

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MS. ISABEL ALLENDE

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Ms. Isabel Allende, who was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama on November 24. Ms. Allende joined eighteen other bold and inspiring Americans at the White House to receive our Nation's highest civilian honor.

Beginning in 1945, American presidents have honored individuals who make particularly important contributions to "the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural endeavors." As an accomplished author and human rights advocate, Isabel Allende has promoted positive social change throughout the Nation and the world.

Since her first novel was published in 1982, Ms. Allende has reached extraordinary heights as an author. Her books have been translated into more than 35 languages and have sold more than 65 million copies worldwide. Ms. Allende has received numerous awards over the last 30 years, including the prestigious National Literary Award in Chile, her country of origin, and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Isabel Allende has established herself as a feminist force in Latin America's male-dominated literary world and as a strong advocate for social justice. In addition to writing, Ms. Allende devotes much of her time to human rights and the empowerment of women worldwide.

From activists who fight for social change, to artists who explore the furthest reaches of our imagination, Ms. Allende joins a distinct group of individuals who have pushed our Nation to reach new heights. Please join me in expressing deep appreciation to Isabel Allende for her singularly exceptional career, and for her outstanding record of service.

HEATHER GEYER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Heather Geyer for her passion for local government and commitment to her community.

Heather started her career serving for seven years as the Assistant to the City Manager in Greenwood Village. She then moved to the position of Assistant to the City Manager for the City of Wheat Ridge in 2006. In her current position, Heather serves as the Administrative Services Director/Public Information Officer for the City of Wheat Ridge where she oversees the internal support services depart-

ment including Human Resources, Information & Technology, Finance, Purchasing and Sales Tax. She celebrates eight years at the City of Wheat Ridge in December.

Heather is also a huge believer in mentoring the next generation of women in government and is a founding member of Colorado Women Leading Government. This unique group is dedicated to advancing the role of women in local government. Heather has received numerous state and national awards for all her work. She continues to dedicate her extra time to her community as the president and budget manager of the Foothills Animal Shelter Board of Directors and as a board member for the Wheat Ridge Optimist Club.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Heather for her tremendous work mentoring and giving back to her community. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DAVID ROGERS ON RECEIVING THE DAVID NYHAN PRIZE FOR POLITICAL JOURNALISM

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, with great respect, admiration, and appreciation, I would like to recognize David Rogers, who will today receive the David Nyhan Prize for Political Journalism from the Shorestein Center.

I can think of no one more deserving of this award than the "dean" of the Capitol Hill press corps. David has covered Congress for more than 30 years; he earned his stripes, and his work has the deserved reputation as the "gold standard for Congressional reporting."

His dedication to fair, honest reporting is readily apparent in every word he writes; as a result, Members of Congress, staffers, and congressional reporters alike respect what David has to say, and are better for having read his work.

After bravely serving our country during the Vietnam War as a combat infantry medic with the 1st Division in 1969, David's career as a journalist spanned some of the most important events in our Nation's history. He has covered school desegregation in Boston, broke the story on U.S. mining in Nicaraguan harbors, spent nearly two decades covering Congress and national politics in *The Wall Street Journal*, and now provides in depth coverage of the intersection of politics and policy at *Politico*. His work has been precise, wide-ranging, and important, a feat few in his profession have accomplished.

His knowledge of the inner workings of Capitol Hill is unparalleled—in particular, his perceptive work covering the Appropriations process, where I have had the privilege of working with him closely. David began covering the

House Appropriations Committee when few others did, and he is one of only a handful of people who possess a deep, institutional knowledge of the process. Through it all—hours-long markups, bicameral negotiations, and late-night floor debates—David's reporting has been smart, accurate, and makes a connection to the reader that conveys both the personal and the national importance of the issues he's covering.

So David, we thank you for your service and your commitment to integrity in journalism and in everything you do. I applaud you on this esteemed award.

HONORING MS. JOSEPHINE LUCEY

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Josephine Lucey. As a school board member from the Cupertino Union School District (CUSD) and the 2014 President of the California School Boards Association (CSBA), she has fought fervently to provide students in her community and throughout the state of California a high quality education.

Ms. Lucey is being honored for her immeasurable contributions to ensuring sound public education policies for her community and across the State of California. On December 13, 2014, Josephine's efforts will be recognized by her peers at the CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show in San Francisco, California.

Ms. Josephine Lucey has championed bond and parcel tax measures to increase public education funding for both her local elementary and high schools. Her educational and community leadership roles include the Hoffmann Award Chair for the Santa Clara County School Boards Association, the Santa Clara Education Coalition, and the Santa Clara County Committee on School District Organization. Moreover, utilizing her experience in mechanical engineering and the aerospace industry, she contributed to the flight safety and mission success of the Space Shuttle flight STS-54, for which she was awarded the "Silver Snoopy" by the shuttle crew.

As President of the CSBA, Ms. Josephine Lucey has held various leadership positions on the CSBA's committees and councils. She chairs the CSBA's Business and Education Advisory Council and is a member of the Cities Counties Schools Partnership's Board of Directors. In addition, she represents the CSBA at education-related events throughout the state and country.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Ms. Josephine Lucey for her years of dedication and commitment to the California School Boards Association and to education. Her contributions have left a lasting legacy, which will benefit the lives of our students today, and in the future.

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

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

CELEBRATING BIOMARIN
PHARMACEUTICALS INC.

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to acknowledge BioMarin Pharmaceuticals on the occasion of the company's recognition by Forbes Magazine as the 7th Most Innovative Company in the World for 2014. Selection as one of the world's ten most innovative companies is no small accomplishment and is a testament to BioMarin's ability to efficiently provide patients with new solutions to challenging chronic and degenerative genetic conditions.

Forbes' ranking relies on the ability of investors to identify which companies will continue to spur innovation now and in the future. Given BioMarin's past success in pioneering new medical treatments, the company's high ranking is well deserved.

Since 1997, BioMarin has developed and commercialized five medical treatments, a remarkable feat in the biopharmaceutical industry. The company has been recognized as one of the nation's fastest drug developers, bringing new treatments to market 12 months sooner than the industry median. For the patients with rare and often severe conditions, one year can make a lifetime of difference.

The innovative work of BioMarin staff, from the leadership team to research associates, has had a lasting impact on the North Bay community and beyond. Please join me in congratulating BioMarin Pharmaceuticals on this important recognition and wishing them many years of future success.

DR. MARYANNE BACH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dr. Maryanne Bach for her outstanding professional work and passion for sustainability and mentoring women and minorities.

Maryanne has broken through the "first woman barrier" several times. She served at the Denver Federal Center as Director of Security, Safety and Law Enforcement, Director of Research and Development, and Director of Technical Services. Each of these positions were formerly never held by a woman. She was also the first female Executive Director of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology.

Maryanne's professional accomplishments include working with legislative and executive branches of the federal government, and directing water resources infrastructure, policies and financial actions for nine states. In addition, her Master's in Botany and Plant Ecology has helped expand conservation efforts through North America.

In retirement, Maryanne has not slowed down and is giving back to her community in several capacities. She currently operates a private life coach business, serves as the Prayer Chaplain Coordinator for Unity of the

Foothills at Red Rocks, and is a board member of the Evergreen Alliance for Sustainability.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Maryanne Bach for receiving this honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

**HONORING THE LYNDEN CHRISTIAN
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM**

HON. SUZAN K. DeLBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2014 Lynden Christian girls volleyball team. On November 15, the Lynden Lyncs won the Class 1A state championship, a fitting end to their impressive season. I congratulate them on this memorable achievement.

The Lyncs only suffered two defeats during the entire regular season. On the way to the first title in school history, they defeated Kalama, Cascade, and Bellevue Christian, dropping only one set throughout the state tournament. The team's motto for the year, "Start Strong, Finish Stronger," was on display during the championship match, when the Lyncs secured the title with a resounding 3-0 victory over King's High School.

I would like to give special recognition to Kara Bajema, Madison Weg, and Carli Tjoelker for their pivotal roles in the championship match, and throughout the season. Bajema, a junior, had 14 kills and 13 digs, while Weg had 11 kills and 14 assists. Tjoelker added 14 assists.

Lynden Christian's impressive performance on the court is also a testament to the leadership of Coach Kim Grycel. Coach Grycel provided the team with the encouragement and training necessary to achieve this notable victory. The title provided a fitting cap to the most successful season in school history for the Lyncs volleyball team.

Again, I congratulate the Lynden Christian girls volleyball team on all of their success. Their accomplishments and success are hard-earned and well-deserved.

**RECOGNIZING STATE REPRESENTATIVE
NICHOLAS MICOZZIE**

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the lifetime of public service of State Representative Nicholas Micozzie.

For thirty-six years, Nick Micozzie has made the trip up the Pennsylvania Turnpike to Harrisburg to represent his community in the state House of Representatives. The residents of Nick's district have long benefited from his loyal service, legislative skill and dedication to hardworking families in Delaware County.

Nick began his public service forty-four years ago like many do, stepping up to serve in his own neighborhood as an Upper Darby

Township councilman. Nick's compassion and his commitment to Upper Darby's families were obvious and before long, Nick's constituents sent him to Harrisburg to serve. During his thirty-six year tenure, he left an indelible mark on state government, chairing numerous committees and passing important legislation that helps Pennsylvania.

Throughout his service, Nick never forgot where he came from. He was always willing to talk to his constituents, explain a vote, or discuss the issues of the day. If there was any way he could help them, he did. It never mattered which side of the aisle you were on—Nick has always been a gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, last month Nick Micozzie made the drive to Harrisburg one final time. Surrounded by his friends, family and colleagues, Nick reflected on his career of service to his community. Nick Micozzie has been a tremendous public servant and a tireless advocate. Delaware County has been blessed to have him as a voice in Harrisburg.

**NANCY TAYLOR MASON/BABY
DOE'S CLOTHING**

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nancy Taylor Mason and Baby Doe's Clothing for receiving the 2014 City of Golden Mayor's Award of Excellence.

The City of Golden honors Nancy Taylor Mason and her business, Baby Doe's Clothing, for their dedication and support of local artists. Celebrating its 15th anniversary, Baby Doe's is Golden's premier source for artisan items and clothing that work for the Colorado lifestyle. Since 2000, storeowner Nancy Taylor Mason has spearheaded the marketing of the very successful Annual Golden Fine Arts Festival. Additionally, the store and the staff are strong supporters of Golden schools, civic groups, charities, and local events.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nancy Taylor Mason and Baby Doe's Clothing for this well-deserved recognition by the City of Golden.

