PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY C. PETERS
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday July 29, 2014 I inadvertently voted "yes" on final passage of H.R. 4315 (rolcall 463). I wish the RECORD to reflect my intention to vote "no" on H.R. 4315.

CELEBRATING THE CITY OF FORT BRAGG’S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the City of Fort Bragg on the occasion of its 125th Anniversary Celebration on August 5, 2014.

For a century and a quarter, the remarkable citizens of Fort Bragg have helped the city evolve from a small lumber and fishing town to a city renowned for its beauty and small town feel. With just over 7,000 residents, Fort Bragg is a destination for sport fishermen, abalone divers, and visitors wishing to enjoy one of the most beautiful stretches of coastline in California.

In 1889, the City of Fort Bragg was incorporated on the site of a former military fort and Pomo Indian reservation with C. R. Johnson, president of the Fort Bragg Redwood Company, as its first mayor. His company established the plans for the city, which maintains many of its original historic features today.

The City of Fort Bragg is a Mendocino County treasure, a gateway to the Redwoods, and due to the enduring dedication of its residents, the city will surely continue to be a wonderful place to live and visit for years to come. Please join me in expressing hearty congratulations to the City of Fort Bragg on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

HONORING MR. HARRY WURTH

HON. STEVE ISRAEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Harry Wurth, an esteemed citizen of my congressional district who continued his life to his country and to his fellow veterans. Mr. Wurth, a longtime resident of Albertson, NY, passed away on June 14, 2014 at the age of 87. A veteran of World War II and a leader of the United States Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of New York, Mr. Wurth’s life was an example of what it means to serve one’s nation.

After graduating high school in 1945, Mr. Wurth enlisted in the Navy and was deployed to the Pacific Theatre toward the end of the war. Aboard the aircraft carrier, the USS Belleau, he served as deck crew and later as a baker. He was honorably discharged at the end of the war.

Mr. Wurth committed the remainder of his life to serving New York veterans. In 1964 he joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3211 in Hicksville, New York, and rose to Post Commander in 1969 and All State Commander. A frequent visitor to VA hospitals “A” Northport and St. Albans, New York, in 1972 he was elected Chaplin to the Nassau County VFW Council.

Mr. Wurth continued his dedication to the VFW in various positions on the Nassau County and State level. He was elected Chaplin and Commander of VFW District 1 in 1978, and in 1981 he transferred to the Albertson VFW Post 5253. Rising to New York State VFW Chief of Staff in 1993, Mr. Wurth led the effort to establish 19 new Veterans’ Posts in New York.

From 1994 to 1996 he continued to move up the ranks in the State Council, rising to VFW State Commander. At the time of his passing Mr. Wurth was the Quartermaster for the Albertson VFW post and Quartermaster of the Nassau County VFW Council.

Mr. Wurth passed away while attending this year’s NY State VFW Convention. Until his death, Mr. Wurth never ceased serving our country and veterans alike. I am honored to have had the pleasure to serve as Mr. Wurth’s representative. His life will forever be remembered as one of service and commitment to his fellow countrymen.

RECOGNIZING GEORGE FLASINSKI FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. George Flasinski, the Commander of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Pennsylvania. In his time as Commander, George Flasinski has been an invaluable leader of the Detachment and has shown a strong commitment to the Four Pillars of the American Legion.

The Sons of The American Legion is the nation’s largest wartime veterans service organization. The Legion is committed to supporting our veterans and service members, honoring our country, and mentoring youth in our community.

Under Mr. Flasinski’s leadership, the membership of the Pennsylvania Sons of the American Legion has risen to nearly 60,000 members. George has organized two Honor Flights to Washington, DC for World War II veterans. Mr. Flasinski has also raised funds for Pennsylvania’s homeless veterans and the American Legion’s Child Welfare Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank George Flasinski and the Sons of the American Legion for their dedication to honoring our nation’s heroes and inspiring our nation’s youth to emulate them. George Flasinski has shown exceptional guidance in his service as Detachment of Pennsylvania Commander, and I applaud his successes and wish him the best of luck in his retirement.

HONORING LEROY R. COLES UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge and honor the unparalleled work of Leroy R. Coles—former Buffalo Urban League CEO, Mr. Coles, and expertise have left a mountainous, positively-influential footprint not only on the Western New York Area, but nationwide.

Mr. Coles received much of his early social and cultural development as a participant in the Buffalo Urban League programs—which strive to enhance education and youth empowerment, economics, health and quality of life, civic engagement, as well as civil rights and racial justice.

During the historic and tumultuous times of the 1960s and 1970s, Mr. Coles patiently and actively participated in the March on Washington and continued to march for the rights of others throughout the 1990s. Furthermore, Mr. Coles was especially active in promoting peace and racial harmony during and after the 1960 riots and the desegregation of public schools in Buffalo, New York.

Upon returning to the Western New York area in 1972, Mr. Coles was appointed as president and chief executive officer to the Buffalo Urban League—the same establishment where he began laying his foundation of ethics. Mr. Coles led the Buffalo Urban League through a variety of locations, steadily building programs and services to meet the emerging needs of the minority citizens of Buffalo, New York and Erie County.

Mr. Coles was especially successful in leading the Buffalo Urban League in grant development at the national and state level in order to bring new services to the Western New York community, resulting in additional project initiatives such as the small business loan program for women and minorities who were rejected by banks. Additionally, Mr. Coles advocated for the development of Advanced Vocational Education and Progressive Advanced Vocational Education and Exploration programs for young at-risk students seeking to improve their academic and social skills.

The accomplishments of Leroy R. Coles are extraordinary and uniquely admirable. From being the first African-American trustee of Erie
Community College, to president of the National Urban League’s Association of Executives, or to his induction into the Buffalo Urban League’s Quarter Century Club, Mr. Coles’ work ethic shines brightly through.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the commendable hard work and pursue in the memory of these important leaders, and pre-served for making Western New York and the nation as a whole. I encourage Americans to use Mr. Coles as an exemplar in how to carry one’s self as an individual. Furthermore, I am grateful for the hard work that Mr. Coles has continued to put forward, making Western New York as a whole a better place for all.

CELEBRATING THE RICH HISTORICAL HERITAGE OF MONSENEN, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER OF PENNSYLVANIA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the rich heritage of Monessen, Pennsylvania, and to remember two important events which took place 150 years ago and ultimately shaped the town’s history. This year marks the sesquicentennial of the birth of one of the key figures in Monessen’s founding, William Henry Donner. Donner was instrumental in the development of the town, using a cash bonus of $10,000 to turn twenty acres of land on the banks of the Monongahela River into Monessen’s first factory, the National Tin Plate Company. In doing so he created the town’s initial industry, one that went on to grow and thrive. He was a member of Monessen’s first school board and spearheaded efforts to build the Monessen Water Company, as well as Monessen’s first school building. His work was crucial to the emergence of Monongahela as a vibrant community, and he played a major part in spurring its growth.

I was also lucky to like this opportunity to recognize another great figure in the history of Southwestern Pennsylvania who also was a founder of Monessen, James M. Schoonnaker. Schoonnaker was born in Peebles Township in 1842, and was a student at Western University of Pennsylvania when the Civil War broke out. He enlisted in the army and was assigned to the 1st Maryland Cavalry, where he quickly established himself as a competent leader. In 1862, Schoonnaker was given the authority by Secretary of War Edwin Stanton to raise the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry Regiment, of which he was made colonel. His actions in leading soldiers during the Third Battle of Winchester in 1864 were crucial in helping the Union achieve victory, and for his heroic efforts he was awarded the Medal of Honor. This September marks the 150th anniversary of that famous cavalry charge.

On August 16th, The Greater Monessen Historical Society in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania will celebrate the City of Monessen’s annual Founders Day at Monessen City Park, commemorating these two events. I wish to thank the Society and its President Dan Zygiewicz for keeping alive the memory of these important leaders, and preserving our region’s history for the next generation. We must never forget the lessons of the past, and their work is a crucial way to make sure these Pennsylvania leaders continue to be a part of our heritage for decades to come.

HONORING THE TOWN OF ELIZABETH, MISSISSIPPI

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON OF MISSISSIPPI IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable Town of Elizabeth, Mississippi. The town of Elizabeth, Mississippi is located on U.S. Highway 61, approximately 1 mile north of Leland and 2 miles east of Stoneville. In March 1889, a deed was issued to Mr. Joshua Skinner for a railroad depot in the area. At the time, the place was named “Athol”, but it was later changed to its current name “Elizabeth”.

In 1889, Elizabeth was advertised as “a new town with an unparalleled future, located in the heart of the famous Yazoo Delta... the richest and most fertile section of the earth where king cotton reigns supreme.” Elizabeth had the unique distinction of being located at the crossroads of the first two main railroads in the Delta: the Louisville, New Orleans, and Texas RR (which later became the Illinois Central RR) and the Georgia Pacific RR (which eventually became the Columbus and Greenville RR).

