

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING TICHUUNA LASHA' FUNCHESS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student, Tichiuna Lasha' Funchess, from Crystal Springs High School.

Tichiuna Lasha' Funchess is the daughter of Mr. Rico and Mrs. Kimberly Funchess. She has one sibling, Danielle Floyd.

Tichiuna is an honor student at Crystal Springs High School (CSHS) with 3.88 Grade Point Average. As a natural born leader, Tichiuna demonstrates her leadership abilities in her school, community, and church. At CSHS, she is a member of Student Council, SADD Club, Mu Alpha Theta (National Society Math Organization), FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America), NSHSS (National Society of High School Scholars), Ambassador of NSHSS, and Ronald Reagan Scholars Program.

Tichiuna serves in her community as a representative of the Crystal Springs Mayor's Youth Council. She is also a faithful choir member and praise dancer at Terry Missionary Baptist Church.

Tichiuna is inspired by her physics teacher Dr. Cecilia Newsome-McGowan. She says that she truly admires Dr. McGowan because with her credentials. She could work anywhere making much more money but, instead, she devotes her time to the students at Crystal Springs High School.

Tichiuna has recently received acceptance letters from University of Mississippi and Mississippi State University to pursue a degree in Political Science. She plans to become a divorce or corporate attorney.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Tichiuna Lasha' Funchess as a student who is making a difference in her community.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
RODNEY A. LINDSAY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Mr. Rodney A. Lindsay, who served the United States of America honorably during the Vietnam War. Rodney's commitment and service to our country deserves to be commended.

Rodney was born in Merced, California, in July 1948. He attended local schools and graduated from Chowchilla High School in 1966.

Rodney entered the U.S. Army in April 1968, at the height of the Vietnam War. He re-

ported to Fort Lewis, Washington, for basic training and upon completion he was sent across the country to Fort Dix, New Jersey, for advanced infantry training.

After completing infantry training, Rodney was selected to join an exclusive group of ten soldiers for specialized shoulder-fired, surface-to-air "Red Eye" missile training at Fort Bliss, Texas. Rodney then reported to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where he received further specialized training in the operation of convoys in combat. Following all of his specialized training, the Army assigned Rodney to a military police unit.

In April 1969, Rodney was stationed in Vietnam. During his time in Vietnam, Rodney was promoted to Specialist 4 and performed a number of duties including patrolling and securing the perimeter of the Cam Ranh Bay.

After his twelve month tour in Vietnam, Rodney returned to the United States. For his service as a Specialist 4, Rodney was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry Unit Citation with Frame, the Sharpshooter Badge (M16), the Expert Badge (M14), and two Overseas Bars.

Upon returning to civilian life, Rodney worked as a laborer and carpenter, building bridges throughout the western United States. He was later promoted to foreman and superintendent of bridge projects and highways where he served for more than thirty years until his retirement.

Rodney lives in Chowchilla, California. He is a member of the National Rifle Association, the Carpenters Union, and the Bridge Builder's Association. He is also a Life Member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Chowchilla BFW Post 9896. He and his wife, Joy, have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mr. Rodney A. Lindsay for his honorable service to our nation. He truly is a shining example of a proud American. He is a source of pride for our Central Valley and entire nation.

CONGRATULATING HARRIS CORPORATION ON THE GRAND OPENING OF ITS NEW HERNDON OFFICES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, this is a particularly exciting time in Northern Virginia's Dulles Corridor as major employers, such as Harris Corporation, look to capitalize on Metro's Silver Line extension to Dulles International Airport. As some of my colleagues are painfully aware, Washington, DC, is the only OECD capital not linked to its premier

international gateway by mass transit. The Dulles Corridor is the second most important employment and investment center in the National Capital Region, generating 25 percent of all economic activity, and that's before the arrival of Metro.

Phase 1 of the Dulles Rail project will open later this year with stops in Tysons and Reston, and Phase 2 is already under construction. I was pleased to attend the opening for Harris Corporation's new office campus, which will consolidate operations from several regional locations into a site near the future Herndon Metro Station. As my colleagues know, Harris is an international communications and information technology provider that partners with Federal, State, and local governments to support our nation's military, community first responders, and many other essential public services.

Harris employs more than 1,600 people in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and this new facility will house nearly 500 high-tech workers supporting the company's satellite, defense, intelligence, public safety, and health care operations. I was pleased to join Harris CEO Bill Brown, Virginia Senator MARK WARNER, and other regional leaders in welcoming the Harris team to its new location in the heart of the Dulles Corridor in Virginia's 11th Congressional District.

Fairfax County alone is home to 10 Fortune 500 companies. Harris and its corporate neighbors recognize Northern Virginia as one of the best places in the Nation in which to do business and raise a family. We benefit not only from the jobs they create, but also from the tremendous support they and their employees give back to our local schools and community organizations.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to welcome Harris Corporation to its new location, and I look forward to its continued collaboration with the federal government and our local community..

HONORING THE 2014 FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA, AREA HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR MILITARY ENLISTEES

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 177 Fredericksburg, Virginia area high school seniors who plan to enlist in the United States Armed Forces after graduation. These students have excelled in their academic and extracurricular activities, and I offer my sincere congratulations upon their high school graduation.

I commend these student leaders for their selfless and courageous decision to serve their country as members of the Armed Forces:

Adjare, Lester; Agnew, Chase; Ahmed-Alameldin, Mahmoud; Allen, Thomas; Allen,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

Tierra; Alley, William; Ampy, Jasmine; Anderson, James; Antinori, Liam; Arndt, Clarissa; Ashton, Brandon; Bagnerise, Joseph; Ball, Jacob; Banks, Nicholas; Barger, Zachary; Barnes, SaQuan; Barr, Kevin; Bell, Cody; Bernard, John; Berry, Nicolas.

Best, Tyshawn; Blankenship, Stephen; Boardman, Catherine; Bolden, Jacob; Bonzie, Amos; Borden, Ashley; Bosford, Bryan; Brinson, Devlin; Brownlee, Cody; Buck, Jonathan; Burch, Christopher; Byrd, Valentino; Calloway, George; Campbell, Brandon; Campbell, Joshua; Cantrell, Justin; Carr, Brenden; Carter, Aaron; Cempron, Crystal; Choquette, Mark.

Clark, Regan; Cole, Christopher; Coleman, Danielle; Conner, Keyon; Cooper, Hassiem; Croce, Remy; Cyrier, Thomas; Dabney, Lynshae; Dantonio, Mark; Deluca, Erik; Demetriades, Peter; Dieckhoff, Garrett; Dodson, Bethany; Dorsey, Thomas; Driskell, Daniel; Driskill, Joseph; Dubberty, Thurman; Ehrbar, Matthew; Escobar, Jadavian; Flint, Tyler.

Fortune, D'Marcus; Fourhman, Joel; Gano, Jacob; Garnett-Anderson, Nathaniel; Geokgeuzian, Michael; Gholson, Khavari; Gibbs, Trevor; Gomez, Ernesto; Goode, Aaron; Graves, Crystal; Grenke, Konnor; Grier Maurice; Grizzard, Georganna; Ha, Nina; Hamilton, Corey; Hardin, Tiera; Harold, Chasitie; Harper, Ashley; Harper, Jasmine; Harper.

Kristoffer-Rommell; Helm, Cronje; Henderson, Kameron; Hoffman, Christopher; Hoo, Christian; Horbacz, Stanley; Hughes, Chelsea; Humphries, Anthony; Huston, Sierra; Hyde, Seth; Ingerman, Kedrie; Jackson, Quincee; Jameson, Aeneas; Jenkins, David; Johnson, Samed Farrad; Jones, Angela; Jumper Martrano, Christopher; Karstromer, Stephen; Kasper, Marla; King, Simone; Kissane, Sean. Knicely, Jacob; Kohler, Michael; Kondratenko, Joshua; Kosmoski, Justis; Lambert, James; Larkin, Olivia; Lescano Mourao, Tamara; Lockard, Aaron; Lopez, Eric; Maltais, Gavin; Manthey, Hunter; Marbaker, Candice; Marsh, Michael; Marshall, David; Matlack, Erik; Matters, Jason; Maxwell, Jasjnn; Mccoy, Ryan; McDaniel, Ian; McMahan, Justin.

Miyamasu, Daniel; Molina, Kenny; Money, Richard; Morris, Mason; Naylor, Ryan; Nunez, Danny; Parada, Kevin; Parker, Dwandre; Parrish, Nelson; Patterson, Riley; Payne, Jonathan; Phillips, Christopher; Phillips, Timothy; Purce, Kiera; Quetsch, Brien; Ramirez, Sean; Rappa, Matthew; Reece, Kevin; Rheinstein, Nathaniel; Riggins, Christopher.

Roach, Austin; Robinson, Sashauna; Roeding, Nicholas; Rowe, William; Sanchez, Nancy; Sayer, Michael; Schmiegel, Karl; Schulte, Lance; Seabron, D'Angelo; Shafovaloff, John; Shelton, Samuel; Sims, Adam; Sisemore, Shane; Smail, Tyler; Smoot, Kiame; Snyder, Logan; Stanley, Zachary; Stewart, Joshua; Terrado, Jayson; Tuccitto, Anthony.

Tuggle, Dominique; Turner, Kevin; Underwood, Devonte; Walker, Christian; Walton, Benjamin; Walton, Thomas; Weimer, Desirae; Welter, Morgan; White, Terence; Whitt, Augustus; Williams, Thomas; Williamson, Travis; Wooldridge, Stephen; Wygant, Raymond; Wynn, Christian; Yeboah-Afari, Boahene; Young, Derek.

These students will be honored by the Greater Fredericksburg Chapter of Our Community Salutes at their 3rd Annual Military En-

listee Recognition Ceremony on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these young men and women and their families for their dedication to serving this great Nation. We owe them and the many Americans who have served and will serve a debt of gratitude.

IN HONOR OF PENNSYLVANIA
VETERANS OF THE SECOND
WORLD WAR WHO FOUGHT IN
THE BATTLE OF IWO JIMA

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor eight Pennsylvania veterans of the Second World War who fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima.

These brave and heroic gentlemen are members of the Delaware County #288 and General Smedley D. Butler #741 Marine Corps League Detachments. Although many of their brothers in arms died in the midst of battle or in the years since, these Marines and Sailors continue to carry the legacy of their brothers' sacrifices for the security of our nation and defense of freedom for all of us in this world.

Let us forever remember and be grateful for the sacrifice of these heroes of the Second World War. Please join me in recognizing the following gentlemen for their service to our country: Louis Camilli, Jack Depew, Cliff Doud, George Edelman, Joseph Hinderhofer, Alan McCauley, Walter Tallamage and Donald Walz.

IN HONOR OF LESLIE R. WHITE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Leslie R. White for his lifetime of service to the public transportation industry, including the last 17 years as General Manager of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District, called "METRO."

Les took the helm at METRO, which provides bus service to the very transit-dependent communities of Santa Cruz County, CA, at a time of turmoil and molded the agency into a national model. He transformed virtually every aspect of METRO's operations, from replacing an aging diesel fleet with clean fuels buses to adding routes and making existing routes more efficient to improving paratransit service delivery.

Under his leadership, METRO has grown to provide a level of service that makes public transportation in Santa Cruz County a viable alternative to automobile travel. Students from the University of California at Santa Cruz and Cabrillo College are loyal METRO riders, as are the scores of Santa Cruz residents commuting to and from jobs in Silicon Valley on the popular Highway 17 Express.

My first interactions with Les involved working together on the development of

MetroBase, the agency's centralized operations and maintenance facility. The 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake destroyed much of METRO's infrastructure and left the system without any adequate facilities. After dealing with the delicate task of finding a suitable site for the new facilities in Santa Cruz, Les worked tirelessly to corral federal, state, and local resources for the MetroBase project that has resulted in long-term savings for the agency.

In addition, I was pleased to have worked closely with Les on the creation of the Small Transit Intensive Cities (STIC) program in the 2005 surface transportation reauthorization law known as SAFETEA-LU. Years earlier, Les came to me with an idea to rectify an imbalance in the way that federal transit funding was allocated to smaller urbanized areas such as Santa Cruz. Now, the STIC program provides additional formula funding to communities with a strong local commitment to public transit, and over 160 communities in 45 states have benefited from the program since its inception.

Les has dedicated his life to public transportation, and had a long history of achievement prior to his arrival in Santa Cruz. He started his career as a bus driver in his home state of Michigan and rose to lead transit agencies in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, Kalamazoo, Michigan, and Vancouver, Washington. Joining him every step of the way was his wife and best friend Phyllis, who passed away in December 2012.

In 1996, he reached a pinnacle of his profession when he was elected by his peers as Chairman of the American Public Transportation Association, where he also helped develop the popular Leadership APTA program, which helps groom transit professionals for leadership positions in the industry.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Les for his service to Santa Cruz and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF ROBERT DANIELI

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Mr. Robert Danieli, who passed away in 1996 at the age of 76. Bob served the United States of America honorably in northern Africa and Italy during World War II and was a leader in the Central Valley.

Bob was born in Hollister, California. His family later moved to a farm near Chowchilla, where Bob attended local schools and worked alongside his father and brothers on the family farm and dairy. When his father was hospitalized, Bob ran the farm alongside his mother and two younger brothers.

In July 1942, Bob set aside his farming duties and reported for service with the United States Army. He completed basic training at Camp Roberts and joined the Western Task Force for Operation Torch, the allied invasion of northern Africa in November 1942 commanded by General George Patton.

Bob was assigned as rifleman to the scout platoon of the headquarters unit where he

helped conduct reconnaissance patrols and targeted enemy troops and armor and gun emplacements in Tunisia and Libya.

When General Patton assumed command of the U.S. II Corps, he had key elements of his former command transferred to his new command, including Bob and most of the scout platoon. Under the command of General Patton, the U.S. II Corps took on Rommel's famed Afrika Korps and defeated the Germans in two key battles.

In November 1943, Bob was injured in the line of duty. He was sent for recuperation to an Army hospital in Palm Springs, California. Following his recuperation, Bob returned to serve on limited duty and was transferred to the 9025th Technical Service Unit at Fort MacArthur, where he served until his discharge in October 1945.

During his time in the Army, Bob rose to the rank of staff sergeant and served in campaigns in Tunisia, Sicily, and Italy. He was awarded the Combat Infantry's Badge, the Purple Heart, the Good Conduct Medal, the European-Africa-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Bob spent the rest of his life serving his community with the same tenacity and devotion with which he served in the Army. He was elected to the Chowchilla Union High School (CUHS) Board of Education and the Chowchilla Water District. He also served as a Director for the Federal Land Bank and was a member of the Chowchilla Spring Festival and the CUHS Ag Advisory. He was a Past Commander and Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9896 and American Legion Post 148 in Chowchilla. He and his wife Lillian had four children, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life and service of Mr. Robert Danieli, who was a shining example of the tenacity, courage, and dedication embodied by a serviceman.

HONORING MS. KATHERINE S.
JOHNSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable student in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

Katherine S. Johnson is the daughter of Ms. Veda Johnson and granddaughter of Mrs. Katherine Johnson. She is a native of Clarksdale, Mississippi and is currently a student at Clarksdale High School.

Katherine comes from a community called the "brick yard" which has a strong gang presence. Her phenomenal relationship with her grandmother who loved and nurtured her assisted in her upbringing.

As she entered her teenage years, she put aside the valuable lessons taught by her grandmother, and it was very easy for her to assimilate herself to what was going on in her neighborhood.

As Katherine matriculated to Clarksdale High School as a freshman, she found herself becoming better acquainted with the principal than her teachers due to fighting, truancy, and a lack of respect for authority.

However, Mrs. Katherine, her grandmother and namesake, was there at the school to check on her and steer her back on the right path.

Although behaviorally, Katherine strayed, academically she maintained very respectable grades and became a member of the Marching Wildcats. These activities helped make a difference in her maturation.

Desiring a greater academic challenge in her sophomore year she enrolled in all Advanced Placement classes which the Clarksdale Municipal School District offered. She was promoted to section leader in the school band and will graduate with the title of Honors with Distinction during commencement exercises on May 22, 2014.

The unfortunate situation is that her beloved grandmother and namesake will not be there to witness the fruits of her labor due to recently passing. It will be difficult for Katherine to bask in the glow of her well-deserved accomplishments without the major cornerstone of her support system not being there; but in her honor, she will continue to strive to be the awesome young lady that Mrs. Johnson loved, nurtured, and encouraged her to become.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Katherine S. Johnson, an amazing student for her dedication to succeed.