TRIBUTE TO JULIA CASEY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Julia Casey, who is retiring from my Congressional staff after more than two decades of distinguished service. Julia started her career in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1991 when she joined my staff, and ever since has faithfully and dutifully kept the trains running in both my Washington, DC office and more recently in the Appropriations Committee. Every meeting, speaking engagement, constituent fly-in, flight itinerary, office move, staff on-boarding, committee hearing, and committee mark-up that my congressional calendar has seen, Julia has managed with professionalism and grace.

Like most of us, I have been fortunate in my tenure in Congress to have extraordinary professional and personal staff accompany me on this journey. However, Julia stands out as a trusted confidant, advisor, and most assuredly, friend. Exceedingly loyal, trustworthy, and organized, she has made my life simpler in an often complicated and demanding place. Her cheery demeanor, her thoughtful execution, her reliability and calmness under pressure—these are just some of the attributes that have made Julia a truly irreplaceable part of the Rogers team. Time and again, she has gone above the call of duty to help me, and by extension, the people of Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District in delivering a better, more responsive and open constituent experience. Julia has made an indelible mark on, not only the U.S. House of Representatives, but also on me, both personally and professionally, and I will be forever grateful to her and to her family.

As we all know, congressional staff work long hours, and often sacrifice weekends and holidays in order to keep this esteemed institution running. This inevitably takes a toll on personal commitments. She has earned more than her share of quality time with her husband Greg and cherished son Gregory in her home state of Idaho, where she and Greg will retire soon.

Congress, the House, the Appropriations Committee, Kentucky, my wife Cynthia, and I will surely miss Julia's contributions and leadership; but we thank her for her steadfast service and dedication. We wish Julia many wonderful years of retirement with her family and friends.

IN HONOR OF MARGARET
HAGERTY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margaret Hagerty, a constituent from my hometown of Concord who at 91 years old is the oldest person to finish this year's New York City marathon.

Now, in North Carolina, we know the value of putting in the time and effort to reach our goals. We aren't strangers to hard work, but Margaret outpaces us all. From 5Ks on Union Street in Concord to marathons at the Great Wall of China, Margaret has participated in countless races and has the trophies and medals to prove it. She also holds the world record for oldest person to finish a marathon on every continent.

Margaret wasn't always a runner and didn't take up the sport until her early 60s. One day, she woke up, started running and didn't want to stop.

It's extremely inspiring to see someone work so hard to achieve amazing things. I admire Margaret for her dedication and her tenacity—her outlook on life is something we can all aspire to. I wish her all the best in her future races. For everyone back home in the 8th District, she'll always finish first in our book.

LESLIE HORD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Leslie Hord for her generous spirit in giving back to her community and leading by example.

Leslie has been with Citywide Banks since 1996 and has almost 35 years in the financial industry helping people with their financial needs. Her career has been exemplary. Her activities outside of her career amplify her commitment to the Jefferson County community. She serves as Vice President of The Action Center Board of Directors and will serve as President in 2015. She also serves on the Leadership Jefferson County Alumni Committee, co-chairs Justice Day for Youth Leadership Jefferson County and is a Kiwanian.

On any given day you can see Leslie delivering food baskets for the Seniors' Resource Center, helping with Lakewood Scrub or participating in Colorado's Future Civic Engagement meetings. She believes in giving back to her community and leads by example.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Leslie Hord for receiving this honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING PATRICIA MAHAN

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Santa Clara City Councilmember Patricia Mahan for her decades of dedicated and faithful public service to her community.

Councilmember Patricia Mahan has long devoted herself to serving others. Among the significant driving forces behind her commitment has been her family. She witnessed firsthand the fulfilling impact of public service through her late father's work as an esteemed councilmember. In addition, her desire to protect her grandmother's home from a street widening plan led her to become a Historical & Landmarks Commissioner in 1993. She has also dedicated herself to helping the public as both an educator and a lawyer. With a teaching accreditation from San Jose State University, Patricia has taught subjects such as English and drama to secondary school students. She also earned her Juris Doctorate from Santa Clara University School of Law, and has been practicing as an attorney for over 30 years.

Patricia Mahan has worked tirelessly for many civic organizations. From 1983 to 1992, she served on the Board of Trustees at the West Valley-Mission Community College. She was a Legal Hearing Officer for the Santa Clara County Assessment Appeals Board from 1992 to 1994. She also assumed presidency over various organizations, such as the Lions Blind Center of Santa Clara Valley.

Councilmember Patricia Mahan was first elected to the Santa Clara City Council in 1994 and re-elected in 1998. She was elected

Mayor of Santa Clara in 2002 and re-elected for a second term as Mayor in 2006. Throughout her two terms as Mayor, she demonstrated efficiency and innovation in governing her community. As Mayor, she supported the construction of the San Francisco 49ers Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara. By encouraging this project, she dedicated herself to enriching her city both culturally and entrepreneurially. Demonstrating her commitment to service, Mahan was elected to another term on the City Council in 2010. Her determination to promote Santa Clara in every way possible speaks of her exemplary leadership abilities.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Councilmember Patricia Mahan for her unparalleled devotion to public service. Thanks to her many years of faithful and selfless work for Santa Clara, the community has become a much more vibrant and better place to live. Although her term is coming to a close, her vision and legacy will no doubt live on.

HISTORICAL RECORD OF OPINION
EDITORIAL ON DIPLOMACY IN FIJI

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include, for historical purposes, an opinion editorial on diplomacy in Fiji.

[From The Hill, Jan. 25, 2012]

LANDLUBBER DIPLOMACY WON'T WORK IN FIJI

(By Rep. Eni F.H. Faleomavaega (D-American Samoa))

Having no policy of its own, the U.S. marched in time, applying section 508 sanction law which severed U.S. aid to Fiji. U.S. sanctions, however, have had no consequence because U.S. aid to Fiji was less than \$3 million per year.

Of consequence is Pakistan. In 1999, when General Pervez Musharraf overthrew the democratically-elected government of then Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, the U.S. waived 508 sanction law, despite the fact that for nearly ten years General Musharraf never made good on his promise to resign his military commission and hold free, fair and transparent elections in Pakistan.

The U.S., like Australia and New Zealand, cooperated with Pakistan's regime—even providing billions in aid—because we understood then like we should understand now that engagement is vital to our interests and necessary if our long-term objectives are peace, stability and democracy.

Do Australia, New Zealand and the U.S. consider Fiji vital to our interests? If not, I believe we should give China and Iran's growing presence in the region. If so, we need a new way forward.

The U.S. can no longer rely on landlubber diplomacy which seeks to force democracy by isolation. Every tautai (navigator) knows—democracy can't be forced. Force is contrary to the order of democracy and contrary to our innate desire to choose.

To succeed in Fiji, we must start from the beginning. The legacy of Fiji's colonial past has never been fully resolved since Fiji gained its independence in 1970. To date, Indians control many of the small businesses. Australia and New Zealand control major banking and commercial enterprises, and indigenous Fijians control much of the communal land and military establishment, with

serious divisions existing between traditional leaders and lower-ranking Fijians.

So far, no resolutions have been established to provide balance and fairness to both Fijians and ethnic Indians. In the past 20 some years, Fiji has had four coups and three constitutions. In the two coups of 1987 and the political crisis of 2000, ethnic tensions played major roles.

Until we understand this beginning and begin to converse about it, democracy will not get underway. Having had several discussions with interim Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama and dozens of others during my visits to Fiji, I believe U.S. leadership can help strengthen bilateral ties and improve regional conditions.

By employing smart diplomacy in Fiji—which has been the hallmark of President Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's foreign policy initiative even in Myanmar—I have every hope that we can achieve equal suffrage and other political, economic and social reforms targeted under the "Strategic Framework for Change," just as the interim Prime Minister seeks.

IN HONOR OF HERMAN J. RUSSELL

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn spirit that I rise to pay tribute to an extraordinary man who labored tirelessly for the greater good, a man that stood as an example to us all, Mr. Herman J. Russell. Sadly, Mr. Russell passed away on Saturday, November 15, 2014. Funeral services were held on Saturday, November 22, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. at Saint Philip AME Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

Born on December 23, 1930, Mr. Russell was a lifelong resident of Atlanta, Georgia. At the young age of 16, he purchased a small plot of land for the price of \$125, an investment he eventually used to put himself through college at Tuskegee University in Alabama. He then went on to form a plastering company which, over the course of several decades, grew into a multi-million dollar real estate development and construction company, H.J. Russell & Co. Today, it is one of the nation's largest minority-owned real estate firms.

Herman Russell is known as a founding father of the city of Atlanta. From Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport to the Georgia Dome, from the Georgia-Pacific tower to the Coca-Cola headquarters, and from Turner Field to the Philips Arena, Mr. Russell played an essential role in the construction of much of the great skyline we see today. His firm is a partner in the joint venture selected to build the new nearly \$1.3 billion Atlanta Falcons stadium, which is slated to open in 2017.

In addition to his many accomplishments as a leading African-American businessman, Mr. Russell was an esteemed civic leader. He served as the first black member of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce as well as the chamber's second black president. Mr. Russell was an activist and champion of the Civil Rights Movement, working closely with other influential figures such as the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He also contributed to the successful campaign of Maynard Jackson, Atlanta's first black mayor.

Mr. Russell was also well-known for his giving heart, evidenced by his role as a generous benefactor for numerous educational programs for institutions such as Morehouse College, Georgia State University, and his alma mater, Tuskegee University. Additionally, Mr. Russell lent his charitable support to accomplish such tasks as the expansion of the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta facility at Hughes Spalding.

George Washington Carver once said, "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it." The great Capital of the South would not be the same without Mr. Russell. Breaking down the numerous racial and economic barriers that stood in his path, Mr. Russell was a visionary and a man ahead of his time. His passing is a great loss to us all but his memory and storied legacy will serve as an enduring source of inspiration for so many.

Mr. Russell is survived by his wife, Sylvia Anderson Russell; and his three children, Michael, Jerome, and Donata, who each run a portion of the family business, continuing their father's legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the great Herman J. Russell, a charitable man who worked his whole life to overcome great challenges and grow into the leader he was destined to be. Mr. Russell was a remarkable man and a blessing to the state of Georgia and the nation as a whole. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time and we pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 530 had I been present, I would have voted "no".