The town of Elizabeth was designed along the west and south sides of both railroads. Elizabeth emerged early on as a mercantile city, with numerous businesses started up due to the existence of the rail lines. The town can no longer boast a commercial center. Leland has taken that role. However, it does retain its identity as Elizabeth. It boasts a modest population of nearly 200 people and a beautiful roadside park. In 2013, DuPont Pioneer opened a new 30,000 square foot research center near Elizabeth that focuses on soybean breeding and product development as well as corn product testing and characterization for farmers in the Delta.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Town of Elizabeth for its dedication to serving others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES OF MISSOURI IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, July 25, I missed a series of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on No. 453 and “yea” on No. 451, No. 452, and No. 454.

On Monday, July 28, I missed a series of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on No. 455, No. 456, and No. 457.

On Tuesday, July 29, I missed a series of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on No. 458 and No. 459. I would have voted “nay” on No. 460, No. 461, and No. 462. I would have voted “yea” on No. 463 and No. 464.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN OF COLORADO IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, July 30, 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 $17,613,035,203,018.10. We’ve added $6,986,158,145,105.02 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.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 7TH ANNIVERSARY OF PASSAGE OF H. RES. 121

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 7th anniversary of the passage of H. Res. 121, an historic resolution which expresses the sense of the U.S. House of Representatives that the Government of Japan should formally acknowledge, apologize, and accept historical responsibility in a clear and unequivocal manner for its Imperial Armed Force’s coercion of young women into sexual slavery, known to the world as ‘comfort women’, during its colonial and wartime occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands from the 1930s through the duration of World War II.

H. Res. 121 was passed on July 30, 2007, and I commend my good friend, Congressman Michael Honda of California, for introducing it. I admire his courage and devotion for causes that matter. As a Japanese-American, he gave voice to this cause in a way no other could and, because of him, this Resolution stands as a testament of his advocacy for and on behalf of those who suffered.

I also commend Dong Suk Kim of Korean American Civic Empowerment (KACE) for his grassroots efforts in bolstering support for H. Res. 121 which led to its successful passage. His contributions made a significant difference.

I also commend the Honorable Nancy Pelosi. In my opinion, her decision to bring H. Res. 121 to the Floor for House consideration was the key factor that made passage possible. As the first woman in American history to serve as Speaker of the House, her clarion call for equality and empowerment for women is of consequence globally and historically. Her personal commitment to the women who still bear the scars from the Imperial Armed Force’s coercion will never be forgotten.

In 2007, it was my honor to hold the first hearing ever held on this sensitive issue. Although this legislation had been introduced in the U.S. Congress for more than a decade, including by my good friend, former Congressman Lane Evans, no Committee had ever held
More than that, Mike has inspired students to strive for academic excellence while fulfilling their commitment to the community at large. On March 18, 2014, I visited the school to recognize and congratulate the students for their achievement of 65,000 hours of community service and their contributions to local nonprofit organizations. And on June 17, 2014, after working closely with Mike, I introduced the House of Representatives passed the Albuquerque, New Mexico, Federal Land Conveyance Act of 2014 (H.R. 3998), which allows ABHS to obtain ownership of the Old Federal Court House and Post Office with help from Mayor Ken Bandow Albuquerque. We will continue to work to enact this bill into law, preserve this historic building, and provide students with a first-rate education.

Mike always put his students first and even talked at length to the Economic Forum of Albuquerque about the great work done by his school to benefit the business community. When asked about ABHS’s numerous successes during his time as Executive Director, Mike said:

I would love to thank the community for the support of the school and what we have accomplished. What we have accomplished would not have been possible without the commitment of so many people who have seen the value of what we are doing.

This statement reflects Mike’s selflessness and demonstrates the respect and admiration that Mike has for our community in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mike’s vision, passion, dedication, and hands-on approach with students are one-of-a-kind. While he will be sorely missed, I have no doubt that he will accomplish great things in his new role directing the L’Ecole d’Humanite boarding school in Switzerland.

HONORING WEE CARE NURSERIES AND LEARNING CENTERS, INC.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a landmark establishment within the City of Tchula that provides one of the most critical and essential services for all working parents: Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center, Inc.

Tchula’s Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center began as Tchula Day Care. Tchula Day Care opened its doors on September 3, 1991. The name was later changed to Tchula’s Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center, Inc. On May 15, 1995, Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center #2 opened its doors in Lexington, MS.

Tchula’s Wee Care capacity is 142 and Lexington’s is 169. Current enrollment is 77 and 54 respectively.

At Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, their mission is to provide child care that meets the needs of each child and family in a safe, educational environment. They take pride in the Centers and focus on the individual needs of each child, while providing a nurturing and safe child care environment.

The goals of Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers are: (1) To provide affordable, convenient, dependable child care services; (2) To create a child care setting for social, cognitive, and physical development; (3) To provide a nurturing environment; (4) To provide learning experiences for children; and (5) To provide a preschool program, readying children for lifelong learning.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc., believes that a high-quality early childhood program provides a safe and nurturing environment that promotes the physical, emotional, social, and cognitive development of young children while responding to the needs of families. They believe in promoting an anti-bias, pro-social curriculum that teaches children to value and respect themselves and others for their own unique individuality. Each child is considered unique in temperament and rate of development. Curriculum is planned to enhance and challenge particular, distinct individual needs, interests and abilities. The curriculum includes: manipulatives, music, games, and outdoor play. They believe childhood, initiated, child-directed, teacher-supported play is an essential component of developmentally appropriate practice. Activities and relationships occur in a healthy, positive and relaxed environment in which well-qualified staff provide personal attention, guidance and nurturing to each child.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc., strives to maintain continuity and consistency throughout the program by conducting helpful staff planning, training and a variety of joint activities involving various groups of children. In this context, all caregivers at Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers are encouraged to express their individual educational strengths as they work with children and in their cooperative efforts with other staff members.

When you come to Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, your child will receive the best care the industry has to offer. All you need to do is “expect more.” They have been fortunate to get special recognition from: Greenwood Voters’ League, Mississippi State University, The Cities of Tchula and Lexington, Mississippi Building Blocks and The Delta Foundation.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers are able to care for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years. Along with regular childcare services, they also provide before and after school care and a summer reading and math enrichment program.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc., have a motto: Building a better world one child at a time. Learning Today... Leading Today!

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc. for its past and present dedication to providing impartial, dependable childcare services in an effort to help families of all backgrounds within the Tchula community.

COMMEMORATING THE 49TH ANNIVERSARY OF MEDICARE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 49th anniversary of
Medicare, one of the most popular and successful social insurance programs in the history of the United States.

When President Lyndon Johnson signed it into law on July 30, 1965, less than 50 percent of seniors had health insurance and 35 percent lived in poverty.

Now, over 52.4 million Americans are given health care benefits regardless of their condition or income.

This includes over 40 million Americans age 65 or above and 9 million disabled Americans receiving Social Security benefits.

Medicare saves lives and money, and here is why.

Since its creation Medicare has provided comprehensive health care coverage for the senior citizens who cannot afford it.

Without Medicare, most seniors would not have insurance and be unable to afford health care due to high costs or pre-existing conditions.

It provides 37 million seniors prescription drug coverage and offers free preventive health screenings, including mammograms, diabetes, or cancer screenings now thanks to the Affordable Care Act.

Medicare is not welfare. It is an cost-effective social program that works.

In combination with the Affordable Care Act, I believe that Medicare’s future is even brighter.

These improved benefits include incentives for doctors and health care providers to coordinate more smoothly, reduce waste and fraud, and lower out of pocket costs for beneficiaries.

For nine years after its inception, the program continues to do its job and I hope that we can continue to support it.

IMMIGRATION

HON. GLENN THOMPSON OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the situation on our southern border and the influx of unaccompanied migrant children is both tragic and alarming.

As the House and Senate debate this matter, it’s important for us to recognize several areas of discussion that demand our attention.

To start, Mr. Speaker, we know this influx has been building for some time and that over the last several months it has grown at an even faster pace.

Before 2009, the flow of unaccompanied children attempting to cross the border was less than 10,000 per year.

These numbers have increased dramatically over the last few years. While recent estimates over the past month appear to indicate the flow is subsiding, we remain on pace to exceed 90,000 children for 2014.

We also know that more than 90 percent of all these children come from just three countries—El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

While economic conditions in this region have been poor for quite some time, they have not significantly changed in the last few years.

We also know that a law passed in 2008 with the best of intentions—the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthor-

iziation—is making it more difficult to return unaccompanied children to their families.

Unlike illegal immigrants from Mexico, who are required by law to be processed and promptly returned home, the 2008 law guarantees minors from these countries a court date and mandates extensive assistance for temporary relocation as they wait out their pending appeal.

We also know that a large number of these individuals evade attending these proceedings, and that ultimately, few minors are sent home. In fact, most are able to stay for years, and a large number remain permanently.

