

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING HELEN MADDOX ON
HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very special woman on a very special day—her 100th birthday. Helen Maddox was born on her family's small family farm in Romulus, Michigan on July 28, 1914.

She was the youngest of three and admits that while she was surrounded by love, life back then wasn't always easy. There was always a long list of chores that included taking care of the animals and helping with the crops.

Helen worked at a roadside stand selling fruits and vegetables and says her curly hair was a great marketing tool. People would stop because of her cute curls, and then buy something.

Her parents were community leaders and that is a trait that rubbed off on Helen.

Like many people who weren't lucky enough to be born in Texas, she moved there as an adult. She immediately became involved in the small, but growing community of Arlington, Texas. Back then it was a town of just 15,000, now it is close to 400,000. Helen Maddox played a role in making it a big city with a small town feel.

She started attending city council meetings so she could keep up with what was going on and support city leaders. Helen founded the Arlington Women's Club in 1957 and it is still going strong. She also worked with longtime Mayor Tom Vandergriff to organize the YMCA.

She and her late husband loved to travel, many times hitting the road in their Winnebago.

Helen slowly got more involved in Republican politics. In 1986 she got an invitation to have tea at the White House with Nancy Reagan.

When Arlington became part of my district 20 years ago, Helen was one of the first people to welcome me. She was 80 at the time, but still full of life and her love of Arlington and America was infectious.

As she hits 100 she is still active in the community. I am proud today to say Happy 100th Birthday to my friend—Helen Maddox!

HONORING THE HON. JAMES B.
KANE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable James B. Kane Jr., distinguished veteran and former chief administrative judge for the New York State Su-

preme Court, Eighth Judicial District of Western New York, on the occasion of his 90th Birthday.

Born July 21, 1924 to Helen and James B. Kane Sr., Judge Kane enlisted in the Army Air Forces at 18 years of age. Quickly, this young man from Navaho Parkway in South Buffalo, New York found himself over Europe as a navigator on a B-17 "Flying Fortress" bomber. Shot down twice over a span of thirty missions, First Lieutenant Kane was one of two survivors of a nine man crew that had just bombed a German rail yard and survived another attack close to Berlin.

His calm, cool courage under fire earned him the Distinguished Flying Cross, an Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters and other notable recognitions by the time this he was 20 years old and back home in Buffalo. He then enrolled in Canisius College, working as a City of Buffalo firefighter and using the G.I. Bill to pay his tuition. Georgetown Law School was the next stop for this veteran.

Following graduation, the practice of law and the art of politics would set the path for this outstanding jurist as he rose from Buffalo City Court to Erie County Family Court to serving with great distinction on the New York State Supreme Court, during which time his leadership and steady hand as chief administrative judge for the Eighth Judicial District earned praise in all corners of the community. His more than capable stewardship earned him many honors including awards from Canisius College as well as the Erie County Bar Association.

While Judge Kane's outstanding and lifelong commitment to the law and public service is worthy of recognition, it is his devotion to family which earns him our highest praise and greatest appreciation. A devoted husband to Marie for more than 60 years, the Judge and Mrs. Kane are the proud parents of 10 children and 14 grandchildren. His only brother, Donald, passed away earlier this year but their unbreakable bond remains a strong and shining example to their families and all who saw them together of the true meaning of brotherly love.

On July 20, the family and friends of this extraordinary man will gather at the home of his son, Orchard Park Village Judge Daniel Kane and his wife, Dr. Kathleen Kane, to celebrate and congratulate Judge James B. Kane Jr. for 90 years of exemplary leadership and dedication to his country, community, family and faith.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, I am proud to offer my best wishes for continued health and happiness to Judge Kane, his wife, Marie and his loving, large and very proud family.

IN SUPPORT OF A RESOLUTION OF
THE CYPRUS ISSUE

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in calling for a resolution of what seems to have become the never-ending division of the island of Cyprus. I speak not of a resolution that casts blame for what has gone before, but one that reunites both Cypriot communities and allows the island as a whole to chart a path forward within the international community.

In much of the historical rhetoric surrounding this issue, what sometimes gets lost is that all Cypriots—Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots—have legitimate grievances. Any resolution of the Cyprus question must respect the rights of all Cypriots. All Cypriots must be allowed to participate freely in the island's national life. Finally, the international isolation of the Turkish Cypriot community must come to an end. The overwhelming vote ten years ago by Turkish Cypriots to end the status quo and for the Annan Plan underlines the ridiculousness of Turkish Cypriot isolation.

As we observe this year the 40th anniversary of the island, and the 10th anniversary of the vote on the Annan Plan, the fact remains that two generations of Greek and Turkish Cypriots have known nothing but the status quo. It cannot be maintained for future generations. I call on the Administration and my colleagues to support and encourage the ongoing dialogue between both communities, so that a comprehensive settlement that encourages reunion and reconciliation can be secured.

RECOGNIZING MEDAL OF HONOR
RECIPIENT CORPORAL DUANE E.
DEWEY

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Medal of Honor Recipient, Corporal Duane Edgar Dewey for his commendable service in the Korean War.

Corporal Dewey was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He stayed in Michigan until he signed with the Marine Corps Reserve on March 7, 1951, at the age of 19. Corporal Dewey served in the United States Marine Corps from 1951–1952. During his years of service, Corporal Dewey served in Korea, where he was a part of the 2nd Battalion of the 5th Marines.

On April 16, 1952, Corporal Dewey was serving as leader of a machine gun squad with Company E, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division, near Panmunjom, Korea. During a skirmish with enemy troops, Corporal Dewey suffered numerous injuries due to a grenade that

● 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.

exploded at his feet. While Corporal Dewey was being treated for his wounds, another grenade was thrown that landed at the squad's position. Corporal Dewey grabbed the grenade and covered it with his body in order to protect his fellow soldiers. For his efforts, Corporal Dewey was the first person to receive the Medal of Honor from President Dwight D. Eisenhower on March 12, 1953.