HONORING THE CITY OF NEWPORT'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Mayor, City Council, and residents of Newport, Minnesota, past and present on the occasion of the city's 125th Anniversary.

Even before its incorporation as the village of Newport in 1889, the city was a vibrant Mississippi River community with deep roots in Minnesota history. Newport has always drawn its strength from the people who live within it, and takes pride in its rich history and natural beauty. According to the Washington County Historical Society, Newport began as two separate settlements, one of which was called Red Rock. It was settled by European immigrants shortly after the land was purchased by the U.S. government in 1837 through treaties

with the Ojibwe and Dakota. The name Red Rock was derived from a red-painted granite boulder, an unusual remnant likely deposited by retreating glaciers. This rock, which has been moved several times, was held in great reverence by the Dakota. Today the rock sits in front of Newport United Methodist Church.

The area around the settlement of Red Rock became a place of agriculture and commerce on the Mississippi River, as well as a major gathering spot for Methodist camp meetings. The "Red Rock Camp Ground Association" held meetings each July that drew single-day crowds of 20,000 people. Special steamboats and trains brought people from St. Paul twice a day. By the 1880s, however, attendance began to decline rapidly. After the city was incorporated, several successful companies began operation in the city, including Farmer's Terminal Meat Packing Company (Cudahy), the Farmer's Terminal State Bank and the Fritz Candy Company.

In the 1950s Newport Plaza opened a new and dynamic chapter in retail for the city. Today the shopping center with its signature red roof continues to welcome local residents as well as travelers from nearby Highway 61 for legendary home cooking at the North Pole restaurant and for essential items from John Bartl Hardware.

125 years after it was founded, Newport is thriving. It is helping to model sustainable and ecologically sound practices by participating in Minnesota GreenStep Cities, a voluntary challenge, assistance and recognition program to help cities achieve their environmental and quality-of-life goals. Through the dedicated work of local elected officials and residents, the community is a leader for other communities in our state.

Fellowship and community involvement is essential to the prosperity of any small town, and Newport boasts several outstanding examples of community engagement, including its annual Pioneer Day celebration, community garden, Veterans Memorial, and the Newport Public Library and Community Center. Residents are constantly working to keep this river community a desirable place to live and work.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise to pay tribute to residents of Newport, Minnesota and its noble place in our state—past, present and future—on the city's 125th anniversary.

RACHEL T. EMMER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Rachel T. Emmer for bringing her passion for environmental solutions and entrepreneurship to her community.

Rachel traveled several paths after earning an undergraduate degree in business. She started a hotel and restaurant in Central America, selling the business in the early 90's and becoming part of a film crew recording documentaries for National Geographic, Discovery and the BBC. It was during this time she found her passion for environmental solutions. She earned an MBA in sustainability from Bainbridge Graduate Institute. One of the first "Green" MBA programs in the United States.

Today, Rachel is the founder of the DetritusGroup which collaborates with businesses, municipalities and nonprofit organizations to build up their internal capacity and effectiveness in the area of sustainability. Rachel is also an Adjunct Faculty in the Business Department of Red Rocks Community College teaching business and entrepreneurship classes and inspiring both young students and returning adults to pursue a career in business and the development of entrepreneurship.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Rachel T. Emmer for being honored by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HISTORICAL RECORD OF
FALEOMAVAEGA'S REQUEST FOR
OFFICIAL CLARIFICATION OF
U.S. POLICY REGARDING AMERICAN
SAMOA'S STATUS BEFORE
THE UNITED NATIONS
DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include, for historical purposes, the following information about my request for official clarification regarding American Samoa's status before the United Nations Decolonization Committee.

FALEOMAVAEGA VISITS UNITED NATIONS AND REQUESTS OFFICIAL CLARIFICATION OF US POLICY REGARDING AMERICAN SAMOA'S STATUS BEFORE THE DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE

[Press Release—Mar. 30, 2006]

Congressman Faleomavaega announced today that on Monday March 27, 2006 he visited the United Nations (UN) as part of an official Congressional Delegation (CODEL) led by Chairman Henry Hyde and Ranking Member Tom Lantos of the House Committee on International Relations. The CODEL, which included other senior Members of the International Relations Committee, met with Ambassador John Bolton, the US Permanent Representative to the UN, to discuss the current nuclear crisis with Iran and whether Congress should withhold funding for the UN when problems of corruption and lack of accountability continue to exist.

During the visit, Faleomavaega also had the opportunity to be briefed by Commander Jeffrey J. Jones who has been appointed by the US Mission to serve as the liaison for the United States to the UN Special Committee of Twenty-four (C-24), also known as the UN Decolonization Committee. As a follow-up to his briefing, Faleomavaega wrote to Ambassador Bolton to determine American Samoa's status relative to US policies relating to the Decolonization Committee and the United Nations.

The full text of Faleomavaega's letter to Ambassador Bolton dated March 30, 2006 follows:

Dear Mr. Ambassador: I am writing to thank you for meeting with Members of the House International Relations Committee during our recent visit to the United Nations (UN) and the United States Mission. I commend Chairman Henry Hyde and Ranking Member Tom Lantos for leading our Congressional Delegation and I was pleased to be a part of our important discussions with you

regarding the current nuclear crisis with Iran and whether Congress should withhold funding for the UN when problems of corruption and lack of accountability continue to exist. During our visit to the United Nations, I also had the opportunity to be briefed by Commander Jeffrey J. Jones who has been appointed by the US Mission to serve as the liaison for the US to the UN Special Committee of Twenty-four (C-24), also known as the UN Decolonization Committee. As you know, in 1945, the United Nations established the International Trusteeship Council for the purpose of reviewing and then making recommendations before the UN General Assembly to declare certain territories as non-self-governing, or dependent on colonial powers. Since the creation of the UN, more than 80 colonies have gained their independence and 16 non-self-governing territories, as defined by the UN remain today.

Although the Trusteeship Council no longer exists, the Decolonization Committee stands in its place. Each year, the UN Decolonization Committee reviews the status of the 16 non-self-governing territories which include American Samoa as well as other US possessions. It is my understanding that the US does not pay much attention anymore to the activities of the Decolonization Committee in part because the US has had frustration over the years in dealing with member countries like Cuba that continue to view the United States as a colonial power. A few years ago, I attended a meeting of the Decolonization Committee held in Havana, Cuba and I can confirm the fact that the remarks of the Speaker of the Cuban Parliament were very negative towards the United States.

This aside, it is my understanding that there are no negotiations on American Samoa underway between the United Nations and the US Government. Notwithstanding these circumstances, Commander Jones informed me that the US State Department does file annual reports about American Samoa with the Decolonization Committee after consulting with officials of the US Department of the Interior. These reports contain information about the economic, social and political development of American Samoa and, for this reason, I am requesting your assistance in determining the official position of the US regarding American Samoa's status before the UN Decolonization Committee. Again, the Decolonization Committee defines and categorizes American Samoa as a non-self governing territory.

In recent years, our late Governor Tauese Sunia initiated a movement to request that American Samoa be de-listed as a non-self governing territory by the United Nations. However, neither our US Secretary of State nor our Secretary of the Interior ever brought this matter before the people and leaders of American Samoa for consideration. While I suspect that at some point in time a plebiscite may be needed to determine whether or not the listing should be continued, I respectfully request that the Governor, our territorial legislature, and my office be informed on what procedures need to be taken before action, if any, is taken by the UN Decolonization Committee or the US Mission to the UN.

As you can appreciate, it is imperative that the elected and traditional leaders and the people of American Samoa are fully briefed and informed about the territory's political status as a non-self governing territory as defined and categorized by the United Nations before any action is taken.

Faleomavaega concluded his letter by saying, With this understanding, I would appreciate receiving a response from you as to

American Samoa's status relative to US policies relating to the Decolonization Committee and the United Nations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes on Thursday, November 20, 2014. On Roll Call Vote 529, the Waxman of California Part C Amendment Number 1, I would have voted "aye." On Roll Call Vote 530, on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions to H.R. 4795, I would have voted "aye." On Roll Call Vote 531, On Passage of H.R. 4795, the Promoting New Manufacturing Act, I would have voted "no."

HONORING KAREN NELSON

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, it doesn't take long for anyone to recognize that the Congress depends on staff people to get most of its work done. Members speak and Members vote, but much of what we say is researched for us by staff and many of our votes are based on advice and counsel we get from our staff.

I have been in Congress for 40 years now. For 36 of those years, I have had the great good fortune to be advised and counseled by Karen Nelson, my chief health staff person. Much of what we have accomplished in health during that time has been because of her.

First, she knows the field. For three decades, she has been directly involved in every public health and health finance law that has passed this House. She's a living reference work for details about everything from Medicaid rates to pharmaceutical trials to tobacco advertising to health exchanges. She also provides the institutional memory on the origins of these laws as well as the alternatives and amendments that were considered in their passage.

She is, however, much more than an encyclopedia of health policy. She is also intuitive about issues. I have seen her be briefed on an issue that was altogether new to her and immediately hone in on the central problem. She can hear disparate facts and figures and then pick out the common thread. She has often learned of a policy roadblock and quickly found a way over, under, around or through it.

And, fundamentally, she is wise. When politics and politicians come to a stalemate, she can find a fair compromise. When egos and pride get in the way, she can find a way for everyone to save face. And when a policy is unfair, inequitable, or just wrong, she has the courage of her convictions to say so.

This is not to say that Karen spends all her life at the office. I've seen her walk out of members' meetings to go to a basketball game of her beloved Wizards. I know that if I have a weekend night free that Karen will have seen every movie in town and will have a review for me. As hard as she works, she also manages to enjoy her free time, too.

I have been the beneficiary of Karen Nelson's life and work for decades. So has the Commerce Committee. So has this House. And so have millions of children, poor people, elderly people, and all Americans. Most of them don't know—and will never know—what she's done for them, but I wanted to take this moment to tell my colleagues and to thank her.

HONORING CITY OF TRACY
MAYOR, BRENT H. IVES

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge City of Tracy Mayor, Brent H. Ives, for his numerous years of outstanding service and commitment to the betterment of our community.

Mayor Ives is a local of Tracy and grew up in the community. He attended New Jerusalem School in the Vernalis area and graduated from Tracy High School in 1971. He attended San Joaquin Delta College and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Behavior from the University of San Francisco.