CONGRATULATING CARLOS HARRISON ON HIS BOOK CHRONICLING THE STORY OF HERO STREET IN SILVIS, ILLINOIS

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carlos Harrison on his excellent work telling the story of Hero Street in Silvis, Illinois.

Carlos is a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, editor and author whose most recent book brought him to a small street in my district. The twenty-two Mexican-American families living on Second Street in Silvis, Illinois sent fifty-seven of their children to fight in World War II and Korea. In total, over 100 men and women from those one and a half blocks have served in the US Armed Forces. No other area of comparable size in the country has had so many men and women in uniform, and in honor of them, the street was renamed Hero Street USA in 1967.

Carlos's book, *The Ghosts of Hero Street: How One Small Mexican-American Community Gave So Much in World War II and Korea*, will be released on May 6th with an event in Silvis at Hero Street Park, which is dedicated to the eight sons of Hero Street who lost their lives in those two conflicts. It is fitting that he will celebrate with the community, because the story of Hero Street is not just about those who fought and gave their lives, but also about the perseverance and values of the families and community they left behind in Silvis.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank Carlos Harrison for telling the important and inspirational story of the families of Hero Street and the fifty-seven brave young men who put their lives on the line to serve their country and fight to protect the American Dream.

COMMEMORATING
REPRESENTATIVE JIM OBERSTAR

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, today we gather to honor Congressman Jim Oberstar, a true gentleman of the House who ably represented Minnesota's 8th District for 36 years. He was a fixture of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee starting as staff in the 1960s and 1970s, and then as a member and finally Chairman from 2007 to 2011. I was blessed to work, and sometimes ride, alongside Jim for many years.

As a tireless advocate on transportation issues, Jim earned well-deserved admiration in many circles, including in my home state of Oregon. He accompanied me on tours as an advocate for increased infrastructure investment. Jim truly understood the importance of the investment as a way to create American jobs, improve safety, and build roads and bridges to accommodate a 21st Century economy. His passion and leadership are evident in projects across the country.

Jim was also an avid cyclist, and I am grateful I had the opportunity to show him my state in 2007 during the Cycle Oregon event. He was one tough athlete, easily outpacing cyclists half his age.

Like many people in Washington, DC, Minnesota and beyond, I feel fortunate to consider Jim not only a colleague, but a friend and a mentor. I only wish he had lived long enough to share all of his knowledge with the rest of us.

My sympathy goes out to his loved ones, including his wife, Jean.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
STEWART ROLLER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Stewart Roller for serving the United States of America honorably during the Vietnam War. Stewart's commitment to the American people and 30 years of service to the U.S. Navy deserves to be commended.

Stewart was born in 1939 in Parsons, Kansas. He received a bachelor's degree from Baker University in 1961 and enrolled in the School of Dentistry at the University of Missouri, where he received his Doctor of Dentistry Science degree in 1965.

Instead of joining a lucrative dentistry firm, Stewart entered active duty just as the war in Vietnam was beginning to escalate. He completed Field Medical Training at Camp Pendleton and was commissioned as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

As part of the U.S. Navy, Stewart was assigned to provide medical support for the Third Marine Division in Vietnam. Stewart served as an assistant division dental officer and provided emergency medical aid to wounded Marines, while also performing regular services.

Stewart provided support for the 3rd and 4th Marine Regiments during Operation Hastings,

their first major operation against the North Vietnamese Army, in July 1966. Operation Prairie followed in October 1966, where casualties mounted for the medical staff. Stewart's service was vital during this operation where more than 1,400 Marines were killed and more than 9,000 were wounded.

After serving in Vietnam for thirteen months, Stewart returned to the States and served as an Assistant Dental Officer. In July 1968, he transferred to the Naval Reserve, where he continued to serve as an Assistant Dental Officer and was promoted to Training Officer, Executive Officer, and Staff Dental Officer.

In 1981, Stewart assumed duties as the Department Head for the Naval Reserve at Naval Air Station Lemoore. In the following years, Stewart was promoted to Commanding Officer for the Naval Reserve Hospital at Naval Air Station Lemoore and served as Staff Dental Officer for the Reserve Readiness Command of Region Twenty.

From July 1988 to September 1991, Stewart served as Commanding Officer for the Naval Reserve Dental Clinic in San Francisco. During his tenure, productivity per provider rose dramatically.

After 30 years of service in the U.S. Navy, Stewart retired with the rank of Captain. For his service, he was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the Navy Unit Citation, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry Unit Citation with Frame, 30-Year Naval Reserve Award, and Expert Rifle and Expert Pistol Awards.

In 2003, the Governor appointed Stewart to the rank of Colonel in the California State Military Reserve. Stewart received additional awards, including the California State Military Reserve Meritorious Achievement Medal and Military Reserve Service Ribbon.

Stewart is a Life Member of the Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9896 and a Life Member of the San Francisco Dental Society, Dental Association, and American Dental Association.

While serving in the reserve, Stewart also engaged in a private dental practice in San Francisco. He subsequently served for more than seven years as a staff dentist at the Valley State Prison for Women.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the service of Mr. Stewart Roller for his dedication to our country. He is a source of pride for our Central Valley and the entire nation.

RECOGNIZING DEBORAH HERSMAN FOR HER SERVICE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the distinguished tenure of Deborah Hersman, who is leaving as Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board after serving 10 years on the Board and five years as chairman.

Ms. Hersman, 43, is a resident of Lorton, Virginia, in my district. She is the daughter of

a retired Air Force Brigadier General and spent much of her childhood abroad before her family settled in Northern Virginia, where she attended Chantilly High School. While in college at Virginia Tech, Ms. Hersman interned in the office of Congressman Bob Wise of West Virginia. After graduation, she returned to Congressman Wise's office, ultimately serving as a senior legislative aide. After several years working on the House side, she joined the staff of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, where she rose to the position of Staff Director.

In 2004, President George W. Bush appointed Ms. Hersman to a 5-year term on the NTSB. President Obama reappointed her in 2009 and also nominated her as Chairman, making her the youngest person to serve in that role at age 39. Ms. Hersman has presided over the NTSB during a very active period for the organization. She has presided over a number of high-profile accident investigations, including the collision of two Metro Red Line trains, the airplane crash involving Senator Ted Stevens in 2010, and the collision between two freight trains in Oklahoma in 2012. In the face of all those tragedies, and dozens more, Ms. Hersman displayed remarkable poise and provided a reassuring presence with her calm, confident leadership.

In addition to her investigatory duties, Ms. Hersman helped to broaden the mission of the NTSB. She focused not just on what happened after a tragedy, but also what the government could do to prevent such tragedies from occurring in the first place. By focusing on behaviors that cause transportation accidents, like fatigue and intoxication, Ms. Hersman helped shape the NTSB into a more proactive organization. She recently announced she is leaving public service to become president and chief executive officer of the National Safety Council.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Deborah Hersman for her tremendous service to our nation. I commend her for all the work she has done to keep our roadways, railways, and airspace safe for all Americans. I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Ms. Hersman on her accomplishments, and I wish her and her family all the best in her future endeavors.

EXPATRIATE HEALTH COVERAGE CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the latest version of H.R. 4414, the Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act of 2014. I want to commend my colleague JOHN CARNEY on his efforts to address the needs of expatriate health care plans and to ensure that the jobs created by managing these plans remain in the United States. However, the bill, in its current form, would create more problems than it resolves. As you know, the Affordable Care Act established new coverage standards and protections for millions of Americans, including that they cannot be denied coverage for pre-

existing conditions nor have their benefits capped at arbitrary annual and lifetime limits. Unfortunately, the bill contains potential loopholes that could weaken coverage for many families and immigrant workers who live in the United States. While I do believe the text of the bill has been improved since its initial consideration, there is still more work to be done. According to the Statement of Administration Policy, the Administration echoes our concerns and it remains willing to work with Congress to find a reasonable solution. I hope my colleagues in the Senate will make the necessary changes in order to resolve this matter as quickly as possible.

CONGRATULATING THE BURLESON FAMILY

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brooke, Adam, and Holland Burleson of Spruce Pine, North Carolina. The Burleson family has inspired a community and proven that we all can make a difference.

On April 26, 2014, the Burleson family organized the first-annual Run for Holland 5k and 1 Mile Fun Run. They organized the race to raise funds and awareness for families with children who have been diagnosed with Down Syndrome and other special needs. There was overwhelming support in the small community of Spruce Pine, with over 290 participants and more than 8,000 dollars raised.

Inspired by the birth of their daughter, Holland, on August 2, 2013, Brooke and Adam Burleson have gone above and beyond in shining light on this issue. Just months before Holland was born, Adam and Brooke found out their daughter had a very high chance of having Down Syndrome. In the months after, they found strength from other parents in their community. The Burleson family is now reciprocating those efforts.

This family is a true inspiration for us all. They have not only faced adversity, but conquered it by helping other families going through similar situations. They have taught us that no matter what situation God gives you, He can give us the strength to overcome it.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate the Burleson family and the Spruce Pine community for their commitment to helping others. It is truly an honor to represent them in Congress.

HONORING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN FLORIDA'S PALM BEACHES AND TREASURE COAST FOR THEIR COURAGEOUS DECISION TO JOIN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES

HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 23 high school seniors from the Treasure Coast and Palm Beaches of Florida for their commendable decision to enlist in the

United States Armed Forces following their graduation this year. Of these 23 enlistees, 11 are Army enlistees, 4 are Navy enlistees, 4 are National Guard enlistees, 2 are Air Force enlistees, one is a Coast Guard enlistee, and one is a Marine Corps enlistee. These young men and women have displayed an unmatched sense of bravery and courage in their commitment to defend and protect our nation. Thus, it is important they know that they have the full support of the United States House of Representatives, their communities, and the American people. It is the dedication of these individuals which reminds us who we are as a people, and that though diverse problems may lie ahead, the United States remains a shining example of freedom, strength, and perseverance on the world stage.

The service of these young men and women must not go unrecognized, and so I want to personally thank these twenty-three local graduating seniors for their selflessness and commitment to our nation by naming them here today: Oneil Daley, Antonio Allen Jr., Juan Machuca, Mario Esquilin, Henry Thomas, Dion Yu, David Colton, Corbett Pervenecki, Matthew Connelly, Laquann Pitts, Corey Boyce, Jose Ruiz, Kristi McMillion, Selena Harrison, Ty Torres, David Tarrant-Schneiderman, Angela Fernandez, Tristan Sperling, Andrew Williams, Tyler Stewart, Brandon Hall, Dylan Reinhardt and Alicia Williams.

All will be recognized on May 8th at the Our Community Salutes event in Boca Raton.

Mr Speaker, we owe a debt of gratitude to each and every one of them and to all who defend our freedom by serving in the United States Armed Forces. That spirit of service and sacrifice is something we all can be proud of. For this very reason, it is my honor to recognize these young leaders here today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF ROBERT BUFORD ACREE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Robert Buford Acree, who passed away in 2010 at the age of 85. Bob was a World War II veteran who served the United States of America honorably in Korea and began a family legacy within the United States Air Force.

Bob was born in Arkansas in 1924. He moved to Chowchilla with his family in 1937 and began to work in farming with his father when he was only 12 years old. He attended local schools and graduated from Chowchilla High School in 1943.

In 1945, thinking he was safe from the draft, Bob married Betty and continued working in farming. A year later, he was inducted into the Army. After completing basic training, Bob was assigned to the Army Air Corps and was sent to Aviation Engineering School in Spokane, Washington, for advanced training.

Upon completion of his training, Bob and roughly one hundred Army Air Corps replacement troops flew to Pusan, Korea. Bob then joined the 40th Aviation Engineer Squadron at Kempo Air Field, north of Seoul. Bob subsequently served in the squadron motor pool.

Bob returned to the United States in March 1947 and was discharged at Camp Beale. However, Bob decided to continue serving his country and enlisted in the U.S. Air Force Reserve in 1948. He served for four years and was honorably discharged as an Airman Second Class in 1952. For his service, Bob was awarded the World War II Victory Medal and the Army of Occupation Medal.

After his separation from the service, Bob returned to Chowchilla and to farming alongside his father. In 1949, Bob bought his own farm in the Dairyland area and farmed until 1961. Bob worked for the City of Chowchilla before beginning a long career with the Chowchilla Union High School District where he served with distinction as Director of Transportation from 1969 until his retirement in 1987.

Bob and Betty had two children, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Bob passed along his dedication to service to his son who retired from the Air Force as a master sergeant and to two of his grandchildren who are currently on active duty in the United States Air Force.

In addition to being a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, and servicemember, Bob was also an active member of his community in Chowchilla. He was a member of the Chowchilla Mason Lodge, Chowchilla Odd Fellow Lodge, Mariposa Odd Fellow Lodge, and Order of the Eastern Star. He was also a long-time member of the First Baptist Church and Life Member of Chowchilla VFW Post 9896 and American Legion Post 148.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life of Robert Buford Acree for his service and devotion to his family, community, and nation.

HONORING MS. BRITTANY
JOHNSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable student in Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

Brittany Johnson is the daughter of Kennedy V. & Jean S. Johnson. She is a native of Mound Bayou, Mississippi. She is currently a student at the Mississippi School for Mathematics & Science where she maintains an "A" average. Prior to attending Mississippi School for Math and Science, she attended John F. Kennedy Memorial High School and Isaiah T. Montgomery Elementary School in Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

At Isaiah T. Montgomery Elementary School, Brittany was honored for having the highest grade point average from the first through sixth grades. While in elementary school she served as a Junior Beta Club Member and a Girl Scout.

In Junior High School, Brittany was recognized for holding the highest state testing scores for Language Arts, Reading, and Mathematics. She continued to maintain a 4.0 GPA. When she became a high school student, she was active in Future Business Leaders of America where she competed and placed first in district and second in state competitions.

She went on to compete in the national competition in Anaheim, California for Word Processing I and Senior Beta, she also competed at other competitions and the Drama Club. She was recognized by President Obama and Congressman THOMPSON on scoring advance on the subject area tests of Algebra I and Biology I. Brittany has maintained an "A" average and the highest GPA average during her tenure at John F. Kennedy Memorial High School.

Desiring a greater academic challenge, Brittany in her sophomore year at John F. Kennedy Memorial High School applied and was accepted to the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science in Columbus, Mississippi where she is scheduled to graduate in the spring of 2015.

At the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science she is a member of the National Honors Society for High School Students, National Beta Club, Future Physicians of America, and Blu Diamonds Step Group.

She continues to maintain an "A" average in her courses of study.

Brittany is a dedicated citizen in her community. She volunteers in annual citywide clean-ups and is a former member of the Mayor's Youth Council and participated in it by working on numerous political campaigns.

She is an active member of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, which is located in the city of Mound Bayou, Mississippi, where she is a member of the Junior Usher Board, the Youth Choir, the Youth Praise Dance Team and serves as Secretary of the Sunday School.

After completing high school she plans on attending college where she will major in Biology, to pursue her dreams of becoming a Cardiovascular Surgeon. She lives by the quote: "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing student for her dedication to education.

HONORING NORA RUPERT

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Broward County District 7 School Board Member Nora Rupert, a devoted teacher and mother and a dedicated community advocate. Her hard work improving our county's schools and bettering the futures of our children is an inspiration to education leaders in South Florida and across the country.

After Nora graduated from Florida Southern College and the Star Program at FAU for alternative education certification, she served as a substitute teacher with the School Board of Broward County and taught Language Arts and Reading at Piper High School for four years. She was elected in 2010 to serve as School Board Member for District 7 and has been a champion of education reform ever since. After adopting three children, she has gained invaluable experience advocating on their behalf through Exceptional Student Education and gifted issues in public schools. Finally, among many other organizations, Nora

is a Broward School Board representative on the Council of Great City Schools, National School Board Association, and Council of Urban Boards of Education and serves on the boards of the Coconut Creek Elementary School Advisory Form and Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

Education is fundamental to the long-term success of Florida and our nation. As a parent and a congressman, I understand the need to make an unwavering commitment to the education of our children. Nora Rupert has demonstrated this commitment through decades of compassion for the children of South Florida, and she inspires all of us to live by her example.