Corporal Dewey stands as a shining example of bravery and determination that all Americans strive toward. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Corporal Duane Edgar Dewey for his service to the United States of America.

STEVE STINSON

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Southwest Washington native, Steve Stinson. After battling an advanced form of Leiomyosarcoma for more than two years, Steve passed away at the age of 52 on July 17, 2014.

As a family man, small forest owner, and friend to countless people across our state, Steve encompassed the very essence of Southwest Washington. Alongside his father, Doug, Steve ran the Cowlitz Ridge Tree Farm in Toledo providing for multiple generations of the Stinson family. As President of the Family Farm Forestry Association, he was a tireless advocate for living off the land and preserving the beauty and history of natural resources. While his tenure was certainly not short of challenges Steve approached each of them with the positive attitude and vibrant personality so many of us admired.

Mr. Speaker, I have been lucky enough to work with Steve throughout my time in Congress, and my deepest sympathies and prayers are with Steve's wife, Lou Jean and all of his loved ones. While hundreds of folks in Southwest Washington are sad to see another angel depart for heaven, we can take some comfort in knowing the lasting effect Steve Stinson had on so many lives.

IN MEMORY OF CHRIS BILLA

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Chris Billa of Park City, KY. Only 26 years old, Chris lost his battle with cancer on July 14, 2014.

Chris was a son, father and brother. But many knew Chris as a local firefighter. Despite having his own personal battle with cancer, Chris continued to battle the fires in our own community.

WBKO, a TV station in Bowling Green, KY, named Chris a "Hometown Hero" in October 2013. In an interview with the station at the time, Larry Poteet, Deputy Chief said, "He's not changed. If anything has changed about

him its made him put everybody in front of him more, and I just don't know how he does it." It was Chris's commitment to serve his community and decisions to put others first that rightly caught the attention of so many.

While a community is in mourning, we are all lucky to have shared this earth with Chris. I am grateful for his passion for life and his desire to serve our community. We will miss him and are thankful for his service.

THE HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, water is a human right. I applaud the recent decision to suspend Detroit's water shutoffs for 15 days to enable residents to demonstrate financial hardship. This is a first step in preventing a regional public health crisis and protecting the basic rights of Detroit residents.

I submit the following editorial from the Detroit Free Press, which makes the case that recent water-shutoffs, which have been implemented with little or no warning to households, are wrong-headed and shortsighted.

[From the Detroit Free Press, July 21, 2014]

ENDING DETROIT'S WATER SHUT OFFS A GOOD START

On Monday morning, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department announced that it's calling a 15-day halt to an aggressive shutoff campaign that has left an unknown number of Detroiters without water.

It's a start.

The department has about 137,000 delinquent residential accounts totaling about \$75 million, and about 10,000 delinquent commercial accounts worth about \$23 million.

Folks who can pay should pay what they owe. But department officials have to accept that some Detroiters just can't pay—and further, that the department itself has created an expectation in customers juggling bills that it's OK to prioritize other debts. If the water department's goal is to get, and keep, delinquent customers current on bills, ramping up shutoffs with no warning to ratepayers was a wrong-headed, shortsighted way to proceed.

After weeks of public protest, harsh words from the United Nations, the federal judge overseeing Detroit's bankruptcy and this newspaper's Editorial Board, the department seems to get it.

Department officials say they plan a city-wide advertising blitz, complete with outreach to community groups and churches. That's excellent news, but outreach must be paired with concerted efforts to match impoverished residents with financial assistance to pay up and stay current.

The department should also consider income-based partial amnesty for ratepayers who are truly unable to catch up, or comparing data with social service agencies to identify customers who are in need of assistance.

The department must also identify vacant, abandoned homes and target those first. There's little excuse for cutting off water to families as a cost-saving tactic when empty buildings are flooding.

We've been told, confidently, by the folks in charge that no one who honestly cannot

afford to pay is being deprived of service; that's overconfidence at best, and outright dishonesty at worst, as documented in Free Press reporter Patricia Montemurri's story about conditions in the city this weekend.

Some adherents of the department's shut-off campaign have dismissed fears that disconnection from clean water and modern sanitation could lead to a public health crisis, noting that the vast majority of delinquent account holders pay up promptly and have water restored. But let's consider the reality of this situation: If just 10% of the ratepayers currently delinquent are unable to pay to have service restored, we're talking about more than 10,000 residents. It's terrible public policy.

All of this against the backdrop of the city's bankruptcy, and the department's efforts to clean up bad debt in an attempt to make a regional water authority more attractive to suburban county executives. (Though let's also keep in mind that aides to Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson wrote in a February report to the Oakland County Commission that "stoppage of water and sewer service for tens of thousands of fiscally distressed members of the system is unacceptable policy and one the Oakland County executive will never support.")

Detroit is a poor city. About 38% of residents live in poverty. Our unemployment rate is twice the national average. It's time to talk about what our goals are, and rethink how we deliver water.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OCCUPATION OF CYPRUS

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, July 20th marked the 40th anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus.

Forty years ago thousands of Turkish troops invaded and occupied the northern part of Cyprus. Thousands of Greek Cypriots were forced to flee their homes and many remain missing to this day.

Those forced to flee live as refugees within their own country as their former homes remain occupied or sold without notification or consent. Turkey also continues to obstruct the process of determining the fate of the persons missing since the invasion. Reports indicate that their remains were dumped in a mass grave, deemed as a classified military area, and are closed off to families of the missing.

Additionally, freedom of worship continues to be severely restricted, access to religious sites blocked, religious sites systematically destroyed and a large number of religious and archaeological objects stolen.

The continued occupation of the northern part of Cyprus undermines the unified democratic aspirations of our important ally.

Mr. Speaker, today I call for an end to the occupation and division of Cyprus and urge geographic, political, and economic unity. A strong and stable democracy in Cyprus is not only beneficial to its people but to its relationships with its allies around the world.