Mr. Ives began his service in 1988 as a Parks Commissioner in Tracy. He served on the Parks and Recreation Commission for four years prior to serving one year on the Planning Commission. In 1991, he was elected as a Tracy City Councilmember and for the last eight years, has served as Mayor.

Mayor Ives served as a member of the Economic Development Advisory Group, South County Fire Authority, San Joaquin Partnership for Economic Development, San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (ACE), and as Chairman of the San Joaquin Council of Governments and the San Joaquin Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). He also lead the Mayor's Community Youth Support Network (MCYSN), which provides broad-based assistance and solutions to youth and their parents encountering the challenges that young people and their parents face today.

Mr. Ives operates BHI Management Consulting in Tracy, a consulting firm that specializes in assisting small government agencies and non-profits in areas of strategic planning, governance, organizational health and supervisory excellence. Prior to his time in public service, he worked as a Senior Engineering Deputy Section Leader at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory before retiring after a 37 year career.

Brent and his wife, Lynda, have three grown children and enjoy spending time with their grandkids.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring City of Tracy Mayor, Brent H. Ives, on his retirement and thank him for his exemplary leadership and service to the community.

CRITTENTON SERVICES
CELEBRATES 126TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to share with my col-

leagues inspiring information about Crittenton Services of Greater Washington, a life-changing organization serving low-income teenage girls in public and charter schools in Montgomery County, Maryland and Washington, DC.

On November 20th, at a gala celebrating its 126th anniversary, Crittenton announced an important expansion of its programs and honored several area women who have displayed leadership on issues crucial to the healthy development of teen girls. I am delighted that one of the honorees is our colleague, and a member of the Maryland Congressional delegation, my good friend Rep. DONNA EDWARDS. Karla Silvestre, Director of Community Engagement at Montgomery College and with whom my staff and I have worked over many years, also received well-deserved recognition, as did Meredith Attwell Baker, President and CEO of CTIA—the Wireless Association, and Gloria L. Blackwell, Vice President of Fellowships, Grants, and Global Programs at the American Association of University Women. Each of them has my heartiest congratulations.

Earlier this year, with the support of Montgomery County and the District of Columbia Department of Health, Crittenton tripled the number of its programs for low-income teen girls. As a result, Crittenton, under the outstanding leadership of Executive Director Pamela Jones, now provides services at 11 DC schools and six Montgomery County schools, serving over 400 middle and high school girls. The objectives of the programs are to reduce pregnancies, births, and sexually transmitted infections among teen girls, ages 14 to 19, and increase their motivation and aspirations to succeed in high school and complete post-secondary education.

Over the course of the school year, Crittenton presents structured curricula that are science-based, age appropriate, and medically accurate. In 26 sessions, the programs teach girls about healthy relationships with their peers, dating partners, and parents; reproductive health, nutrition, and fitness; and life options, including post-secondary education and careers. Through active learning activities—role-play, games, or group discussion—Crittenton helps the girls acquire “real world life skills” such as communication, conflict resolution, assertiveness, and negotiation; managing emotions, impulses, frustration, and stress; and goal-setting, planning, problem-solving, and decision-making.

In addition, to help participants envision a future and become increasingly motivated to achieve that future, Crittenton organizes out-of-school enrichment activities that expose them to college and careers. But the programs’ “secret sauce” is the relationship that program leaders form with the girls. Program leaders are culturally competent, well trained, highly experienced youth development specialists. They create a welcoming environment and a “safe space” that inspires the girls to speak openly with a caring adult and each other; they talk with the girls honestly and non-judgmentally; and they model positive behavior.

A central component of Crittenton's programs is a focus on the “whole girl” and her future, with a goal of heightening her awareness of life options. Through the experiences the programs provide, girls learn to recognize and value their gifts and develop invaluable

life and leadership skills. Most importantly, they develop a belief in their ability to succeed, even in challenging situations.

Crittenton was originally established in Washington, DC in 1887. Its mission has evolved from rescuing young girls from sex trafficking and exploitation to providing a residential home as a safe haven with caring trusted adults for single mothers and their babies. As society and the need for services changed, so has Crittenton. The Florence Crittenton Home was sold in 1983 and the organization launched a series of successful multi-year programs for teen girls and young women. Today, Crittenton Services of Greater Washington provides three key programs.

SNEAKERS (Self-efficacy, Nurturance, Expectations, Assertiveness, Knowledge, Empowerment, Responsibility, and Success), a program that enables vulnerable girls who are navigating the challenges of adolescence to thrive;

PEARLS (Parenting, Education, and Responsive Life Skills), a program that enables pregnant and parenting teens to succeed as students and parents; and

4C'ING the Future (Crittenton College and Career Connection), a college and career access program that engages parents and prepares 8th grade girls to become the first in their families to attend college.

For many years, Crittenton's programs have been changing the trajectories of teen girls' lives. Crittenton girls are avoiding risky, unhealthy behaviors; acquiring social and emotional skills that are essential for academic and life success; becoming motivated learners who will graduate from high school; and using their voices, time, and talent to serve others. They also have a vision—and a plan—to achieve their academic, personal and professional goals.

I am pleased to share with my colleagues this wonderful example of the invaluable contributions that non-profit organizations make to their communities. I extend my gratitude and appreciation to Crittenton for all it does to change lives and wish it a very happy anniversary.

HISTORICAL RECORD OF ASCC'S
UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEAGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVEAGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include, for historical purposes, information about the funding of an Upward Bound program at American Samoa Community College in 2003.

[Press Release, Oct. 9, 2003]

FALEOMAVEAGA SPEAKS OUT ABOUT CONFUSION SURROUNDING ASCC'S UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

Congressman Faleomavaega announced today that he is speaking out about the confusion surrounding ASCC's Upward Bound Program and is also making all letters pertaining to this matter available to the public.

“On June 22, 2003, Hipa Neria, the Director of ASCC's Upward Bound Program, called my office and requested my assistance in finding out whether or not ASCC's grant application would be funded.” Congressman

Faleomavaega said. "In response to Mr. Neria's request, my office immediately called the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE), learned that ASCC's grant would not be funded, and informed Mr. Neria of the USDOE's decision."

"Upon learning of the USDOE's decision, Mr. Neria provided my office with additional information and requested my assistance in defending and obtaining funding for ASCC's proposal. In a letter dated June 24, 2003, Mr. Neria stated that he had been informed by his colleagues in Washington not to write, call, email or make any requests. Given the seriousness of the situation and my desire to help American Samoa's students, I wrote a letter dated July 10, 2003 to Larry Oxendine, USDOE Director of the Federal TRIO programs which includes Upward Bound. I also faxed Dr. Adele Satele-Galeai, President of ASCC, and Mr. Neria a copy of my letter."

"In my letter, I informed the USDOE that American Samoa has a dire need for the services the Upward Bound Program provides. I agreed with Mr. Neria's position that American Samoa's socio-economic status, educational disparity, and unique geographical location warranted a second review of ASCC's application. I also stated that I believed American Samoa would be credited additional points upon further review of the Needs Section and I expressed my appreciation for Mr. Oxendine's reconsideration of ASCC's application," Congressman Faleomavaega said.

"As a follow-up to my letter to Mr. Oxendine, my office continued its discussions with the USDOE. During these discussions, the USDOE informed my office that more than 1,218 Upward Bound applications were submitted and only 792 were funded. USDOE also informed me that only proposals with a score of 99.00 or greater were funded and ASCC's proposal had received a score of 98.33. ASCC's proposal had also been read and scored by three non-federal readers, as required by federal law."

"Although I was informed in July that the review process could not be reopened, additional funds became available about three weeks ago at which time the USDOE reviewed the remaining proposals that had not been funded. Of the applications remaining, 17 had higher scores than ASCC's application and all 17 received funding. An additional 17 applications had scores equal to ASCC's application but the USDOE only had money to fund one of the 17. Mr. Oxendine chose to fund ASCC's application based on the fact that we are an underserved area."

"In a letter dated October 8, 2003, Mr. Oxendine stated that my letter and the information received from my staff and President Satele-Galeai was very helpful in making the decision to fund ASCC out of the group of 17 applications with the next highest score. He also said that he was pleased to inform me that ASCC's program would be funded at \$220,000 for the 2003-2004 project period and, subject to future appropriations, USDOE would be making funding available at this level for three additional years."

"Mr. Oxendine also apologized for the delay in informing my office of his decision. In fact, he said he announced his decision at a national TRIO conference in San Diego on Monday September 29, 2003 and he was unaware that my office had not yet been informed."

"Again, I apologize for the confusion," Mr. Oxendine said in his letter, "'but I am sure you will agree that the final outcome of our mutual efforts was highly successful.' Like Mr. Oxendine, I do agree that our efforts were highly successful and I want to especially thank Mr. Neria and Dr. Satele-Galeai for working closely with my office to favor-

ably resolve this issue. "I also want to thank Chairman Boehner of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce for releasing a statement saying that 'Congressman Faleomavaega worked hard to restore ASCC's Upward Bound funding, and I cannot take credit for his actions.' I appreciate the Chairman's willingness to step forward and set the record straight about this matter," Congressman Faleomavaega said.

"Chairman Boehner is a friend of mine and he should be commended for letting the people of American Samoa know that he did not restore ASCC's Upward Bound funding. In fact, the Chairman knew nothing about our Upward Bound funding until he read a fabricated story published in the Samoa News on October 1, 2003 which made claims that he worked with Mrs. Amata Radewagen to resolve this issue."

"Again, I thank Chairman Boehner for letting our people know the truth. Neither Congresswoman Deborah Pryce nor the House Republican Conference brought this matter to Chairman Boehner's attention. Furthermore, the USDOE informed my office that it received no letters from Congresswoman Deborah Pryce or the House Republican Conference regarding ASCC's Upward Bound Program funding. Other than the calls my office made, the USDOE received only one phone call in late July from a caller identifying herself as working for the House Republican Conference. Mr. Oxendine spoke to this caller only once and never heard from the caller again until after September 29, 2003. After September 29, 2003, USDOE received one more call from this same caller saying she had heard through the grapevine that an announcement had been made in San Diego and she wanted to verify the accuracy of this report."

"While I would be more than happy to credit anyone who helped to restore ASCC's funding, I am pleased that the USDOE and Chairman Boehner have cleared up the confusion surrounding ASCC's Upward Bound Program. At this time, I want to thank the USDOE and Mr. Oxendine for supporting and funding the Upward Bound grant proposal submitted by ASCC. After working with Dr. Satele-Galeai and Mr. Neria for the past several months, I also want to thank them for their hard work."