RECOGNIZING JO HODGIN FOR 21 YEARS OF SERVICE TO WOLF TRAP FOUNDATION FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my constituent, Jo Hodgkin, on the occasion of her retirement after 21 years of service to the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts. Through her leadership of Wolf Trap's government relations program, and her coordination of a wide range of special initiatives for the Foundation, Ms. Hodgkin, a resident of Annandale, has expanded upon Wolf Trap's success as America's National Park for the Performing Arts.

Ms. Hodgkin began her career by serving as deputy director for the Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington, now known as Culture Capital. In that role, she fostered cooperation among hundreds of regional arts organizations. She also launched the Business Volunteers for the Arts program, which forged connections between the arts and business communities in the Washington, D.C., region. The BVA program, featured in Washingtonian magazine, facilitated the completion of hundreds of arts projects, and it expanded the role of private business in the arts.

When Ms. Hodgkin became director of Foundation Grants at Wolf Trap, she increased annual grants income from \$600,000 to \$1.2 million. Based on her tremendous success, she was promoted into her current role as Director of Planning and Initiatives. A central achievement of Ms. Hodgkin's tenure was the successful management of the organization's government relations program. She has engaged policy leaders and decision-makers at all levels of government, educating them about the broad benefits of Wolf Trap's initiatives across the country. Her outreach efforts not only have secured greater support for Wolf Trap, but also helped mobilize the larger arts community to advance their interests.

In addition, Ms. Hodgkin spearheaded a range of special initiatives for the Foundation. For example, she collaborated with former Wolf Trap Foundation President and CEO Terre Jones on the acclaimed Face of America series, which celebrated America's national parks through a variety of artistic mediums, including music, spoken word, and dance. The series reached a national audience on PBS, and one of its films, *On the Wings of a Dream*, won an Emmy in 2004.

Ms. Hodgkin's three-decades of service to the arts have helped to enrich the Wolf Trap Foundation, the Northern Virginia community, and our Nation. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Jo Hodgkin for her service to our National Park for the Performing Arts, and in wishing her and her family all the best in their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 187 I was unable to attend.

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

COMMEMORATING THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 66th Anniversary of Israel's Independence. On this day, called Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel celebrates its founding by Prime Minister David Ben Gurion in 1948. Since then, Israel has stood as a dynamic democracy in the Middle East region with its rich culture, vibrant economy, and commitment to peace.

Yet, independence has come at a great price. This is why, the day before celebrating its independence, Israel observes Yom Hazikaron, Israel's Memorial Day. On Yom Hazikaron, Israel remembers all those who gave their lives defending their families, their communities, and their country. This year, Israel honored the more than 23,000 soldiers killed in the line of duty and another 1,800 civilian victims of terrorism. I have always been deeply moved by the duality of Israel's independence celebration, at once both sorrowful and triumphant, and know of no other country that combines such profound sorrow with such a festive event.

I am proud of the close relationship that has developed between the United States and Israel over the past 66 years. These ties, based on the common bond of democracy, economic vitality, and cultural affinity, remain as strong now under President Barack Obama as when President Harry Truman first recognized the Jewish State. From religious kinships to shared interests, and from military strengths to commercial relations, the friendship between the United States is unbreakable.

However, Israel continues to face serious regional threats, and these concerns are also shared by the United States. One of the largest threats to regional stability and Israel's security today is Iran. Iran's pursuit of nuclear weapons and support for terrorism pose a grave threat to both Israel and the global community at large. The statements of aggression made by Iran's leaders must be taken seriously, and the international community has a

responsibility to act to prevent a nuclear Iran. I have supported numerous sanctions efforts in Congress to cripple Iran's ability to develop nuclear weapons, and will continue to do so as long as Iran insists on pursuing its nuclear program.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have visited Israel 15 times as a Member of Congress, and to have called every Israeli Prime Minister from Yitzhak Rabin to Benjamin Netanyahu my friend. The United States must continue to support Israel's right to self-defense, increase its engagement in the region, and work towards finding a fair solution that enables both Israelis and Palestinians to live in peace, security, and prosperity. As Co-Chair of the Democratic Israel Working Group, I remain committed to working with my colleagues in Congress to further strengthen our special relationship with Israel.

HONORING SHANTASIA DENAYE THOMAS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student, Shantasia Denaye Thomas, from Crystal Springs High School.

Shantasia Denaye Thomas is the daughter of Mr. Richard and Mrs. Felicia Thomas. She has two siblings: Sha'Reika Johnson and Shamaya Thomas.

Shantasia is an honor student at Crystal Springs High School with 4.0 Grade Point Average. As a standout student at Crystal Springs High School, Shantasia is a member of the SADD Club, Mu Alpha Theta, Student Council and serves as President of Jobs for Mississippi Graduates Program.

Shantasia's leadership is well-known in her community as she serves as President of the Crystal Springs Mayor's Youth Council, a member of H.Y.M (Holiness Youth Ministries), Daughters of Esther, and Sunday school at her church, Greater Damascus Church of Christ Holiness USA.

Shantasia is also a member of the National Honor's Society for High School Scholars.

Shantasia is blessed with the gift of musicianship and she plays the piano for two churches. In her spare time she loves making music and writing poetry.

Shantasia accredits her determination and spirit of excellence to her great-grand mother, Mrs. Marie Johnson. She says Mrs. Johnson is a strong woman of God who has encouraged her to follow her heart and excel above and beyond, because with God all things are possible.

Shantasia plans on attending Tougaloo College, where she will major in Biology to become a Pediatric Oncologist.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Shantasia Denaye Thomas as a student who is making a difference in her community.

RECOGNIZING THE 23RD ANNUAL
BEST OF RESTON AWARDS FOR
COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 23rd Annual Best of Reston Awards for Community Service. The Best of Reston Awards are the result of collaboration between Cornerstones (formerly Reston Interfaith) and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and are presented to individuals, organizations, and businesses whose extraordinary efforts make our community a better place. I am pleased to enter the names of the following recipients of the 2014 Best of Reston Awards into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Individual Community Leader: Carol Ann Bradley. Ms. Bradley has dedicated herself to service both locally and globally. She has worked with Global Camps Africa, the Friends of the Reston Regional Library, the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, the Southgate Community Center, the Reston Community Center, the American Association of University Women, The Links, Inc., and Educators, Then, Now and Forever.

Individual Community Leader: Jerry Ferguson. Mr. Ferguson uses his broadcasting skills to highlight local nonprofits. He is the director of Development and Outreach for Fairfax Public Access, which provides television and radio cablecasting services to the region. As a volunteer he has filmed and produced videos for numerous nonprofits and civic groups.

Individual Community Leader: Cate Fulkerson. Ms. Fulkerson began serving Reston as an entry-level clerk at the Reston Association and climbed the ladder to her present role there, Chief Executive Officer. She also serves as the chair for the Reston Character Counts! Coalition, chairs the annual Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce's Ethics Day for South Lakes High School, and remains active in Leadership Fairfax.

Individual Community Leader: Bonnie Haukness. Mrs. Haukness has given 40 years of service in many aspects of the Reston community. She is a board member of the Reston Historic Trust and Reston Museum, and she chairs its annual fundraiser, the Reston Homes Tour. She also co-chairs fundraisers for Cornerstones, helps organize the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival, and also has led the Friends of Reston's fundraising event to send children to summer day camp.

Individual Community Leader: Davida Luehrs. Ms. Luehrs is a champion for the visually impaired. She works with the Foundation Fighting Blindness, the American Council for the Blind, and Visually Impaired People of Reston. She has assisted 14 Lions Clubs with hearing and vision screening programs for pre-school children, founded VisionWalk, and chaired Dining in the Dark fundraisers. She is also active in the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, school band boards, Reston Swim Team Association, parent teacher associations, blood drives, and meals on wheels.

Civic/Community Leader: HomeAid Northern Virginia. Members of the Northern Virginia Building Industry Association started HomeAid

in 2001 to help the homeless gain stability by putting a roof over their head. It currently contributes resources to build and renovate homeless shelters as well as transitional and affordable housing. HomeAid has completed more than 70 projects and served more than 10,000 individuals, work valued at more than \$10.5 million.

Small Business Leader: Brennan & Waite, P.L.C. Founding members (and husband and wife) Matthew Brennan and Carol Waite have led their firm to support many local causes, including the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, Habitat For Humanity, Let's Help Kids, the Mosaic Harmony Choir, FACETS, Cornerstones, and Leadership Fairfax. Mr. Brennan also developed a training program to help those interested in serving on county and non-profit boards.

Corporate Business Leader: Cooley, LLP. This law firm encourages employees to give back to the community by offering paid leave time to volunteer and providing matching funds for money raised by employees to support local causes. Last year the firm contributed more than \$1 million to nonprofits around the United States. The company's pro bono efforts have led to contributions of more than 33,000 hours by 466 attorneys on more than 687 different pro bono projects per year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2014 Best of Reston honorees for their continued commitment to our community. I express my sincere gratitude to these individuals, businesses, and organizations for contributing their time and energy to the betterment of our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF JIM LOONEY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Mr. Jim Looney, who passed away in 2012. Jim was a World War II veteran who served the United States of America honorably in the Philippines and Japan. He was truly a leader in the Chowchilla community.

Jim grew up in Puyallup, Washington, a small community near Tacoma. In 1943, after he graduated from Puyallup High School, Jim moved to Chowchilla, California, where he worked on his uncle's dairy farm.

In 1944, Jim joined the U.S. Army and underwent basic training at Camp Roberts in California. During the winter of 1945, Jim boarded a ship headed to the Pacific. He was assigned as a rifleman to the 163rd Regiment of the 41st Division in the Philippines. By the time Jim joined, the 163rd was a battle-hardened regiment that had fought several battles since their landing in October 1944.

Jim and his fellow soldiers conducted patrols and mopping up actions in the southern Philippines. He and the 163rd landed at Arara in May 1945 and consolidated the areas of Arara and Toem. They then moved onto Wakde Island and invaded Biak Island two weeks later.

After securing the islands, the Army began preparations for Operation Olympic, the invasion of the Japanese mainland. The 41st Divi-

sion and its infantry regiments, including Jim and the rest of the 163rd began to prepare for the invasion. The men were issued cold weather gear for their planned landing in northern Japan, code-named HIRO, for Hiroshima. Jim, along with the men of the 163rd were waiting to board troopships for the invasion, when the atomic bombs hit Hiroshima and Nagasaki, ending the war.

Jim was promoted to staff sergeant and was shipped to Japan as part of the occupation forces. Jim and the 163rd went ashore near Hiroshima a few weeks after the end of the war and saw the overwhelming effects of the bombing first-hand.

Jim returned to the United States in 1946 and was discharged at Fort Lewis, Washington. For his service, Jim was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the Philippine Campaign and Liberation Medals, the Army of Occupation Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

Upon leaving the service, Jim returned to Chowchilla where he became well known for his involvement in ranching. He was a founding member of the Chowchilla Stampede Committee and also served with distinction as a member of the Chowchilla-Madera County Fair Board for more than thirty years.

Jim was a Life Member of the Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9896. He and his wife, Annie, had four daughters, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life and service of Mr. Jim Looney for his love and dedication to his family, community, and nation.

IN MEMORY OF TIM CARPENTER

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Tim Carpenter, the National Director of the Progressive Democrats of America, who passed away this week. Mr. Carpenter will be remembered as a passionate and highly effective advocate for jobs, justice, and peace. Driven by compassion and a limitless commitment to strengthening our democracy, Mr. Carpenter built and sustained a national grassroots network that has been at the forefront of efforts to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, enact single-payer healthcare, end mass criminalization, strengthen voting rights, pass meaningful campaign finance reform, stop global warming, and realize the vision of a full employment society. Mr. Carpenter was a deep believer in participatory democracy, and—in building an organization that empowers citizens to both locally and global to affect positive change—he embodied the principles he cherished.

An inquisitive mind and an extraordinary advocate, Mr. Carpenter travelled from coast to coast, meeting with Americans to learn about their struggles with unemployment, lost healthcare, polluted air and water, denied access to the polls, and injuries suffered on the battlefield. The coalition he assembled to address these injustices is diverse and extraordinarily engaged. Their work—facilitated by Mr. Carpenter—has been indispensable to

generating progress for struggling people and our planet. I am extraordinarily grateful for his contributions to our nation and world.

RECOGNIZING MS. AISHA KARIMAH

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing Ms. Aisha Karimah, who today is observing 45 years in the District of Columbia at NBC4 Washington, where she has provided exemplary service to Washington, D.C. and the national capital region.

For more than four decades, Aisha has brilliantly used her talents to help NBC4 grow and has championed our city and region and its many community campaigns—Beautiful Babies Right from the Start, Drug Free Zones, It Takes a Whole Village, Make the Right Call, Camp 4 Kids, Get Healthy 4 Life, Backpacks 4 Kids, Food 4 Families, and The NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo—we can hardly name even a representative group of community causes that Aisha has not touched. Ms. Karimah is a particularly positive and dedicated role model for African Americans and for women entering journalism and serves as a mentor and confidant to hundreds of young people. She has been a wonderful friend and guidepost to me since I was elected to Congress in 1990.

As a veteran television producer, Aisha currently produces two weekly news programs: Reporters Notebook and Viewpoint. She has shared her talents by also producing programs for Howard University Television, including The Urban Health Report, Washington's Leaders and The Randall Robinson Program.

Aisha is a graduate of Howard University and Wesley Theological Seminary. She is a proud and devoted mother of two sons: Donnell, a graduate of American and George Washington Universities, and Jay, a Howard University graduate who is married to Whitney, also a Howard graduate, and a cancer survivor.

Aisha says her life's work has been a labor of love and a blessing, "because only God could have taken a girl from the Lincoln Heights projects, having grown up on welfare and working at the age of 10 years old to a position where she has been able through her work to help make a positive difference in the same community in which she grew up." Notwithstanding serious illness, Aisha Karimah kept going at NBC4. Today, we bring Aisha Karimah from behind the scenes to let her take a bow for 45 years of beneficial contributions to the District of Columbia and the national capital region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Aisha Karimah for an extraordinary job well beyond the call of duty for NBC4 Washington and the national capital region for 45 extraordinary years.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4486) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 4486, the FY15 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. I commend Chairmen ROGERS and CULBERSON and Ranking Members LOWEY and BISHOP for crafting a bipartisan bill that not only provides for current and former service members and their families but also substantially addresses the veterans' claims backlog.

The MilCon-VA bill makes critical investments in our military infrastructure, housing, and services to our nation's veterans, active military members and their families. It provides \$71.5 billion in discretionary funding for these programs and activities, including \$64.7 billion for the Department of Veteran Affairs. It also provides \$58.7 billion in advance funding for the VA in FY16.

This legislation also builds on efforts made in last year's MilCon-VA bill to end the claims backlog that continues to plague our VA regional offices, including the VA's Baltimore Regional Office. It fully funds the budget request of \$173.3 million for the Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) and provides an additional \$20 million to the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) for digitizing records and staffing needs. The legislation also requires each VA regional office to submit a monthly report on its claims processing performance and imposes even stricter requirements on the poorest performing offices around the country. I am hopeful that these measures will be an important step in ensuring that backlogged claims are expedited as quickly as possible.

I do have reservations about a number of provisions contained in the bill, however. I strongly oppose section 411, which prohibits the construction, renovation, or expansion of any facility in the U.S. to house individuals that are currently being detained at Guantánamo Bay. And as the White House outlined in its Statement of Administration Policy, it is disappointing that this bill does not provide full funding for VA Medical Care, potentially delaying the delivery of important health care services to our veterans.

Despite my concerns, the MilCon-VA bill reflects our commitment and the promises we have made to our veterans, our service members, and their families. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

TRIBUTE TO THE PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA LASALLE ACADEMY CLASS OF 2015

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the future leaders of LaSalle Academy, Class of 2015, on their Leadership visit to the Nation's Capital on May 6th 2014. This trip, through the sites they will see, the leaders they will meet, and about whom they will learn, will expose them to the attributes effective leaders must possess in guiding individuals toward a value-based, common goal. I trust this trip will afford these young men and women not only an opportunity to learn effective leadership skills, but also the worth of selfless leadership to themselves, their school, community, and nation.

LaSalle Academy of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania has inculcated a robust value set in its curriculum and has readied these young men and women for this leadership role. Knowing they are our leaders of tomorrow, I and the teachers and staff at LaSalle Academy are happy to have provided them the opportunity to see leadership in action in our nation's capital.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate these students on their interest in our government and in becoming inspirational leaders. Please join me in wishing them every success in their future endeavors.