According to Immigration and Customs Enforcement data, only 1,669 children were deported in 2013 despite more than 26,000 apprehensions.

These statistics are stunning, Mr. Speaker. There is no wonder that according to interviews conducted by the Department of Homeland Security that more than 90 percent of these children expect they will be able to stay in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, what’s even more concerning is how many of the Obama Administration’s policies have not helped the current crisis.

For example, the President’s 2012 policy for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals gives these families hope that they might receive some sort of amnesty. This policy not only is detrimental to the rule of law and an overreach of executive authority, but it also sends the wrong signal.

Mr. Speaker, all of this is a stark reminder of just how flawed the President and Senate’s immigration reform bill is. Granting amnesty to 11 million illegal immigrants would merely serve to reinforce the perceptions that if you come to the U.S. illegally you will be rewarded—and not only with a hearing, but full legalization. This does not help the current situation, to say the least.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, billions in new spending as the President has requested will not reverse the perceptions of a lenient enforcement environment in the U.S.

Alternatively, what we do know is that this administration—and every administration—must do more to secure the border.

What we do know, Mr. Speaker, is that we must do more to stem this migration influx, which should include changes to the 2008 trafficking law.

What we do know, Mr. Speaker, is that we must do more to leverage our relations with Central America to support the expedited return of these children in a humane fashion.

What we do know, Mr. Speaker, is that we need the White House to enforce the laws, better secure our border, and to put aside political games and actually start working with Congress in a bipartisan manner.

HONORING ISAAC PALMER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable person, Mr. Isaac Palmer.

Isaac Palmer was born on May 23, 1914 in Sharkey County, Mississippi, the oldest of nine children born to the late Reverend Littleton and Frances Nathaniel Palmer. Mr. Palmer was married to the late Vera Lee Bell Palmer for over 50 years. He has eight children: Betty, Geraldine, Odell, Isaac Lavelle, Nina, Patricia, David (deceased) and Fred (deceased).

Mr. Palmer wanted to attend school badly; but, he had to leave school when he was twelve years old, in the 6th grade, to work on the farm and help provide for his younger sisters and brothers. However, he didn’t let this stop him. He learned to read, write and speak more fluently by studying the Holy Bible. Mr. Palmer was a “jack of all trades”, doing things like driving tractors, farming, welding and being a mechanic, just to name a few.

At an early age, Mr. Palmer accepted Christ as his Savior. He was an active member of New Hope Baptist Church in Blanton, Mississippi, where he served as Senior Deacon and Superintendent of the Sunday school for many years. During this time, he led many children, friends and acquaintances to Christ. He has been and remains a laborer for Christ for more than 85 years.

Though Mr. Palmer only had a 6th grade education, he remains passionate about helping and encouraging his children and other young people to get as much education as possible. To help out, he would drive his own children and from Alcorn and Jackson State Universities, as well as their friends who lived in the area (free of charge), after working all day.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Isaac Palmer for his dedication to serving and giving back to his family and community.

STATEMENT OF INTRODUCTION

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO OF GUAM
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a bill to amend section 218 of the Social Security Act to allow for the governments of Guam and American Samoa to enter into voluntary agreements for Social Security and Medicare coverage for their local government employees. This bill provides parity to Guam and American Samoa with each of the 50 states and other territories.

Section 218 of the Social Security Act authorizes the Social Security Administration and State governments to enter into voluntary agreements to provide Social Security and Medicare Hospital Insurance (HI) or Medicare HI-only coverage for State and local government employees. Under statute, the governments of the 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are eligible to enter into these agreements with the Social Security Administration; however the District of Columbia, Guam, and America Samoa are specifically excluded from the definition of “State” for this section of the law. All 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands have entered into a Section 218 agreement to cover some or all of their government employees.

Guam and America Samoa’s exclusion from this section prevents our local governments from entering into a similar agreement with the Social Security Administration. It prevents government employees in Guam from receiving...
Social Security benefits similar to what is provided to private sector employees on Guam who contribute to Social Security. The Guam Legislature unanimously passed a resolution requesting for me to introduce legislation that would remove Guam from the exclusion of the definition of "State" for Section 218. The Guam Legislature wishes to provide the government of Guam with the opportunity to enter into a Section 218 agreement to have their employees covered under Social Security. They have identified a local funding source to begin contributions to the Social Security Trust Fund.

In closing, I urge support for this bill to rectify this inequity and provide government employees in Guam and American Samoa an equal opportunity to contribute into Social Security. I thank Congressman FALEOMAVAEGA for cosponsoring this bill, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance this legislation.

RAISING AWARENESS OF HEPATITIS C AND FORGING A PATH TO ITS ERADICATION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize The Second Annual African American Hepatitis C Awareness Action Day which was held on Friday, July 25, 2014. Hepatitis C is a deadly and contagious viral disease that attacks the liver and kills thousands of Americans each year. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), an estimated 3.2 million people in the United States have chronic Hepatitis C virus infection, many of them unknowingly in the absence of symptoms. African-Americans have been disproportionately afflicted by the Hepatitis C virus more than any other ethnic group, representing an estimated 22 percent of chronic Hepatitis C cases in the United States.

The National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, Inc. (NBLCA) has played a tremendous role in raising awareness by organizing the African American Hepatitis C Awareness Action Day. HIV infected persons are more susceptible to contracting the Hepatitis C virus; thus it is critical that people at risk are made aware in order to prolong a quality life. NBLCA does the community and its residents an exceptional service, surpassing its mission of educating African-Americans on means to counteract HIV/AIDS and other health disparities across the nation.

NBLCA has served thousands of organizations through technical assistance, development, and public policy. Their actions have garnished over $2 billion in federal funding for HIV/AIDS, formulating the first programs existing in the black community to address the problems caused by the HIV/AIDS virus. Furthermore, NBLCA continues to maintain chief consultant positions on various health related issues in numerous national organizations. They remain partners with the Congressional Black Caucus, the National Association of Black Social Workers, and the National Caucus of Black State Legislators, totaling over 500 black state officials being represented by the organization. NBLCA is also a prominent partner of the National Baptist Ministers’ Convention, which represents 8.2 million African Americans. Internationally, this well-accomplished organization has served as an advisor on HIV/AIDS related issues to the United Nations, Gabon, Central African Republic, Uganda, the Bahamas, and others.

During this past year, NBLCA has partnered with health care organizations and providers to provide communities with free screening services and information on behaviors associated with contracting the Hepatitis C virus. This initiative will allow many people who are unknowingly infected with the Hepatitis C virus to receive treatment before the virus causes fatal conditions such as liver cancer or cirrhosis. With the establishment of alliances with community leaders, clergy, and public officials across the nation, NBLCA has truly become a remarkable asset inspiring a much needed element of change within our communities.

With the establishment of alliances with community leaders, clergy, and public officials across the nation, NBLCA has truly become a remarkable asset inspiring a much needed element of change within our communities.

Fortunately for millions across the world suffering from this chronic disease, an effective and curative treatment for the Hepatitis C virus, Solvadi, has been developed by the U.S. based pharmaceutical company Gilead Sciences, Inc. However, it is disappointing that the high cost of Solvadi, $84,000 for a 12-week treatment, may leave the drug inaccessible to many Americans reliant on Medicaid. Some Governments and health insurers in the U.S. will be challenged as they seek to provide this curative treatment to a large population of beneficiaries who otherwise could not afford it. Solvadi is truly a triumph in modern medicine but if it cannot be made affordable to all those in need of treatment, it would certainly fail to serve its purpose. It is especially disheartening to learn that Gilead has offered to supply its ground breaking drug to foreign countries at up to a 99 percent discount of the price within the United States. Hepatitis C is a contagious chronic disease that often requires decades of treatment and expensive organ transplant procedures. If made affordable, Solvadi could save our country’s health care system indefinite costs.

We are in the midst of a golden opportunity to rid the world of a disease that has claimed the lives of countless people. As evolution continues to give rise to new disease that may plague future generations, we must make a fervent national commitment to eliminating disease and ensuring the health of our citizens as we have in the past against diseases such as polio and smallpox. I am glad we have organizations such as the NBLCA, who is fighting the good fight on the grassroots level. It would be a great triumph for humanity and modern medicine to speak of Hepatitis C as a disease of the past.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in raising awareness of such a debilitating disease and support appropriations that grant funding to non-profit organizations like the NBLCA across our Great Nation. These talented organizations do such a tremendous job saving so many lives.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF KEVIN LEO OSWALD

HON. ALAN GRAYSON
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding member of the Central Florida community, Mr. Kevin Oswald. Oswald was recently awarded the Air Traffic Control Association (ATCA) Air Traffic Controller of the Year Award.

As a controller, Oswald has seen the Kissimmee Gateway Airport grow and expand from a small non-automated facility to a control tower with Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System (STARS) radar, touch screen communications and FAA flight data input/output (FDIO) equipment. He has been an integral player in the success of the Kissimmee Air Traffic Control Tower (ACCT) in achieving over 2.3 million operations without an operational error.