"Most of all, I want to wish our students the very best. Upward Bound is an important college preparatory program and I am hopeful that our students will take advantage of the opportunities this program provides. As always, I am also hopeful that our young people will pursue their four year college degrees and return to American Samoa to live and serve," the Congressman concluded.

IN HONOR OF ACADEMIC
ACHIEVEMENT

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate McKenzie Hayes, Sarah Bridges, Anvitha Paruchuri, Jacob Haffey, Ruby Araj, Dania Baraka, Dalya Hazim, Ashi Arora, Jessica Kassis, and Reneh Araj, the officers and new inductees of Phi Theta Kappa, Omicron Iota Chapter, at Schoolcraft College. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest academic honor society for two-year colleges and becoming an official member of this organization is one of the highest recognitions that a stu-

dent can receive at a two-year college. Congratulations to them on their accomplishment.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 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 \$17,963,753,617,957.26. We've added \$7,336,876,569,044.18 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$7.3 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

EMILY ROBINSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Emily Robinson for her countless contributions to Jefferson County.

As the market president for FirstBank, Emily has helped to cultivate and mentor a team of young professionals, supporting their goals and efforts to assist them in achieving a successful future. Inspired by her self-employed parents, she found her passion and career in banking by providing support and financial resources to help business owners become successful. Her passion for helping business owners at FirstBank led her to climb the corporate ladder from trainee to market president. Emily's leadership and drive even helped benefit the bank's growth during the economic collapse of 2008. Since then, FirstBank's Lakewood and Golden locations have seen a 50 percent increase in deposits, making it one of the most successful FirstBanks in Colorado.

Emily is also dedicated to enhancing the management-training program at FirstBank, having experienced first-hand the progressive programs FirstBank offers its employees. She has served on many boards throughout her career including Seniors' Resource Center, Clinic Campesina Family Health Services and The West Chamber. She has been on the Board for Community First Foundation since 2010, the inaugural year of Colorado Gives Day, which is a 24-hour online giving initiative aimed at increasing philanthropy in the state. Due to Emily's involvement, the program has raised \$58.1 million for state nonprofits. She also sits on the board for The Jefferson Foundation and Arvada Economic Development. Emily was appointed by Governor Hickenlooper to serve on the State of Colorado Banking Board in 2011.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Emily for her dedication, passion, and drive. She is an incredible example for all women in the workplace and in the community.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 85th Anniversary of the founding of the Daughters of Penelope, the leading international women's organization dedicated to promoting the ideals of ancient Greece. Founded November 16th 1929 in San Francisco, California the Daughters of Penelope was established to improve the wellbeing of women through community service and volunteerism. Especially, I would like to honor the Daughters of Penelope District 5 who represent chapters in New Jersey for their tireless efforts to improve the lives of women across our great state.

Nationally, one example of the great work done by the Daughters of Penelope can be found in the Penelope House, a shelter for battered women in Mobile, Alabama. The Penelope House focuses on the prevention of domestic violence through education and public awareness. The Penelope House helps victims of intimate partner violence to gain social and economic independence through shelter, counseling, and advocacy.

Clearly, the Daughters of Penelope deserves our recognition and support as they continue to expand the opportunities, status and well-being of women and their families around the globe. Congratulations to the Daughters of Penelope on reaching such a milestone and I look forward to continuing to see the charitable efforts of such a dedicated group of people.

THE SORROW AND THE HOPE OF
"COMFORT WOMEN"**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an issue which has been close to my heart during my years of service as Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Asia and Pacific. This is the issue of the "Comfort Women" or, as former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton more accurately termed these victims of Imperial Japan's military during the Second World War, "enforced sex slaves."

Of all the actions in my almost twenty-six years of service in the U.S. House of Representatives, one that affected me most was the convening of my first hearing on February 17, 2007 as the new Chairman of the then Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment. The fact that the issue of the 'Comfort Women' was the topic of my very first hearing signified how deeply important this issue was and is to me.

The hearing represented the first official testimony given to a U.S. government entity regarding one of the most egregious war crimes carried out in the Pacific Theater during the Second World War. The compelling and courageous testimony of the three victim witnesses, Ms. Yong Soo Lee and Ms. Koon Ja

Kim from the Republic of Korea, and Ms. Jan Ruff O'Herne from Australia, brought tears to the eyes of many in the hearing room and left no doubt as to the culpability of Imperial Japan's military in the organization and management of comfort stations.

It was a special privilege that then South Korean National Assembly member and now President of the Republic of Korea, Her Excellency Park Geun-hye, was present as a special guest of the Subcommittee at the hearing. The hearing provided an impetus for the unanimous adoption by the U.S. House of Representatives later in 2007, during the 110th Congress, of House Resolution 121. Introduced by my good friend, Congressman MIKE HONDA, H. Res. 121 "expresses the sense of the 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 Forces' 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."

In this regard, I wish to draw to the attention of my fellow colleagues the opening of a special art exhibition titled "The Sorrow and the Hope of 'Comfort Women'" to be held in the May Gallery of Mullen Library at Catholic University in Washington, DC. As you may be aware, Mr. Speaker, Pope Francis met with "Comfort Women" survivors during his recent visit to South Korea. The special exhibition, which will be held from November 25, 2014 to January 12, 2015, is being hosted by the National Catholic School of Social Service's Center for International Social Development (CISD) and co-organized by the Washington Coalition for Comfort Women Issues, Inc. (WCCW), whose President is Ms. Christine Choi and Vice President is Dr. Julie Jung-Sil Lee. There will be a seminar held in connection with the art exhibition at Catholic University on November 25, 2014.

I would like to take special note of the fact that one of the artists whose work will be displayed at this exhibition is Eileen Marie Halpin, the daughter of my former staff member Dennis P. Halpin. Eileen graduated summa cum laude in kinetic imaging from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond in May 2013. She also attended the Gobelins School of the Image in Paris, France in the summer of 2013. She is currently working as a freelance artist. Eileen sent her artwork last year to "Comfort Women" survivors residing in the House of Sharing in Gwangju, Korea. This is a facility which I have visited on repeated occasions during my official visits to South Korea as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. I have spent many hours with my grandmas at the House of Sharing, who are examples to me of courage, strength, and the resilience of the human spirit. These women are my heroes, and I count them among my greatest friends in this life.

Mr. Speaker, although I will soon depart from this esteemed body, I will continue to be a strong advocate for closure for the victims of the greatest crime of organized, coercive sexual trafficking in the twentieth century. The overwhelming majority of these victims came from the Asia-Pacific region, a region which I have proudly represented and continue to call home. The current revisionism involving denier

history which has emerged in certain influential quarters in Japan regarding the "Comfort Women" and other war crimes related to the Second World War would never be tolerated with regard to the crimes committed in the European Theater during that war. As philosopher George Santayana famously observed, "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to the Nigerian school girls kidnapped by Boko Haram and the Yazidi women and girls enslaved by ISIL not to forget the tragic historic warning offered by the experiences of the "Comfort Women". It is my sincere hope that this esteemed body will do all it can to ensure justice for women and young girls everywhere. This is my hope forevermore.

RECOGNIZING CHERYL COOK-KALLIO

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cheryl Cook-Kallio for her long service to the East Bay.

Cheryl is a dedicated teacher, with credentials in social science, English, and a supplemental credential in Spanish, in addition to her BA degree in history from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte and her MA degree in history from San Jose State University. Currently teaching classes in Advanced Placement history and government at Irvington High School, Cheryl has taught for over 30 years in the Fremont Unified School District.

For her teaching, Cheryl has received numerous awards. These include the 1997 Teacher of the Year from the Sons of the American Revolution and 2005 Irvington High School Teacher of the Year.

Cheryl's work has gone beyond the classroom as well. She has coached the Irvington High School We the People team since 2000, and her annually successful team won the California State Championship in 2005. She has volunteered as a leader in Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts as well as served on the board of the Amador Friends of Music.

Cheryl also has given back to her community as an elected official; since 2006 she has been a member of the Pleasanton City Council. She has served in a variety of roles in that position, including vice mayor and as a member of the Audit Committee and School District Liaison Committee.

As Cheryl prepares to leave the city council after her current term expires, I want to thank her for all she has done and continues to do for the East Bay. We are a better community because of her tireless efforts.

HONORING DR. DANIEL KRAFT

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Daniel Kraft of Boynton Beach and congratulate him on his retirement

after 34 years of dedicated service to the children of South Florida.

From his days as a volunteer physician with the National Service Corps to his long tenure as a private practitioner in West Palm Beach, Daniel has dedicated his career to improving the lives of children in our community.

His passion for service goes well beyond his practice as a doctor. In his limited free time, Daniel developed the Support Group Network, a computerized database of medical support organizations. Additionally, he is a founding member of the Drowning Prevention Coalition and both a founding member and former President of the Palm Beach County Pediatric Society.

A classical music and piano enthusiast, Daniel enjoys traveling around the world and is fluent in Spanish and French. Daniel has obtained multiple degrees, including a medical degree from Mount Sinai School of Medicine and a Masters of Public Health from Johns Hopkins.

In honor of his invaluable contributions to the children and families of South Florida and on behalf of my district, I am pleased to recognize Dr. Kraft for his amazing achievements and I wish him a long and fulfilling retirement in the company of his wife and three daughters.

HONORING LT. COL. MICHELLE R. BRUNSWICK ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Michelle R. "Shelli" Brunswick for her 29 years of dedicated service to our country. In her most recent assignment, she served as the House Budget and Appropriations Liaison for the United States Air Force. In this role, Colonel Brunswick was responsible for Congressional interaction between the U.S. Air Force and Congressional Appropriations and Budget committees, Members, and staffers. She was the most seasoned Air Force liaison on Capitol Hill and an agent trusted to prepare the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force for Congressional delegation meetings and defense posture hearings with Members of Congress.

In her nearly three decades of active duty military service, Colonel Brunswick held numerous leadership positions that have helped shape Air Force acquisitions and ensured the "tip of the spear" was always sharp. Her duties covered the spectrum of Air Force operations and ranged from managing the careers of service members to serving as a direct representative of the Air Force charged with resolving issues pertaining to the President's Budget.