HONORING NEKIAYA JACKSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Nekiaya Jackson, who is an extraordinary student, athlete, and member of society.

Nekiaya Jackson was born in Greenwood, MS on August 19, 1996. She is the proud daughter of Amy Perkins and Michael Jackson. Starting from a young age, she was always excited about learning. She read, wrote, and often inquired about subjects that were far beyond her level. She was named "gifted" and was placed in an accelerated learning program in the second grade. Her thirst for knowledge and adventurous spirit led to excellence in all subjects throughout elementary school, middle school, and high school.

Nekiaya is currently a senior honor student at Greenwood High School where she is involved in numerous clubs and organizations. Some of these include: Beta Club, National Honor Society, and the math society—Mu Alpha Theta.

Nekiaya is the President of the Skills USA organization and a member of its Opening and Closing Team, which has placed 1st place two years and will go on to the National Skills USA Competition in Kansas City and represent Skills USA as a 1st place winner for the state of Mississippi. As a member of the Youth Advisory Council, she volunteers monthly at Golden Age Nursing Home to engage its residents in various activities. She is also a four

year Letterman of Greenwood High school's track, basketball, and softball teams.

Nekiaya is employed by Greenwood Public Schools as a Student Office Clerk at Greenwood High School. She serves in the Principal's office under Mr. Percy Powell.

Nekiaya is an active member in her community through various volunteer organizations. She is a member of Greenwood Leflore Public Library's Teen Advisory Group, where they organize many holiday events for children. She has participated in the Walk for Alzheimer's and 300 Oaks Race and served at the Greenwood Community Kitchen and the Food Pantry.

After graduating from Greenwood High School, Nekiaya plans to attend Mississippi State University and major in Aerospace Engineering. Her "Super Plan" as she calls it, is to work for NASA.

Her favorite quote comes from one of her heroes: "What we find is that if you have a goal that is very, very far out, and you approach it in little steps, you get there faster. Your mind opens up to the possibilities."—Mae C. Jemison. She says that this is one of the things that keeps her motivated and on the track traveling toward her dreams and aspirations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a student extraordinaire, Ms. Nekiaya Jackson for her dedication to excellence in and out of the classroom.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
DAVID SCHOOLEN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. David Schoolen for his honorable service to the United States of America.

In 1940, David was born in Des Moines, Iowa. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1963 and graduated from Navy boot camp at the U.S. Navy Training Center in Great Lakes, Illinois.

Because of his high score on the aptitude test, David was selected to undergo highly specialized training at the Submarine School in New London, Connecticut. He successfully completed the basic course and continued on to receive specialized training in electronics followed by additional training at the Naval Nuclear Power School.

After his training, David reported aboard the USS *Tecumseh*, a ballistic missile submarine. The submarine had two crews, a Blue Crew and a Gold Crew, that alternated onboard the ship's deterrent patrols during the Cold War. David was part of the Gold Crew, which was made up of 133 enlisted men and 14 officers. The *Tecumseh* completed 21 patrols in the Pacific including patrols in the Gulf of Tonkin, the North China Sea, and the South China Sea during the Vietnam War.

David re-enlisted in the Navy and completed further training in gas, welding, burning, and brazing. He also completed training in electronic test equipment operation, hydrogen detection, damage control, and noise and vibration measurement. David became an Electrician's Mate 1 and served in the capacity of a Nuclear Power Propulsion Plant Operator.

After four tours with the Gold Crew onboard the USS *Tecumseh*, David served as an instructor at the Nuclear Power Prototype (Operational) School for three years.

In January 1971, David was honorably discharged after more than seven years of service. Mr. David was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Dolphins Badge of the Submarine Service.

David is a Life Member of Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9896. He is also active in the community of Chowchilla as a deacon in El Nido Missionary Church. He and his wife, Dorothy, have three children and one grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the honorable service of Mr. David Schoolen. We must thank him for his unwavering commitment to protecting the citizens of the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOUISE ARCHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Louise Archer Elementary School in Vienna, Virginia. The history of this school from its first days as a one-room schoolhouse for African American children to the present time with a diverse student body and advanced academic programs in many ways mirrors the history of the entire Northern Virginia region.

The school is named after Louise A. Reeves Archer who was born on October 23, 1883. She grew up in North Carolina, attended Livingstone College, taught school in Southampton County, and moved to Washington, D.C. in 1922. Her life's work was the education of African American children.

In 1922, Mrs. Archer became teacher and principal for a one-room, segregated school in Vienna known as the Vienna Colored School. Devoted to her students, she often transported children to school herself. She organized a Parent-Teacher Association to raise funds for supplies and a new building, which opened on its current site in 1939 with three rooms. In 1941 students, parents, and faculty raised \$300 to pay for a music teacher, bus expenses, kitchen supplies, and electric lights.

In addition to the academic curriculum, Mrs. Archer taught sewing, cooking, music, gardening and poetry to her students in fifth through seventh grade, which was then the highest level of public education available to African Americans in the county at that time. She was a highly respected educator who taught the value of discipline, respect, and other important life skills that would serve her students throughout their lives.

Mrs. Archer was also active in the community at large. She served on the board of the Washington Conservancy of Music, participated in the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, and established one of Fairfax County's earliest 4-H Clubs for African Americans, among other activities.

After Mrs. Archer's death on April 1, 1948, the community felt the importance of having a

memorial in her honor. In response to a petition, the school board changed the school's name to Louise Archer Elementary in 1950.

Today, inspired by the school's namesake, the faculty and staff of Louise Archer Elementary School create an educationally stimulating, and supportive learning environment so students can grow academically, socially, and emotionally in preparation for becoming motivated, confident, and respectful members of the community. As part of the 75th anniversary events, the school will become home to a temporary historical museum containing artifacts from the school's founding as well as contemporary displays made by current students.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the commemoration of this significant anniversary and the contributions of Mrs. Louise Archer to the educational development of African American children in Fairfax County.

RECOGNIZING THE FINALISTS SELECTED IN THE 24TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS ART COMPETITION

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize the following high school students from the 24th Congressional District of Texas who were selected as finalists in the Congressional Art Competition. Of the 179 pieces entered in 24th District, only 32 students were selected as finalists.

Student, Title of the Artwork:

- Emily Buckland, The Birds Are Singing.
- Purujit Chatterjee, Portrait of Mother Teresa.
- Eunice Choe, Blue Bird.
- Lovell Cox, Jungle.
- Erin Crumpler, Poison Dart Frogs.
- Nicole Crumpler, The Power of Perception.
- Amie Deng, Magnolia Warbler in Orchids.
- Laura Gao, Little Italy.
- Greg Garza, Viper.
- Sophia Glasser-Kerr, Winter Landscape.
- Kelsie Harshaw, On the Edge.
- Rebecca Hopkins, Intaglio Monoprint Beach Scene.
- Madeline Huang, Purple Twilight.
- Diane Huynh, Afterlife.
- Heather Jang, Abstract Study.
- Esther Jeon, Self Portrait with a Fan.
- Rebecca Kim, Happy Beginnings.
- Yvonne Kim, Intrusion.
- Min Sun Lee, First Step Towards Independence.
- Sooin Lim, Garlic.
- Ahona Mukherjee, Main Cabin Under an Aurora Streak.
- Olivia Najera, Tiger at Water.
- Lauren Oney, Red.
- Jeongho Park, The Hug.
- JC Patino, Arabian Allure.
- Fabiana Perez, Self Portrait.
- Yu Jin Rim, The Lamp.
- Nicole Schifferdecker, Beginning To End.
- Caitlyn Shannon, Gradient.
- Duc Tran Nguyen, Ice.
- Kailey Visoski, 'Merica.
- Katy Yut, Prayer.

The art competition was represented by many different high schools in the 24th District. I am honored at this time to acknowledge

the participating schools and the art teachers who helped facilitate the process by assisting their students.

High School, Art Teacher:

Carroll Senior High School, Eric Horn & Summer Neimann.

Carrollton Christian Academy, Holly Hendrix.

Coppell High School, Tamera Westervelt.

Creekview High School, Bob Thomas.

Grapevine High School, Jeff Nisbet.

The Hockaday School Jack E., Janet Yoshi-Buenger.

Newman Smith High School, Keith Mueller.

Parish Episcopal School, Beka Johnson.

Prestonwood Christian Academy, Brenda Robson.

Ranchview High School, Erin West.

Jack E. Singley Academy, Amy Moore.

St. Mark's School of Texas, Max Wood.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these exceptional high school artists on becoming finalists in the 24th Congressional District of Texas Art Competition.

TO RECOGNIZE NONIE DARWISH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of and appreciation for Nonie Darwish.

In 1949, Nonie Darwish was born in Egypt—the Muslim daughter of a lieutenant general in the Egyptian Army. Today, she is a champion for equality and respect of women within the Islamic culture in which she grew up.

After coming to America in the late 1970's she became an outspoken advocate for human rights around the world—including in the Middle East-region—and has voiced her support for a strong and sovereign Israel-state. Her unique life story has led her to become one of the most fascinating and passionate women in our society, and has helped her pen three nationally recognized books.

It is a great honor that Ms. Darwish is speaking in my district—bringing her exceptional message of equal rights and a world free of hate to an audience in Bucks County.

It is of note that her address comes in Washington's Crossing—just miles from the location of one of the most crucial points in American history. When General Washington crossed the frozen Delaware more than two centuries ago, he was battling for a government that respected the inalienable rights of the individual—regardless of race, creed, gender or religion. Ms. Darwish's message rings true with the values fought for on that ground.

I wish to thank Nonie Darwish for her life of leadership and for her coming visit to my district.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF ERIC CROWNOVER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Eric Crownover, who served

honorably as a Marine during the Iraq War. Eric's commitment and dedication to ensuring the safety of the American people deserves to be commended.

Eric was born in Chowchilla and attended Chowchilla High School. In 1997, he graduated and soon after enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps.

After completing boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Eric completed the School of Infantry Training course and was designated as an infantryman. He qualified as Expert on the M-16 rifle and reported to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment at Camp Pendleton.

Eric quickly advanced in rank and military proficiency. He completed the Machine Gunners Course and became involved in the USMC Mixed Martial Arts. Eric decided to re-enlist and remained in the 1st Marines.

In January 2003, the 1st Marines were deployed to Iraq as part of Regimental Combat Team 1, a combined task force of 5,000 men. Eric and his fellow Marines fought their way from Kuwait to Baghdad, with actions at An Nasariyah, Al Kut, and Baghdad.

After the fall of Baghdad, Eric and the regiment conducted security and stability operations in Baghdad and Al Hillah. He returned to Camp Pendleton in the summer of 2003, where he completed Martial Arts Grey Training. Later in 2003, Eric returned to Iraq for a second tour and was in combat in Fallujah and Ramadi.

In addition to his service in Iraq, Eric also spent several months in Afghanistan fighting the Taliban and insurgent forces. He eventually returned to Camp Pendleton where he joined Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. He continued with the USMC Mixed Martial Arts and earned a brown belt.

Eric became a CST instructor and was selected for the Sergeant's Course. After completing the course, he was promoted to sergeant. During his off-duty hours, Eric took courses in criminal justice at Saddleback College, Mission Viejo.

In February 2006, Sergeant Eric L. Crownover received an honorable discharge from the United States Marines Corps. For his service, he was awarded the Combat Action Ribbon with one star, Presidential Unit Citation, the Good Conduct Medal with one star, the Iraq Campaign Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, Letter of Commendation, and Letter of Appreciation. He was also awarded the Expert Rifleman's Badge and a Brown Belt in Mixed Martial Arts. Eric has three children and lives in Merced, California. He is a Life Member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Chowchilla Post 9896.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Eric Crownover for his honorable service to our great nation and wishing him the best of luck and health in his future endeavors.

HONORING WILLIAM (BILL) DESHUN ROBINSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. William D. Robin-

son, who is a motivated Greenwood High School student, athlete, and citizen of Leflore County.

William (Bill) D. Robinson was born in Greenwood, Mississippi on October 11, 1994. At the age of four, his mother and he moved to Michigan where he attended public and charter schools. Even at a young age, his peers noticed that he had leadership potential and the academic motivation to excel. He was voted "Most Likely to Succeed".

After living in Michigan for five years, his mother moved his family back to Greenwood. His brother, two sisters and he were excited to be back home with their family and friends. Bill continued to love learning and enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new ones.

In school his academic success was recognized by being named to the Greenwood High School Honor Roll, being honor Mr. William D. Robinson, who is a elected treasurer of the GHS Beta Club, and motivated Greenwood High School student, being chosen Student of the Month by his teachers.

Sports have been a passion for him throughout his middle school and high school years. Through the Greenwood High School football team, he has been named 2nd Team All-Commonwealth Defensive End and has twice been a member of the 4A District Championship team. He also participates in the GHS Track and Field Team.

As an employee of Greenwood Market Place, he has been promoted as Student Produce Manager. In his job, Bill manages department inventory and maintains product quality.

Bill participates in many school and community organizations. He is a member of the GHS Youth Advisory Council, the SkillsUSA organization, and the Distinguished Gentlemen of Maroon and White. He serves on the Teen Advisory Group of the Greenwood Leflore Library, was recognized as the Rotary Club Student of the Month for January. He often volunteers at the Golden Age Nursing Home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an exemplary young man, Mr. William D. (Bill) Robinson, someone who balances academic success, life skills, and good citizenship.

RECOGNIZING THE CAMELOT COMMUNITY PATROL (NWP)

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Camelot Community Patrol Neighborhood Watch Program, CNWP, of Fairfax County, Virginia, and join the community in celebrating the Watch's 35th anniversary.

Neighborhood Watch is one of the oldest and best-known crime prevention efforts in North America. In the late 1960s, an increase in crime heightened the need for a prevention initiative focused on residential areas and involving local citizens. The National Sheriffs' Association, NSA, responded, creating the National Neighborhood Watch Program in 1972 to assist citizens and law enforcement.

In the aftermath of September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, strengthening and securing communities became more critical than ever.

Neighborhood Watch programs have responded to the challenge, expanding beyond their traditional crime prevention role to help neighborhoods focus on disaster preparedness, emergency response, and terrorism awareness.

While every Neighborhood Watch program in the country deserves our recognition and appreciation, the Camelot Neighborhood Watch Program stands out as one of the best in the Nation. The CNWP is the oldest, continuously active Neighborhood Watch in the United States. In the 35 years since its inception, the CNWP has achieved great success, helping lower the general crime rate in its community. Boasting the largest number of volunteers in Northern Virginia, the CNWP is the "eyes and ears" of local law enforcement, informing the authorities of suspicious activities and giving their neighbors peace of mind.

Those who take the time to cast a watchful eye on their surroundings ensure a safer, friendlier place to live. Through committed neighborhood watch, CNWP participants have proven that community involvement can and does make a difference. In 2013, the CNWP volunteers conducted 599 patrols totaling 763 hours. There are 50 active patrollers, each of whom volunteered an average of 64 hours per month.

One of the greatest assets of the CNWP is its ability to bring neighbors together. In that spirit I am proud to recognize Mr. Paul Cevey, CNWP founder and coordinator for the first 12 years; Mr. Dave Shoner, who for the next 11 years continued to mold the program into the great success it is today; and Mr. Frank Vajda who continues the great CNWP tradition.

Years of CNWP success have merited several notable accolades. The Fairfax County Mason District Police Department has recognized the CNWP as one of the most effective crime reduction units in the county. In fact, Camelot is one of the most crime-free communities in Fairfax County and the CNWP deserves much of the credit. The Virginia Crime Prevention Association has also recognized the CNWP as the Best Neighborhood Watch in Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Camelot Neighborhood Watch Program for 35 years of dedicated service to its community. Programs like the CNWP are vital in our efforts to combat crime. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the CNWP's past accomplishments and in wishing the program continued success in the many years to come.

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF
SAN DIEGO'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Calvary Baptist Church of San Diego on its 125th anniversary and to recognize its long service to the African American community. Calvary Baptist Church of San Diego was one of the first African American Baptist churches in San Diego to address the emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of the African American community.

Throughout the years, Calvary Baptist Church has honored its history through faith,

forgiveness, fellowship, friendship, and family and community union. As it did 125 years ago, Calvary Baptist Church continues to support the emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of the African American communities throughout San Diego.

Calvary Baptist Church of San Diego has prospered, reaching new heights physically, financially, and spiritually. I would like to commend Calvary Baptist Church of San Diego on their 125th anniversary and thank them for their enormous contributions to our community.

ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, this year, we celebrate 66 years of Israeli independence as well as over six decades of steadfast friendship between Israel and the United States.

When President Truman recognized the State of Israel on May 14, 1948, only eleven minutes after David Ben-Gurion declared independence, the United States became an unwavering supporter of the Jewish state.

Israel is now our strongest ally in the Middle East as well as the longest-standing democracy in the region. It's a partnership based on shared values and common goals.

That is why the United States will continue to be the greatest force against efforts to delegitimize Israel in the international community as well as the greatest advocate for a lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians and recognition of Israel by all of her neighbors.

Together, we will continue our efforts to turn these goals into a reality.

I join all Israelis in celebrating this year's Yom Ha'atzmaut.

**OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT**

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

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

Today, it is \$17,468,093,940,076.33. We've added \$6,841,216,891,163.25 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

**RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
JACKY PARKS**

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jacky Parks for being honored

as the 2014 Labor Leader of the Year by the Fresno, Madera, Tulare, and Kings Central Labor Council. The outstanding contributions he has made to the law enforcement community in Fresno and the entire San Joaquin Valley must be commended.

Jacky was born and raised in Oakdale, California. Upon graduating from Oakdale High School in 1983, Jacky went on to attend Merced Community College where he majored in criminal justice.

In 1985, Jacky was hired by the State of California and began his career as a peace officer. Throughout his law enforcement career of nearly three decades, Jacky has served as a patrol officer, field training officer, narcotic detective, and street violence detective. For the past 19 years, Jacky has been with the City of Fresno Police Department.

In October 2004, Jacky's peers elected him to be president of the Fresno Police Officer's Association (FPOA), a position he has held for a record five consecutive terms. As president, Jacky serves as the lead negotiator for the FPOA Basic and Management Units. He coordinated and participated in a successful campaign to defeat California Propositions 74, 75, 76, and 77, and joined forces with local labor leaders to successfully defeat the City of Fresno's Measure "G."

In addition to serving as President of FPOA, Jacky serves in other leadership positions. Jacky is a member of the City of Fresno Health and Welfare Trust, and he sits on the executive committee and board of directors of the Peace Officer Research Association of California (PORAC). Jacky is a terrific representative for the Fresno Police Department and regularly participates in community events and town hall meetings. In addition, he is active in educating law enforcement labor groups around the state and nation.

Throughout his career, Jacky has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to service. In 1989, Jacky left the World Series baseball game to work with the California State Police in assisting citizens affected by the 1989 San Francisco earthquake. He also served as a street violence detective investigating the Marcus Wesson homicide case which resulted in a successful prosecution and conviction.

Because of Jacky's efforts, he has been the recipient of several awards presented by the Fresno Police Department including: a Life Saving Medal, the Fresno Police Department Nominee Rookie of the Year award, and the Southeast District Police Officer of the Year award. Jacky also received a special recognition award at the 2008 PORAC Conference for his dedication and efforts to promoting the goals of the organization.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Jacky Parks for his service and commitment to our community. His hard work and dedication to ensuring public safety is greatly appreciated.

HONORING CALEB ROBINSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, Caleb Robinson, a

goal oriented student at Madison S. Palmer High School. Caleb Robinson is the son of Allen and Josephine Sanders of Falcon, MS and a member of the 2014 senior class.

Caleb Robinson is an office aide, English II peer tutor, and an honor student. He participated in the Breast Cancer Awareness and the Say No To Drugs walks, volunteers at helping the Mid-South Food Bank hand out food to the needy in Quitman County and is a trainer for the athletic director.

Caleb has scored a 20 on his ACT, completed the admission process and has been accepted to MS Valley State University and to University of Mississippi. He is continually applying for scholarships to assist him financially.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Caleb Robinson, as a student who is goal oriented and is making a difference in his community.

RECOGNIZING LEO SCHEFER ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT
FROM THE WASHINGTON
AIRPORTS TASK FORCE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues, Representatives WOLF and MORAN, to recognize Leo J. Schefer on the occasion of his retirement after serving more than 25 years as President of the Washington Airports Task Force. Mr. Schefer was a founding member of the Task Force, and during his distinguished career, both he and the Task Force have been instrumental in collaborating with the residents, employers, and elected leaders throughout the National Capital Region to promote growth at the two major airports and to foster economic development benefitting the entire region.

A native of the United Kingdom, Mr. Schefer was trained as an aeronautical engineer with the well-known airplane manufacturer Vicker's Armstrong Aircraft. He also worked for the aviation company BAE, formerly British aerospace, and played a role in its growth here in the U.S. during the 1980s. Mr. Schefer also helped introduce the first jet service to some of our nation's smaller airports, to secure U.S. landing rights for the Concorde supersonic transport, and to facilitate Europe's participation in the NASA Space Shuttle program.

Through his work with the Task Force, Mr. Schefer has worked tirelessly to promote the interests of Washington National Airport and Dulles International Airport. Those efforts have supported increased competition among the airlines and a 50 percent increase in passenger trips at National Airport. The growth at Dulles, which had been underutilized, has been more dramatic during that time. When the Task Force began, total passenger trips totaled 2.6 million with just 362,000 international passengers annually. Thirty years later, international trips totaled nearly 7 million with total passengers topping 22 million. Without question the Task Force, and Mr. Schefer's dogged yet gentlemanly efforts, have played a key role in that success.

During Mr. Schefer's tenure, the Task Force was actively engaged in fostering the bilateral Open Skies agreements with Canada and the

European Union, which have increased international passenger travel and economic development opportunities. The Task Force also collaborated with the regional Congressional delegation and local leaders following the terrorist attacks of 9/11 to re-open National Airport. It also worked with the Smithsonian Institution, the aviation industry, and regional leaders to lure the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, the National Air and Space Museum's spectacular second facility, to Dulles International Airport.

In addition, the Task Force and Mr. Schefer have been key partners in the efforts to build public support for and advance the Dulles Rail project. Washington, D.C., is the only OECD capital to not have a mass transit connection to its premier international gateway. We are pleased to report the first phase that project will open later this year, nearly 50 years after it was first envisioned, and we look forward to joining Mr. Schefer for its inaugural voyage.

Mr. Schefer's many contributions to our region and the aviation industry have been recognized by the National Aeronautical Association, the Smithsonian Institution, the Top-Side Aviation Club, Aviation Week, and leading organizations from across the National Capital Region.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in thanking Mr. Schefer for his invaluable contributions to the aviation industry and the National Capital Region and in wishing him well in his retirement. We have every confidence that through his leadership, the Task Force is well positioned to continue as a strong partner for the region's airports and our economy for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING 2014 ST. CLOUD
CHAMBER AWARD WINNERS

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year, the Family Owned Business of the Year, and the Business Central Mark of Excellence-Emerging Entrepreneurs. These individuals stand out to the Chamber as "those who have the courage to aspire to a higher level" as business owners and community members.

Jim Kruze and Melissa Kelley of J. F. Kruze Jewelers were awarded the 2014 St. Cloud Area Chamber Small Business of the Year. Though he never intended to own a jewelry store, Jim learned early on that he had a knack for sales and found himself eager to learn more about the jewelry industry. Fourteen years after returning to the business, Jim and his daughter, gemologist and co-owner Melissa Kelley, have doubled the size of their original store and specialize in custom jewelry.

The St. Cloud Area Chamber Family Owned Business of the Year is awarded to Pat and Paul Duinick of Royal Tire. Founded in 1948, Roger Duinick acquired the store in 1987 and raised his sons, Pat and Paul, with the family business, which provides retail and commercial tire sales, service, and repair and operates two retreading plants in Minnesota. Since Pat and Paul joined the family business, (1979

and 1984 respectively) it has tripled in size from 100 employees and 12 stores in Central Minnesota to 300 employees and 26 stores, covering an area from Rochester, MN to Williston, ND to Virginia, MN. With the 2013 purchase of their 3rd manufacturing plant in Rochester, MN, Royal Tire is ready to provide quality service to another community far into the future.

The Business Central Mark of Excellence-Emerging Entrepreneurs's inaugural recipients are the six second-generation co-owners of Midwest Machinery, Co.: Ben and Andrew Swenson; Brian, Corey and Adam Weber; and Paul Seipel. Originally a merger of eight separate John Deere locations into one company, Midwest Machinery's focus on strong and skillful management has paid off. With four new stores last year, the business now boasts an impressive 13 locations. Not bad for a team of owners all under the age of 40!

The St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce made a great decision in highlighting the owners and managers of J. F. Kruze Jewelers, Royal Tire and Midwest Machinery, Co. as this year's winners. They not only provide a quality service to their customers and boost the local economy, they also serve as a notable example to their communities of the importance of family-owned and small businesses—they are lifeblood to our beloved state.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body join with me in honoring J. F. Kruze Jewelers, Royal Tire and Midwest Machinery, Co. for their accomplishments and their invaluable contributions to the state of Minnesota.

HONORING KIRSTEN FENTZ

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kirsten Fentz, who was one of four National Finalists for the John Cauble Award for Outstanding Short Play. This award recognizes one or more outstanding scripts each year for presentation at the Kennedy Center American College Festival in Washington, D.C.

Kirsten's play, *The Last Sunrise*, was selected out of plays submitted from across the country. Being a finalist for this competitive award demonstrates Kirsten's extraordinary talent and hard work and commitment to excellence. As the youngest finalist and only undergraduate to receive this honor, her accomplishment is all the more impressive. In Washington, D.C., Kirsten served as an excellent representative of Ball State University and the state of Indiana.

I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in recognizing Kirsten's achievement and I look forward to seeing what this talented young woman accomplishes in the future.

RECOGNIZING PHIL LARSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Phil Larson as he is honored with

the Ag One Community Salute. Phil is truly a “champion for agriculture” as he has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to his community and devoted his time, energy, and service to California’s agriculture industry.

Phil is a longtime resident of the San Joaquin Valley. Upon graduating from Kerman High School in 1951, Phil attended California State University, Fresno and Pasadena College. He joined the United States Marine Corps, and proudly served his country in the Korean War from 1953–1956 and the Reserve until 1961. Phil earned the rank of Sergeant E-4.

In 1962, Phil began a long and distinguished career as a pest control adviser (PCA) for Wilbur-Ellis Company, an international marketer and distributor of agricultural products. He won multiple awards from the industry, including being named to the Ag Chemical Professionals Hall of Fame. In addition, Phil was a founding member of the Fresno County Chapter of California Association of Pest Control Advisors (CAPCA), where he was honored as PCA of the Year in 1990.

In 2002, Phil was elected to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors to represent District One, and was re-elected in 2006 and 2010. As County Supervisor, Phil serves on various Boards and Commissions, including: the Biological Diversity Task Force, Historic Parks Committee, Mid Valley Water Authority, and San Joaquin Water Coalition. Phil is an authority on agriculture and water supply issues. He was instrumental in developing the west side of Fresno County after the installation of the California Aqueduct.

In addition to his service as County Supervisor, Phil has been a leader in the community in many other capacities. He has served on several boards including: Kerman Unified School Board, Kerman Covenant Church, and the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce. Phil has also served as president of the Fresno County Farm Bureau and as a State Director for the California Farm Bureau.

The Central Valley has benefitted in so many ways from the efforts made by Phil. His support for Ag One and Fresno State will reach new heights through the Ag One—John P. “Phil” Larson Endowment, which will support deserving students and programs in the Department of Plant and Science in the Jordan College at California State University, Fresno.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Phil Larson for his commitment to ensuring that the San Joaquin Valley continues to prosper and thrive as one of the nation’s leaders in agriculture.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE “JERRY” GOODMAN

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to George “Jerry” Goodman who died on January 3, and who will be remembered and whose loss will be mourned in New York today. I regret I cannot be there in person to praise my friend. As a leader in the economics and business community, Mr. Goodman was

best recognized for his pseudonym, Adam Smith of Adam Smith’s Money World, an alias he used for his thirteen year public television program. He understood the complexity of investing and economics, and became an educator to the everyday American investor through his books such as “The Money Game,” “Supermoney,” and “The Roaring ’80s.”

Like many Americans, I have learned from and valued Jerry’s timeless work. He was endlessly curious and interested in many ideas and issues. He has also been acknowledged for his particular style for presenting economic data, and his witty sense of humor brought joy to many. His talent for including humor, even jocularly, remains an Adam Smith’s trademark. It is Adam Smith that we have to thank for the well-recognized story known to many economists. The story presents a physicist, a chemist, and an economist stranded on a desert island with no implements and a can of food as their only source of sustenance. The physicist and the chemist each devised ingenious mechanisms for opening the can; the economist merely said, “It’s easy. First, assume there is a can opener!” His humor only enhanced his explanatory prose. Prior to his Adam Smith days, Mr. Goodman helped start Institutional Investor magazine, served as executive editor of Esquire, and published a popular children’s book, “Bascombe, the Fastest Hound Alive,” which he claimed was his most widely read work. Jerry used his experience as an intelligence analyst in the Army to write about countless topics for Barron’s Time, Fortune, and various other magazines.

Jerry, his charming, remarkable late wife, Sally, and I had many fascinating discussions on a huge variety of matters, always enjoyable and illuminating. I also have been pleased to work with his daughter Susannah, who leads Common Cause’s national campaign for election reform, on a number of issues to improve the function of our democracy. We continue to benefit from Mr. Goodman’s ability to explain complex economic data in a way that we can all understand.

CELEBRATING MORRISON R. WAITE HIGH SCHOOL’S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Morrison R. Waite High School in my District. The school will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary on May 10th, 2014. High upon the east banks of the Maumee River, on a bluff overlooking the very heart of Toledo’s downtown, stands historic Waite High School. Established in 1914, Waite High School is an important anchor in the community and has been a proud tradition on Toledo’s East Side since its doors first opened a century ago.

Named after Supreme Court Justice Morrison R. Waite who had practiced law in Toledo, Waite High School has lived up to the reputation and success of its namesake. Students achieve academic success, with many going on to post-secondary education or vocational options.

Waite High School has nurtured many of our community leaders including current To-

ledo Public Schools Superintendent Romules Durant, Toledo’s “Mr. Music” Samuel Szor, Toledo Public School teacher Lucy Weaver, former Mayor Michael J. Damas who was the first Arab-American mayor elected in the U.S., Judge Joseph Flores, and Judge Robert C. Pollex to name but a few. In 1982, Waite High School began recognizing its Distinguished Alumni and has since honored 122 individuals for their accomplishments. Of these, forty have been educators. From its beginning, Waite High School taught its students to achieve and to lead. Indeed, our community has been the richer for their efforts.

The high school got its nickname, the Indians, from Toledo fire department members on the East Side of Toledo. The fire department used to break up into two teams, East and West, for an annual running and fire truck pulling competition. The East Side fire department members used the nickname “Indians” in the annual competition. As the only Toledo Public School on the East Side, Waite High School decided to adopt the name. The school experienced success early on in athletics earning national titles for football in 1924 and 1932. The football team played games from Maine to California. Waite has won more than thirty City League sport titles, with dozens of athletes named to All-City teams. The rich athletic tradition continues today.

Waite High School’s dedication goes beyond academic achievements and athletic prowess. The school boasts over thirty clubs and organizations. It is host to three of the largest blood drives in Northwest Ohio. The importance of giving back to the community has always been a tradition at Waite. Its students are in the 80th year of providing holiday baskets for East and South Toledo families. At the end of May, the school will hold its 97th annual Memorial Day program honoring our community’s veterans.

For a century, Waite High School has sat nobly on the banks of the East Side of Toledo’s Maumee River. Its proud heritage and sterling traditions have held true since its opening day one hundred years ago. As it looks forward to the next century contributing toward our successful future through the education of new generations, we take a moment to reflect on its past glories. I am pleased to join our entire community in celebrating the 100th anniversary of Morrison R. Waite High School, a beacon of learning on Toledo’s East Side. Onward!

HONORING THE LATE BENJAMIN “BUD” SPIRES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a music pioneer, the late Benjamin “Bud” Spires.

Benjamin “Bud” Spires is a lifelong resident of Yazoo County, Mississippi. He was born on May 20, 1931 to Maggie Burnside Jones and Arthur Spires in Yazoo County, Mississippi.

In 1978, Benjamin “Bud” Spires (Blues Legend) began his musical career with Mr. Jack Owens, who preceded him in death. Bud was famous for his harmonica and his well known song, “Easy Riding Buggy”. Bud’s legacy,

jokes, and the thought of him speaking whatever came to mind will forever live on in his family and making them laugh.

