud to submit this tribute poem written Albert Carey Caswell.

BLUE AND GRAY

Blue . . .
Blue and Gray . . .
As a coming storm,
before our Nation so lay!
So surely one of her darkest of all nights!
Darkest of all days!
Blue . . .
Blue and Gray!
When, it was Brother versus Brother . . .
Taking up arms against one another,
marching out into that darkness of,
all of those most dreadful of days!
From the battle of Bull Run,
to "Pickett's Charge" . . .
as so gallantly moving forth,
were but all of America's Sons!
As we so look back,
at all of that heartache begun,
and all of their graves!
So contemplating,
all of their bright futures they gave!
As all of those grieving Mothers,
so cried and so prayed!
So cried and so prayed!
While, all of those tears,
ran down their most quivering face,
as upon them now lay!
Blue . . .
Blue and Gray,
as some of America's darkest of nights . . .
So surely,

some of her darkest of all days!
As the blood flowed and poured . . .
With all of that death and so gore!
That which time can not so erase,
nor so ever ignore!
The ones,
Who So Gave Those Last Full Measures,
one's life is but the greatest of treasures!

Blue . . .
Blue and Gray!
As with all of its scars,
our Nation so lives with this day!
All in its loss!
All in it's cost!
Of such a magnitude so very grave!

Blue . . .
Blue and Gray . . .
As dark evil slavery,
so held our Nation at bay!
And States Rights,
were but the talk of the day!
As it was North vs South!
As a Nation's future,
so hung all in the balance!
Blue!
Blue and Gray!
As this war would so take,
eventually this great President to his grave!
And all of the burdens he bore,
so made him so age!
Each year was ten as you looked at his face!
When Succession and Summer,
exploded all on that day!
With a coming great battle up ahead,
but still on its way!
Which would so determine this war's fate!
For "a house divided can not so stand",
in any way!

Blue!
Blue and Gray!
As the children so cried both night and day!
As now without Fathers,
their futures were paved!
And then three days in July,
all in the midst of such hell,
as they so battled two sides!
As for victory they were all so trying to vie!
As they all so moved forth,
with but tears in their eyes . . .
Knowing full well,
that all in this hell,
that death before them now lie!
And yet still,
with all of their iron wills they so heroically,
marched into the darkness!
as the fields turned to red . . .
All on this day,
and to the South what it all had to say . . .
With bodies strewn into pieces,
which now all so beseech us!
As everywhere the smell of death as so
greet us!
Of which now so lies beneath us!
And all about their faith and courage,
of what it so teaches!
As The South had so lost the future,
and now eventually the war,
as victory they would never so see again so
for sure!
In three days over 51,000 most magnificent
men died,
and over 27,000 were wounded . . .
as our Nation so wept and so cried!
As they gave up their strong arms and once
legs,
and all of those most precious of all eyes,
and their bright futures they gave!
In places like Little and Big Round Top,
as they fell and would not so stop,
in Gulp's Hill where the blood flowed and
poured,
where they all so gave all the more!
From Oak's to McPherson's Ridge,
and from Seminary to Cemetery all of their
gifts,
and heard all of their last final cries . . .
to Devil's Den where face down they so lie!

As one and all so gave up their most precious
lives!

As the Mothers cried!
As the first innocent died,
as her name was Ginnie Wade!
As why,
we should all so hate most evil war on this
day!

But, the ones who so hate war but
the most!

Are all of those magnificent's,
who must take all of those lives while fight-
ing close! 51 And so watch all of their
Brothers die in their arms,
who meant the most!
And leave all their loved ones so far behind,
all in such tears now all as ghosts!
But where would we all be,
if it were but not for the likes of all of these?
From this The Home of The Brave,
and this The Land of The Free . . .
And then into a future,
such a most magnificent moment so came to
be!

As now all so etched in time,
is but a sheer work of art and beauty!
Serving as a blessing to all of Mankind and
history!

As the beginning of a healing that a Nation
would need!