As a native of Clearwater, Florida, Colonel Brunswick's career in the Air Force began in 1985 after receiving her enlistment through the Basic Military Training program at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. After earning a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management in 1994, Colonel Brunswick received her commission from the Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama in

1997. In 1998, she earned a Master's degree in Business Administration and Management. While her active duty career had many different facets, Colonel Brunswick excelled in every assignment. These assignments included positions as a personnel specialist, project officer, project manager, program integrator, professor, and program chief.

Throughout Colonel Brunswick's 29 years in the Air Force, she always exemplified the Air Force core value of excellence in everything she did. As a testament to this, Colonel Brunswick was a Distinguished Graduate from the Officer Training School, one of a few hand-picked program managers selected Air Force-wide to participate in the Air Force Institute of Technology's Education with Industry at The Boeing Corporation. She was certified in Program Management Level III per the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act, a certified Space Professional Level III by the U.S. Air Force Space Professional Functional Authority, and earned the Project Management Professional certification.

Before joining the Air Staff, she was a Professor of Acquisition Management at Defense Acquisition University, where she co-authored a book on the future of Project Management. She served two deployments with Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq with the Defense Contract Management Agency and completed a joint Operation Enduring Freedom tour in Washington, DC and Cuba with the Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants under the authority of the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Colonel Brunswick became known for her exceptional ability to identify real issues and then move to solve them. As all great leaders do, she led from the front by setting the example for others to follow and has been a stalwart advocate for the Department of Defense. These traits will greatly benefit her and those with whom she serves now and in the future.

During her final tour at the Pentagon, Colonel Brunswick's superior leadership orchestrating and executing Hill appropriations strategy enabled enactment of four Air Force budgets, totaling \$646 billion dollars, from Fiscal Year 2011 through Fiscal Year 2014. As the Air Force acquisition subject matter expert on Capitol Hill to the United States House of Representatives, she shaped the fiscal environment and executed over 400 Congressional events, resulting in broad support for the Air Force's top acquisition priorities including the Joint Strike Fighter, KC-46 Air Refueling Tanker, and Long Range Strike Bomber programs.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Brunswick leaves a legacy of integrity, selfless service, and excellence that is of the highest standard. Her exemplary character and years of service have resulted in a career of which she and her family can be very proud. On behalf of the entire United States Congress, and along with Colonel Brunswick's parents, Marshall and Betty Harris, Doug and Margaret Goodman, and fiancé, Jerry, it is an honor to recognize the career and service of Lieutenant Colonel Michelle R. Brunswick. My wife Libby and I congratulate her and wish Shelli and her family all the best.

KAZAKHSTAN'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEAGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVEAGA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend congratulations to the people of Kazakhstan and President Nursultan Nazarbayev on the occasion of Kazakhstan's national holiday—Independence Day. Under the leadership of President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Kazakhstan has reached considerable success in economic development, increased the living standard of its nation and enjoys authority in the region and in the world arena. Promoting the ideals of democracy and progress as well as standing for ensuring comprehensive security and stability, Kazakhstan has become an active member of the global community and America's strategic partner. Successfully hosting the OSCE Summit in Astana, serving as the chair of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and President Nursultan Nazarbayev's personal contribution to promotion of inter-ethnic and religious tolerance demonstrates that in the last twenty three years of independence Kazakhstan has reached great success in its development as a sovereign, stable and a prospering state.

Kazakhstan plays an important role in Central Asia and by far is a rightful leader in the region. The United States is grateful for Kazakhstan's steadfast friendship and solidarity in the Global War on Terrorism, and its adherence to stabilization and rehabilitation of Afghanistan. President Obama highly commended Kazakhstan's efforts in the organization and holding of Iran 5+1 nuclear talks in Almaty in 2013. The dialogue on strategic partnership between the U.S. and Kazakhstan continues to demonstrate the common vision and commitment we share to solve modern challenges. From Project Sapphire and the Degelen Mountain to the closure of an anthrax factory in Stepnogorsk, Kazakhstan has not just talked but has acted and delivered in making the world a safer place.

Kazakhstan has become a state with stable institutions and a dynamic economy. It has become a member of the international community, recognizing its responsibilities both at regional and international levels to maintain dialogue among religions and cultures. Kazakhstan is especially a stabilizing influence in Central Asia.

This holiday is considered a symbol of freedom and independence of our state. During the short historical period the people of Kazakhstan have managed to construct the democratic, legal and economically independent state.

Kazakhstan has launched an ambitious national program to make the country one of the 30 most competitive nations in the world by 2050. President Nursultan Nazarbayev announced the plan on December, 2013 in his annual state of the nation address and laid out wide-ranging reforms.

The nation's new economic strategy, the Nurdy Zhol (Bright Path) announced by President Nazarbayev at a recent state-of-the-nation address on Nov. 11, 2014, serves as a clear vision for efficient and sustainable development in Kazakhstan. In this period of global

economic instability, the strategy will allow Kazakhstan to strengthen its already strong trajectory of sustained growth.

I have every confidence that Kazakhstan will achieve the objectives of the Kazakhstan 2050 strategy and that the United States will support these efforts.

HONORING THE HALLIE Q. BROWN
COMMUNITY CENTER'S 85TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the volunteers, staff and patrons of the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, past and present, on the occasion of its 85th anniversary. Since this agency was founded in 1929, it has served as a shining example of leadership and progressive commitment to advancing the quality of life for residents of Saint Paul, Minnesota's Summit-University neighborhood.

African Americans in Minnesota's capital city faced growing social challenges in 1929, leading the Saint Paul Urban League to formulate plans for a new community center. The center's first Executive Director, Miss I. Myrtle Carden, chose to name the newly formed center after Hallie Quinn Brown, honoring her work as a prominent suffragette, African American educator, author and elocutionist. The community center has been thriving ever since.

After its relocation to the Martin Luther King Center in 1972, the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center has evolved to encompass other organizations and programs, including the nationally recognized Penumbra Theatre Company. The Hallie Q. Brown Center is designed to provide a wide range of services that reflect the diversity of the community. Providing access to critical human services, fostering personal growth, and developing community leadership is the ongoing work of Early Childhood Education, Youth Out of School Time, Multi-Service Hub Center Administration, and the Emergency Food Shelf and Clothing Closet among many other programs at the center.

Mr. Speaker, 85 years of supporting the community at the Hallie Q. Brown Center deserves to be commended. Employees, volunteers and donors to the center have made valuable contributions of time, talent and resources that have made a difference in the lives of so many in this community. Please join me in rising to honor the 85th anniversary of the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center.

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT
COLONEL MICHAEL L. DAVIDSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Michael L. Davidson for his exemplary dedication to duty and his service to the United States Army and to our great nation. He has served

for the last two and a half years as a Congressional Budget Liaison for the Secretary of the Army. On November 25, 2014, he deployed to Afghanistan where he is serving as the Director of Legislative Affairs for the Commander of the International Security Assistance Force and United States Forces—Afghanistan.

A native of Moore Haven, Florida, Lieutenant Colonel Davidson became a Cadet at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1989. While at West Point, he participated in Corps Squad Sports and earned a Bachelor of Science degree. He was commissioned as a Field Artillery Officer in May 1993. After completing the Artillery Officer Basic Course, he served as a Lieutenant for 18 months in the Republic of Korea as a platoon leader and operations officer in 6th Battalion, 37th Field Artillery Regiment, a rocket artillery unit. After returning from Korea, Lieutenant Davidson was assigned to 1st Battalion 321st Airborne Field Artillery Regiment at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. There he served as a platoon leader, battalion adjutant officer, and assistant battalion operations officer.

After graduating from the Captain's Career Course he returned to the Republic of Korea and the 2nd Infantry Division, where he served in the 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment (Manchu) as a Battalion Fire Support Officer, Battery Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company Commander; and Aide de Camp to the Commanding General. Following this assignment, he deployed with the 3rd Army Coalition Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC) in 2002, serving as the lead planner for the Deep Operations Coordination Cell and later as an effects planner in the CFLCC Commander's Early Entry Command Post in Baghdad, Iraq.

Major Michael Davidson returned to the 18th Airborne Corps and served as a Multi-National Corps-Iraq lead planner before serving as the 3-319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment Battalion Operations and Executive Officer in the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division during their combat deployment in Iraq.

The Second Congressional District of Georgia gained a compassionate and knowledgeable resource in 2008 when Major Michael Davidson was assigned to the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison, where he served as a Congressional Fellow in my Washington, D.C. office. Following his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, he took command of the 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division where his battalion served as part of the Army's Global Response Force for all world-wide contingency operations.

Lieutenant Colonel Davidson's leadership throughout his career has positively impacted his soldiers, peers, and superiors. As a Congressional and Budget Liaison Officer, he worked directly with the Senate and House Appropriations and Armed Services Committees to educate and inform Members of Congress and staff on the many diverse and important procurement initiatives of the U.S. Army.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, the more than 700,000 people in Georgia's Second Congressional District, and all Americans, in extending our sincerest appreciation to Lieutenant Colonel Michael L. Davidson for two decades of service to our nation. In addition to gratitude for his selfless service and instrumental role in supporting operations in Iraq and Afghanistan,

Lieutenant Colonel Davidson has the respect, admiration, and affection of many on Capitol Hill and we wish him all the best in his deployment to Afghanistan and his upcoming promotion to Colonel.

CYNTHIA JAMES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Cynthia James for her passion for helping and supporting people.

With two Master Degrees in spiritual psychology and consciousness studies, Cynthia has become a transformational specialist guiding people as they make lasting changes and healing in their lives. Cynthia is a speaker, a coach, a musical performing artist and the multi-award winning author of *What Will Set You Free and Revealing Your Extraordinary Essence*.

Through her program, Advanced Awareness Coaching, Cynthia has coached thousands of people worldwide, including high level business leaders. In 2014, Cynthia's Extraordinary Living Project was selected to be a Commitment Maker by the Clinton Health Matters Initiative. In addition to her work and her new project, she also serves as a minister in Special Ministries at Mile Hi Church in Denver, CO.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Cynthia James for her well-deserved honor and the positive impact of her leadership, healing, and dedication on the lives of others across our community and the world.

IN SUPPORT OF WORLD AIDS DAY
2014

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge World AIDS Day, 2014.

Today, more than 35 million people worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS. Of the 35 million, 1.2 million are in the United States and almost 1 in 7 Americans—that's 14 percent—are unaware of their infection.

