

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.