With a President's Gettysburg Address . . .
Which so brought tears to history's eyes all
in its behest!

"To bind up our Nation's wounds",
as Abraham so spoke these words which
would bless! "That this nation, by the
people, for the people,
shall not perish from the earth" as was this
test!

So simple!

So sure!

So perfect and pure!

272 words, that which said . . . so . . . so . . .
so much more!

Then, all the volumes of books in a library
so ever stored!

As each word was so built upon the next!
Like a pyramid,
all in its strength as out into a future as
etched!

As was Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, no
less!

A Gift To The Ages that he so left!

Blue . . .

Blue and Gray!

Some of our Nation's darkest of nights,
darkest of days!

And let us not forget,
all of their light that which they so was left!
"That these dead shall not have died in
vain" . . .

By remembering,
all their life's embers,
as we so walk through these hallowed fields
. . .

All in what they so faced!
And what was so said,
all in this most hallowed place where they
bled!

All in their most precious blood,
which so turned all of those fields into red,
from their heroic bodies which raced!
All in what was so heard and so done!

By all of these most selfless of all ones!

All so help a war to be won!
In this town called Gettysburg,
please listen to what was so said all in his-
tory heard!

Close your eyes and now listen!
As you can hear the cannons exploding,
as by you head the bullets are hissing!
As you can feel and hear their last most val-
iant cries,

as your listening!
And feel all of their loved ones tears,
who will forever be missing!

Blue . . .

Blue and Gray!
 As why we have all so enshrined this most hallowed place!
 Where valor and courage were but the words of the day!
 So take the time,
 to homage to so pay,
 to so concert crate what they all gave!
 So that as a Nation we may long well remember,
 all of those most heroic moments in July and November . . .
 and what it all so says about America Face!
 As we now so reflect back in awe,
 and so reflect back in splendor at all of their grace!
 At Their Last Full Measures they were so to render,
 all in this place!
 And take stock in all of their courage and faith!
 All of their strong hearts of steel,
 as to our Nation what was all so revealed!
 So that never may again such heartache we feel,
 and so let such a dark day begin!
 Of Brother versus Brother,
 as so ever happen again!
 As we have so set aside this most sacred land,
 to preserve and protect and never neglect,
 but to so ever honor The Valor of Man!
 And remember that "a house divided can not stand!"

Blue . . .
 Blue and Gray . . .
 as somehow . . .
 from out of all of this darkness we all found our way!

Blue . . .
 Blue and Gray!

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
 OF FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SERGEANT AT ARMS EARNEST W. SUMNER

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to take this opportunity to recognize a close friend of mine and a highly regarded public servant of the Florida House of Representatives, Sergeant at Arms Earnest "Ernie" W. Sumner. Mr. Sumner will retire from his post this summer after a long and accomplished career in the Florida Legislature.

The past and present Florida House of Representatives and entire Florida Legislature has been fortunate to have such a dedicated and compassionate colleague and friend. In 1971, Ernie began his career with the Florida House of Representatives. As Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, I was pleased to have had the privilege to appoint Mr. Sumner as Sergeant at Arms of the Florida House of Representatives on July 1, 1998. A committee meeting room, 404 House Office Building, has been named "Sumner Hall" in honor of Mr. Sumner.

The intangible guidance and skillfulness that Mr. Sumner has displayed to the Florida House of Representatives, its Members, its staff, and the public is to be commended. His leadership has influenced many through his devotion, fortitude, and kindness, and will be set apart in the years to come.

Mr. Sumner has had an outstanding career, and he deserves special recognition for this achievement. I am honored to recognize him for the distinguished service and counsel he has provided the State of Florida, and thank him for his hard work and many contributions. After more than four decades and 138 legislative sessions, his commitment to excellence, leadership and service is to be admired. My sincerest wishes and congratulations to Ernie and his family on his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE INTERNATIONAL SWEETHEART OF THE SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY, SYDNEY MADISON BINNINGTON

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sydney Madison Binnington, a true goodwill ambassador who concludes her two-year term as the International Sweetheart of the Sigma Chi Fraternity on June 29th upon the conclusion of the Sigma Chi Fraternity's 79th Grand Chapter here in Washington, DC.

