

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, due to flight delays on July 8, 2014, I was absent from votes in the House. I, therefore, missed rollcall votes 369 and 370. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 369 and "aye" on rollcall No. 370.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 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 \$17,591,098,482,428.39. We've added \$6,964,221,433,515.31 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR MAGGIE MOLLOY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HEAD START CHILD-PARENT CENTERS, INC.

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maggie Molloy, who is retiring after 40 years as executive director of the Tucson-based Head Start Child-Parent Centers, Inc.

Maggie began her career in early childhood as an intern at Arizona State University in its early childhood center. In 1972, while working on her master's degree in early childhood education and family development, she responded to an opening for a teacher position at Child Development Centers, a Tucson-based non-profit and delegate agency for Head Start programs in Tucson.

Maggie started as education director of the program, when I served as executive director. In 1974, when I transitioned to a new position, Maggie was named executive director—a position she has held for the past four decades.

Under her leadership, Child-Parent Centers has become the largest provider of Head Start services in Southern Arizona, growing to 43 locations spread across five Arizona counties. The agency has a sweeping vision: Strong communities filled with successful families and children. That includes a commitment to en-

sure that all eligible families—including the children of migrant/seasonal workers and children with disabilities—receive the education, nutrition and family support services Head Start provides.

Maggie has provided dynamic leadership for an agency that now has more than 500 employees. She leads a volunteer-based board of directors that incorporates members from the community with backgrounds in fiscal management, early childhood education and legal practices and procedures.

I am proud to recognize Maggie Molloy—a visionary leader, an enthusiastic and passionate advocate and change agent for thousands of Southern Arizona children and their families.

SUPPORT OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 657

HON. C. A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this statement is to highlight my support of House Resolution 657 which passed by unanimous consent on July 11, 2014. Had I been able to, I would have cosponsored this resolution. I firmly support Israel's right to defend itself against the unprovoked rocket attacks from the Hamas terrorist organization. I condemn these attacks on our Israeli friends and call on Hamas to immediately cease all rocket fire and other attacks against Israel. Israel remains a vital ally of the United States in the Middle East, and it is in the best interest of both countries to maintain our cooperation and support.

HONORING JON MEIS

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a young man from my district who is truly a hero. On June 5, 2014, Seattle Pacific University was faced with tragedy when a shooter opened fire in one of the university's residence halls. A student was killed, and it was only thanks to the actions of Jon Meis from Renton, Washington, that more lives were not taken.

Mr. Meis is himself a student at SPU and when he was placed in a dangerous situation, he gave no thought to his own life. Instead, he acted to protect his fellow students by pepper-spraying and tackling the gunman, allowing the police enough time to get to campus and take control of the situation.

As a former police officer, I know just how critical Mr. Meis's actions were in apprehending the shooter and saving lives. I am so

proud of this young man: for his courage, his dedication to his community, his selflessness. I am proud of the way our greater Seattle community has banded together to support the SPU community during this difficult time, and I mourn with them for the young man who died that day. As Mr. Meis himself pointed out, it takes a tragedy to make a hero. I know we all wish such an event had never taken place, but Mr. Meis ensured that further tragedy was prevented. So, once again, I thank him and I honor him.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL FREIGHT NETWORK TRUST FUND ACT OF 2014

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the National Freight Network Trust Fund Act of 2014 to provide a guaranteed, dedicated funding source, at no additional expense to taxpayers, to serve our nation's freight movement.

The Port of Los Angeles is in my backyard and when I came to Congress, I was surprised that there was a lack of focus on ports and freight transportation in general. One of the reasons I cofounded the PORTS Caucus is to educate Members about the importance of freight transportation to our nation's economy.

We are a consumer economy. Whether it is a "mom and pop" store on the corner or a large retailer like Target, we don't think twice when we go to these stores to purchase groceries, toys, or clothing. When we go to the store, we expect that milk and the Barbie dolls are on the shelf.

We also want to ensure that goods Made in America—including manufacturing and agriculture—are able to be shipped efficiently across our nation's highways and rail to our ports for export, which is crucial to our nation's continued economic success.

Ultimately, in MAP-21—our last surface transportation bill—we were successful in including provisions to start the conversation about developing a national freight transportation network.