We must work to end the occupation of Cyprus for once and for all. I stand with Cyprus and urge an end to their 40 year occupation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF DENNIS KELLY AND THE DENNIS KELLY DIVISION OF THE ANCIENT ORDER OF THE HIBERNIANS

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dennis Kelly, who died 150 years ago yesterday, and the Dennis Kelly Division of the Ancient Order of the Hibernians.

In 1806 Dennis Kelly arrived from Ireland with his wife, Mary, and their daughter, Margaret, and settled in the Philadelphia area. Mr. Kelly entered the textile business and supplied cloth to the Army and Navy during the War of 1812, providing jobs to people in his local community. When Mr. Kelly died on July 21, 1864, he donated a part of his land for the establishment of St. Denis Church. Waves of immigrants from Ireland joined the parish and worked at Kelly's Cotton Mills.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, Dennis Kelly Division is located in Havertown, Pennsylvania. Founded in 2001, this Irish Catholic fraternal organization remains dedicated to promoting and preserving Irish and Irish-American heritage. The Ancient Order of Hibernians promotes values such as friendship, unity and charity. Over the years the group has supported numerous philanthropic causes in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, today's Havertown, locally known as Ireland's 33rd county, and the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania owe a great debt to Mr. Dennis Kelly, one of Havertown's most influential immigrants on this, the 150th anniversary of his death.

THE RETIREMENT OF MASTER SERGEANT RODNEY T. ERICKSON FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I recognize Master Sergeant Rodney T. Erickson for 30 years of exemplary service in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard.

MSgt. Erickson joined the Air National Guard on July 20, 1984, and for the past 30 years has admirably served his community, the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the United States of America. Throughout his career, he has received countless medals and awards honoring him such as the Air Force achievement medal, the Meritorious Unit Award, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, the National Defense Service Medal. He has also been the recipient of numerous Pennsylvania awards including the Pennsylvania Commendation Medal, the Pennsylvania Governors Unit Citation, the Pennsylvania 20 Year Service Medal, and the Pennsylvania General Thomas J. Stewart Medal.

MSgt. Erickson began his career as a member of the Propulsion Section, during which he was deployed overseas for multiple operations including Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and

Operation Enduring Freedom. Upon his promotion to become a Master Sergeant and supervisor of the Propulsion Section, he masterfully guided the group through a transitional phase of changing aircraft while many members of the unit were being deployed. Despite the limited manpower, through his leadership and example, the transition was successful and a highly trained workforce was able to maintain unit efficiency. Joining MSgt. Erickson in celebrating his retirement is his wife Dorothy and his children.

Mr. Speaker, MSgt. Rodney T. Erickson has been described as representing the very best of our citizen soldiers. I congratulate him and his family on his retirement from the Pennsylvania Air National Guard and thank him for his service to the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 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 \$17,599,556,606,441.85. We've added \$6,972,679,557,528.77 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.

NICHOLAS KRISTOF ON
"RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN PERIL"

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit a July 9 column by Nicholas Kristof of The New York Times. I have appreciated Mr. Kristof's advocacy on human rights issues over the years, particularly regarding the genocide in Darfur and ongoing violence in Sudan over the last decade. In this recent column, "Religious Freedom in Peril," he cuts through the empty gestures that often surround discussions of religious freedom abroad, and points out that the Muslim world is tragically disproportionate in apostasy and blasphemy laws, limits on religious activities and other constraints on religious freedom.

Of course, religious freedom is at risk throughout the world, and Muslims themselves face dire religious persecution from Burma to China to India. But recent news, including the advance of Islamic extremists in Iraq and the ongoing case of alleged apostate Meriam Ibrahim in Sudan, reminds us that citizens of many countries with Muslim majorities still deserve far greater justice and equality under the law.

I urge all my colleagues to read Mr. Kristof's column and keep it in mind as they consider ongoing events in the world.

[From The New York Times, July 9, 2014]

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN PERIL

(By Nicholas Kristof)

A Sudanese court in May sentences a Christian woman married to an American to

be hanged, after first being lashed 100 times, after she refuses to renounce her Christian faith.

Muslim extremists in Iraq demand that Christians pay a tax or face crucifixion, according to the Iraqi government.

In Malaysia, courts ban some non-Muslims from using the word "Allah."

In country after country, Islamic fundamentalists are measuring their own religious devotion by the degree to which they suppress or assault those they see as heretics, creating a human rights catastrophe as people are punished or murdered for their religious beliefs.

This is a sensitive area I'm wading into here, I realize. Islam-haters in America and the West seize upon incidents like these to denounce Islam as a malignant religion of violence, while politically correct liberals are reluctant to say anything for fear of feeding bigotry. Yet there is a real issue here of religious tolerance, affecting millions of people, and we should be able to discuss it.

I've been thinking about this partly because of the recent murder of a friend, Rashid Rehman, a courageous human rights lawyer in Multan, Pakistan. Rashid, a Muslim, had agreed to defend a university lecturer who faced the death penalty after being falsely accused of insulting the Prophet Muhammad. This apparently made Rashid a target as well, for two men walked into his office and shot him dead.

No doubt the killers thought themselves pious Muslims. Yet such extremists do far more damage to the global reputation of Islam than all the world's Islamophobes put together.

The paradox is that Islam historically was relatively tolerant. In 628, Muhammad issued a document of protection to the monks of St. Catherine's Monastery.

"No compulsion is to be on them," he wrote. "If a female Christian is married to a Muslim, it is not to take place without her approval. She is not to be prevented from visiting her church to pray."

Anti-Semitism runs deep in some Muslim countries today, but, for most of history, Muslims were more tolerant of Jews than Christians were. As recently as the Dreyfus Affair in France more than a century ago, Muslims defended a Jew from the anti-Semitism of Christians.