Bud was married to Ammie Lee Owens and to that union, seven children were born. He accepted Christ at an early age at Pleasant Grove M.B. Church where he was a faithful member until his health failed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the late Mr. Benjamin "Bud" Spires for his dedication and desire to share his harmonic talent with so many.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S CENTER AND THE 28TH ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE HONOREES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 40th Anniversary of The Women's Center of Vienna, Virginia, and to congratulate the recipients of the 28th Annual Leadership Conference Awards.

Founded in 1974, The Women Center initially focused on career counseling and seminars. Since then, the Center has expanded its services and become a counseling and resource center for financial, career, legal and psychological needs of women, men, and families, regardless of their ability to pay. The Center's staff includes more than 65 therapists and career counselors who provide a full range of services. In the past year, the Center served more than 4,200 clients and provided over 31,000 hours of counseling and services.

For 28 years, The Women's Center has hosted an annual conference. This year's Leadership Conference celebrates "The Power to Influence" and will focus on women's ability to make a positive difference in their communities and their own lives. Six women who have made extraordinary contributions will also be honored, and I am pleased to enter their names into the Congressional Record.

Maureen Bunyan is an award-winning, veteran television news broadcaster and anchor for ABC7/WJLATV. She is a founder and board member of the International Women's Media Foundation, a founder of the National Association of Black Journalists, a member of the National Advisory Board of the Casey Journalism Center on Children & Families, the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital Women's Advisory Board, the Advisory Committee of Women in Film & Video and Women of Washington.

Susan B. Chodakewitz is a highly recognized and accomplished Senior Executive with a track record of turning around, building and growing businesses. Ms. Chodakewitz currently serves as President of Tetra Tech AMT (AMT), which specializes in aviation management and information technology. Under her leadership AMT was named the 2010 Large Business of the Year by the FAA. She received the SmartCEO's Brava Award in 2012 and was named one of the "2011 Women Who Mean Business" by the Washington Business Journal.

Holly Petraeus is the Assistant Director, Office of Servicemember Affairs for the Con-

sumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). An active-duty military spouse for over 37 years and a former Department of the Army civilian employee, Mrs. Petraeus has extensive experience as a volunteer leader in military family programs. In recognition of her expertise and contributions, Mrs. Petraeus has been awarded the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service, the Department of the Army Decoration for Distinguished Civilian Service, and the Oklahoma Medal of Freedom.

Linda Singh is commercial director of Accenture Federal Service's public safety business. Her project management and implementation experience spans civilian, public safety, and Department of Defense organizations. Ms. Singh manages a second career as a brigadier general in the Maryland Army National Guard in which she has served for more than 32 years. Ms. Singh recently returned from a military deployment in Afghanistan, where she served as Afghan Security Forces operations chief with the 29th Infantry Division and now serves as the Director of the Maryland National Guard joint staff.

Anne-Marie Slaughter is the president and CEO of the New America Foundation and the Bert G. Kerstetter '66 University Professor Emerita of Politics and International Affairs at Princeton University. From 2009–2011, she served as the director of Policy Planning for the United States Department of State, the first woman to hold that position. Prior to her government service, Dr. Slaughter was Dean of Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs from 2002–2009 and Professor of International, Foreign, and Comparative Law at Harvard Law School from 1994–2002.

Susannah Wellford is the founder of two organizations designed to raise the political voice of young women in America. Ms. Wellford founded Running Start to inspire young women and girls to political leadership and the Women Under Forty Political Action Committee (WUFAC), which is the only political action committee in the United States devoted to helping young women of all parties run for elected office.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending The Women's Center for improving the psychological, career, financial, and legal well-being of women and their families, and in congratulating this year's honorees for their tremendous contributions to our community and the nation.

RECOGNIZING RAY POOL

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ray Pool for the outstanding contributions he has made to the farming community in Madera and the entire San Joaquin Valley. Ray is more than deserving to be honored as Senior Farmer of the Year by the Madera Chamber of Commerce.

Ray has strong roots in Madera County. Upon graduating from Madera High School, Ray joined the United States Air Force where he developed a love for flying planes. When World War II ended, he moved to Nevada

where his father owned a cattle ranch. He herded wild horses with an airplane, but unfortunately, it ended after a short time due to an accident he endured losing his leg and an eye. In 1950, he moved back to Madera where he began a lifelong journey of farming.

Ray's many accomplishments can be attributed to his determination and willingness to never give up. The first time he grew cotton, corn, and alfalfa, he nearly lost all of his money. However, instead of giving up, he worked for Cal-Air Dusters to earn extra cash. He saved enough to start his own crop dusting company, Ray Pool Dusting. As a crop duster, Ray met several farmers, and he formed partnerships that ultimately resulted in the expansion of his farm. By 1971, in addition to crop dusting, Ray was also farming 225 acres of almonds and 150 acres of grapevines.

Flying and farming will always have a special place in Ray's heart, but his achievements would never have been possible if not for the support of his devoted wife, Audrey. Ray and Audrey haven given back to their community in so many ways, and they must be commended for all of their great efforts.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize Ray Pool as the Senior Farmer of the Year presented by the Madera Chamber of Commerce. Ray's success is exemplary of the American Dream, and he serves an inspiration for all of us.

IN TRIBUTE: JOAQUIN CAMACHO
ARRIOLA

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the contributions of Joaquin Camacho Arriola, who, with more than 60 years of practice as a highly respected lawyer in the courts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, and as one of Guam's first Chamorro lawyers, has received the Hustisia Award. The award is given to recognize a person or organization that has contributed significantly to the administration of justice and the improvement of government in Guam. The Hustisia Award was presented to Mr. Arriola on May 2, 2014 in Guam by the Guam Judiciary.

Joaquin Arriola was born on December 29, 1925 to the late Vicente Fernandez Arriola and the late Maria Soledad Camacho Arriola. Mr. Arriola lived an idyllic, rural life up until World War II, when, along with the rest of Guam, he had to endure years of harsh Japanese occupation. But when the U.S. returned to Guam, the teenaged Joaquin Arriola took action and was wounded by a Japanese hand grenade while leading a squad of the 77th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army.

Following the war, Mr. Arriola graduated from Guam's George Washington High School and then in 1950 cum laude from the College of St. Thomas in Minnesota. Three years later Mr. Arriola earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Minnesota. He helped finance his college education by working part-time during the school year and in the summer laboring fourteen-hour days for a construction and painting company at the minimum wage of seventy-five cents an hour.

As an attorney, Mr. Arriola was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the State of Minnesota, the U.S. District Court of Guam, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco, the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. District Court of the Northern Marianas, and the Supreme Courts and Superior Courts of Guam and the Northern Marianas.

He was also elected to the Third, Fourth, Ninth, and Tenth Guam Legislatures, where he was speaker during his last two terms of office. One of the many milestones in his legislative career took place in 1968. The U.S. Congress was debating the Elective Governor Act of Guam, which contained a provision establishing a U.S. Government Comptroller with audit authority over all funds coming into Guam. Speaker Arriola spearheaded a movement against the Federal Comptroller position, arguing that the people of Guam were entitled to greater self-government and that the establishment of a Federal Comptroller outside the framework of the government of Guam represented a step back from this goal and implied that the people of Guam could not be trusted with the expenditure of public funds. The Federal Comptroller provision was ultimately removed from the federal legislation.

In addition to his years in elected office Mr. Arriola was also Legislative Counsel and Parliamentarian for the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Guam Legislatures and legal counsel to many Government of Guam entities, including the Guam Power Authority and Guam Economic Development Authority. He served as Selective Service Government Appeal Agent in 1959, Small Business Administration Disaster Fee Counsel in 1962, Chairman for the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority from 1963 to 1964, Chairman of the Territorial Planning Commission from 1963 to 1966, and Chairman of the Board of Regents of the College of Guam from 1963 to 1966. And Mr. Arriola was a part-time Associate Justice of the Guam Supreme Court from 1996 to 1999.

In private practice Mr. Arriola is founding partner of Arriola, Cowan & Arriola—Guam's oldest established law office. His focus has been litigation; and Mr. Arriola still engages in civil trials to this day. He served as general counsel to the Bank of Guam, which he helped to incorporate, and as a member of the Bank's Board of Directors. He has also been secretary for BankPacific.

In recognition of all these accomplishments upon his 50th anniversary in practice in 2003, Mr. Arriola received a legislative resolution from the 27th Guam Legislature (Resolution No. 66). He was also honored for his service to the community with the degree of Doctor of Laws (Honoris Causa) from the University of Guam in 2007.

Mr. Arriola was married to former Senator Elizabeth P. Arriola, deceased. Although frequently occupied with legal matters, Mr. Arriola finds time to spend with his children, Jacqueline A. Marati, Vincent P. Arriola, Attorney Anita P. Arriola, Lisa P. Arriola, Franklin P. Arriola, Michael P. Arriola, Attorney Joaquin C. Arriola, Jr., and Anthony P. Arriola, his fifteen grandchildren and five great grandchildren, often while tending to his farm in Merizo.

We recognize, commend, and congratulate Mr. Arriola for his extensive professional accomplishments and his deep personal commitment to serving the people of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
MAZZETTI FAMILY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Mazzetti family of Pacifica, California who for four decades and three generations has given endless compassion, countless cakes and plenty of sweetness to the community. You will not find a charitable event in town where Mazzetti's Bakery isn't providing lunch or dessert. Julie and Rudy Mazzetti personify generosity and community service.

Rudy and his mother opened the bakery 40 years ago. When Julie and Rudy married 30 years ago, the bakery expanded and then Angela, their daughter, joined the family business. The family has delighted locals and customers for far and wide with their delicious family recipes. From their pastries to their breads and rolls to their cookies and pies to their world-class Focaccia bread—just the thought of those tastes is mouthwatering. And then, of course, there are the famous wedding cakes. Last year, Mazzetti's Bakery made more than 700 of them.

When you walk through the doors of the Pacifica bakery at the corner of Manor Drive and Oceana Boulevard, you will commonly see Julie sitting with brides and grooms selecting their wedding cakes. She is wedding planner, designer and mom all in one. She is a baker with heart and modestly admits that the brides and grooms always come back to visit her.

Mazzetti's is not simply a bakery where people pick up their baked goods, it's a place where people stay, visit and discuss the latest news in town. It's a second home for many. It's also a second office for many elected officials who will meet with constituents and other members from the city council, board of supervisors and the legislature. The welcoming atmosphere sparks conversation and community spirit.

That community spirit reaches beyond the doors of the bakery. Julie and Rudy spread it wherever they go. After one of the most devastating events in our area, the Mazzettis stepped up to help their neighbors. On September 9, 2010 a natural gas pipeline in San Bruno exploded killing eight people and destroying a neighborhood. San Bruno is located in my Congressional District and the devastation of families will forever be seared into my memory. Just one week after the horrendous explosion while the Crestmoor neighborhood laid in ruins and family members were still searching for their loved ones, Julie and Rudy put on a spaghetti dinner and auction to support their neighbors. Julie went from business to business not asking 'will you contribute?' but asking 'what will you contribute?' Everybody did contribute and the Mazzettis raised \$28,000 in one afternoon. I attended that dinner and can't remember another occasion where I was so touched by the generosity of one family offering love and support to others.

The gratitude for this dinner from the San Bruno community is best expressed by one of the families who lost their houses in the explosion, the Pellegrinis. Tina Pellegrini, to whom Julie is like a sister, says she was still shell shocked and overwhelmed by the generosity.

"Julie constantly is giving back to the community. She rolls up her sleeves wherever there is a need. She is generous of heart and soul. I love her and her family and hope they will go on forever."

Pacificans know and appreciate how invaluable the Mazzetti family is to the community. A readers' poll in the Pacifica Tribune this year voted Mazzetti's Bakery "Best of Pacifica." The Pacifica Sports Club honored Julie and Rudy for their community contributions in 2013.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor a family in Pacifica that stands for what we value in this country. The Mazzettis are giving, loving and don't ask for any credit for their contributions, but their contributions touch the lives of residents of Pacifica and beyond every day. I hope for many more generations of Mazzettis to continue this beautiful legacy.

REMEMBERING M.J. "MAC" DUBE

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of M.J. "Mac" Dube, who passed away Tuesday, April 29, 2014. Mac, a family man, United States Marine, and public servant will always be remembered in Twentynine Palms for his hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm.

As a combat Marine, Colonel, and Chief of Staff at the Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Mac served his country honorably and left a legacy for all those who will come after him. Mac and I were both promoted to Colonel at the same time, an honor I will always remember and cherish. You know, the Marine Corps has an old saying, "No greater friend, no worse enemy." This could not have been truer for Mac, he was a great Marine and his thirty years, four Purple Hearts, and Silver Star are all compliments of his extraordinary service.

Mac began his involvement with the city of Twentynine Palms in 1994 following his retirement from the Marine Corps. He held various roles including a seat on the city council and as a field representative to County Supervisor Bill Postmus.

It is with a heavy heart that I come to the House floor today to remember Mac. I join with the Marine Corps and city of Twentynine Palms in remembering and praying for Mac's family, especially his wife Patty.

Semper FI.

HONORING TONECA PICKENS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student at Madison S. Palmer High School.

Toneca Pickens is the daughter of Fekisha Pickens of Darling, MS. She serves as 2014 Senior Class President. She has been an honor student throughout High School. She

plays softball and is an office aide and peer tutor.

Toneca is active in the community as a volunteer helping the Mid-South Food Bank hand out food to the needy in Quitman County. She participates in campus beautification, the MS Drop Out Prevention Campaign walk, sings in her church choir, and serves as a mentor for the youth of her church.

Toneca has scored a very high on her ACT and she plans to attend MS Valley State University and major in math. Her college admission is complete and she has been applying for scholarships to aid in her furthering her education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Toneca Pickens as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

HONORING MARGIE WRIGHT

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margie Wright as California State University, Fresno (Fresno State) changes the name of Bulldog Diamond to Margie Wright Diamond. For nearly three decades, Margie dedicated her life as the head coach to the softball program at Fresno State. Her passion for the sport is truly exemplary, and she is more than deserving of this special recognition.

Margie was raised in Warrensburg, Illinois, and her extraordinary athleticism was evident at a young age. In 1974, she graduated from Illinois State University where she played on both the softball and basketball teams for four years as well as the field hockey team for three years. Upon graduation, Margie played three years in the Women's Professional Softball League.

Margie's career as a softball coach quickly took off. She began coaching at Metamora Illinois high school, and then continued on to become the assistant softball coach and the head volleyball coach at Eastern Illinois University. Prior to her arrival at Fresno State, Margie coached six years at Illinois State University.

The expertise and knowledge that Margie brings to the game of softball goes unmatched. Margie changed the dynamic of the game during her career at Fresno State. Her leadership and dedication to ensuring the success of her teams has led to increased attendance and revenue for the university. Margie has the most wins of any softball coach on the Division I level, and she has the second most wins among National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I coaches, regardless of sport.

In 1998, the Fresno State Bulldogs won the NCAA Women's College World Series under Margie's leadership, which was the first national team title won by the university. Margie also directed the program to three NCAA runner-up finishes while leading the program to 10 NCAA Women's College World Series appearances and 26 straight NCAA postseason appearances. Earning National Coach of the Year honors, she also led the program to 27 straight years ranked in the national polls and

captured 17 outright or shared conference titles. Margie has coached 16 Academic All-Americans, 53 NCAA All-Americans, 4 NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Award winners, two NCAA Top VIII Awardees, 15 Olympians, 8 professionals, and two No. 1 professional draft picks while averaging 48 wins a season. In addition, in 1996, Margie served as the assistant coach to the United States Olympic Softball National Team which won the gold medal in the inaugural year of the Olympic sport. Margie is undoubtedly a legend as she has been inducted into 14 halls of fame.

Most important are the lives Margie has positively affected through her dedication and work. Margie is a pioneer who fought for the rights of women. It is because of Margie's advocacy for equality that college campuses have grand stadiums, better salaries, and workable budgets for women's sports. The renaming of Bulldog Diamond to Margie Wright Diamond is a deserved tribute to her exceptional service at Fresno State.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize Margie Wright. Margie impacted the lives of many through her love of softball and has worked tirelessly for the advancement of women's athletics in California and the entire nation.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF RESTON, VIRGINIA AND THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF RESTON'S FOUNDER, ROBERT E. SIMON, JR.

