Jazz, particularly Duke Ellington, watching baseball games, and attending the First A.M.E. Church in Los Angeles. The Crenshaw family now spans four generations.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sergeant Crenshaw, an American treasure, and wishing him a healthy and joyous 104th birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF MALALA YOSAFZAI

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Malala Yosafzai, who today was awarded the European Parliament's Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought.

I join our European counterparts in honoring Malala's tremendous bravery in the face of repeated and unconscionable threats, including an assassination attempt last year, when she was shot by Taliban gunmen while returning home from school.

Malala's courageous advocacy for the rights of girls to have the same education as boys inspires us all.

Throughout our history, Americans have understood the importance of education. Put simply, we are a stronger, healthier, and more prosperous nation because we have made quality primary and secondary education available to all our children.

The same is not true in other parts of the world, especially in societies torn apart by conflict, violent extremism, and poverty. There are tens of millions of girls out of school around the world, and women make up nearly two thirds—almost 500 million—of the world's illiterate adults. In her address to the United Nations, Malala reminded the world of the power of education to combat ignorance, intolerance, and violent extremism by promoting human dignity and creating undreamed-of opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, I join Malala in her call on the world's leaders to ensure that all children—girls and boys alike—have access to a quality education. By working with our international partners to achieve this goal, we can help families around the world lift themselves out of dire poverty and, in so doing, make the world a safer and more prosperous place.

RECOGNIZING THE 2013 SAFEST HOSPITAL IN ILLINOIS

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2013

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize OSF St. James–John W. Albrecht Medical Center in Pontiac, Illinois for being named the Safest Hospital in Illinois by Consumer Reports magazine.

Like many Americans, I am concerned about the increasing cost of healthcare in the United States. With healthcare spending by patients on the rise, it is critical to find ways to ensure healthcare remains accessible and affordable. OSF St. James is a leader in this regard. By striving to provide safe treatment to patients on a daily basis, they reduce the frequency of readmitted patients which in turn reduces the added cost of additional procedures and care. The City of Pontiac and the surrounding area can take pride in their local hospital for the quality of care it provides to family, friends, and neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 16th District of Illinois, I wish to express our appreciation of the staff at OSF St. James–John W. Albrecht Medical Center for their diligent work and commitment to providing safe healthcare to their patients.

IN MEMORY OF COLONEL PHILIP A. BOSSERT, USAF (RET.)

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2013

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Philip Bossert of the United States Air Force. Colonel Bossert bravely, and peacefully, embarked on his final journey after a valiant battle against glioblastoma, an aggressive form of brain cancer.

A decorated veteran of 4 wars, Colonel Bossert honorably served his country for more than three decades.

Phil graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1982, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the USAF. During the ensuing years he received a Masters of Arts in Economics, magna cum laude, from Old Dominion University; a Masters of Military Art and Science from U.S. Army CGSC; a Master of Public Administration, summa cum laude, Auburn University; and a Master of Arts in Strategic Studies from the Air War College.

From 1983 through 1987 he served as a CT–39B aircraft commander and C–21A instructor pilot out of Langley AFB in Virginia. From 1987 through 1991, he was a C–141B instructor pilot and wing combat plans officer at McGuire AFB in New Jersey. In 1991, Phil had assignments in Colorado, Kansas, and Illinois, and by 2000 he was a Lieutenant Colonel and Commander of the 821st Air Mobility Squadron out of McGuire AFB.

Shortly after 9/11, Phil was deployed to Bagram Air Base outside of Kabul, Afghanistan. At one point, he was the highest ranking officer at the air base between December 2001 and February 2002. After Afghanistan, Phil became the Chief of Training and Exercises for the NATO Interim Deployable Air Operations Center at Ramstein Air Base in Germany. He was bumped to full bird Colonel in 2004, at which time he became Commander of the USAFE Air Mobility Operations Control Center, also at Ramstein Air Base in Germany. This put him in charge of the entire C–141 fleet for Europe and the Middle East.

Among his many awards and decorations are the following: the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medals, the Army Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Medal, Air Force Organizational Medal, the Combat Readiness Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal, and the Kuwaiti Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia & Kuwait).

Phil summed up his time in uniform by saying that "I will be at peace with myself knowing that I did my job during the longest war in American history." Then, after 28 years of dedicated service to our great nation, Phil decided to retire in 2010 and enter the private sector.

Instead of pursuing a career in academia, Phil again was serving our country as a private citizen, offering up leadership training to the Afghan military. He was assigned to the NATO training mission at Camp Eggers, in the Green Zone in Kabul, and taught 30 senior Afghan officers how to develop a three-year, $15 billion defense budget.