Likewise, the most extreme modern case of religious persecution involved Europeans trying to exterminate Jews in the Holocaust. Since then, one of the worst religious massacres was the killing of Muslims by Christians at Srebrenica in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

It's also true that some of the bravest champions of religious freedom today are Muslim. Mohammad Ali Dadkhah, an Iranian lawyer, represented a Christian pastor pro bono, successfully defending him from charges of apostasy. But Dadkhah was then arrested himself and is now serving a nine-year prison sentence.

Saudi Arabia may feud with Iran about almost everything else, but they are twins in religious repression. Saudis ban churches; it insults Islam to suggest it is so frail it cannot withstand an occasional church.

Particularly insidious in conservative Muslim countries is the idea that anyone born Muslim cannot become a Christian. That's what happened in the case I mentioned in Sudan: The court considered the woman, Meriam Ibrahim, a Muslim even though she had been raised a Christian by her mother. The court sentenced her to die for apostasy; that was overturned, and she is now sheltering with her family in the United States Embassy in Sudan, trying to get permission to leave the country.

A Pew Research Center study found Muslims victims of religious repression in about

as many countries as Christians. But some of the worst abuse actually takes place in Muslim-dominated countries. In Pakistan, for example, a brutal campaign has been underway against the Shiite minority. Likewise, Iran represses the peaceful Bahai, and similarly Pakistan and other countries brutally mistreat the Ahmadis, who see themselves as Muslims but are regarded as apostates. Pakistani Ahmadis can be arrested simply for saying, "peace be upon you."

All this is a sad index of rising intolerance, for Pakistan's first foreign minister was an Ahmadi; now that would be impossible.

I hesitated to write this column because religious repression is an awkward topic when it thrives in Muslim countries. Muslims from Gaza to Syria, Western Sahara to Myanmar, are already enduring plenty without also being scolded for intolerance. It's also true that we in the West live in glass houses, and I don't want to empower our own chauvinists or fuel Islamophobia.

Yet religious freedom is one of the most basic of human rights, and one in peril in much of the world. Some heroic Muslims, like my friend Rashid in Pakistan, have sacrificed their lives to protect religious freedom. Let's follow their lead and speak up as well, for silence would be a perversion of politeness.

HONORING THE AROOSTOOK FARM OF PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Aroostook Farm of Presque Isle, Maine as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

Since 1914, the Aroostook Farm has served as a center for agricultural research and development, not only for Presque Isle, but for the entire state of Maine. As part of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, the Aroostook Farm works in tandem with the University of Maine as a prominent research and development facility for the Maine potato industry, a staple crop in the state's agriculture. In more recent years, the Aroostook Farm has expanded their existing research to work toward developing sustainable agricultural practices.

On Wednesday, August 13th, the Aroostook Farm will recognize 100 years of research, community involvement, and advancement in agriculture. The Aroostook Farm embodies Maine values by representing the importance of agriculture and educational advancement, practices that have taken place on the farm for the last 100 years.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent the Aroostook Farm in Congress, and I am pleased to have this opportunity to help celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Aroostook Farm and its involved community, and wishing them well on this joyous occasion.

HONORING CHIEF STEVEN CURRAN

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Steven Curran for his 23 years of service with the United States Navy and congratulate him on his retirement.

Chief Curran currently serves with the Navy Medicine National Capital Area as the Senior Enlisted Leader for both the Navy Medical Support Detachment and the Human Resources Department of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. During his time with the Navy, he received three Navy Commendation Medals, five Navy Achievement Medals, Surface Warfare designation, the Command Career Counselor badge, the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal and various other unit and campaign medals.

His legacy of service also extends to the community, where, for decades, he has been involved in everything from acting as the President of the NHCQ Chief Petty Officer Association, to being a volunteer mentor in a high school student ministry.

After 20 years, Chief Curran is still happily married to the former Dawn LaPere, and they have two children. Emma, their first child, is eight years old and their son Sam will be two in September. After Chief Curran retires, the family will move to Savannah, GA where Chief Curran will be the Small Groups Pastor at Savannah Christian Church.

In honor of his years of commitment and sacrifice for his country, I am pleased to recognize Chief Steven Curran and offer my best wishes in his retirement from the U.S. Navy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall votes Nos. 428–432, I am not recorded because I was absent from the House of Representatives due to a family matter. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

On rollcall No. 428, had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall No. 429, had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall No. 430, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 431, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 432, had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

CONGRATULATING AND HONORING LIEUTENANT ALICE WARREN OF THE BAKER POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. BILL CASSIDY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lieutenant Alice Warren of the City of Baker Police Department, located in Louisiana's Sixth Congressional District. It is indeed a great honor and privilege to join Lt. Warren in commemorating and celebrating her sixteen years of dedicated service to the Baker community in the state of Louisiana.

Over the past sixteen years, Lt. Warren has worked in several capacities within the Baker Police Department. Lt. Warren began her career with the Department as a Communications Officer and was later promoted to Police Officer in the Uniform Patrol Division. Lt. Warren continued her ascent when she was promoted to Patrolman First Class and then to Sergeant. In September of 2011, Lt. Warren was elevated to the rank of Lieutenant. In this role, Lt. Warren holds the distinction as being the first and only female to hold this position with the Baker Police Department.

In addition to Lt. Warren's long record of accomplishment and achievement, she should also be commended for her courage, outstanding service and heroic sacrifice in protecting and defending the residents of the City of Baker on a daily basis. On behalf of the residents of Louisiana's Sixth Congressional District, I congratulate Lieutenant Alice Warren on her many outstanding years of service and her invaluable contribution to the Baker Police Department.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of July, in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-eighth.

URGING THE REUNIFICATION OF CYPRUS

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to an issue that is near and dear to many constituents in my district.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the decades-long struggle to find a common ground between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots. On July 20, 1974, Turkey deployed its military forces to the island of Cyprus, separating thousands of families from their homes and dividing the sovereign nation in half.