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of America's first planned community, Reston, Virginia, and the 100th Birthday of Reston's Founder, Robert E. Simon, Jr.

In 1961, Mr. Simon, a New York-based developer, sold his family's interest in Carnegie Hall to finance the purchase of 6,750 acres of farmland 20 miles west of Washington, D.C., and five miles east of Dulles International Airport, which was under construction at the time. Mr. Simon envisioned building a "New Town" based on the following seven principles:

1. That the New Town should provide a wide range of cultural and recreational facilities as well as an environment for privacy.

2. That by providing the fullest range of housing styles and prices, housing needs can be met at a variety of income levels and at different stages of family life.

3. That the importance and dignity of each individual be the focal point for all planning, and take precedence for large-scale concepts.

4. That the people be able to live and work in the same community.

5. That commercial, cultural and recreational facilities be made available to the residents from the outset of the development—not years later.

6. That beauty—structural and natural—is a necessity of the good life and should be fostered.

7. That Reston be a financial success.

Mr. Simon and his team produced a plan considered quite radical at the time because it

consolidated residences, industry, commerce, schools, places of worship, cultural institutions, natural resources, social, and recreational facilities in an integrated and independent community. Many of its features were inspired by great European cities and the Garden City movement of early 20th century America and serve as models for mixed-use development today. Indeed, the key innovation and lasting success of Reston lies in the way its buildings, infrastructure, and the natural environment have been arranged in ways that encourage a sense of community.

Reston also became a pioneer for civil rights. Although racial deed restrictions were very common in Virginia in 1964, to Bob they were "inconceivable." Many lenders refused to finance the first integrated community in the south, but he persevered despite tremendous personal financial risk. As a result, numerous African Americans and others seeking diverse neighborhoods chose to live in Reston in its early years.

Today, Reston is home to nearly 60,000 people in approximately 27,000 households as well as 3,000 businesses, several non-profits, and numerous federal, state, and local government agencies employing approximately 60,000 people. People visit from around the world to tour Reston's public art, world-class architecture, festivals, and innovations in environmental stewardship.

The socioeconomic diversity, vibrant aesthetics, economic success, and natural beauty we see in Reston today are direct results of the wisdom and courage Bob Simon brought to Northern Virginia 50 years ago. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this milestone for Reston and in wishing Robert E. Simon, Jr. a very happy 100th birthday.

HONORING THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act, which established the Cooperative Extension Service. The Cooperative Extension Service is a state-by-state network of educators who research and provide educational outreach to farmers and local communities. Today, it continues to address a wide range of agricultural issues in both urban and rural areas.

North Carolina's agricultural industry is very diverse and poses a unique set of challenges to our farmers. The Cooperative Extension Service's educational programs have been essential to addressing these challenges by providing the necessary research to assist farmers across the state. Their research has increased the productivity of farmers, and has allowed rural and family-owned farms to keep up with changing technologies across the industry.

The Cooperative Extension Service has also been active in land-grant colleges and universities throughout the nation. Its work promoting agricultural knowledge in young adults will help the entire industry continue to thrive.

Mr. Speaker, as the centennial date is celebrated on May 8, 2014, we should all be

thankful for the resources that the Cooperative Extension Service has provided our farmers and our communities. I am proud to congratulate the Cooperative Extension Service, and wish them many more years of success.

CONGRATULATING JUDY SHERMAN

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, Judy Sherman, a diligent and steadfast defender of oral health, on the occasion of her retirement from the American Dental Association, ADA, after more than 29 years.

Judy's singlehanded contributions to improving oral health in this country are far-reaching. Those who don't know her would be astounded after hearing her accomplishments, but those of us who do know her, and have seen her effectiveness first hand, understand how she has made such an impact.

She has made a career of fighting for dental priorities, like boosting dental residencies, and was instrumental in the "Collins-Feingold" law which funded special state dental projects and dental residencies. She played a central role in efforts to boost dental divisions and research across the spectrum, including at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, and the Indian Health Service. She has been involved in nearly every issue impacting the oral health of our children at the federal level for the last several decades.

After graduating from the University of Michigan, Judy taught junior high school in Michigan for 12 years before coming to Washington, DC to work as a Legislative Aide to Senator Carl D. Pursell. She made her way to the ADA in 1985, and eventually rose to become ADA's Director of Congressional Affairs in 2007. She was also President of the Coalition for Health Funding, which works to strengthen public health investments.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand here today and recognize the achievements and career of my good friend, Judy Sherman. I will miss her constant presence, and her unwavering and loyal support. The entire oral health community will miss her dedication and commitment. We all have a lot of work to do to fill her shoes. Though she is now going to be spending more time with her husband Brad, and her two Golden Retrievers, I hope and expect that we will still see her from time to time, walking the halls of Congress, and continuing to advocate for dentists and oral health.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
TOM RICHARDS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tom Richards for his years of service as Board Chair of the Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board, FRWIB. Tom's

commitment and dedication to ensuring the success of FRWIB must be commended.

Over the past four years, Tom has worked tirelessly to carry out FRWIB's mission to be a catalyst for mobilizing and integrating public and private partners to effectively educate and train individuals with the necessary skills to fulfill employer needs. As Board Chair, Tom strives to increase the number of job opportunities available to unemployed and underemployed residents in the region. He plays an integral role in advancing vocational education opportunities directly related to job placement. Businesses and individuals throughout the community have benefited immensely from Tom's business insight and civic interests.

Tom's leadership expands beyond FRWIB. He is a leader for our entire community, and he strives every day to ensure the success of our city, state, and nation. He is the past chair of the Planning Council that developed the 10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in the City of Fresno. Tom was also instrumental in the planning and funding of Terry's House, a hospitality home for families who have loved ones who are in the hospital. Tom has overseen dozens of successful projects, and he has proven to be an effective leader. He is an individual of outstanding character, and I am proud to have him as a friend for more than 30 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Tom Richards for his service as Board Chair of the Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board. Tom's vision, passion, and persistence have led to improvements in the region's economy. As Tom steps down as Board Chair, we can still expect him to be an advocate for businesses and residents throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

HONORING KHADIJAH GRIFFIN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student at Madison S. Palmer High School.

Khadijah Griffin is the daughter of Derrick and Cynthia Griffin of Lambert, MS. She was chosen Miss Madison S. Palmer High 2013–14 Queen and Student Council President by her peers. She is active in school in that she plays softball and was the Drum Major for the band. She communicates well with everyone. She plans to attend MS State University and has completed the paperwork for admission, been accepted, has taken the ACT and received a scholarship to aid her financially. She plans to major in Mass Communication and is a member of the High School Journalism Class and Newspaper Staff.

In the community, Khadijah has participated in campus and community cleanup-beautification campaigns, breast cancer awareness walks, worked as a volunteer helping the Mid-South Food Bank hand out food to the needy in Quitman County, has participated in the MS Drop Out Prevention Campaign Walk, and is Vice-President of her church youth department as well as a choir member.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Khadijah Griffin as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

RECOGNIZING THE U.S. CAPITOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S 2013 MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST SENIOR DIVISION WINNER RICHARD ALEC MERSKI

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Richard Alec Merski, a resident of Virginia's 11th District and the senior division winner of the U.S. Capitol Historical Society's 2013 Making Democracy Work student essay contest.

The Historical Society is a congressionally chartered educational organization founded in 1962. Its mission is to inform the public about the rich heritage of the Capitol and the Congress. This nationwide contest is open to all students in two categories: a junior division contest for students in grades 6–8 and a senior division contest for students in grades 9–12.

The 2013 contest asked students to consider the rights guaranteed by the Constitution and the corresponding duties that citizens owe to implement and protect those rights. Essays addressed questions such as how these rights and responsibilities affect students, their families, and the importance of being aware of one's own rights and responsibilities. Students were required to cite sources such as the U.S. Constitution, books, and articles from magazines and newspapers. Entries were judged on the depth of their content, the mastery of the topic, and the skill with which they are written.

Mr. Merski is a senior at James Madison High School in Vienna, Virginia, where he will graduate in June. An Honor Roll student, Alec previously attended the Nysmith School in Herndon and Landon School in Bethesda. An avid language student, Alec was one of two students at Landon taking two languages in addition to his courses. Alec spent two summers living with host families in Spain and China in an intensive language program to hone his language skills. He was also the recipient of the Excellence in Foreign Language Award. He served as the President of the China Roundtable of Washington, an annual forum held at the Chinese Embassy allowing experts on China to address current economic, cultural, and educational changes in China.

Alec was an active member and officer of Model UN and served as the President of the Environmental Club. Last summer, Alec interned with the United States-Asia Foundation and the International Trade Commission. He plans to major in International Relations and Economics when he enters college this fall.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Alec Merski on this outstanding achievement and in wishing him all the best in his future endeavors. I am confident that this accomplished young man will be successful in whatever path he chooses to follow.

HONORING ADMIRAL ROBERT J. PAPP, JR. FOR HIS SERVICE AS THE 24TH COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with Representatives HOWARD COBLE, FRANK LOBIONDO, and RICK LARSEN on behalf of the Congressional Coast Guard Caucus to recognize the dedication and unwavering leadership of Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr, who will complete his tour as the 24th Commandant of the United States Coast Guard on May 30, 2014. Serving our nation faithfully and selflessly for over 40 years, Admiral Papp has led the nearly 90,000 active duty, reserve, civilian and auxiliary members of the Coast Guard through an extraordinary period in the Coast Guard's history. Both as Commandant and Commander of the Coast Guard's Atlantic Area, Admiral Papp remained focused and resolute in directing the massive response and recovery operations for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. He served as the Operational Commander responsible for the Coast Guard response in the wake of the Haiti earthquake disaster, where Coast Guard cutters were the first U.S. assets on scene to provide humanitarian assistance to the devastated country.

Admiral Papp was instrumental in raising the national awareness of the continuously evolving challenges in the Arctic, including developing the Coast Guard's first Arctic Strategy and expanding Coast Guard operations and capabilities in the Region. He has also been integral to U.S. efforts to engage with other Arctic Nations to establish international governance protocols essential to protecting U.S. sovereignty, security and economic interests as access and activity in the Arctic continues to expand.

Through his leadership and staunch support of the Coast Guard men and women who place their lives on the line every day to serve the American people, he has remained steadfast in his commitment to recapitalize the Coast Guard's rapidly aging fleet of cutters, aircraft and small boats. Often overcoming seemingly insurmountable obstacles in an incredibly challenging fiscal environment, he has achieved extraordinary success in building out the fleet of National Security Cutters, Fast Response Cutters, Response Boats and Maritime Patrol Aircraft. Furthermore, he has laid the foundation for the acquisition of the Offshore Patrol Cutter, which will ensure the Coast Guard continues to remain "Semper Paratus" or Always Ready, to complete its maritime safety, security and stewardship missions in our ports and waterways as well as the over 4 millions square miles of U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone around the world.

Finally, for those of us who have had the privilege to know Admiral Papp personally, it does not take long to see and understand how passionate he is about the health and welfare of every member of the Coast Guard family—his "shipmates." His focus on professionalism and proficiency and his efforts to improve access to critical family support services such as childcare and family housing have been instrumental in improving the lives of all "Coasties."

His decision to protect the civilian workforce and not implement furloughs despite the devastating impacts of sequestration reflects his commitment to the concept that every member of the Coast Guard—active duty, reserve, civilian or auxiliary—is an indispensable partner in the success of the Service.

As the Co-Chairs of the Coast Guard Caucus, we are honored to join with our distinguished colleagues in recognizing the incredible service, dedication and leadership of Admiral Papp as the 24th Commandant of the United States Coast Guard. As we honor Admiral Papp, we also honor the service of the thousands of shipmates he has led as they rescue those in distress, protect our environment, secure our borders and keep dangerous drugs off our streets. To paraphrase Admiral Papp himself, "They are Coastguardsmen. This is their chosen profession. This is their way." We thank Admiral Papp, his wife Linda and his entire family for their service and sacrifice, and wish them all fair winds and following seas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 6, 2014, I was at home in Wisconsin taking care of my wife and our new baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following ways:

1) H.R. 3584—The Capital Access for Small Community Financial Institutions Act of 2013—Yea

2) H.R. 2672—CFPB Rural Designation Petition and Correction—Yea

3) H.R. 4386—Money Remittance Improvement Act of 2013—Yea

4) H.R. 3329—To enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes—Yea

5) H.R. 3468—The Credit Union Share Fund Insurance Parity Act—Yea

6) H.R. 2919—The Open Book on Equal Access to Justice Act—Yea

7) H.R. 4292—The Foreign Cultural Exchange Jurisdictional Immunity Clarification Act—Yea

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF GEORGE NISHIO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Dr. George Nishio, who passed away in November 2013 at the age of 97. George served the United States of America honorably during World War II and was a pillar in the community.

George was born in Fresno, California, to Japanese immigrant parents. He graduated from Fresno State College and went on to complete a Doctor of Optometry degree at the University of California, Berkeley. With his op-

tometry degree in hand, George returned to Fresno and began a private practice.

Following the attacks on Pearl Harbor, George was sent to a concentration camp in Jerome, Arkansas. Despite being driven from his home to a concentration camp, George volunteered for duty in the U.S. Army. Following basic training, George was selected for medical training. After being designated as an optometrist, George was assigned to a medical company and boarded a ship for the campaign in the European Theater.

The U.S. Army recognized George's expertise and leadership abilities and promoted him to Technical Sergeant. George would go on to serve in Europe as the allied forces fought their way into Germany. His unit received a meritorious unit citation and was designated a Distinguished U.S. Army Medical Regiment.

For his service, George received the World War II Medal, African-Middle Eastern Medal, European Campaign, Meritorious Unit Award, Army of Occupation Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.

George married Michiko Saiki and returned to Fresno where he resumed his optometry practice. He and Michiko had six children in whom they instilled a strong sense of appreciation for nature and education. Eventually, George and his family moved to Chowchilla where he established a practice that still serves the community.

Believing that everyone should serve and be an active member in their community, George served as a member of the City Planning Commission, Chowchilla School Board, and was President of the Madera County Board of Education. He was also a longtime member and past president of the Chowchilla Rotary Club, and a Paul Harris Fellow.

In addition, George was a member of the American Optometric Association, serving as president of the Central California Chapter. He was named Optometrist of the Year by the Central California Optometry Association. He was a Life Member of Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 8986 and Nisei VFW Post 8985 in Sacramento.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life of Dr. George Nishio who dedicated his life to serving his nation and community. His presence will be greatly missed, but his legacy will surely live on throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING OF CYPRESS WATERS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the grand opening of the Cypress Waters commercial and residential planned community. Developed by Henry and Lucy Billingsley, Cypress Waters is a 1,000 acre development on the 362 acre North Lake. It is anchored by the City of Dallas, Texas, with parts also in the cities of Coppell and Irving. Cypress Waters is in close proximity to the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and sits in the heart of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.

Once completed, the Neighborhoods of Cypress Waters will feature over 10,000 multi-

family units. Currently, the Neighborhoods of Cypress Waters contain 673 multi-family units which are open for lease. The second phase of the multi-family construction will commence in early 2015 and will offer approximately 500 additional units. The Neighborhoods will be within the Coppell Independent School District and a new elementary school, junior high school, and high school will all be built to educate the young residents.

The Shops of Cypress Waters sits at the entrance of the development and will serve as a retail hub in Dallas-Fort Worth by adding 400,000 square feet of retail space, most of which has now been built. In addition, the development will host 4.5 million square feet of Class A office space which will be home to some of Texas' largest corporations. As a result, thousands of new jobs will come to the 24th District, furthering the area's resilient economic growth.

Cypress Waters also features a great outdoors environment consisting of hiking and biking trails, including a five mile loop around North Lake and connections to adjacent cities' trail systems. There are also watercourse environments and preservation areas for native species of plants and animals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating the grand opening of Cypress Waters and welcoming its new residents to the 24th Congressional District of Texas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 193, I was unable to attend. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING 17 PALM BEACH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO PLAN TO ENLIST INTO THE MILITARY AFTER GRADUATION

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of 17 high school seniors from Palm Beach County who plan to enlist into the military after graduation this spring. Their maturity and courage are a testament to their dedication to our country, and they rightfully deserve our recognition and admiration.

I am proud to represent a district that is home to such a large number of men and women in the military, veterans, and their families. I feel tremendous gratitude to those who fought in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, and to a new generation of heroes from the Gulf War, Iraq, and Afghanistan. My father, Bernard Deutch, volunteered to fight in World War II as a teenager where he earned a Purple Heart at the Battle of the Bulge. It was his example of service to our nation that motivated me to serve in Congress.