An excellent example of Mr. Oswald’s controlling abilities occurred on December 19, 2013, when he was working as controller at the Kissimmee ACCT. He observed a Beechcraft airplane that had been cleared for landing and was over the approach end of runway 15 without the landing gear extended.
He immediately cleared the aircraft for a “go around” and explained the situation to the pilot. The pilot responded and on the next approach made a safe landing. Later, the facility received a letter from the pilot expressing his appreciation to Mr. Oswald and stated that his actions prevented a catastrophe. Apparently, the pilot had silenced the gear warning light to accomplish a single engine landing. The Pan Am International Flight Academy changed its operations policies based on Mr. Oswald’s actions.

Seeing a need to improve emergency response procedures, Mr. Oswald developed a training program to assist both the Fire and Police departments to better understand the Air Traffic Operations during an inflight emergency. He contacted the Kissimmee Fire Department Training Director and jointly they developed a plan to have all the fire and police department personnel visit the tower for an extensive training and observation course. This training has improved the emergency response time for both departments.

Mr. Oswald was also instrumental in developing routes for the medevac unit which flies out of Kissimmee Airport. He established standardized procedures and expedited routes to allow the life-saving medevac unit to operate in the quickest and safest way possible.

As a true team player, his efforts on a daily basis have significantly helped the Kissimmee Airport to be recognized as a destination of choice for individual pilots and aviation-oriented organizations. His devotion and dedication to duty make him most deserving of the ATCA Air Traffic Control Specialist of the Year Award.

I am happy to honor Kevin Oswald for his accomplishments and contributions to the Central Florida and aviation communities.

HONORING PASTOR E.L. KING

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor E.L. King, who is a former Educator in the Greenwood Public School District, Extraordinary and public servant.

Mrs. Ethel King was born in Leflore County on June 8, 1959 to Robert and Ethel L. Lawrence. At the age of thirteen, her mother died and she was nurtured by her grandfather, Mr. Willie James Lawrence, along with her seven siblings.

Mrs. King attended Greenwood Public School. She dropped out of school in the twelfth grade in 1976 because she had her first child. She was very independent and determined to make an easier life for her child.

She immediately went to work at Rocky Manufactory at the age of eighteen. She remained there 3½ years. She left Rocky Manufactory to work for Irvin Industry Automobile & Parts for 3½ years. After seven years of working in a factory environment, she felt life had more to offer her. She went on to take her GED and attended Mississippi Valley State University in 1986, where she graduated in November, 1989, her daughter fell ill and later died with Leukemia in December, 1990. While at the University Hospital, she volunteered as a coordinator to help parents cope with their children’s illness. She later volunteered with a candidate for a supervisor position in the 2nd District in Greenwood.

Mrs. King was called into the Ministry in 1992. She completed her Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice in 1993. After completing her degree, her health failed. She continued to fight on in 1996. She went to work as a volunteer permanent substitute teacher at Dickerson Elementary School under the leadership of Mrs. Vivian Redmond. Later she was hired as a full-time substitute teacher. Mrs. King also took courses in educating children.

In 1998 she was hired at Bankston Elementary School as an assistant teacher until her health failed again. She retired in 2006. After retiring from the school system, Mrs. King worked as a Notary Public of the State of Mississippi under Governor Haley Barbour. She also volunteered with the Fannie Lou Hamer Foundation in Leflore County. Later, she became Pastor of Monument of Grace Church II in Lexington, MS for three years under the leadership of Bishop L.J. Johnson.

Pastor Ethel L. King has made an impact on the lives of many children and adults alike, encouraging them through the scripture, “... but seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all things shall be added unto you.”

Pastor Ethel L. King is married to Edward E. King and they are the proud parents of two beautiful daughters and eight precious grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Ethel L. King, a Former Educator, a Pastor who is yet inspiring others in recognizing Pastor Ethel L. King, a Former Educator, a Pastor who is yet inspiring others and often giving of herself to make many lives better.

CELEBRATING THE HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the Hillcrest Community Civic Association (HCCA) on its 25th anniversary, which will be celebrated in September. Ward 7’s Belva T. Simmons, was the founder and 1st president of the HCCA.

The idea for the HCCA was conceived on the front lawn of Dennis and Gloria Logan, on August 8, 1989, National Night Out Against Crime. The HCCA past and current Presidents are: Belva Simmons, Paul Savage, Pastor Franklin G. Singer, HI, Vincent Spaulding, and Karen Lee Williams.

Located just east of the Anacostia River in Ward 7, Hillcrest is a beautiful and increasingly diverse neighborhood. Among its residents are D.C. Mayor Vincent C. Gray, former Metropolitan Police Chief Isaac Fulwood, former U.S. Marshal James Palmer, and other notable public figures, as well as teachers, doctors, lawyers, government workers, civic leaders, professionals, retirees, and blue collar workers.

In the early 1900s, Hillcrest was referred to as part of East Washington Heights. The initial developer, Andrew Randle and his United States Realty Company, is responsible for establishing the Pennsylvania Avenue southeast gateway that paved the way for development of Hillcrest under the Alger Company. Both early developers had inserted into some of the residential property deeds racial covenants to preclude African Americans from renting or purchasing homes in East Washington Heights. In fact, these deplorable covenants continue to remain as burdens on the land, but cannot be enforced due to a 1948 U.S. Supreme Court case known as Hurd vs. Hodges.

HCCA is a proud force joining members together in a community that stands for equality, diversity, civic pride and fellowship, while opposing crime and threats to its beloved community. HCCA has adopted Beers, Randle Highlands, and Winston Elementary schools. HCCA has partnered with the Palisades Community Civic Association. The community continues to grow and acquire new members and diversity.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Hillcrest Community Civic Association of Ward 7 on 25 years in the District of Columbia.

RECOGNIZING SARA BARBA, CALVIN FRAUENFELDER, KATHRYN KORNACKI, AND NATHAN VANNODY

HON. MIKE COFFMAN
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sara Barba, Calvin Frauenfelder, Kathryn Kornacki, and Nathan Vannoy for their hard work and dedication to the people of Colorado’s Sixth District as interns in my Washington, DC office for the Summer 2014 session of Congress.

The work of these young men and women has been exemplary and I know they all have bright futures. They served as tour guides, interacted with constituents, and learned a great deal about our nation’s legislative process. I was glad to be able to offer this educational opportunity to these four and look forward to seeing them build their careers in public service.

All four of our interns have made plans to continue their work in public service next year with various organizations in both Colorado and Washington. I am certain they will succeed in their new roles and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Sara Barba, Calvin Frauenfelder, Kathryn Kornacki, and Nathan Vannoy for their service this summer.

IN HONOR OF FRANK DECLERQ

HON. JUAN VARGAS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank DeClereq for the outstanding commitment and dedication he has demonstrated to the community of San Diego throughout his 35 years of service in the Fire Department.
Throughout his career, Frank DeClerq has been an advocate for the San Diego City Firefighters and their families. He earned the rank of Fire Captain in the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department. As a fearless leader he has worked with the Fire Department Management, elected officials, and industry experts to advocate for improving the enhancement of firefighter health and safety.

Frank DeClerq believes that a firefighter’s sworn duty to serve their community extends to their off duty time as well. He has consistently demonstrated this belief by supporting numerous causes each year—particularly the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the San Diego Burn Institute, San Diego Firefighter Aid, San Diego 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb, San Diego Youth Sports, and Local 145 Holiday Giving Programs for Low Income Families, among others. Frank DeClerq has not only influenced the welfare of firefighters of Local 145 as their leader, but also promoted the welfare of our residents throughout San Diego and the region.

**EDUCATION IS THE ONLY ANSWER**

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.
OF TENNESSEE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, one of my constituents, Lee R. Johnson, a man for whom I have great, great respect, is a retired Fire Captain in the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department. As a fearless leader he has been influential in the community and years to come. He has consistently demonstrated this belief by supporting numerous causes each year—particularly the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the San Diego Burn Institute, San Diego Firefighter Aid, San Diego 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb, San Diego Youth Sports, and Local 145 Holiday Giving Programs for Low Income Families, among others. Frank DeClerq has not only influenced the welfare of firefighters of Local 145 as their leader, but also promoted the welfare of our residents throughout San Diego and the region.

If we fail to recognize this problem, we will never find the answer to global competition, and we will be left far behind.

To understand how other nations impact America today, and so education must be run as a business! Teachers, principals, school board members, school superintendent, members of state legislatures, governors, and federal government leaders who don’t believe this should get out of the American education system immediately!

In the business world, a business must be operated in real time—even better, ten, fifteen even twenty years in the future—certainly not 25 years in the past. Our school systems should be just as up-to-date! At the present time in our nation’s school systems, it takes years to change our policies or even to add or drop a single subject. With the changes in the world today, we must find a way to be flexible enough to change twenty-five percent of our entire education system within one year and continue to make changes every year until we get our school systems back on track. If not, our country will be in serious trouble—unable to compete in a global economy.