Today, there are still many challenges that the Greek and Turkish Cypriots need to resolve before reunification can take place. While the path won't be easy and it will take the political courage of both sides, I am confident that a peaceful resolution can be found.

On February 11, 2014, the two Cypriot leaders, Nicos Anastasiades and Dervish Eroglu, renewed negotiations for a Cyprus settlement. This Joint Statement reflects the spirit of compromise and lays down a solid foundation for result-oriented talks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in urging for the peaceful reunification of the island of Cyprus and I call upon the United States to do everything it can to support both sides in this process.

SUPPORTING UNANIMOUS DECISION OF U.S. SENTENCING COMMISSION MAKING RETROACTIVE THE REDUCTION IN SENTENCING GUIDELINES APPLICABLE TO MOST FEDERAL DRUG TRAFFICKING OFFENDERS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud the unanimous vote of the U.S. Sentencing Commission to apply retroactively the reduction in the sentencing guideline levels applicable to most federal drug trafficking offenders.

This action is welcome news to the families and loved ones of the estimated 46,290 persons eligible to have their cases reviewed by a judge to determine if their sentence should be reduced by on average of 25 months, or as much as 18.8 percent.

The United States incarcerates nearly 25 percent of the world's inmates, even though it only has 5 percent of the world's population. Thirty years ago, there were less than 30,000 inmates in the federal system; today, there are nearly 216,000, an increase of 800 percent.

This over-crowding of our federal prison system—at an annual cost of about \$6.5 billion—is the direct and proximate result of the proliferation of offenses carrying mandatory-minimums and the discriminatory 100–1 disparity between crack and powder cocaine sentences in federal law.

African Americans and Hispanics comprise more than 6 in 10 federal inmates incarcerated for drug offenses. And African American offenders receive sentences that are 10 percent longer than white offenders for the same crimes and are 21 percent more likely to receive mandatory-minimum sentences than white defendants according to the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

The decision by the U.S. Sentencing Commission is particularly gratifying to those of us who worked tirelessly over the last two decades to restore balance and justice to federal drug sentencing policy.

In 2005, I introduced the “No More Tulias Act of 2005” (H.R. 2620) in response to the infamous drug task force scandal in Tulia, Texas that occurred six years earlier, during which 15 percent of the town's African American population was arrested, prosecuted and sentenced to decades in prison based on the uncorroborated testimony of a federally funded undercover officer with a record of racial impropriety.

Later, in 2007, I introduced the “Drug Sentencing Reform and Cocaine Kingpin Trafficking Act of 2007” (H.R. 4545), bipartisan legislation eliminating the unjust and discriminatory 100 to 1 disparity between crack and powder cocaine sentences in federal law. Companion legislation in the Senate was introduced by then Senator JOSEPH BIDEN of Delaware (S. 1711).

Three years later, this effort bore fruit when the Congress passed and President Obama signed into law the “Fair Sentencing Act of 2010” (P.L. 111–220), which finally ended the 100:1 ratio that had resulted in unconscionable racial disparities in the average length of sentences for comparable offenses.

But a large gap remained in the justice provided by this landmark legislation: its provisions were not retroactive. That gap has been filled today by the unanimous vote of the Sentencing Commission.

Beginning in November of this year, all federal inmates sentenced under the old regime are to be afforded the opportunity to have their sentences reconsidered under the provisions of current law, and those eligible for release may be reunited with their families and loved ones as early as November 2015.

Mr. Speaker, the vote today by the Sentencing Commission is a giant step in the right direction as it makes federal drug sentencing policy and practice fairer for all, helps save the taxpayers millions of dollars annually, and reaffirms the premise that the men and women who have paid their debt to society are worthy of a second chance to redeem their lives and contribute to their communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed the vote on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule. Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on rollcall No. 428.

A TRIBUTE TO MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY JOURNAL'S DR. TERENCE N. THOMAS SCHOLARSHIP ANNUAL BRUNCH

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Milwaukee Community Journal's Dr. Terence N. Thomas Scholarship Annual Brunch. The Dr. Terence N. Thomas Scholarship Annual Brunch celebrates its 38th anniversary at the Italian Conference Center on Sunday, August 3, 2014. The annual event was established in 1996 to promote academic excellence and to pay tribute to the publisher's deceased and beloved son, Dr. Terence N. Thomas. This fund has granted over a half million dollars to students who retain a 3.0 cumulative grade average or better.

Much of the success of the Milwaukee Community Journal can be attributed to one of its founders and Publisher, Patricia O'Flynn Pattillo. The Milwaukee Community Journal evolved from a publication called the Soul City Shopper, following the 1965 riots in Milwaukee. Insurance companies had refused to pay businesses for damages incurred during the riots. Ms. Pattillo was encouraged by business leaders to assume the role of editor of the publication. She penned a barrage of editorials that eventually pressured the insurance companies to uphold their obligations by paying claims so that repairs could be made and that businesses could reopen. This effort was dubbed The Unity in the Community Campaign; it was very successful and mobilized the entire community.

In addition to the scholarships, the brunch will honor many of those individuals who took part in that Unity in Community mobilization. The brunch's theme, “Inspiration Meets Aspiration”: Fabulous, Fit, Fun and Fantastic: Unit-ing Generations,” will focus on the many and varied contributions to our community of those individuals 50 and older. The honorees contributions have been broad and vast and have been the foundation for Milwaukee's central city community.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that the Milwaukee Community Journal hails from the 4th Congressional District. It has consistently informed and entertained readers for nearly 38 years. I am pleased to give praise to Patricia O'Flynn Pattillo and her staff for providing a voice to the community and offering educational opportunities to students. I wish them many more years of success.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BEATLES' HISTORIC VISIT TO OREGON COUNTY, MISSOURI

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th Anniversary of The Beatles's historic weekend visit to Oregon County, Missouri. In 1964 The Beatles visited The Ozarks of Oregon County, Missouri in September for a weekend of rest and relaxation at the Pigman Ranch.