The problem is that today there is not enough funds to keep the Highway Trust Fund solvent—let alone have the necessary investment to modernize and increase the efficiency of our freight network. That will not keep our economy global competitive as we continue progressing through the 21st Century.

For example, goods that leave the Port of Los Angeles take 48 hours to arrive in Chicago and takes 30 hours to travel across the city. This bottleneck is unacceptable and means higher costs for consumers, more congestion, more pollution, and less jobs. The bottom line is that we need to fund our nation's freight network.

If we fail to fund our ports, we will lose our competitive edge and add costs to our goods.

• 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.

A USDOT report, Freight Transportation: Improvements and the Economy, estimates the cost of carrying freight on the highway system at between \$25 and \$200 an hour. Unexpected delays can increase the cost of transporting goods by 50 to 250 percent.

I believe that is crucial for our nation to have a dedicated source of funding to keep our nation's freight network globally competitive. Therefore, I am introducing the National Freight Network Trust Fund Act of 2014 that would direct 5 percent of all import duties collected by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at Ports of Entry to be spent on freight transportation. This is at no new cost to a business or taxpayer as it uses the funds our CBP officials are collecting at the border as freight enters our nation.

This legislation would create the National Freight Network Trust Fund as an off-budget trust fund to only serve the roads of the National Freight Network and those roads and rail that connect the Network to Ports of Entry.

It would also create a dedicated funding source at no new cost to the public by depositing 5 percent of all import duties collected by CBP and place these funds in the National Freight Network Trust Fund. Five percent of import duties would deposit roughly \$1.9 billion in the Trust Fund every year at our current rate of imports.

The legislation would also direct the Secretary of Transportation to work in accordance with the National Freight Strategic Plan to identify improvements to the National Freight Network, on-dock rail, and roads and rail that connect the Network to Ports of Entry, which show the greatest need in providing for the movement of freight and goods across the United States. It would also provide grants at the Secretary's discretion to State, regional and local transportation authorities to make freight network improvements.

This bill will infuse billions back into the economy every year, help create good paying American jobs and keep our nation's ports strong and globally competitive.

This is a win for our ports and for our nation's economy. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING COMMAND SERGEANT
MAJOR FRANK WICKS

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Command Sergeant Major Frank Wicks. Command Sergeant Major Wicks has served the people of New York and the United States admirably throughout his career. He will be missed.

Born in Troy, New York, Command Sergeant Major Wicks entered the Army in November 1982 and attended Basic Training in Fort Dix, New Jersey, and advanced individual training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

His assignments include the 205th Support Group, 2nd Battalion 105th Infantry, Headquarters 42nd Infantry Division, Company A 204th Engineer Battalion, Headquarters 1st Battalion, 105th Infantry, 2nd Battalion 106th Regiment, 1st Battalion 108th Infantry, Headquarters 27th Brigade Combat Team, and

Headquarters 53rd Troop Command. His Command Sergeant Major assignments include 2nd Battalion 106th Regiment, 2nd Battalion 108th Infantry in Utica, NY, 27th Infantry Brigade in Syracuse, NY, and the 53rd Troop Command, Valhalla, NY.

Command Sergeant Major Wicks has served in every leadership position from Team Leader to Command Sergeant Major. He has also served as an Instructor at the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. In October 2003, CSM Wicks mobilized and deployed as the 2nd Battalion 108th Infantry and Task Force Hunter Command Sergeant Major to the Sunni Triangle, Iraq, serving as the Senior Noncommissioned Officer in the conduct of combat and stability operations of the Task Force during Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

His military education includes all four Non-commissioned Officers Development Courses culminating in his graduation from the Sergeants Major Academy in June of 2002. Command Sergeant Major Wicks has earned a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management from NYACK College.

Command Sergeant Major Wicks' awards and decorations include: Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with bronze oak leaf cluster), Army Commendation Medal (with 2 bronze oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal (with bronze oak leaf cluster), Good Conduct Medal (2nd Award), Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with 4 bronze oak leaf clusters), National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award), Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terror Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal ("M" device 4th award, bronze hourglass), the NCO Professional Development Ribbon (with numeral 4), Army Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, and the Combat Infantry Badge.