It grieves me to know that Brooklyn has earned the dubious distinction as an HIV/AIDS epicenter for African-Americans in NYC. Nearly 29,000 Brooklyn residents were living with HIV/AIDS as of June 30, 2013. Over 30 percent of new HIV diagnoses in the first half of 2013 were made concurrent with AIDS diagnoses and years after infection, when HIV was already causing illness. And surveys suggest that 40 percent of Brooklyn adults have yet to receive an HIV test.

Though there have been many successes in the treatment of the disease, given the grim statistics that I just noted, we cannot rest on our successes. It is imperative that we continue to push forth policies, initiatives, and legislation that support HIV/AIDS research and programs, both domestically and globally. We

also must continue to significantly fund HIV/AIDS research and programs.

One such program that benefits from HIV/AIDS funding is SUNY Downstate's HIV Center for Women and Children, which is located in my district—the 9th Congressional District of New York. The center provides: HIV/AIDS clinical support, mental health assistance, psychosocial support, educational outreach, research—and the all important testing program—and in doing so helps stop the transmission of HIV/AIDS in my district.

We must continue to fight on behalf of those who need to access life saving research and programs. The manner in which we as a nation address HIV/AIDS will determine the fate of the next generation of Americans. Let's continue to take a stand against the spread of HIV/AIDS.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. NGUYEN
AN HA OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
OF VIETNAM

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and brother, Mr. Nguyen An Ha of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Mr. Nguyen has been working for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam since 1993. He was assigned as Political Counselor at the Embassy of Vietnam to the United States in March 2011, and also serves as Deputy Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

From 2007 to 2011, Mr. Nguyen served in the America Department of MOFA. From 2003 to 2007, he worked as Second Secretary of the Mission of Vietnam to the United Nations (UN). From 1996 to 2003, Mr. Nguyen worked as an expert at the Department of International Organization in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 1994 to 1995, he studied at the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam.

Mr. Nguyen graduated from the University of Foreign languages in Hanoi. He is married to Hoang Thi Hai Yen, and he and his lovely wife have a beautiful daughter, Nguyen Hoang Minh Ngoc. Mr. Nguyen is the son of Mr. Nguyen Huu Xuyen and Mrs. Nguyen Thi Kim Huong.

On behalf of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Mr. Nguyen has spared no effort in strengthening U.S.-Vietnam relations. He has served his country and colleagues with distinction and honor. As Political Counselor, he worked side-by-side with His Excellency Nguyen Quoc Cuong, former Ambassador of Vietnam to the United States, and also with Dr. Luan Thuy Duong, former Minister at the Embassy of Vietnam to the United States, to promote Vietnam's stance in calling for a peaceful resolution of disputes in the South China Sea and the East China Sea. Because of their tireless efforts and leadership, the U.S. House of Representatives finally passed for the first time ever a Resolution calling for such support. H. Res. 714, a Resolution I introduced in support of peaceful and collaborative resolution of maritime and jurisdictional disputes in the South China Sea and the East China Sea as provided by universally recog-

nized principles of international law, was unanimously passed by the House on December 2, 2014.

In my official capacity as Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I have relied on Mr. Nguyen's expertise regarding many matters affecting the security of the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the U.S.-Vietnam relationship. Mr. Nguyen has been a tremendous help to me and I will miss him when he returns to Vietnam next year.

Because so many in diplomatic missions serve so well, it is rare for me to include a statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in honor of diplomats. But Mr. Nguyen has served exceptionally well—in a way that deserves to be recognized and preserved in the records of U.S. history and so I am including a statement as I also did for Dr. Luan Thuy Duong and Ambassador Cuong.

On a more personal note, knowing and serving with Mr. Nguyen, Dr. Duong and Ambassador Cuong has been one of the highlights of my career. I am thankful for our friendship and I will always be grateful to them for all they did to bring about recognition of the interim board of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Vietnam. Furthermore, I will also hold a special place in my heart for Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung, President Truong Tan Sang, the Politburo, Vice Chairwoman Tong Thi Phong, the National Assembly, MOFA, Public Security and the countless other individuals, departments, organizations and individuals who supported recognition—a cause that meant so much to me.

As I now leave the U.S. House of Representatives, I hope I will be remembered as having given all I could on behalf of the leaders and people of Vietnam, too. Once caught up in a war I knew little about, I thank God I was able to return to Vietnam later in life as both Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific. In returning, I found a people I love.

This is why I have repeatedly called for the United States to clean up the mess it left behind and do right by the victims of Agent Orange. I have also advocated for the United States to boost bilateral relations in several sectors, including defense, trade and security. Strong U.S.-Vietnam ties are key to stability in the Asia-Pacific region, and H. Res. 714 is a step forward.

I thank Mr. Nguyen, once more, for his work in bolstering the U.S.-Vietnam relationship. Until we meet again, I wish Mr. Nguyen the very best, and I extend to him my highest regards.

HONORING SERGEANT MAJOR OF
THE ARMY RAYMOND F. CHAN-
DLER III

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a dear friend and outstanding citizen, Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III, for his 33 years of dedicated, distinguished, and honorable service. SMA Chandler will retire on August 1, 2015, leaving be-

hind a legacy of excellence and devotion to the United States Army and this great nation.

A native of California but raised in the Boston area, SMA Chandler enlisted in the Army in 1981. He excelled throughout his career and served in all tank crewman positions and had multiple tours as a troop, squadron, and regimental master gunner. SMA Chandler's skill as a leader of warriors was recognized early on as he assumed command positions in numerous regiments and divisions. He was assigned as the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy command sergeant major in December 2007. Nearly two years later, he became the 19th Commandant of United States Army Sergeants Major Academy and the first enlisted commandant in the academy's history.

In his final assignment, SMA Chandler served as Sergeant Major of the Army, our Army's most senior enlisted soldier, leading the Noncommissioned Officer Corps and carrying news of the enlisted ranks to the Chief of Staff of the Army and other leadership. He served as the role model and standard bearer for enlisted personnel, built relationships between the Army and Congress, and rallied support from community and business leaders for soldiers and their families. His guidance and influence have steered the Army into a well-equipped and well-trained force over the past four years.

His extraordinary service has not gone unnoticed. SMA Chandler is the recipient of numerous awards and decorations including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal. He has also been honored with the Order of Saint George, the Distinguished Order of Saint Martin, and the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. Additionally, SMA Chandler sat on a wide variety of councils and boards that made decisions affecting enlisted soldiers and their families and was routinely invited to testify before Congress.

Retirement is to be celebrated and enjoyed. It is not the end of a career, but rather the beginning of a new adventure. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues to celebrate SMA Raymond Chandler's retirement. His patriotism, citizenship, and commitment to service reflect the very best values of our nation. He has been a shining example for the nation and has earned our gratitude. I commend him for his selfless service to the nation and the United States Army. I wish him and his wife Jeanne all the best in their much-deserved retirement.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 26TH
ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY AND
OF AIDS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 26th Annual World AIDS Day, which also marks the beginning of AIDS Awareness Month. This year's theme is "Focus, Partner, Achieve: An AIDS-free Generation," which embodies the core strategy for reversing the AIDS epidemic domestically and internationally.

Since its establishment by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1988, World AIDS Day

has served as a call to action and a living memorial to all those whose lives have been lost to the disease across the globe. According to WHO, an estimated 39 million people have died since the first cases were reported in 1981 and 1.5 million people died of AIDS-related causes in 2013.

In the United States, more than 1.2 million people are currently living with HIV, with almost one in seven (14 percent) unaware of their infection. We also know that the burden of HIV infection continues to fall greatest on men who have sex with men (MSM), African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, and young people, who account for the majority of the approximately 50,000 new HIV infections each year.

Furthermore, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that only 25 percent of Americans living with HIV are virally suppressed and successfully making it through the HIV care continuum. This means that about 825,000 people living with HIV are not receiving the full benefits of treatment, and may be unknowingly passing the virus on to others.

Treatment remains the most promising tool we have to creating an AIDS-free generation. Because of continued advancements in antiretroviral drugs and efforts to link individuals to care, more people living with HIV are able to manage the disease and lead active, productive lives. If we can increase the number of individuals living with HIV who are on treatment, then we can achieve global AIDS control. One year ago, S. 1545, the PEPFAR Stewardship and Oversight Act of 2013, was signed into law and stands as a symbol of our nation's enduring commitment to ending AIDS worldwide.

At the 2014 International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2014) in Melbourne, Australia, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) and other civil society organizations introduced the "20x20 Campaign," which aims to have 20 million people on antiretroviral therapy by 2020. In addition, UNAIDS proposed the "90–90–90" treatment goals, which are to have 90 percent of people infected with HIV know their status, 90 percent of people infected with HIV on treatment, and 90 percent of those on treatment with an undetectable viral load all by 2020.

Ultimately, however, the future is in our hands. We know how to stop the transmission of HIV and help people living with AIDS stay as healthy as possible. It starts with raising public awareness, knowing your status, and challenging the stigma that prevents so many within our communities from accessing the care they need.

Finally, I would also like to take this opportunity to remember the dozens of scientists, researchers, and activists who perished when Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 was shot down over eastern Ukraine on July 17, 2014. They were en route to AIDS 2014. Among them was world-renowned scientist Dr. Joep Lange, his partner Jacqueline van Tongeren, and WHO spokesman Glenn Thomas. Theirs was truly a tragic loss for the global AIDS response.

Mr. Speaker, as we look to the start of the 114th Congress, it is imperative that we remain committed to continuing the fight against HIV/AIDS, and address the ongoing effects of sequestration on HIV care in the United States. I urge my colleagues to join me in rec-

ognizing World AIDS Day and AIDS Awareness Month, as well as supporting vital HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and care programs, including the Ryan White Program and Affordable Care Act (ACA).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I had to return to New York to attend a funeral, and as a result, I missed three votes on November 20, 2014. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on roll call vote no. 529, agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. WAXMAN, "aye" on roll call vote no. 530, the motion to recommit, and "no" on roll call vote no. 531, final passage of HR 4795, the "Promoting New Manufacturing Act."

IN RECOGNITION OF MERUYERT SAUDABAY, MINISTER-COUNSELOR AT THE EMBASSY OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Meruyert Saudabay, born in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Meruyert graduated from George C. Marshall School in Ankara, Turkey. After high school, she moved to Sydney, Australia where she studied for one year at the University of Sydney. She continued her studies in London Richmond University where she studied law. Meruyert obtained her LLM from Georgetown University Law Center.

Meruyert's career began in London's Chevron Corporate office. Her portfolio included merger and acquisitions. She was a member of a leading legal team during the Chevron Texaco merger. After returning to Astana, Kazakhstan, Meruyert worked for Kazakh National Oil and Gas Company (KazMunaiGas) in the Business Development division.