I also would like to recognize the Ozarks of Oregon County, Missouri as the official September 19, 1964 weekend destination of John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr. The Alton Community Foundation is conducting the Ozarks Beatlemania Festival on the 12th and 13th of September this fall to celebrate this historic event in the Ozarks. The community of Alton looks forward to sharing the history and stories of the Fab Four's visit to nearby Pigman Ranch on September of 1964. Although Pigman Ranch is no longer owned by the Pigman family, the stories, the mystique and the uniqueness of the ranch remain.

With the Ozark Beatlemania Festival approaching, in which I am eager to attend, it is my pleasure to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the visit made by The Beatles to Oregon County, Missouri, before the House of Representatives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 425 on July 16, 2014, I was unavoidably detained on my way to the House floor owing to a constituent meeting and consequently missed the Massie of Kentucky amendment vote to H.R. 5016. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

HONORING THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE JOINT IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE DEFEAT ORGANIZATION, MAJOR GENERAL PATRICK HIGGINS

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major General Patrick M. Higgins, Deputy Director of the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, or JIEDDO, who will retire from the United States Army on September 1, 2014, after 34 years of distinguished service. In his final tour of duty, Major General Higgins led efforts to disrupt threat networks that support, supply and employ IEDs globally. Through his contributions, JIEDDO has made significant strides in reducing the effectiveness of the IEDs and eliminating the enemy networks that seek to use these devices to harm our troops.

Major General Higgins has commanded within the special operations community at the detachment, battalion and group levels, culminating in assignment as the Commander, Joint Forces Special Operations Component Command in Iraq. He has served in numerous special operations staff assignments and director-level positions within the Joint Staff.

Major General Higgins has earned numerous awards and decorations including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with "V" device, Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, among others.

I am proud to share in the celebration of Major General Higgins' long and distinguished military career. I would also like to congratulate his wife, Susan, and his three daughters, Sarah, Emily and Jessica, whose love and support has aided and strengthened Major General Higgins throughout his career. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

HONORING THE FLORIDA STATE CHAPTER OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Florida State Chapter of the U.S. Air Force Association (AFA) in celebration of its 50th anniversary.

On Saturday, July 26, the AFA will hold its annual state conference in West Palm Beach, Florida. It is a privilege to represent constituents who are so deeply committed to the education, advocacy, and support necessary to maintain America's dominance in aerospace that helps keep our Nation secure.

From issuing scholarships and supporting STEM programs in elementary schools, to restoring and preserving Air Force fighter aircrafts, Florida's AFA chapter has been a tremendous advocate in the South Florida community.

I am proud to recognize the Florida Chapter and the entire AFA community for their achievements in promoting aerospace power and enhancing aerospace and science education for South Florida's next generation of leaders.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM D. MAGWOOD IV

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my thanks to a dedicated public servant who is moving on to another important assignment. Bill Magwood, currently a Commissioner on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), will depart for Paris in September to serve as the Director General of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Nuclear Energy Agency. I want to wish Bill and his wife Janet all the best as they embark on this great adventure. I know Bill will do a wonderful job in this new position.

As a Member of Congress representing Idaho's second congressional district, I got to know Bill as the Director of the Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy. In that capacity, Bill played an instrumental role in forming the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) as the nation's lead lab for nuclear energy and that designation has served the nation, the nuclear energy industry and the State of Idaho very well. Bill Magwood's vision for INL and creative institutions such as the Center for Advanced Energy Studies has exceeded all of our expectations and we owe Bill a debt of gratitude for his foresight and perseverance.

After leaving the Department of Energy and working in the private sector for a few years, Bill was asked by President Obama to return to government service and serve on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Bill accepted this challenge, but I do not believe he or anyone else had any idea of what was in store for him Under Bill's watch at the NRC, the Fukushima disaster hit Japan and the NRC was thrust into the spotlight to explain the situation to the American people. At the same time, the NRC was faced with serious internal challenges, which Bill met with courage and conviction, and for this he deserves our recognition and praise.

Bill Magwood has served his country with honor and distinction and I want to offer my praise as he moves on to his new international leadership role.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th year of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The General Council of the Assemblies of God began in Hot Springs, Arkansas in 1914 with 300 people and has called Springfield,

Missouri its home since 1918, and we are proud to call them our neighbors in the 7th Congressional District. This broad coalition of ministers decided to work together to fulfill common goals by providing fellowship, establishing schools, and sending missionaries abroad. Since 1914, the Assemblies of God has grown to more than 67 million adherents in over 366,000 churches worldwide.

In these 100 years, Assemblies of God members have preached the gospel, prayed for the sick, witnessed miracles, published profound insights on the spiritual life, and established churches, schools, orphanages, and rescue missions. The Assemblies of God's dedication and loyalty to their members and employees has become a vital part of the Springfield community. Their outreach and sponsorship of higher education is a true testament of their fellowship and values. The General Council has formed close relationships to local businesses and universities, creating a network that values community, education, and friendship. It is an honor to recognize the General Council for their leadership and service.

I am confident the work of the General Council of the Assemblies of God will continue to make a positive impact in the area over the next 100 years.

A TRIBUTE TO RAY ALPERT—ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, our community lost a true friend and major benefactor on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 with the passing of Ray Alpert at the age of 87.

Ray and his wife, Barbara, were known throughout Long Beach for their generosity and passion for organizations that helped support the Jewish community. Over the decades, Ray and his wife Barbara donated millions of dollars to the Jewish Federation of Greater Long Beach and West Orange County and its partner agencies, the Alpert Jewish Community Center, Long Beach Hillel, Jewish Family and Children's Service and the Hebrew Academy of Huntington Beach.