Yet, Command Sergeant Major Wicks' career is much more than a list of accolades. While those are important and serve as a testament to his knowledge, drive, and continual self-improvement, more important are the lives across New York, the United States, and the world that Command Sergeant Major Wicks' has impacted for the better. On behalf of all those individuals, directly or indirectly, impacted by Command Sergeant Major Wicks throughout his career I express my deepest appreciation for his leadership and wish him and his family the best in their next endeavor.

HONORING RAYMOND HARRY
GANTZ

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, communities find their strength in the dedicated individuals who offer their time and energy to benefit the public good. For the Yonkers community, Raymond Harry Gantz personified that strength and dedication for decades.

Ray was born to Ellen White and Harry R. Gantz in 1944. Following high school and college, he spent a few years serving his country in the Naval Reserve, stationed in the Great Lakes, and started a wonderful family. After leaving the service, Ray pursued a career in

sales, where his bubbly personality and gift of gab helped him sell everything from insurance to vitamins to Avon products.

Upon retiring, Ray decided to once again serve the public good by dedicating his time to several community organizations and groups in Yonkers. He served as Vice President of the Yonkers African American Heritage Committee; Board Member of the Nepperhan Community Center; Member of the Terrace City Lodge #1499 Senior Group #9; and Board Member and Advisor of Jefferson Terrace Resident Council Association.

A doting and proud grandfather, Ray could always be found with a smile on his face and a joke ready, products of his overall happy disposition. He stayed busy in retirement beyond his community work, returning in recent years to sales where he tried his hand at being a vendor at various flea markets, festivals and craft fairs.

Sadly, Ray passed away on June 7, 2014 at the age of 69, surrounded by the friends and family he loved so, all of whom he touched in some special way. Although he is gone, the legacy Ray has left and the work he did to better his community will live forever, and I am proud to honor him and his life here today.

RECOGNIZING PROPHETSTOWN,
ILLINOIS

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the people of Prophetstown, Illinois, on the one year anniversary of the tragic fire that destroyed over half of their historic downtown.

The massive fire destroyed eight buildings and damaged two others in a blaze that took two dozen first responders hours to put out.

While this fire was devastating, seeing the people of Prophetstown come together in its aftermath has been truly inspiring.

They rallied together behind the town slogan "Prophetstown Strong" and worked together to support the individuals and businesses who were impacted by this tragedy.

On July 15, they will again come together to recognize the first responders who saved a woman's life one year ago and to break ground for a new building in their historic downtown.

I am honored to recognize the people of Prophetstown today and to represent them in Congress each and every day. They truly demonstrate the best of what a community can accomplish by working together.

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF
ROCHESTER'S LABORATORY FOR
LASER ENERGETICS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that H.R. 4923, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2015, provided \$68 million for the University of Rochester's Laboratory for Laser

Energetics (LLE), a \$4 million increase over last year.

I strongly support this funding for LLE, which is a unique national resource and one of the crown jewels of New York State. One of two lasers at LLE, the OMEGA laser is the world's second most powerful ultraviolet fusion laser in the world. The second of LLE's lasers, the OMEGA EP (Extended Performance) laser, is a high-intensity, high-energy short-pulse laser. The LLE is a vital component of our nation's scientific capital and leadership, a key to strategic work on an independent energy future, a leader in developing innovative approaches to enhancing our national security, and a crucial part of New York's high-tech economy. It also serves as the principal laser research facility for Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories.

The LLE has attracted nearly \$2 billion to the State of New York and more than 1,000 individuals whose jobs are tied to the program. The laser lab also provides a strong stimulus to the local economy through start-up companies such as QED Technologies, Lucid Inc., and Sydor Instruments, fueling New York State's rapidly growing high-technology sector. Through the National Laser Users Facility, the LLE attracts as many as 300 additional scientists each year from national laboratories, universities, and companies, and continues to produce some of the best and brightest Master's and Ph.D. students.

If there's any place the Federal Government should be investing, it's in the laser lab's research programs, which create jobs through the creation of spin-off companies. The work they are doing in high energy density research is remarkable, working every day to get us closer to energy independence and enhance our national security. I am proud of the LLE's contribution to the vibrant, growing high-tech community of Rochester.

GINGER ANDENUCIO
CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ginger Andenucio, an educator from Pueblo, Colorado. After 36 years of service in Pueblo County District 70, Ms. Andenucio is retiring to spend time with her family and friends.