To date, our government and our leaders in the education field have not even been able to define what a proper world-class education system is. We don’t even have a national education “Mission Statement”—what we expect from our children when they finish each of the four levels of training (pre-K through elementary years, middle school years, high school years, and college/university years). A “Mission Statement” is essential to our understanding of the definition of a “world-class education.” I give our government and all of our so-called learning institutions an “F” for America’s education. I do not believe the problems are in our education systems. Many people, who realize that this problem exists, would describe the situation by use of this age-old saying, “the blind leading the blind.” And when the blind lead the blind, everyone goes around in circles—never getting anywhere.

If America fails to adopt this mission statement and carry through on its implementation, then our students will not be prepared to measure up to other students around the world. We cannot fail our children and grandchildren! After all, they are the most cherished treasures of our hearts and our most valuable resources. We must be “on mission” to provide these students of ours with a world-class education.

**HONORING MRS. DEBORAH MOORE**

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable Unsung Hero in Cleveland, Mississippi.

Deborah Moore is the Associate Vice President of Community Relations at Delta Health Alliance. Mrs. Moore is assigned to the Indiana Promise Community where she provides administrative oversight and technical assistance to the community and organizations. Moore worked one year as Project Manager for Delta Health Alliance before being promoted to Assistant Vice President and then to Associate Vice President.

Mrs. Moore is a retiree from the state of Mississippi where she served 27 years in community and economic development. She spent the last 12 years of her career before coming to Delta Health Alliance at Delta State University’s Center for Community and Economic Development in Cleveland, MS where she served as AmeriCorps director for two programs and then as director of the Center for Community and Economic Development the last five years. In her role as director of the Center for Community and Economic Development she assisted grass-root communities by empowering individuals, strengthening relationships and developing projects and programs to support families.

Moore has extensive work with proposal writing having secured grants in excess of $15,000,000.00.

Mrs. Moore is a member of several nonprofit boards, the Mississippi Center for Nonprofits, Cleveland Youth Council and Friends of the Environment. She currently serves as chair of the board for the Delta Fresh Foods Initiative.

Moore serves in an advisory capacity for the Breast Education-Early Detection Project and the School-based Asthma Management Project at Delta State University. She also serves on the advisory board of the Excel By 5 program in Cleveland, MS and is a member of the Excel By 5 Coalition in Indianola, MS.

Mrs. Moore works tirelessly in assisting the elderly by running errands and doing other tasks they may desire; mentoring youth in diverse subject areas, so they can become an asset to society and work faithful with her husband’s ministry to enhance congregants both spiritually and naturally.

Mrs. Moore is a native of Cleveland, MS. She is a graduate of Delta State University with a B.S. degree and a M.B.A. degree. She has a certification as an Economic Development Finance Professional from the National Development Council (NDC) and received her PhD from the University of Southern Mississippi in Human Capital Development.

Mrs. Moore is married to Dr. Billy Moore and they are the proud parents of two daughters, Andrea and Alicia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Deborah Moore, an amazing Unsung Hero, for her dedication and service to mankind.

**RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DEXTER FOXWORTH**

HON. ALAN GRAYSON
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize Dexter Foxworth. A recognized Central
Florida community leader, Dexter is known for achieving change through collaboration, partnerships, and relationships. Since 2012, Dexter has served as the Director for the Zebra Coalition, whose mission is to foster hope, dignity, and self-respect in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and all youth (LGBT+ youth) by providing them an opportunity to grow up in a safe, healthy and supportive environment. In partnership with 24 different local social service and government agencies, schools, colleges and universities, and businesses, Dexter oversees the Coalition's operations and strategic growth in order to provide a full continuum of services and resources to LGBT+ youth throughout Central Florida. The Zebra Coalition is the only organization in Central Florida that assesses the needs of and offers a full continuum of services to LGBT+ youth.

Under Dexter's direction, the Zebra Coalition has strengthened its programming and resources, opened Central Florida's first drop-in center dedicated to LGBT+ youth, and became a national model for LGBT+ youth continuum of care. The Coalition also received accreditation and licensing under the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) as well the Department of Children and Families (DCF). Dexter also helped the coalition obtain its first federal grants through the Wake Foundation and the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Through Dexter's leadership, the Zebra Coalition, its staff members, volunteers, member organizations, supporters and board members, have come together to provide support and hope to Central Florida's LGBT+ youth.

I am happy to honor Dexter Foxworth, during LGBT Pride Month, for his service to Central Florida's youth.

RECOGNIZING DR. CORA MARRETT
HON. FRANK R. WOLF
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Cora Marrett’s career of service to our country—both in government and education. Since 2011, Dr. Marrett has served as deputy director of the National Science Foundation (NSF), and I have had the pleasure of working with her as chairman of the House Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations subcommittee. I recently learned that she will be retiring next month after an exceptional career in academia and with NSF.

Dr. Marrett has helped lead NSF as its acting director, deputy director, acting deputy director and as the assistant director for Education and Human Resources, where she led efforts on STEM education research and outreach—a key priority for the CJS subcommittee in recent years. I particularly appreciate her leadership on efforts included in appropriations bills at my request to better understand gaps in K–12 STEM education research and to bolster American competitive-ness in those fields.

Congressionally, her history of service at NSF. She previously served as the first assistant director for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences directorate from 1992–1996. During that time she earned NSF's “Distinguished Service Award” for her leadership. She subsequently served as senior vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and later the senior vice president for academic affairs for the University of Wisconsin system, as well as a professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Dr. Marrett for her outstanding leadership and service at NSF and wish her and her family all the best for her upcoming retirement.

COMMEMORATING MR. GARNETT KELLY’S 90TH BIRTHDAY
HON. JASON T. SMITH
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Mr. Garnett Kelly’s birthday. Throughout his life, Garnett has served his country and community with the utmost respect and integrity. Garnett is a veteran of World War II, a retired Missouri State Representative, and a farmer.

Garnett Kelly nobly served his country in the United States Navy between 1944 and 1946, during World War II. He then turned his focus to farming and later to state politics where he ran for Missouri’s 143rd District, and served Douglas County from 1970–1984. While serving in the Missouri House of Representatives, Garnett served on the House Committees on Agriculture, Fees and Salaries, Appropriations, and Education. After his tenure in the Missouri House of Representatives, Garnett came back to his farm in Douglas County. He has been farming for over 65 years, running both dairy and beef cattle and still puts up his own hay. Garnett has been married to his wife Loretta since 1945, and they have been blessed with five children, twenty-three grandchildren, forty-nine great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. It is my privilege to commemorate Mr. Garnett Kelly’s 90th birthday, as well as recognize his numerous achievements before the House of Representatives.

HONORING MR. RYAN CEPREGI
HON. ROBERT A. BRADY
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ryan Cepregi for his commendable and brave actions that saved his friend’s life and earned him The Medal of Merit from the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Cepregi has acted in a manner that shows great concern for the well-being of others and will contribute greatly to our community in the future. We are proud to call Mr. Cepregi a resident of Pennsylvania’s First Congressional District.

Mr. Ryan Cepregi is only fourteen years of age, but this past June he saved his friend’s life. Ryan received a text message from his friend stating that he had taken all of his depression medication in an attempt to take his own life. Ryan immediately contacted his friend’s father and paramedics were able to save his life, partially as a result of Ryan’s immediate and mature response. Ryan said, “I was just being a friend. He has so many more years to live his life, he is too young to die.” Ryan put the skills he was taught as a Boy Scout to use in order to save his friend’s life. Ryan has been involved in the Boy Scouts of America since he was five years old, and has been active in Troop 120 for many years now. For his use of these skills, Ryan is being awarded The Medal of Merit, which is given to a youth member or adult leader who has performed some outstanding act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose admirable actions have already impacted our community greatly and will likely continue to do so in the future. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Ryan Cepregi for his service and dedication to Pennsylvania’s First Congressional District.

HONORING TRINA GEORGE
HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Trina George, who is a Director, Leader, and Public Servant. Trina George was appointed to the House of Representatives by President Barack Obama to serve as Mississippi’s Director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Rural Development. She has made history by being the first woman appointed in this position for the State of Mississippi. In her new role, she is charged with assisting residents of rural Mississippi with a range of programs such as: Affordable Housing, Water Systems Upgrades, and Economic Development Efforts. Rural development also provides grant and loan assistance to local governments and non-profit organizations for fire and police protection as well as health clinics, libraries and other facilities for public use. She is an advocate for rural communities throughout the state to assist with their growth, development and sustainability.

Prior to this appointment, Mrs. George served for 15 years as a Special Project Coordinator for Congressman Bennie Thompson where she resolved community and constituency issues by thinking inside, outside and around the box. Her hands-on experience in the Congressional Office served as an ideal prerequisite for her role in rural economic development and community participation for the State of Mississippi.