From its inception, the Alpert Foundation has provided the Long Beach and Western Orange County Jewish Federation with its largest annual gift. In 1997, their lead donation to the Federation was instrumental in creating the 85,000 square foot Alpert Jewish Community Center, whose comprehensive programs and facilities now serve almost every segment of our community. "The Alpert Jewish Community Center is forever indebted to Ray and Barbara for their generosity and caring for the Center," said Jeffrey Rips, Executive Director.

Ray's longtime friend, Jewish Federation and Jewish Community Foundation Past President, and community leader in his own right, Eugene Lentzner, spoke lovingly of his 50 year association with Ray. "Ray achieved great success, yet he was the most unpretentious and unassuming person I ever know. (And you should also know that comment applies to his wife also)," said Gene. "He was most comfortable outside the limelight; yet he served on many boards, he had a lot to say

about how the agencies functioned, and he never had to have a title or office to be the most effective person in the room. And that is why everyone who has anything to say about him says that he was our pillar.”

“He was an extremely generous man and very humble, very down-to-earth,” said Deborah Godfarb, CEO of the Jewish Federation and Jewish Community Foundation. “He really believed in community involvement and was active in many non-Jewish causes, as well as Jewish causes. It was part of who he was.”

“The Hebrew Academy community is saddened by the loss of Ray Alpert a giant mensch in our community,” said Rabbi Yitzchok Newman. “Ray paved the path to provide a myriad of opportunities for active participation in our community. He was a man who cared deeply about and invested generously in the future of our community. Ray will be sorely missed—may his memory be a blessing for all.”

Ray was born on April 9, 1927, and grew up in Boyle Heights. He was a co-owner of Alpert & Alpert Iron & Metal Inc., a Los Angeles-based scrap metal business founded by his father and uncle in the 1930s. Eighty years later, the company remains a family-owned business. Ray and Barbara moved to Long Beach in 1963 and soon joined Temple Israel.

“Through the years Barbara and Ray’s passion for youth seemed unending,” continued Lentzner. “The establishment and endowment of the Alpert New Leaders Forum at the Jewish Federation, his lobbying and support that literally saved Hillel at Cal State, the founder’s donation and ongoing funding of CCEJ’s Building Bridges camps, which brings young people together to respect each other, were all indications of this commitment to the next generations.”

And the list goes on and on: ADL, National Council of Jewish Women, Hadassah, the rebuilding of Temple Israel, Ronald McDonald House, and the new Fisher House at the Long Beach Veterans Administration hospital, providing a place for the family of veterans who are being treated. “In all, they were major funders of over 50 organizations every year, lead givers for their campaigns, and have endowed their gifts so that their programs will continue on into the future,” remarked Lentzner.

“Ray Alpert was a man who was committed to his causes and the community,” said Kathryn Miles, JFCS Executive Director. “For Ray, it was not only a matter of a donation. He found long-lasting and far-reaching ways to impact programs and agencies, as both a leader and as a donor. For JFCS, Barbara and Ray’s generosity has had a tremendously positive impact on our ability to provide mental health and social services to people who have nowhere else to turn.”

Ray also had a passion for Jewish history and Holocaust education. At Cal State University, Long Beach (CSULB), he and Barbara established the Barbara and Ray Alpert Endowed Chair in Jewish Studies. “We at CSULB owe them a real debt of gratitude. Ray was not merely an active member of the Jewish Studies advisory board. At a moment of crisis, he and Barbara stepped up, and through their generosity, saved the Jewish Studies Program,” said Jeffrey Blutinger, Director of the program. “Their endowment has not only allowed us to continue offering classes, degrees, and our regular lecture series,

but also helped us expand our programming by bringing artists, performers, and lead scholars to campus.”

Ray and Barbara have also been strong and consistent supporters of Beach Hillel, which provides services to Jewish students at CSULB and several other universities and community colleges in the Long Beach and Orange County areas. “Through the help of Ray Alpert, Beach Hillel has been able to provide free and kosher Friday-night dinners to students, opportunities to work for social justice, and various educational and social activities that encourage students’ personal growth and exploration,” said Rachel Kaplan, Hillel Executive Director.

“One issue dear to Ray’s heart was building bridges among communities,” said Blutinger. For the last two years, Ray and Barbara have funded a collaborative project on campus involving Jewish Studies and Chicano and Latino Studies, bringing speakers on campus to highlight the longstanding relationships between the Jews and Latinos(as) in Southern California. Just a few weeks ago, he and Barbara went to CSULB to hear Dr. George Sanchez from USC describe the unique nature of the Boyle Heights community of the 1930s and ’40s, a place where immigrant Jews mixed with Mexican and Mexican-Americans, African-Americans, and Japanese-Americans, forming alliances of mutual support.

“Since Ray was born and raised in Boyle Heights, he was delighted to see students from Jewish Studies and Chicano and Latino Studies classes come together to learn about his common past,” said Blutinger.

Gene Lentzner echoed Ray’s interest in connecting diverse communities. “I have to mention Ray’s love for the people with whom he grew consulted and argued until they got it right, and then did it together. And the results were wonderful, often incredible,” said Lentzner at the funeral which took place on Friday, June 13. Ray is survived by his wife Barbara, his children, Teri, Alan and Nancy; his sister, Janet Farber; and seven grandchildren who will all miss him tremendously.

“I once asked him what gave him the most satisfaction in life. You created a foundation to give away most of your fortune, so it wasn’t about just making money, or having the best of everything. And he simply answered: Helping other is the best reason for the gift of life on this earth. That is what my parents taught me. That is what I tried to teach my children,” remembers Lentzner.

His life was a blessing for all of us. He really knew how to live. It is why he was so universally respected and loved.

Ray’s generosity and activism has touched the lives of countless people in the Long Beach area and his passing leaves a gaping hole in our hearts.

NELSON MANDELA DAY

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today marks what would have been the 96th birthday of Nelson Mandela, one of the great liberators in human history and an enduring international symbol of peace, integrity, humility, resilience,

and courage. While we lost Madiba in December, his ethos of nonviolence and his unyielding quest for justice continue to guide and inspire people throughout the world.