Ms. Andenucio has had an exemplary career as an educator and an administrator in District 70. Long before she began her career as a teacher, she was a student in the District, and after college, Ms. Andenucio was drawn to working in there. During her time in the classroom, she would teach at the elementary, middle and high school levels. After teaching for 20 years, Ms. Andenucio began working in the administration, where she was tasked with building District 70's gifted and talented program. From there, she climbed the ladder, eventually becoming the Assistant Superintendent. Under her leadership, District 70 launched programs such as Gateway to Technology, the International Baccalaureate program, and Project Lead the Way. Ms. Andenucio also led the transition to modernize classrooms by bringing laptops and Promethean boards to schools. Throughout this period, she has had one goal in mind, to create a better learning experience for the students of District 70.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Andenucio's hard work and dedication are an example to us all. I stand with the residents of Pueblo County and the students and parents of District 70 in thanking Ms. Andenucio and congratulating her on a lifetime of service. Although she is retiring from her current post, I am confident she will continue to be a valuable part of her community, and I look forward to seeing all she will accomplish in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY'S INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 40th anniversary of the 1974 Turkish invasion of Cyprus and to call for the end to Turkey's continued and illegal occupation.

The Greek Cypriot community continues to struggle and face the denial of its fundamental human rights. Turkish troops and colonists from mainland Turkey based in the occupied area prevent thousands of Greek Cypriots from returning to their homes, and those who chose to stay in the occupied region face daily threats and discrimination. Their properties are often confiscated or sold without their consent. They face daily religious persecution, as Turkish troops restrict access to and destroy religious sites, and constrain freedom of worship.

Turkey continues to obstruct attempts to discover the fate of military and civilian personnel who have been unaccounted for since the invasion 40 years ago. Turkey has prevented the exhumation of mass graves in its restricted military areas, even under the offer of U.N. supervision.

Fortunately, Cyprus's government continues in its commitment to a U.N.-sponsored process to reach a lasting solution that would create a bizonal, bicommunal federation respectful of the human rights of all Cypriots, Greek or Turkish. Last year, President Anastasiades proposed several measures which would significantly contribute to the negotiating process, and recently, the leaders of both Cypriot communities issued a Joint Statement which lays a strong foundation for future talks. The United States has welcomed both of these developments as crucial steps toward a lasting solution. Regrettably, the Turkish government has not only rejected all of these proposals, but also exercises "gunboat diplomacy" to interfere with legal oil and gas explorations in the Cypriot Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Forty years is too long for a people to be denied their basic rights. It is too long to be separated from one's family and one's home. It is time to make Cyprus an example of reconciliation, peace, and stability for the eastern Mediterranean, and for the international community at-large.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 403—"aye" (MTR) and rollcall No. 404—"no" (final passage H.R. 4718).

RECOGNIZING DR. SHAINY VARGHESE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Shainy Varghese, an assistant professor at the University of Houston—Victoria (UHV) School of Nursing, who is a recipient of the Nurses.com Giving Excellence Meaning Award of Texas. Dr. Varghese is the first person from UHV to receive the award. Her award came in the House, Community and Ambulatory Care category. Varghese and five other Texas finalists will advance to the national contest where they will compete with nurses from other regions.

It was Dr. Varghese's community involvement that set her apart from the three other regional finalists. She started her own nurse-managed clinic, which is rare for a nurse practitioner, and gives medical care to anyone in need. This clinic has improved access to primary care in Fort Bend County. Aside from this award, Dr. Varghese was awarded the Excellence in Nursing Bronze Medal by the Good Samaritan Foundation in 2012. She has been a permanent member of the staff at UHV since 2009 where her research specialty is telehealth.

Our community is lucky to have Dr. Varghese who is actively making a difference in our community and educating our future nurses. On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, best of luck to Dr. Varghese and congratulations on becoming a finalist for this prestigious award.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ENDING THE 40 YEAR DIVISION OF CYPRUS

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 40th anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. In 1974, Turkey invaded the island of Cyprus reportedly to protect Turkish Cypriots from tensions with Greek Cypriots. Turkey then launched a second phase of the invasion which resulted in 1,500 missing Greek Cypriots, an estimated 5,000 civilian deaths and 170,000 refugees. In 1983, the Turkish Cypriot occupied area declared itself the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, though it has never been recognized by any country other than Turkey.