Phil had a focus and a drive in him that was unparalleled. He was relentless. He was detail oriented. His rich understanding of global affairs was perfectly complimented by an unquenchable thirst for knowledge.

Aside from the aforementioned masters' degrees, he had also served on the faculties of the Air Force Academy and the University of Houston, and was a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Phil published 97 articles, book reviews, and editorials on various topics. He also published two books, and was currently in the process of working on his third about his three deployments to Afghanistan.

Phil had a no-nonsense outlook on life. In his words, "[stuff] happens and it's out of our control. You just have to live your life to the fullest and have no regrets."

Colonel Bossert epitomized the American ethos of hard work, dedication, and strength of body, mind, and spirit. He devoted his life to the service of others, and I would have been honored to have had the privilege of knowing him better.

Colonel Philip A. Bossert, USAF (Ret.) was 54. He was a hero.

RECOGNIZING THE CLINIC OF PHOENIXVILLE, CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2013

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The Clinic of Phoenixville, Chester County, Pennsylvania on reaching the incredible milestone of having provided medical care amounting to over 100,000 visits.

Founded in 2001, The Clinic began as the dream of Dr. Lorna B. Stuart and the Reverend Marie Z. Swayze to create a medical center that would provide comprehensive health care to the uninsured. Operating with a donation of $200,000 from an anonymous donor, The Clinic collaborated with St. Peter's Episcopal Church to establish a home for The Clinic in the former Rectory of the Church. Additional money was raised to furnish and complete the medical facility and St. Peter's generously allowed the Rectory to be leased for one dollar a year for The Clinic's first ten years of operation. The daily work and caring dedication of the 11 professional staff members and over 115 volunteers have allowed The Clinic to serve the medical needs of so many individuals throughout its history.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of having provided medical care amounting to over 100,000 visits, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing The Clinic of Phoenixville, Chester

County, Pennsylvania, and its continuing mission to provide comprehensive medical services to the uninsured of Phoenixville and the surrounding communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2013

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from September 30–October 16, 2013. If I were present, I would have voted on the following: September 30th: rollcall No. 501—Ordering Previous Question on H. Res. 367, ''nay''; rollcall No. 502—Agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 367, ''nay''; rollcall No. 503—Suspend the Rules and Pass S. 1438, ''yea''; rollcall No. 504—Receding from the House Amendments, Concurring in the Senate Amendment with Amendment on H.J. Res. 59, ''nay.''

October 1st: rollcall No. 505—Agreeing to the Resolution—H. Res. 368, ''nay''; rollcall No. 506—Suspend the Rules and Pass H.J. Res. 72, ''nay''; rollcall No. 507—Suspend the Rules and Pass H.J. Res. 71, ''nay''; rollcall No. 508—Suspend the Rules and Pass H.J. Res. 70, ''nay.''

October 2nd: rollcall No. 509—Ordering Previous Question on the Rule H. Res. 370, ''nay''; rollcall No. 510—Agreeing to the Resolution—H. Res. 370, ''nay''; rollcall No. 511—Approving the Journal, ''nay''; rollcall No. 512—Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.J. Res. 70, ''nay''; rollcall No. 513—On Passage—H.J. Res. 70, ''nay''; rollcall No. 514—On Passage—H.J. Res. 73, ''nay.''

October 3rd: rollcall No. 515—Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.R. 3230, ''nay''; rollcall No. 516—On Passage—H.R. 3230, ''nay''; rollcall No. 517—Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.J. Res. 72, ''nay''; rollcall No. 518—On Passage—H.J. Res. 72, ''nay.''

October 4th: rollcall No. 519—Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 371, ''nay''; rollcall No. 520—Agreeing to the Resolution—H.J. Res. 77, ''nay''; rollcall No. 521—Tables the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.J. Res. 85, ''nay''; rollcall No. 522—On Passage of H.J. Res. 85, ''nay''; rollcall No. 523—Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.J. Res. 75, ''nay''; rollcall No. 524—On Passage—H.J. Res. 75, ''nay.''

October 5th: rollcall No. 525—On Passage—H.R. 3223, ''yea''; rollcall No. 526—Suspend the Rules and Pass H. Con. Res. 58, ''yea.''

October 7th: rollcall No. 527—Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.J. Res. 77, ''nay''; rollcall No. 528—On Passage—H.J. Res. 77, ''nay''; rollcall No. 529—Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.J. Res. 77, ''nay''; rollcall No. 530—On Passage—H.J. Res. 84, ''nay''; rollcall No. 531—Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule on H. Res. 373, ''nay''; rollcall No. 532—on Agreeing to the Resolution—H.J. Res. 373, ''nay''; rollcall No. 533—Table Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.R. 3273, ''nay''; rollcall No. 534—On Passage H.R. 3273, ''nay''; rollcall No. 535—On Passage—H.J. Res. 89, ''yea.''