After 27 years imprisoned on Robben Island and decades of devoted campaigning to overturn hateful racist policies, Nelson Mandela succeeded not only in unravelling apartheid but also in shepherding his nation through an extraordinary peaceful democratic transition. The people of South Africa—and people of all races, ethnicities, and nationalities around the world—are forever grateful.

More than two decades ago, just months after his release from prison, I had the honor of first meeting Mandela when he visited Detroit to organize for his ascendant political movement in South Africa and speak with the great American civil rights hero Rosa Parks. I was astounded not only by Mandela’s insight but also by his kindness and humility. Just four years later, I was delighted to travel to South Africa to attend his inauguration as President of South Africa.

Today, his birthday, is recognized globally as “Nelson Mandela Day,” an occasion established by the Mandela Foundation in 2009 to commemorate his life and to underscore the notion that a single person can—through commitment and character—yield extraordinary positive change. Today, in my hometown of Detroit, Michigan, thanks to the work of the Friends of Detroit City Airport Community Development Corporation and Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, a portion of Atwater Street from Civic Center Drive to Bates Street will be renamed “Nelson Mandela Drive.” A commemorative ceremony will highlight the extraordinary achievements of Mandela and ways that community members can continue to fulfill his revolutionary vision of justice and nonviolence.

IN RECOGNITION OF FOLKSVILLE USA

HON. ANN KIRKPATRICK

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Folksville USA, a pioneering organization that began in Arizona and is spreading through communities across our nation. Folksville USA works with Adopt-a-Highway to back BagReadyJobs, an innovative program that pairs local businesses with youth groups to clean up our highways.

Arizona’s District One boasts some of the most beautiful landscape in the country, and the BagReadyJobs program is keeping it that way! Under the leadership of Gary Chamberlain, Folksville USA is teaching the kids of Arizona about the effects of littering, the fundamentals of money management and most importantly, introducing them to that positive feeling you get when you are serving your community.

Getting kids excited about cleaning up the environment and raising money for a good cause is no easy feat, but Gary Chamberlain and Folksville USA seem to do it over and over again. This program makes a difference in the lives of Arizona kids and preserves the pristine beauty of our state, and I hope communities all over our country will have the opportunity to achieve these same benefits. Thanks for keeping Arizona beautiful!

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF DUKE
ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

continuing its proud legacy in the District of
Columbia.

IN HONOR OF VIOLA DEL GRECO'S
100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in the District of Columbia. The 40th Anniversary Celebration launched with a tribute concert at the Kennedy Center honoring co-founders Peggy Cooper Carfritz and the late Mike Malone. The Duke Ellington School, named in honor of the late great Duke Ellington, a Washington native, is one of the premier performing arts schools in the nation, and ranked the third Best School in the District of Columbia by U.S. News and World Report.

Established in 1974, the Duke Ellington School of the Arts was designed to reflect the "creative soul" of the District as well as the cultural diversity of the United States. Its mission is to both nurture and inspire passion for arts and learning in talented students who might not otherwise have an opportunity to develop their artistic skills. The Duke Ellington School of the Arts is the only high school in the District that combines a full college-preparatory curriculum with professional arts training. Students are provided with training in areas such as dance, theater, literary media, museum studies, and instrumental or vocal music. The Duke Ellington School of the Arts strives to maintain a unique curriculum in which students are well equipped in both the arts and academia.

The Duke Ellington School of the Arts has also produced distinguished alumni, among them mezzo-soprano opera singer Denyce Graves, screenwriter and comedian Dave Chappelle, CNN contributor Michaela Angela Davis, and a host of others who have contributed greatly to the nation's arts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, and in wishing the school success in

**ROCKINGHAM COUNTY LAND
TRANSFER**

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to transfer land from the United States to Rockingham County, Virginia. The County has long managed this land and associated buildings and has been responsible for all upkeep.

In 1989, the Department of the Interior deeded this land, which it no longer used, to Rockingham County for public good. The County approached then Rep. Jim Olin in the 101st Congress to allow the buildings on this land to be used for the particular use of a non-profit day care that serves the County. This resulted in PL 101-479. However, because of the narrow way this law was drafted, Rockingham County does not have true autonomy over the land and must check-in with the Department of the Interior when any repairs or upgrades of the facilities are needed. Given that the building is used for a child care facility, this added bureaucracy delays and impedes the ability of the day care to move efficiently to make any necessary upgrades.

For over 25 years Rockingham County, Virginia has managed this land as if it belonged to the County. Although this land was already transferred to the county, it was not done effectively. This legislation will finalize the efforts of a previous Congress and fully transfer this land to the county. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing this legislation.

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Viola Del Greco upon her 100th birthday.

Yesterday she joined a growing segment of America: the Centenarians. According to the 2010 Census, over 53,000 Americans are 100 years old or older. Their combined contributions to our nation have coincided with the rise of what has been called "The American Century."

Mrs. Del Greco has lived by any measure what can be described as a successful life. Married to her late husband for 72 years, matriarch, business owner and faithful church goer, she has modeled for her family and community how to appropriately balance the demands of life. Faith, family, friends, and neighborhood all require time, energy and attention. Those that give each the proper care can look back and see the handiwork of a lifetime and rejoice in the result. Viola Del Greco must rejoice at what she sees.

As a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, she understands the importance of family. The family unit serves as the most fundamental human institution and a basic foundation for our society. The family acts as an incubator in which all the virtues and principles we hold dear are passed on to our children.

Her faithful membership at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church speaks to her core values and strength of character. Her role as business partner with her husband at Del Cleaners bonded them as a team and as part of the community. Her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren have watched her example and honor her life.

Mark Twain was right when he observed, "Only he who has seen better days and lives to see better days again knows their full value."

Mrs. Del Greco understands the value of each day.