Currently, around 40,000 Turkish troops patrol the occupied area, making the northern

part of Cyprus one of the most highly militarized areas in the world. Thousands of Greek Cypriots are being denied their fundamental right to return to their homes. Greek Cypriot properties are constantly being confiscated or sold without their owners' consent. Freedom of worship continues to be restricted as access to religious sites are blocked and systematically destroyed. Furthermore, Turkey continues to obstruct the process of determining the fate of persons missing since the invasion by prohibiting the exhumation of remains from mass graves.

Thankfully, the Cyprus Government remains fully committed to the United Nations (U.N.) sponsored process to reach a sustainable settlement that would reunify Cyprus based on a bizonal, bicomunal federation in accordance with relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions. Additionally, the President of Cyprus has outlined several promising measures that contributed an atmosphere that would facilitate the negotiating process. In February 2014, the leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities resumed formal negotiations. The promotion of security and stability in the region is a vital foreign policy issue to the United States, and the anniversary of the Turkish invasion should serve as a reminder that it is well past time to end the forcible division of Cyprus.

PEARLAND FORCE WINS TEXAS
STATE TITLE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pearland Force softball team for winning the Texas state title in their division of the Amateur Softball Association (ASA). The Pearland Force played hard and won seven consecutive games in a great display of teamwork and athleticism to win the championship tournament.

As a young fastpitch team that has already achieved so much, I'm excited to see their next accomplishments in both their community and athletic endeavors.

Congratulations to the Pearland Force coaches and players—Brent Marek, Stephanie Reyes, Pilo Garcia, Jr., Stephen Borden, Nichole Mann, Stephanie Lopez, Bayleigh Borden, Isabella Reyes, Erin Connolly, Kyla Sides, Holly Vollman, Katie Bishop, Grace Atchison, Mya Martinez and Karyme Garcia. I wish the Pearland Force the best of luck in their upcoming ASA tournaments. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the coaches and players for this fantastic victory!

RIVERSIDE KAYAK CONNECTION
RECOGNITION

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give special recognition to the celebrated efforts of the Downriver Linked Greenways Ini-

tiative and in particular, its partner organization the Riverside Kayak Connection. The Riverside Kayak Connection, located in Wyandotte, Michigan, is a kayak and canoe shop that successfully launched as a result of the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative which began in 1999. This Riverside Kayak Connection is co-chaired by two very dedicated and community-oriented individuals who I am proud to call my friends: Marketing Director Anita Twardesky and Extension Educator Mary Bohling.

The ultimate objective of the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative and its partner organization, the Riverside Kayak Connection, is to create an efficient regional pathway system that will connect the twenty-one Downriver communities, Wayne, and Monroe Counties through a network of non-motorized trails and greenways. The Riverside Kayak Connection's Detroit River tours are immensely popular among citizens in the Downriver area of Michigan and have helped to create a greater sense of awareness as to the ecological and economic opportunities that are present in and around the watershed. Both Anita Twardesky and Mary Bohling have been invaluable in leading this environmental, community-driven effort. The Co-Chairs offer a variety of services to assist communities in their greenway and water trail efforts, including technical consultation, project management, meeting facilitation, and grant writing assistance.

Anita Twardesky is an accomplished and respected recreation and trails professional. She also serves as Public Relations & Community Outreach for Riverside Kayak Connection where she is responsible for promoting outdoor recreation, paddle sports, and the ecotourism in the area. Formerly, she served as Parks & Recreation Director for the cities of Woodhaven and Flat Rock. Her appointments include Co-Chair of the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative, Chair of the Trails Committee for the Michigan Recreation & Parks Association, and member of the State Wide Advisory Group Michigan Water Trails.

Mary Bohling, besides co-chairing the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative, is also Co-Founder and Board Member of the International Wildlife Refuge Alliance, a non-profit organization created to support the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. She also chairs the Michigan Statewide Public Advisory Council as well, developing and implementing fisheries and wildlife habitat restoration projects.

The Riverside Kayak Connection has become an essential aspect of the Downriver community's effort to promote an efficient, environmentally friendly regional system that encourages a variety of travel options. I strongly appreciate and admire the hard work and dedication that the Riverside Kayak Connection has given to my district and the Downriver community in developing and encouraging diversity of travel. Today I express my sincerest thanks to the Co-Chairs of this great organization as they continue to make our waterways and greenways a treasure for generations to come.