Mrs. George served on many civic organizations, including education and volunteer groups. She is actively involved in the community where she is a Board Member for the Heart of the South Girls Scouts Council, which serves Northern Mississippi and Southern Tennessee; and a Member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, and Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree from Mississippi Valley State University and a Master’s Degree from Mississippi State University. She is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in Public Policy and Administration at Walden University. Also, she holds a Professional Certificate.
in Management and Leadership from the NeighborWorks Training Institute of America in Washington, DC.

Mrs. George is an important advocate for rural communities throughout the state. She administers and manages over 40 programs which include housing; business and cooperative programs; commodity programs; and community facilities which are designed to improve the quality of life in rural America. Rural Development is an agency that the Obama Administration wants to see in the forefront of efforts to promote renewable energy and conservation of natural resources while ensuring a safe, sustainable, nutritious food supply through the Agency's cooperatives for present and future users.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Tina George, a director, leader and advocate, who is improving the quality of life for rural America.

CELEBRATING EDITH LEDERBERG

HON. LOIS FRANKEL
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Edith Lederberg, who turns 85 years old in August. Edith is a vibrant member of our community, and a true friend and advocate to senior citizens locally, state-wide, and across the country. Edith has worked for the Aging and Disability Resource Center for 37 years. She currently serves as Executive Director, a position she has held since 1986. As Executive Director, she plans, coordinates, and directs senior programming and advocates on behalf of seniors at the local, state, and national level. She also raises financial resources to support programs for Older Americans residing in Broward County.

Ms. Lederberg has been recognized for her dedication several times over the course of her successful career, including her selection as a Media Representative and then as a Regular Delegate to the White House Conference on Aging. She served as President of the Florida Association of Area Agencies on Aging, and as Vice Chair of Broward's Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board for almost 18 years. She has been elected to the Broward Women's Hall of Fame and the Broward Senior Hall of Fame.

These are just a few from her long list of accomplishments. Ms. Lederberg was born in Freeport, New York and she has three children and four grandchildren. She is a truly exceptional woman and I know I join with her all who know and love her. She is indeed a true friend and advocate, and to veterans in Westchester County, New York.

Born in Lithuania in 1945, Edmund Cook was separated from his family in the closing days of World War II. After being found and fed by American soldiers, he was put in a "displaced persons" (DP) Red Cross camp for five years until he was adopted by an American family. The kindness shown to him by those American soldiers would have a lasting impact on Mr. Cook, and would lead to a life-long career of helping veterans.

After receiving a masters degree from Fordham University, Edmund joined the Veterans Administration (VA) at the Montrose, New York, VA Hospital facility as a Clinical Social Worker. In 1991, he was transferred to the White Plains, New York, Veterans Center to help soldiers suffering from PTSD in the aftermath of the Iraq War. He soon started treating veterans from all wars, and has worked tirelessly to ensure they all receive the care they need. He would even go to homeless shelters to seek out veterans in need of medical treatment, and would collect clothes to give veterans.

For the past 30 years, Mr. Cook has chaired the Boys State Program for Ossining Post 506 American Legion. This program offers high school boys the opportunity to learn how our government works, from the local and state level to the Federal Government. It is an important learning experience for young men who might one day seek opportunities in government work. Mr. Cook has infused his passion for helping others into this program, and he continues to inspire young men every year.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Edmund Cook of Ossining, NY, for his lifetime of service to the veterans and youth of my district. His work inspires others to help those in need, and he truly lived up to the Veterans Administration motto, "to care for him who shall have borne the battle." I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his tremendous accomplishments.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MRS. MARTHA ANN (GIBBS) MELTON AS SHE REACHES A MILESTONE OF 100

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Martha Ann (Gibbs) Melton, who was born on August 7, 1914, to Charles and Chanie Gibbs. She is the youngest and only daughter of three siblings. Her two older brothers, Scott and Jim, have both made their transitions. After becoming a grandmother, Martha has been affectionately addressed as Granny by all who know and love her. She is indeed a very proud grandmother with 32 grandchildren and a host of great grandchildren.

Martha Melton was a very interesting child. Her father, Charles Gibbs (Poppa) was one of 12 siblings born to Henry and Ann (Wright) Gibbs. Grandpa Henry Gibbs was a free slave in Clay County, West Point, Mississippi. Because he was a man of many trades—such as a farmer, shoe maker, textile worker, blacksmith, cotton gin operator, and molasses mill operator—Grandpa Henry's 12 children also followed in his path. His freedom came with a 225-acre land grant from the Cottrell Plantation owner, which was eventu-
AN APPRECIATION TO AMERICAN SONGWRITERS

HON. HOWARD COBLE
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that American songwriters are my sweethearts. Their ability to conjure emotion and experience into a tune that can be enjoyed by all rivals any talent in the world.

Recently I sponsored H.R. 4079, the Songwriter Equity Act of 2014, because of the obvious inequity that exists in the rate structure for songwriters and performers. It is my hope that this disparity will be corrected but not solely at the expense, however, of our nation’s and my home state’s radio and television broadcast stations.

The art of songwriting depends on a vibrant marketplace, which unfortunately is becoming more and more difficult to find. If we want to continue to lead the world in music, from a cultural and economic perspective, future changes to our copyright laws should be aimed at supporting and helping the American songwriter.

HONORING LAMBS OF GOD, INC.

HON. BRENIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the LMBS of God, Inc., a child care center in Brandon, Mississippi. Over the past two decades, the establishment has changed ownership and name twice, but the quality of childcare and nurturing has continued to grow for over 20 years. In 1987 by Jessie and Shirley Burns of Bolton, Mississippi. From a small establishment to help families of all backgrounds within the Clinton community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Lambs of God, Inc. for its past and present dedication to providing impeccable, dependable childcare services in an effort to help families of all backgrounds within the Clinton community.

HONORING MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER FRANCIS L. WAWROSKI, JR., U.S. NAVY RET.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of the late Master Chief Petty Officer Francis L. Wawroski, Jr., U.S. Navy Ret. of Laredo, Texas—a well-known veteran, educator, and philanthropist.

Master Chief Wawroski was a graduate of Southwest Texas State University. After serving as a tour of duty in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. After being honorably discharged from the U.S. Army, Master Chief Wawroski enlisted in the U.S. Navy reserve, where he continued to serve for 32 years including service during Operation Desert Storm.

Master Chief Wawroski was also a long-term educator; he retired after 33 years of service with the Laredo Independent School District. Master Chief Wawroski was an honor- able teacher, administrator and mentor to both colleagues and students. Civic involvements were also considered to the Master Chief Wawroski. These civic involvements included various community organizations, most recently with the Laredo Veteran’s Coalition.

Master Chief Wawroski is survived by his wife of 41 years, Franciscia Gamboa Wawroski; their loving children Judith Wawroski-Addison, Valerie Wawroski-Rodriguez, and Dr. Patricia Wawroski-Mendoza; and his first granddaughter Olivia Marie Rodriguez. Master Chief Wawroski was also survived by his brother, MSG John W. Wawroski, U.S. Army Ret.; sister, Sandra M. Wawroski; and a foster brother, Eugene Perales.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the opportunity to recognize the late Master Chief Petty Officer Francis L. Wawroski, Jr., U.S. Navy Ret. for his hard work and generosity that has truly impacted many lives and our community.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN "SHERM" SHUSTER OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent John “Sherm” Shuster, a lifelong resident of Buffalo Mills, Pennsylvania. He is currently 100 years old.

Mr. Shuster was born on September 6, 1913, one of 14 brothers and sisters. He attended Hyndman High School until the age of 15, when he began working at the Olde Village Celebration in Cumberland, Maryland to help support his family. He worked there for the next 45 years, seven months, and 17 days.

Mr. Shuster has always been deeply involved with his family, his church, and his local community. He married Geraldine Miller on January 25, 1936, and they have been together for 62 years, with three sons and two daughters who continue to reside in the Bedford, Pennsylvania region. His faith was particularly important to him, and he continues to worship at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church. Sherm even celebrated his 100th birthday in 2013 there, joined by many friends and family members.

In addition, Sherm served on the Hyndman-Londonderry School Board in the 1950s, served as church treasurer, and remains an active member in the local Lions Club.

Sherm was drafted into the U.S. Navy in February 1945, and was honorably discharged when World War II ended six months later. As he describes it, “When the Germans found out Shuster was coming they decided to surrender right then and there.” Sherm continued to express joy and success in athletics, winning over 100 medals in track and field events in the Bedford County Senior Olympics. He also went on to compete in the 100 meter dash in the National Senior Olympics held in St. Louis, Missouri in 1987, when he was 74 years old.

John Sherman Shuster stands as an outstanding example of American honor and citizenship, and to this day he takes the time to vote in every election. He worked hard throughout his life, providing for his family and ensuring that future generations understand the ideals of genuine humility and love-for-country that you find so frequently in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to honor Mr. John Sherman Shuster on the floor of the House of Representatives today. I congratulate him on a life well-lived.