Congratulations to Christopher Barnikel, Arturo Ipina Jr., Jose Pascual Tomas, Justin

Grad, Adam Pendleton, Jason Marlin, Charles Green, Alexander Costello, Marc Velazquez, Sumer Boardman, Mauricio Alvarez, Trystan Anderson, Aprilday Lytal, Samuel Steinhouse, Elyzae Reina, Shereek Powell, and Rebecca Gonzalez for their service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN W. WELLS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John W. Wells, who passed away on March 24, 2014, at the age of 86. John was a community leader in the City of Madera, and his unwavering service will be greatly missed.

John spent much of his life in Madera County. He was born to John and Mary Wells, and grew up in a large family with eight siblings. In 1947, he graduated from Chowchilla Union High School and joined the United States Army.

John served as a member of the infamous Wolfhound Division. He was wounded in action and after receiving treatment in Japan was sent back to Korea, where he remained until the end of the war. He served as an airborne forward artillery observer. John was awarded the Purple Heart medal for his brave and honorable service.

John continued his military service in El Paso, Texas, where he met his wife Bette Collins. In 1952, John and Bette married. After completing his final tour in Germany, John remained in the Army Reserves for many years and retired with the rank of Captain. John attended Fresno State College and earned his teaching credential. As a student, John also served as an officer for Madera's Police Department. He later worked as a teacher and eventually retired from teaching at Sugar Pine High School, a Madera Unified School District continuation high school.

John had a long and distinguished career in city politics. In 1964, he was elected to Madera City Council, and he served for 10 years. For part of that time, he served as mayor. John went on a hiatus from elected office, but returned and was re-elected to the city council in 1990. He served consecutive terms as city councilman until 2006. John was truly committed to serving the people of Madera and doing what was best for the city. He faithfully attended council meetings and members of the community felt they could always count on him.

Because of John's dedication and commitment to ensuring the success of young people, the City of Madera inaugurated the John W. Wells Youth Center to commemorate John's service and accomplishments. The center now stands as a fitting tribute and memorial to John's life. Apart from the youth center, John also promoted and worked tirelessly to build a skate park within Rotary Park. He was driven to serve the youth in Madera and worked tirelessly to create places where the youth could remain busy and out of trouble.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of John W. Wells. John will undoubtedly be

missed by his family, friends, and community, but his legacy will surely live on.

HONORING DR. CAROL WINOGRAD

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Carol Winograd for her extraordinary career and to join J Street in recognizing her for the 2014 Tzedek v'Shalom Award for her lifelong dedication to *tikkun olam*, which means, "repairing the world." Dr. Winograd is an emerita professor of Medicine and Human Biology at Stanford University and currently serves as a member on the J Street Executive Board.

Born in New Jersey, Dr. Winograd received her Bachelor of Arts with honors in French at Wellesley College, and she attended Harvard University for graduate school, studying biomedical studies. She later received her Medical Degree cum laude from Boston University Medical School and attended the University of California, San Francisco, for her Internal Medicine and Family Medicine residencies.

Throughout Dr. Winograd's esteemed career, she has focused her research on identifying predictors of decline in frail, hospitalized patients, and improving their function, especially mobility. Her professional interests include geriatric assessment, Alzheimer's disease, mobility, health policy, women's issues, and a comprehensive health and social approach to aging.

Dr. Carol Winograd's steadfast commitment to geriatrics research is evident in her many professional roles on the subject. She advises students and teaches courses on women and aging, mobility, and geriatrics. She was also an Assistant Professor at the University of California San Francisco, and then served as Clinical Director of the Geriatric Research and Education Center at Stanford. Dr. Winograd served on the editorial board of numerous scientific journals and other boards. She is also a member of the steering committee of the Women Donors Network's Middle East Peace Circle.

Throughout her career, Dr. Carol Winograd has received numerous accolades for her outstanding achievements, including the 1973 Roche Award for Scholarship and Character, the Malamud Prize for Excellence in Psychiatry and General Medicine, and was a finalist for Alwin C. Rambar Award for Excellence in Patient Care.

In addition to Dr. Winograd's many contributions to her field, she co-authored the book, *Treatments for the Alzheimer Patient: The Long Haul*, as well as peer-reviewed more than 40 articles on functional impairment in hospitalized elders, mobility and geriatric assessment. She is also active in using art for healing, and has exhibited her paintings in numerous art shows.

In 2012, Dr. Winograd co-led J Street's first Women's Congressional Delegation to Israel. I also co-led this educational trip with Dr. Winograd, and this was truly an amazing trip due to Carol's brilliance and experience. One year later, Dr. Winograd co-founded J Street's Women's Leadership Forum to increase women participation and greater inclusion of

Israeli and Palestinian women in peace negotiations.

On a personal note, I always feel a lot of love, joy and optimism when in the presence of Carol. Her energy and her spirit inspires me to continue to fight the good fight. I am honored and humbled by Carol's friendship and proud to call her my friend.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Dr. Carol Winograd, I salute you for your lifetime of service to the community, the nation and to the world. I commend Dr. Carol Winograd's dedication to promoting social justice causes and wellness efforts. I congratulate and thank you, for you have touched many lives in profound ways throughout your career. We wish you and your family continued prosperity and happiness.

CONGRATULATING JUDGE P. MICHAEL MAHONEY ON HIS RECENT RETIREMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge P. Michael Mahoney, who recently retired as Magistrate Judge of the Western Branch of the Northern District of Illinois. Judge Mahoney received his law degree from the University of Illinois, and has practiced law in our region for over forty years. In 1976, Judge Mahoney became a part-time Federal Magistrate for the Northern District. He became a full-time Magistrate Judge in 1992.

Judge Mahoney has left an indelible mark on our region. While he is often remembered by the public for his work on high-profile decisions like *People Who Care v. Rockford Board of Education*, and *USA v. Rita Crundwell*, he is best remembered by his associates as a mediator and an inspiring practitioner of justice, who presided with fairness and professionalism for over 38 years. At the time of his retirement, Judge Mahoney was the longest-serving Judge in the Seventh Circuit.

We will surely miss his wisdom and his steady hand, but we also thank Justice Mahoney for his service to our community, and wish him the best of luck, and a happy retirement.

HONORING JONATHAN BAKER

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Jonathan Baker, my constituent from Redondo Beach, who has been selected as a finalist for the 2014 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals (Sammies). The Sammies are presented annually by the non-profit, nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service to honor outstanding federal employees who have made significant contributions to our nation.

Jonathan is the Delta IV Launch Systems Deputy Chief Engineer at the United States Air

Force Base in El Segundo, California. At his young age of 35, Jonathan has been entrusted with overseeing the extremely delicate and expensive process of launching Air Force rockets carrying satellites into orbit. Since 2010, 13 satellites, which are worth more than \$7 billion and provide important wireless communication, national reconnaissance, infrared missile warning, and precision timing and navigation capabilities, have been launched under Jonathan's supervision.

Jonathan's position requires not only a high degree of skill and knowledge in the technical aspects of launches, including making sure rockets are correctly built and assembled, but also the ability to lead public and private-sector engineers and foster team cohesion that eliminates any chance of error. Jonathan is well-respected for his leadership. He has set standards for his team by establishing a training and certification program that Air Force engineers must take before performing duties on launch day. In this line of work, there is no room for error and Jonathan has an outstanding record.

One particularly notable accomplishment is Jonathan's success in reducing the cost of a contract for 40 new rockets from \$14 billion to under \$10 billion. His technical expertise and incredible attention to detail has saved taxpayers over \$4 billion.

I would like to congratulate Jonathan Baker on his selection as a finalist for the 2014 Sammies. It is an honor to represent him in Congress. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating his inspiring career and in wishing him all the best for the future.

HONORING HENRY RAMSEY JR.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Henry Ramsey, Jr., former Alameda County judge, member of the Berkeley City Council and dean of Howard University's law school. Known throughout the Bay Area and the nation for his dedication to civil rights and justice, Mr. Ramsey has left an indelible mark on our national discourse. With his passing on March 14, 2014, we look to the outstanding quality of his life's work and the inspiring role he played in the fight for social justice.

Henry Ramsey, Jr., moved to California to pursue an undergraduate degree, becoming one of the first African-Americans to graduate from the University of California, Riverside in 1960. After receiving his law degree a few years later from the University of California, Berkeley, Mr. Ramsey started his career at the Contra Costa County District Attorney's office. Once again, he broke racial barriers being among the first African American prosecutors hired in the office.

Throughout the 1970s, Henry Ramsey, Jr. was a member of the faculty at Boalt Hall. During this time, he also served on the Berkeley City Council, working to ensure the growth and innovation for the City of Berkeley. Later, Mr. Ramsey was appointed to the Alameda County Superior Court bench before serving as dean of Howard University's School of Law from 1990 to 1996.

Throughout Mr. Ramsey's career, he was acutely aware of the role the judicial system played in the fight for equality and justice. He represented those who could not obtain representation, including members of the Black Panthers. Mr. Ramsey was committed to helping others, especially youth and seniors, and to giving back to his community.

Mr. Ramsey was keenly committed to education, ethics reform and the rule of law, serving as chairperson of the Law School Admission Council's bar passage student committee and the American Bar Association (ABA) section of legal education and admissions to the bar. He also served as a member on the ABA Commission on Evaluation of the Rules of Professional Conduct as well as on Ethics and Professional Responsibility.

Throughout his prolific career, Henry Ramsey, Jr. received various accolades for his outstanding achievements. Mr. Ramsey was honored with Boalt Hall School of Law's Citation Award, the highest honor recognizing a distinguished graduate. In 2000, he was the recipient of the Robert J. Kutak Award for promoting understanding between legal education and the active practice of law.

I met Henry in the early 1970's. I knew immediately that he was a force to be reckoned with and recognized that he understood that "power concedes nothing without demand." Yet even with his brilliance and bold work for racial and economic justice, he had a gentle and kind spirit, counseling my dear beloved friend, the late Beth Meador, and me on Black political empowerment and why we must get and stay involved in politics. Judge Ramsey's spirit and legacy will continue to soar and inspire young people as he inspired me and Beth to fight the good fight.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors an outstanding individual, Henry Ramsey, Jr. As a distinguished Alameda County resident, Mr. Ramsey's efforts and devotion to social equality have truly paved the way for minorities and impacted so many lives throughout the nation. I join all of Henry's loved ones in celebrating his incredible life. He will be deeply missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF SISTER
MARGARET GANNON, I.H.M., PH.D.

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Sister Margaret Gannon, I.H.M., Ph.D., who will retire from Marywood University on May 31, 2014. In her 47 years with Marywood, Sr. Margaret has taught thousands of students, raised the level of discourse in the community, and passionately advocated for peace, education, and social justice.

During her tenure at Marywood, Sr. Margaret contributed to multiple departments and served in a number of leadership positions. She began her distinguished career at Marywood in 1968 as an Assistant Professor of History, and later served as Chair of Social Sciences, both graduate and undergraduate divisions. In 1978, Sr. Margaret founded the Theresa Maxis Center for Justice and Peace and assumed the role of director for several years. From 1988 to 1993, she served as

Dean of the Undergraduate School for Women and established the Women's Studies minor. Later, as Coordinator of Diversity Efforts, she traveled to Japan as a visiting professor at the Takasaki Art Centre College in 1995.

In nearly five decades as a scholar, Sr. Margaret has contributed dozens of publications to the canon of academic literature and presented on a variety of important topics. To name but a few, she authored entries in The New Catholic Encyclopedia on Theresa Maxis Duchemin and the Immaculate Heart of Mary Congregation, and she made a presentation for the American Catholic Historical Association entitled "The Struggles of Theresa Maxis Duchemin: Confronting Racism and Sexism in the Nineteenth Century Church." Through her advancements in scholarly discourse and public presentations in the community, Sr. Margaret has consistently pushed her students to excel and enriched the Scranton-Wilkes-Barre area.

In addition to her academic achievements, Sr. Margaret has dedicated her life to serving her community. She donated her time, passion, and leadership to many local organizations, such as Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority, Women's Community Learning Coalition, Housing Coalition for Scranton Families, and St. Joseph's Center. In recognition of her service to her community, Sr. Margaret has received numerous awards and honors, including Marywood University's first Faculty Service Award.

It is my great honor to congratulate and celebrate Sr. Margaret Gannon on her lifetime of service to her students and community. Her efforts set a shining example for her students, her neighbors, and all of Northeast Pennsylvania.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and not present for roll-call votes 178 and 179. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on both.

FOSTER YOUTH MONTH

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Foster Youth Month.

Every child deserves a healthy, safe, and stable home. Yet too many continue to go without these basic needs that so many of us take for granted. This May, we recognize more than 400,000 American children in foster care who are waiting for their forever family.

The theme of this year's Foster Month is "Building Blocks Toward Permanent Families"—an issue that is near to my heart. My parents took in several foster children when I was growing up. I was able to see firsthand the difference that this made, and some of them are still in touch with my family today.

Foster children belong to all of us, and we have a moral obligation to treat them with the same love and care that we would our own children.

I encourage all my colleagues to join me in recognizing May as Foster Youth Month.

ACKNOWLEDGING HEATHER PARTON

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to rise tonight to acknowledge Heather Parton of Santa Monica, California, on the occasion of being awarded a Hillman Prize for "Opinion & Analysis Journalism". Many in this Chamber, and untold others across the internet, better know her by her pseudonym: "Digby".

Digby, a political blogger, is the founder of the blog Hullabaloo, and has been called one of the "leading and most admired commentators" of the progressive blogosphere—by Glenn Greenwald no less, the recent recipient of a Pulitzer Prize himself.

The Sidney Hillman Foundation's announcement this evening sums up my, and many others', sentiments:

Tonight, the Sidney Hillman Foundation will honor Heather "Digby" Parton with the 2014 Hillman Prize for Opinion & Analysis Journalism. Digby's blog Hullabaloo has been a fixture in the progressive blogosphere for over a decade. Digby has eloquently opposed injustice and incompetence on issues ranging from the invasion of Iraq to the widening chasm between rich and poor in America. Whatever the topic, Digby approaches her work with a level head and a big heart.

I will give the last word to Kathleen Geier of the Washington Monthly, "Since she's the best daily political writer in America, an honor of this sort is the least we can do for her. Congrats to Digby and to the Hillman people for making such an awesome choice. Now and forever: What. Digby. Said!"

"What. Digby. Said!",

HONORING THE OAKLAND YOUTH ORCHESTRA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th Anniversary of the

Oakland Youth Orchestra (OYO). Since its debut in the 1963–64 season, OYO has a history of commissioning, premiering and recording the works of great American composers. The youth orchestra performs a wide range of challenging pieces, showcasing their work and talent during several concerts each season.

Since the establishment of the Oakland Youth Orchestra in 1963, its Artistic Directors and leaders have inspired and motivated generations of students with the highest degree of commitment and professionalism. In the past 50 years, OYO has strived to promote the importance of arts education and to allow access to the arts for all youth.

Today, the Oakland Youth Orchestra consists of 88 talented young musicians, representing 46 different schools from more than 30 cities in the Bay Area. Ranging from ages 12 to 22 years old, these artists have the opportunity to learn from, and be coached by, professional orchestral musicians. The youth orchestra students have the opportunity to travel to different regions of the world, performing in Europe, the Middle East, Central and South America, Asia, the Caribbean Islands and Australia.

Moreover, the Oakland Youth Orchestra has received numerous accolades for its talented performances. For its service to contemporary music, the orchestra has received the Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music award from the American Society of Composers and Publishers (ASCAP) five times in the course of the last four decades.

As the educational arm of the Oakland Symphony, OYO is committed to serving the community and supporting arts throughout the Bay Area. OYO is a member of Arts First Oakland, ASCAP, Association of California Symphony Orchestras, Bay Area Black United Fund and the Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. In addition, OYO has participated in the Bay Area Youth Orchestra Festival of Hope Concert, raising over \$100,000 to benefit homeless and underserved youth.

I commend the Oakland Youth Orchestra for providing our youth with a pathway towards growth and achievement. Music is essential to student development and to our sense of identity, community and pride.

On behalf of residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I extend my congratulations on this important milestone and thank all of the many people who have contributed to the success of the Oakland Youth Orchestra. I wish OYO continued success in the years to come.