COMMENDING KENDALL
SHEFFIELD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kendall Sheffield for being named the 2013–14 Gatorade Texas Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Kendall will be a senior at Thurgood Marshall High School in Missouri City, Texas this fall. This prestigious award recognizes Kendall both for being an outstanding student, as well as the top high school boys track & field athlete in all of Texas.

His track records place him in the top five high school showing of 2014, winning the 110-meter high hurdles (13.63 seconds) and the 300-meter intermediate hurdles (36.34 seconds) at this spring's 4A state meet. Kendall is also an asset in his community. He maintains a B average, is a member of the football team, is active in his church and volunteers with the elderly in his community and the local food bank.

On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Kendall Sheffield for winning the 2013–14 Gatorade Texas Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. We look forward to his continued success on and off the field.

HONORING ABBVIE FOR ITS OUT-
STANDING COMMITMENT TO IM-
PROVE THE ACADEMIC OPPOR-
TUNITIES FOR LOCAL STUDENTS
FROM THE CITY OF NORTH CHI-
CAGO

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am most proud to rise today to honor AbbVie, a leading global biopharmaceutical company based in Illinois's 10th District, for its incredible commitment to enhance the educational opportunities available to local students in its hometown, the City of North Chicago.

In today's economy, education is a prerequisite for success, providing students with the tools and skillsets they need to climb the ladder of opportunity, realize their potential and accomplish their ambitions. We must dedicate ourselves to providing all children, regardless of zip code, with access to high-quality, affordable education so that they may fully develop their individual talents.

AbbVie recently launched its inaugural "Week of Possibilities," a volunteer service initiative focused on helping revitalize the City of North Chicago. Working alongside its nonprofit partner, Heart of America Foundation, AbbVie hopes to transform four North Chicago School libraries with innovative new layouts and refurbished interiors.

In addition, each library will receive nearly 2,000 new books and high-tech new equipment, including iPads. On the first day of school, all of the students will go home with seven new books of their own.

This effort shows the tremendous impact that successful businesses and business leaders can have by giving back to their local communities. Thanks to AbbVie's outstanding commitment to service, more children will have the opportunity to pursue their passions and achieve their dreams.

CONGRATULATING PEARLAND ISD
TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Taresa Jacobsen of Lawhon Ele-

mentary and Mark Lesmeister of Dawson High School for winning Pearland Independent School District's 2014 Teachers of the Year.

Mrs. Jacobsen has been a teacher for seven years, spending her last four at Lawhon Elementary. She has been a great asset for her students and works hard to keep their parents aware of their children's progress in the classroom. She takes the time to get to know her students well and incorporates that knowledge in her teaching.

Mr. Lesmeister joined the Dawson High School faculty in 2008 and is helping to design the physics program. Thanks to his passion for teaching, he encourages many of his students to consider a career in teaching themselves and strongly believes students should

graduate with a scientific understanding in order to make rational decisions.

I wish Mrs. Jacobsen and Mr. Lesmeister the best of luck in their teaching careers and thank them both for going above and beyond for their students. Great teachers help develop future leaders. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Taresa Jacobsen and Mark Lesmeister for their commitment to teaching and for earning the Pearland ISD 2014 Teachers of the Year!

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 16

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold a joint hearing to examine options for assuring domestic space access.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection
To hold hearings to examine what makes a bank systemically important.

SD-538

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert W. Holleyman II, of Louisiana, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, and Cary Douglas Pugh, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the Protocol Amending the Convention between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and its Protocol, signed at Madrid on February 22, 1990 (Treaty Doc.113-04), The Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Poland for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed on February 13, 2013, at Warsaw (Treaty Doc.113-05), H.R. 4028, to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to include the desecration of cemeteries among the many forms of violations of the right to religious freedom, S. 2577, to require the Secretary of State to offer rewards totaling up to \$5,000,000 for information on the kidnapping and murder of Naftali Fraenkel, a dual United States-Israeli citizen, that began on June 12, 2014, S. Res. 498, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States sup-

port for the State of Israel as it defends itself against unprovoked rocket attacks from the Hamas terrorist organization, S. Res. 500, expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to enhanced relations with the Republic of Moldova and support for the Republic of Moldova's territorial integrity, and the nominations of Alfonso E. Lenhardt, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Marcia Denise Occomy, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Director of the African Development Bank.