October 9th: rollcall No. 536—Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.J. Res. 89, ''nay''; rollcall No. 537—On Passage H.J. Res. 90, ''nay''; rollcall No. 538—Suspend the Rules and Pass H.J. Res. 91, ''yea.''

October 10th: rollcall No. 539—Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.J. Res. 79, ''nay''; rollcall No. 540—On Passage H.J. Res. 79, ''nay.''

October 11th: rollcall No. 541—Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.J. Res. 76, ''nay''; rollcall No. 542—On Passage—H.J. Res. 76—''nay''; rollcall No. 543—Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 380, ''nay''; rollcall No. 544—Agreeing to the Resolution—H.J. Res. 380—''nay.''

October 12th: rollcall No. 545—Agreeing to the Resolution—H.J. Res. 378, ''yea''; rollcall No. 546—On Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2642, ''yea.''

October 14th: rollcall No. 547—Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on H.J. Res. 80, ''nay''; rollcall No. 548—On Passage of H.J. Res. 80, ''nay''; rollcall No. 549—Agreeing to the Grayson (FL) Amendment to the title, ''yea.''

October 16th: rollcall No. 550—Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendments—H.R. 2775, ''yea.''

HONORING REV. GRIFFIN DAVIS, SR. ON THE 48TH ANNIVERSARY OF HILL TOP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rev. Griffin Davis, Sr. on the occasion of the 48th anniversary of his ministry. He is the longtime pastor of Hill Top Missionary Baptist Church in Riviera Beach, Florida.

Rev. Davis is widely known as a compassionate person who will always go out of his way to help the less fortunate among us. He truly embodies the words of Jesus, who said, ''Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works.'' Rev. Davis' lifetime of good works is well known among people of faith in the Riviera Beach community.

The city and its residents know that they can count on him for support whenever there is a need for civic improvements, and in every effort to assist the poor and disabled—especially senior citizens and children. Rev. Davis' moving words touch countless lives each Sunday, but his sermons make up only a small part of the many good deeds that he continues to perform each and every single day. As he approaches a half century of serving God and all his children, I am pleased to join his family, his friends, and everyone in the community in honoring him.

Mr. Speaker, Rev. Davis is one of the finest people that I have had the privilege to know, and I wish him continued success in his life and ministry for many more years to come. He is a selfless individual who has given so much to his community, and I am extremely humbled to not only represent him in Congress, but also to call him my dear friend.

RECOGNIZING ROANOKE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Roanoke Electric Cooperative that recently celebrated its 75th anniversary delivering affordable electricity to rural eastern North Carolina. The Cooperative is headquartered in my Congressional District in Aulander, North Carolina and serves seven of the 24 counties I represent.

The Cooperative grew out of the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) created by President Franklin Roosevelt. REA's goal was to foster the construction of electric distribution lines so that rural areas of the country could avail themselves of the great benefits of electricity.

Roanoke Electric Cooperative was chartered on September 30, 1938 and construction began immediately. By the middle of 1939, the 56 miles of electric distribution lines that had been constructed went live and provided electricity to 317 individual locations in rural North Carolina.

Before the Cooperative existed, Americans living in rural areas began their day at sunrise and ended it at sunset. Every task—be it simple or complex—had to be done manually. Washing and drying clothes, farm work, cooking, cleaning, and even accessing water took time and effort that had been drastically reduced in urban areas due to the existence of electricity.

Struck by the glaring inequity between rural and urban areas, then-Nebraska Senator George Norris said ''I had seen first-hand the grim drudgery and grind which had been the common lot of eight generations of American farm women. I knew what it was to take care of the farm chores by the flickering, undependable light of the lantern in the cold rains of the fall and the icy winds of winter. Those rural women were conscious of the great gap between their lives and the lives of those women whom by birth or choice lived in towns and cities with electricity in their homes.''

Now Roanoke Electric Cooperative has more than 2,000 miles of electric distribution lines and serves nearly 15,000 individual locations in its seven county footprint. The Cooperative is led by Curtis Wynn who serves as its President and CEO. Mr. Wynn is the first African American in the nation to serve an electric cooperative in that capacity. Under his visionary leadership, Roanoke Electric Cooperative has been recognized by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and has received the Community Service Network Award on two separate occasions. Mr. Wynn also serves on the Board of Directors for NRECA.

Mr. Speaker, Roanoke Electric Cooperative has proudly and effectively served my constituents in rural eastern North Carolina for 75 years. I offer my sincere congratulations to Mr. Wynn and his team and ask that my colleagues join me in sending best wishes to Roanoke Electric Cooperative as it continues to be a vital and integral part of the lives of families and businesses in eastern North Carolina.