TRIBUTE—DOUGLAS RING

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Douglas Ring, a valuable member of the Pueblo, Colorado community. Mr. Ring, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, was a businessman and community servant who faithfully stood by his community for over four decades.

Mr. Ring moved to Pueblo with his family when he was 14 years old where he attended Centennial High School, graduating in 1958. As an avid baker and gourmet chef, Mr. Ring worked in the restaurant business in multiple capacities, eventually opening the Great American Winery in 1974. Throughout the rest of his life, Mr. Ring fueled his passion for cooking and baking, bringing as many as 15
RECOGNIZING JENNY LIN FOUNDATION CONCERT

HON. ERIC Swalwell
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. Swalwell of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the free concert on August 1 organized by the Jenny Lin Foundation. The Jenny Lin Foundation was founded 20 years ago, in 1994, following the tragic murder of Jenny Lin of Castro Valley at just 14 years old. Through the efforts of her parents, John and Mei-lian, Jenny’s talents and spirit will never be forgotten through the work of this wonderful organization.

In recognition of Jenny’s love of music, the Jenny Lin Foundation sponsors a free summer music program. It culminates in a free community concert each year. Not only have thousands of East Bay students benefited from this music education, but they have gained leadership skills too. That is because the Foundation’s programs are student led. The Foundation also supports music education through two scholarships to help with private music lessons. These are annual awards given to a Castro Valley Unified School District Music Program participant chosen as the “Most Promising Musician” and a Castro Valley middle school student for “Academic and Musical Achievement.”

Another focus of the Jenny Lin Foundation is to help protect our children. It has done this through fairs to educate parents and children on how to stay safe, self-defense classes, and art contests. Thank you to John and Mei-lian, the Foundation, and everyone involved in it for making a tremendous contribution to the East Bay. I want to wish everyone involved in this year’s concert the very best.

It is moving to see that such a positive benefit can come out of such a terrible crime. May the Jenny Lin Foundation continue to help our East Bay community for many years to come.

HONORING MURIEL ELLIS
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Muriel Ellis, who has been blazing through Mississippi’s legal system.

Mrs. Ellis, 54, became the first African American clerk of Mississippi’s Supreme Court and Court of Appeals on July 1 this year, after being the first African American Supreme Court deputy clerk and chief deputy clerk.


The Jackson native said she is blessed and honored to accept her new position. “I am just going to lead the clerk’s office forward,” she said. Mrs. Ellis took courses at Phillips Business College and worked as a ward secretary for St. Dominic Hospital from 1979–1987.

Mrs. Ellis has seen many changes since working in the clerk’s office. Along with Ms. Kathy Gillis, former Mississippi Supreme Court Clerk of 33 years, Mrs. Ellis supervised the office’s transition to electronic filing. Since the office’s mandatory e-filing for briefs and motions began on January 1, 2014, she continues to work on the electronic transition through implementing emailed orders and clerk’s notices, as well as e-filing transcripts and records from other trial courts.

The clerk became interested in a career in the legal system when she was serving as an alternate juror in the Hinds County Circuit Court. While working in the billing edits department at the City of Jackson Water Department, she said she drove past the Supreme Court building all the time on her way to the Water Department office, which is also located on High Street. “I never knew what this building was, but I used to say: ‘That is a pretty building. I would love to work there some day.’” Mrs. Ellis said.

Mrs. Ellis has three children: Karen Ellis Evans, Kimberly Ellis and Leonard Ellis; three grandchildren: Madison Evans, Leonad Ellis, and Bryson Williams—and is married to Mr. Leonard Ellis, Sr.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Muriel Ellis.

RECOGNIZING NSF INTERNATIONAL

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the good work of NSF International and to commend them for their 70 years of service to citizens around the world. NSF International was founded in 1944 as the National Sanitation Foundation and aimed to set standards for quality for food and water. Since changing its name to NSF International in 1990 and expanding their influence to auditing areas, such as certifications for consumer goods and the environment, they have contributed greatly to the well being of our citizens and our planet.

NSF International is devoted to ensuring reliable and effective standards for all types of consumer goods, services and systems. The organization also provides auditing and risk management tools and solutions for the businesses and industries they support. They are truly great members of the business community as well as valued industry partners.

The sanitation and quality of our products and food present a monumentally important responsibility. We need to make every effort to ensure that people around the world receive healthy and safe goods and services that have a standardized backing. NSF International combines all of these values and I am proud to support their mission. I would like to thank NSF International for all their work over the past 70 years and wish them the best of luck in the future as they continue to work on behalf of people everywhere.

21ST CENTURY ENDANGERED SPECIES TRANSPARENCY ACT

SPEECH OF
HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN
OF MARYLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 29, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4315) to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require publication on the Internet of the basis for determinations that species are endangered species or threatened species, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 4315, which would interfere with scientific determinations for endangered species recovery and divert resources towards unnecessary bureaucracy at the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Endangered Species Act is designed to use the best possible science to identify and protect our most vulnerable species from extinction. This bill would eliminate rational assessment of data and instead mandate that any information from any state, local, tribal government must be named the “best available science” to make decisions. It includes no minimum threshold, such as peer review, for the integrity of that data. Moreover, it invites uncertainty, as there is no way to distinguish between conflicting data from two different states or localities.

The bill also creates unnecessary and cumbersome reporting requirements for the Fish and Wildlife Service, including listing potentially sensitive commercial data and species location information online. It includes no additional funding to complete these reports, diverting funds from the agency’s core mission of safeguarding vulnerable species.

As the Speaker plans to recess the House at the end of this week, there are important
issues that we should be addressing, including the wildfires that threaten public and private lands in the west. Instead, we are weakening fundamental protections for endangered species, creating more paperwork to distract from recovery efforts, and devising bizarre new rules to politicize science. I urge my colleagues to vote no on this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF WYNNTON HILL BAPTIST CHURCH’S 153RD ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR. OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of Wynnton Hill Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia as the church’s membership and leadership celebrates a remarkable 153 years. The congregation of Wynnton Hill Baptist Church will celebrate this noteworthy anniversary on Sunday, August 24, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the Wynnton Hill Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Tracing its roots back to the Civil War era, the church was the first of any denomination to be built in the Wynnton area of Columbus. In 1967, a combination of the original buildings of Mrs. Willis and Mrs. Sarah James, the first members of the church, the plans were established to build a sanctuary. The first pastor, Reverend Phillip Owens, assisted in building the foundation of the church. Land was purchased from the James family to build a bush arbor which was covered by fresh bushes from a wooded area every Saturday before the Sunday service. After some time, a wooden structure was built. Rev. Owens served the church devotedly for 47 years.

In 1911, Reverend James H. Carter was called to lead Wynnton Hill Baptist Church and he continued to build from Rev. Owens’ foundation. Under Rev. Carter’s leadership, the church expanded and the structure changed from wooden to brick. The first public school in the area was taught in the basement of the church. Mrs. Selena Cody and Miss Johnnie Hutchins were the teachers.

One of the most significant moments in the church’s history occurred after a city ordinance was enforced in 1928. The church was condemned and torn down. However, a sanctuary was erected in 1930 and the church began to flourish. Throughout the coming decades, an education wing was installed. In addition, the congregation of Wynnton Hill Baptist Church was incorporated in 1979. Unfortunately, turmoil was on the rise again. In 1988, a firebomb destroyed the education wing, but that did not prevail against the spirit of the members. The following year, the education wing was remodeled and rededicated. The construction of the present sanctuary was completed in 1999 and the loan was paid off in 2003.

During these progresses, Wynnton Hill Baptist Church had eleven dedicated spiritual leaders that shepherded the flock and led them to a state of prosperity. Today the church continues to grow and give back to the community it has served for over 150 years. The story of Wynnton Hill Baptist Church, which began as a small group of people worshipping in a bush arbor church 153 years ago and has grown into an expansive and successful church, is truly an inspiring one of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful congregation of people who put all their love and trust in the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Wynnton Hill Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia for their long history of coming together through the good and difficult times to praise and worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GROWING AMERICAN SHIPPING ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern about the demise of the U.S. flag merchant marine and U.S. shipbuilding industry and to offer legislation to help revitalize these industries that are indispensable to the national security and economic interests of the United States. Admiral Alfred Thayer Mahan, often recognized as the most important American strategist of the 19th Century, argued persuasively that our national greatness was inextricably associated with our control of the sea in order to secure both our commercial and security interests. That concept is as relevant today as it was in Mahan’s time.

Our economic strength and national security today remain tethered to our ability to control the safety and security of the global supply chain. What has changed, however, is our vigilance in maintaining our commercial U.S. maritime industry.