Since 1946, the International Sweetheart of the Sigma Chi Fraternity has been a role model to the Fraternity's undergraduate and alumni members and a liaison to non-members throughout the world. In 2011, Sydney was selected from hundreds of nominees to receive this honor—and since that time, she has dedicated herself to her role as a leader and ambassador of the Fraternity—having traveled thousands of miles from her hometown of Toronto, Ontario to visit more than thirty undergraduate chapters, attend numerous international alumni events, and raise awareness for the Fraternity and its designated charity, the Huntsman Cancer Foundation.

A 2012 graduate of the University of Western Ontario, Sydney was a campus leader during her time there, excelling in academics as a student in the University's Baccalaureate Honors Program and serving her campus community as a member of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority, a bible study leader, a literacy advocate, and a fundraising volunteer for the Huntsman Cancer Institute.

For the past two years, Sydney has dedicated herself to the Fraternity's core values of "Friendship, Justice and Learning" and fulfilled her duties with strong character and personality, poise, and grace.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Sigma Chi Fraternity and fellow Sigma Chi brothers serving in the U.S. House of Representatives, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sydney Madison Binnington for her tireless and dedicated service to the Sigma Chi Fraternity and wishing her all the best in her future endeavors.

THANKING JAMIE FLEET FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the outstanding work of Mr. Jamie Fleet as Democratic Staff Director for the Committee on House Administration as he departs the House of Representatives next week for service in the U.S. Senate.

During his tenure at the Committee, Jamie has used his wide-ranging skills to steadfastly guide the operations of the House with an eye on history while embracing the evolving operations of the House required in the 21st century. Jamie helped oversee the expansion of House technology options for personal and committee offices and a needed upgrade to the House's information security infrastructure. Whether the matter involved contested federal elections or contested parking spots, Jamie has worked to solve the multi-faceted issues facing the House with an informed touch. And, he has done so in a way that brought bipartisan applause while never losing sight of his commitment to the values of the Democratic Party. For that, Jamie has earned the respect of Members and staff on both sides of the aisle, as well as the officers of this House, for his fair approach to managing this often partisan institution.

Mr. Speaker, I can say that Jamie has proven to be one of the most competent staffers I have had the privilege of working with during my more than twenty years working and serving in the House of Representatives. On behalf of my colleagues on the Committee on House Administration and in the House of Representatives, I thank Jamie for his dedicated and loyal service to this institution and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF DOUG ROGERS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Doug Rogers and his 24 impressive years of service as the executive director of the Association of Texas Professional Educators. His many years of service to Texas education and his career leading ATPE are to be commended—it represents the highest level of enthusiasm and dedication to the educators and students of the State of Texas.

A native of Fort Worth, Texas, Mr. Rogers attended North Texas State University, where he earned multiple education degrees and certificates. Rogers served as a teacher and administrator for nine years in both elementary and secondary schools. He began his service with ATPE in 1981, spent two years with the Texas Association of School Boards, and re-joined the ATPE staff before accepting the position of Executive Director in June of 1989.

During Mr. Roger's tenure, the membership of ATPE has more than doubled, reaching its highest enrollment at 116,000 members, and is today the leading educators' association in the State and the largest independent association for public school educators in the Nation. The ATPE Foundation was established in 2000 and has since benefitted more than 23,000 Texas school children. ATPE recently honored Mr. Rogers by naming its office building in Austin, Texas, the ATPE Rogers Building.

Mr. Speaker, this month Mr. Rogers will retire after a long and distinguished career serving educators and students in Texas. While his time as Executive Director of ATPE may

be coming to an end, his impact on the association will long remain. I would like to thank him for his many decades of service to Texas education and wish him a "splendid" retirement.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 28, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took of-

office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,738,629,048,819.09. We've added \$6,111,751,999,906.01 to our debt in 4.5 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.