S-116
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine challenges at the border, focusing on examining and addressing the root of the causes behind the rise in apprehensions at the Southern Border.

SD-342

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the state of Veterans' Affairs health care.

SD-G50

2:15 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine phone scams, focusing on progress and potential solutions.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security

To hold hearings to examine strengthening trade enforcement to protect American enterprise and grow American jobs.

SD-138

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine consumer choice, consolidation and the future video marketplace.

SR-253

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of the Interior's land buy-back program.

SD-628

3 p.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife

To hold hearings to examine S. 571, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a deadline for restricting sewage dumping into the Great Lakes and to fund programs and activities for improving wastewater discharges into the Great Lakes, S. 1153, to establish an improved regulatory process for injurious wildlife to prevent the introduction and establishment in the United States of nonnative wildlife and wild animal pathogens and parasites that are likely to cause harm, S. 1175, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a program to provide loans and loan guarantees to enable eligible public entities to acquire interests in real property that are in compliance with habitat conservation plans approved by the Secretary of the Interior under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, S. 1202, to establish an integrated Federal program to respond to ongoing and expected impacts of extreme weather and climate change by protecting, restoring, and conserving the natural resources of the United States, and to maximize government efficiency and reduce costs, in cooperation with State, local, and trib-

al governments and other entities, S. 1232, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to protect and restore the Great Lakes, H.R. 1300, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer programs and community partnerships for the benefit of national wildlife refuges, S. 1381, to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, S. 1650, to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to exempt certain Alaska Native articles from prohibitions against sale of items containing nonedible migratory bird parts, S. 2225, to provide for a smart water resource management pilot program, S. 2530, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the importation or exportation of mussels of certain genus, and S. 2560, to authorize the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to seek compensation for injuries to trust resources and use those funds to restore, replace, or acquire equivalent resources.

SD-406

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South and Central Asian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine reenergizing United States-India ties.

SD-419

JULY 17

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., USMC, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Commandant of the Marine Corps, Department of Defense.

SD-G50

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Pamela Harris, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Pamela Pepper, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, Brenda K. Sannes, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York, and Patricia M. McCarthy, of Maryland, and Jeri Kaylene Somers, of Virginia, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance

To hold hearings to examine accountability and corporate culture in wake of the General Motors (GM) recalls.

SR-253

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the role of trade and technology in 21st century manufacturing.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Central America in crisis and the exodus of unaccompanied minors.

SD-419

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging

To hold hearings to examine the need to improve patient safety and reduce preventable deaths.

SD-430

10:30 a.m.
 Committee on Appropriations
 Business meeting to markup proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of Defense.

SD-106

2 p.m.
 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 To hold hearings to examine the Federal reserve portfolio, focusing on capitalizing on investments in research and development.

SR-253

Committee on Foreign Relations
 To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of Bangladesh, and David Pressman, of New York, to be Alternate Representative of the United States of America for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be an Alternate Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Alternate Representative for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, both of the Department of State.

SD-419

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

SH-219

JULY 22

9:30 a.m.
 Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
 Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
 To hold hearings to examine abuse of structured financial products, focusing on misusing barrier options to avoid taxes and leverage limits, including a set of transactions that utilize financial engineering and structured financial products.

SH-216

10 a.m.
 Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
 To hold hearings to examine anti-semitism, racism and discrimination in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) region, including xenophobia, discrimination against Christians, and members of other religions, and intolerance and discrimination against Muslims.

SD-562

JULY 23

10 a.m.
 Committee on Rules and Administration
 To hold hearings to examine S. 2516, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, focusing on the need for expanded public disclosure of funds raised and spent to influence Federal elections.

SR-301

2:30 p.m.
 Committee on Indian Affairs
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian gaming, focusing on the next 25 years.

SD-628

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
 To hold hearings to examine empowering women entrepreneurs, focusing on understanding successes, addressing persistent challenges, and identifying new opportunities.

SH-216

JULY 30

2:30 p.m.
 Committee on Indian Affairs
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine responses to natural disasters in Indian country.

SD-628