That must change and fortunately I see a way forward to the U.S. shipbuilding industry and U.S. natural gas market are strategic industrial and natural resources essential to U.S. national security interests. In fact, the U.S. maritime industry has been interwoven into the fabric of our economy and national security since the founding of our Republic and the establishment of our Continental Navy in 1775.

Several factors explain why it is in the U.S. national interest to utilize the emerging coastwise and export trades for liquefied natural gas (LNG) to revitalize the U.S. flag. First, this newly available and abundant energy source would provide reliable, long-term markets for U.S. commercial shipbuilding and new trades for U.S. flag vessel operators. Second, the imminent LNG export trade might also provide the impetus to attract new capital investment to expand the U.S. shipbuilding industrial base which has declined in capacity and international competitiveness over the past forty years. And third, the LNG export trade could be used productively to strengthen U.S. strategic interests and alliances with LNG trading partners, especially Japan, South Korea and India. For these reasons, today I am introducing, along with my good friend, the Chairman of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee, Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER, legislation to provide a clear signal to the administration, maritime industry, energy industry, and our foreign trading partners that we in Congress intend to get serious about revitalizing our shipbuilding and maritime industries.

The Growing American Shipping Act is straightforward legislation that would expand existing authority under section 306 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2006 and under the Deepwater Port Act (33 U.S.C. 1503(i)) to ensure that the trade in LNG—both the import and the export of LNG—benefits the U.S. maritime industry. This legislation, if enacted, would enhance U.S. national security and port safety by encouraging the transport of LNG on U.S. flag vessels. It would help maintain the skilled labor pool and technological and industrial infrastructure of the U.S. shipbuilding industry necessary to build and repair both military and commercial vessels. Furthermore, this legislation would ensure that vessels carrying LNG to or from the U.S. are crewed by credentialed U.S. mariners to reduce safety and security risks.

This legislation has received robust support from a host of maritime stakeholders, including the Maritime Trades Department (AFL–CIO), International Transport and Maritime Organization (IALO), Transportation Institute, Shipbuilders Council, Navy League of the United States, American Maritime Officers, Marine Engineers’ Beneficial Association (MEBA), International Association of Masters, Mates and Pilots (MM&P), Maritime Institute for Research and Industrial Development (MIRAID), Marine Firemen’s Union, Metal Trades Department (AFL–CIO), Sailors’ Union of the Pacific, and American Maritime Congress.

Again, this legislation builds on existing authority under the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2006 and the Deepwater Port Act which specifically authorized the Secretary of Transportation to develop a program to promote the use of U.S. flag vessels in the importation of LNG to the United States. This legislation simply would amend each statute to expand the scope of these authorities to apply also to the LNG export trade.

This legislation is a measured and reasonable step forward to revitalize our U.S. maritime industries, to support our economic and national security, and to begin the process of reclaiming our mantle as a great maritime nation. I urge members to join Chairman HUNTER and myself in this effort.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN A. HORSFORD OF NEVADA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to explain that on rollcall vote No. 463, held on July 29, 2014, I intended to vote “no.” I am opposed to the 21st Century Endangered Species Transparency Act, and I inadvertently recorded myself as an “aye” when the bill came to a vote.
Lillie is happily married, the proud mother of four children, eleven grandchildren and two great grand boys.

You can find her teaching Sunday school on Sunday mornings at Pleasant Green M.B. Church, Sardis, MS, also a praise and worship leader, counseling, and encouraging those in need.

Eph. 6:2, "Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Lillie G. Henson for she is definitely the epitome of an unsung hero.

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HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF FRANK ALSCHULER TO THE UPTOWN COMMUNITY

HONORING LILLIE G. HENSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable hero, Lillie G. Henson.

Lillie G. Dean Henson was born to the late Aaron and Lilian Dean on August 10, 1949 in Sardis, MS, Panola County. She is the ninth of eleven children, five boys and six girls. There were many challenges that she faced that seemed to have plighted her in the line of the first born. She was blessed to be born in a Christian home where reading and studying the Bible were not an option, therefore, her faith in the Lord was well rooted and ground ed.

Faced with many challenges of sickness in her family, Lillie learned the application of her faith was the only true anchor. Growing up was very challenging at times. Early in her growing up years, her mother was stricken with a severe heart condition which required lots of rest and carefully prepared meals.

At the age of fourteen, much of the responsibility of taking care of the family fell upon Lillie. Cooking breakfast for the family and preparing special diets for her ailing mom before going off to school was quite an experience.

As a little girl growing up, Lillie’s dad would ask her to read the Bible to him, and as a child she remembers reading: “Honor your father and your mother that your days may be long upon the earth.” This scripture and many others in her spirit as she grew into adulthood. Lillie’s passion for the word of God grew greater and greater.

By the time Lillie was a junior in high school, she began to make plans for college... only to be asked by her ailing mother to stay home to make sure her younger sister, who was then a junior, finish high school. Her plans were shattered but she learned to be obedient to her parents through the studying of the scriptures.

In 1969, Lillie moved to Chicago with her older siblings. Lillie was employed at Brachs Candy Company for twenty years. She was among the first few African Americans to hold a manager’s position in the Quality Control Department.

In 1990, Lillie’s dad at the age of eighty-two became ill. Her husband, Otta Henson, Sr., who was then a junior, finish high school. Her plans were shattered but she learned to be obedient to her parents through the studying of the scriptures.

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In 1990, Lillie’s dad at the age of eighty-two became ill. Her husband, Otta Henson, Sr., who was then a junior, finish high school. Her plans were shattered but she learned to be obedient to her parents through the studying of the scriptures.
Nearly 98 percent of older Ohioans were enrolled in Medicare in 2011, and nationwide more than 50 million seniors and people with disabilities are covered under Medicare.

Medicaid matters because 1 in 5 Americans and 1 and 3 children receive health care through Medicaid. Providing preventative care and lifelong health assistance is not only the right, moral thing to do, it is also fiscally responsible.

I look forward to continuing to work to strengthen and protect these programs and to ensure that the promise of health and economic security will be there for generations to come.

CONGRATULATIONS TO REV. MARK MCCOLLUM AND THE NEW HOME BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Rev. Mark McCollum was born in Sunflower, Mississippi on June 12, 1934. In 1954 he moved to Chicago, Illinois. In 1964, Rev. Mark McCollum and a small group of faithful followers and believers founded the New Home Baptist Church in February of that year. The church’s first location was in the Stone Temple Baptist Church Annex on Millard and Douglas Boulevard. A year later on March 19, 1965, Pastor McCollum lost his right arm in an accident and the church moved several times before locating to 349 South Cicero Avenue. It was always Pastor McCollum’s desire to be in a church building and the New Home Family worked and prayed for forty years for it to happen. They called those years, the wilderness years, referring to the 40 years the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness after leaving Egypt. The Church and its pastor had their challenges and struggles but as a skilled leader, administrator and businessperson, the church acquired most of the 300 South Cicero Avenue block and used it as leverage to purchase the new church location at 4804 W. Polk Street, which is now known as Dr. Mark McCollum Avenue.

While being a great preacher and pastor, Dr. Mark McCollum is also known as one of the greatest gospel singers in the world, and brings great joy and inspiration to thousands every week with his voice. He can be heard on radio every Sunday night on AM 1450 at 9:00 pm where thousands wait for his theme song, “I Will Trust In The Lord Until I Die.”

Finally, the wait was over and for the past ten years the New Home Congregation has been worshiping at 4804 W. Polk St. in Chicago, Illinois and saying thanks be to God for all that he has done. As one who lived at 5252 W. Polk Street for twenty years, I say thank you New Home, Thank You Dr. Mark McCollum for all that you mean to our community! God Bless and Keep you.

HONORING CLEOTHA SADDLER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable hero, Cleotha Saddler.

Cleotha Saddler was born on February 1, 1945 in Illinois to Garfield Allen and Viola Orr. She grew up in a home with six other relatives until her father decided he would raise her in Memphis, TN. Cleotha attended Mississippi Valley State University where she earned multiple degrees in elementary education. She later married Frank Saddler, Jr., settled in Marks, MS, and gave birth to nine children.

Today, Cleotha, also known as “Cleo” or “Lou,” is the rock of her family. She continues to care for her children, and take care of her grandchildren. Over the course of her life, she has contributed to her community tremendously. Her name has become one so common for helping others that the desire from others to want to help even her grandchildren has increased. She is most known in her efforts for raising money for those in need.

In 2005, she stood at the main intersection in Marks, MS tirelessly to gather donations from townspeople to send to Louisiana for Hurricane Katrina victims. In addition to that, she has never been reluctant to gather donations in that same way for families who cannot afford to pay for the funerals and burials of their loved ones. She comforts those families, not just with funds but with endless visits and “check-in” calls. She also helps organizations to decorate and/or cook for different events in the community. She is one that is very supportive of the school system, in reference to achieving adequate education. Cleotha is never hesitant to help anyone in any way that she possibly can.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Cleotha Saddler for she is definitely the epitome of an unsung hero.
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 Thursday, July 31, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.