After earning her LLM degree, Meruyert joined communications services firm "APCO" where her focus was on Russia and the firm's business development in the Commonwealth of Independent State (CIS) countries.

In 2009, Meruyert began her long-anticipated diplomatic career following in her father's footsteps. Meruyert's father—His Excellency Kanat Saudabayev—is a prominent international political figure. He was the first Ambassador ever from an independent Kazakhstan. He served as Kazakhstan's Ambassador to the United States from 2000 to 2007. In 2007, President Nursultan Nazarbayev promoted him to the position of Secretary of State. In 2009, he was appointed Secretary of State-Minister of Foreign Affairs. In 2010, during Kazakhstan's Chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Mr. Saudabayev held the position of Chairman-in-Office.

I have known the Honorable Kanat Saudabayev for nearly 15 years. He is my

dear friend and brother and has been since we met and began working side-by-side when he was appointed Kazakhstan's Ambassador to the United States. His daughter is my daughter, and Meruyert has made us both proud.

As Meruyert puts it, "I have worked in multinational corporations. I have experience in lobbying. But my highest honor has been to put my time to use for the benefit of my country." In her position as Minister-Counselor at the Embassy of Kazakhstan in the United States, Meruyert serves her country with distinction. I commend her for her tireless efforts in promoting U.S.-Kazakhstan relations. Meruyert carries forward the vision of President Nazarbayev, who is also my friend.

I applaud President Nazarbayev for changing the course of history and renouncing nuclear weapons. Kazakhstan inherited the world's fourth-largest nuclear arsenal after gaining independence from the Soviet Union in 1991 but President Nazarbayev immediately and boldly renounced these weapons and transferred them under great security by means of an unprecedented joint program with experts from Kazakhstan, Russia and the United States.

President Nazarbayev headed this heroic effort because, for more than 40 years prior to Kazakhstan's independence, the Soviet Union used Semipalatinsk in northern Kazakhstan as a test site to detonate more than 500 nuclear explosions. More than one million people were exposed to radioactive fallout.

I continue to call upon the Nobel Peace Prize Committee to recognize President Nazarbayev's contributions to world peace as no other world leader has done so much to safeguard humanity from the terrible dangers of nuclear terrorism.

I also thank Minister-Counselor Meruyert Saudabay for standing with her father and me and many others in strong support of President Nazarbayev's mission to modernize and balance the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty.

I extend to Meruyert my highest and kindest regards and, for the unwavering support they provide to her, I especially thank Meruyert's family including her husband Daulet Orynbayev and their daughter Ayah; her sister Aray; her brother Ermek Saudabayev, his wife Altynai, their daughter Merye and son Nurbol; her brother Yerbol, his wife Elaine Bekmyrza and their daughter Amira; and her father and mother Kanat Saudabayev and Kullikhan Saudabayeva. I wish each of them the very best and I thank them also for the support they have always extended to me.

DORIS STIPECH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Doris Stipech for her welcoming charisma and the positive influence she has bestowed upon her profession and her community through volunteerism and philanthropy.

As an active member of the local community, Doris serves as a board member for civic organizations and other boards dedicated to education and economic empowerment, including the Arvada Food Bank, Women's

Bean Project, Leadership Arvada, Red Rocks Community College Foundation Board, and the Center for Work, Education and Employment. Doris has even created a unique program through State Farm that honors clients on their birthday with a gift to a local non-profit. The program has raised awareness for many non-profit organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Foothills Animal Shelter.

Doris' love for learning and new experiences is one of her trademark qualities. In addition to her work in the U.S., Doris contributes her time to international leadership development. She has worked with Habitat for Humanity as a Global Village Builder in Fiji and in Northern Ireland. Doris and her family has also been a host for three Rotary exchange students. Through State Farm, she has mentored and guided new agents new to the business and remains committed to the development of young people and their future.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Doris Stipech for generously giving her time and effort to non-profit organizations, as well as mentoring young people and future agents alike.

IN HONOR OF FORMER GEORGIA
GOVERNOR CARL SANDERS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable statesman and civic leader, Mr. Carl E. Sanders, former Governor of Georgia. Sadly, Governor Sanders passed away on Sunday, November 16, 2014. His passing marks the close of a long and prolific life, and his departure leaves a void in the hearts of Georgians. A memorial service for Mr. Sanders was held on Saturday, November 22, 2014 at Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

Carl E. Sanders was born on May 15, 1925 in Augusta, Georgia. A skilled athlete, he earned a full athletic scholarship to the University of Georgia, where he was to play quarterback. However, after his freshman year of college, he joined the Army Air Forces during World War II. He was trained to pilot a B-17 Bomber, which he named "Georgia Peach," but the war concluded before his services were required abroad.

Carl Sanders returned to finish his education at the University of Georgia, and met the woman who would become his wife, Betty Bird Foy. They married in the summer of 1947, after he graduated with a degree from the UGA School of Law.

After being admitted to the Georgia Bar in 1948, Mr. Sanders began his career in an Augusta law firm, but kept a close eye on Georgia's political landscape. Six years later, he ran for and won a seat in the Georgia House of Representatives. In 1956, State Representative Sanders was elected to the Georgia Senate, where he served three terms. During this tumultuous time period, Senator Sanders advocated for keeping Georgia's public schools open when many of his colleagues favored closure to avoid implementing court orders to desegregate.

In 1962, Senator Sanders was elected as the 74th Governor of Georgia at the young age of 37. During his four-year term, he brought a series of progressive reforms to Georgia. He made education his first priority and his administration added 10,000 new teachers. His legacy includes expanding access to higher education by establishing more community and junior colleges throughout Georgia. His administration reorganized the State Highway, Welfare, and Health Departments and established the State Water Quality Control Board, the state's first environmental regulatory office. He negotiated the deals that brought professional sports teams, the Braves and the Falcons, to Atlanta. Under his leadership, Georgia had the top-ranked airport development program in the nation, with 42 airports being built during his term. At the conclusion of his term, Georgia stood at a surplus of \$140 million.

As Governor, he also worked closely with State Senator Leroy Johnson, the first African-American to serve in the Georgia Senate, and worked quietly to remove remnants of the Jim Crow system from the State Capitol and other state facilities. He appointed the first African Americans to serve in the Georgia State Patrol.

Within a year of leaving Georgia's Gold Dome, Mr. Sanders and two colleagues created the law firm Troutman Sanders LLP. Over the years, the firm grew tremendously, and now employs over 600 people in offices from Atlanta to Hong Kong. He managed the firm for over 25 years, and where most men would have retired, Mr. Sanders assumed the role of Chairman Emeritus and remained an active part of the business until his passing.

Governor Sanders accomplished much throughout his life but none of this would have been possible without his enduring faith in God and the love and support of his wife of 67 years, Betty; his daughter, Betty Foy Botts, and son, Carl Sanders, Jr.; and his beloved in-laws and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the more than 700,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in paying tribute to former Governor Carl E. Sanders for his remarkable leadership in our great State of Georgia. He shall be remembered as an outstanding Governor, a champion of education, and a supporter of civil rights during a time when few had the courage to do so. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time and we pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

HONORING MAYOR WILLIE W.
WEATHERFORD

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Mayor Willie W. Weatherford of Manteca on his retirement and to personally thank him for his dedicated, life-long spirit of community service.

Mr. Weatherford started his career in public service as a Manteca city police officer in

1966. He was promoted to Police Sergeant in 1971 and seven years later to Police Captain. He was named Police Chief and City Manager for the City of Galt in 1983 but found he was missing "the family city". The Weatherford's made the move back to Manteca after a few years, and Willie took the helm as Police Chief until he retired in 1994.

Not one for retirement, Mr. Weatherford ran a successful campaign for a seat on the Manteca City Council just two years later. He was elected Mayor in 2002 and is currently completing his third term in office.

Notable projects completed during Mayor Weatherford's tenure include: conversion of an abandoned sugar beet factory into Spreckels Industrial Park, several senior housing projects, multi-purpose gyms at Golden West School and Sequoia School sites in conjunction with the Manteca Unified School District, a skate park, BMX park, Big League Dreams sports park, the Tidewater Bike Path, which converted nearly four miles of abandoned railroad tracks into a pedestrian and bicycle pathway, Stadium Plaza, Northern California's first Bass Pro Shop and the Manteca Lifestyle Center at the Promenade.

Mayor Weatherford's dedication to service extends far beyond the public sphere with membership in several community organizations, including the Manteca Safety Council, Manteca Kiwanis Club United Lutherans Church Council, serving on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club, United Way, Eskaton Independent Senior Living, and as District Chairman for the Boy Scouts. He has truly made a substantial and lasting impact.

Mr. Weatherford and his wife, Sherilyn, have been members of the Manteca community for more than 42 years. He is the proud father of two daughters, Dawnis and Dayna, and grandfather to 5.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Manteca Mayor Willie Weatherford, on his retirement and thanking him for his exemplary leadership and service to the community.

DR. LINA KULKARNI POLITANO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dr. Lina Kulkarni Politano for her inspirational leadership and giving back to her community.

Dr. Politano is board certified and a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics, a distinction which less than 30 percent of orthodontists attain. With a passion for Orthodontics she began building her practice from scratch. Today she serves as a member of the American Association of Orthodontists, the Rocky Mountain Society of Orthodontists, the American Dental Association, and the Metropolitan Denver Dental Society.

In addition to her work, Dr. Politano is proud to give back to the community where she grew up. She is a committed supporter of several schools' educational programs. This commitment extends to her alma mater D'Evelyn School, where she serves on the D'Evelyn Education Foundation's Board of Directors.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Lina Kulkarni Politano for being honored by

the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

IN SUPPORT OF TEA PARTY AND
LIBERTY

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I know how George Washington felt at Valley Forge. His troops cold and starving, a disillusioned public, the horizon bleak. He had more failures than successes in a war against aristocratic tyrants. He did not have a Constitution to defend, just a dream of something like it, far off in the mind's eye. That "faith" in a dream, of something better, yet but a concept, blurred, not yet fully focused. They stayed the course nonetheless, warmed by the untouchable concepts of freedom; they could see the unseeable; with empty stomachs were nourished by prospects of economic and individual liberty and in God's grace they fought on, they persevered.

The death of a nation happens with a whisper and a nudge, patently and stealthily, robbing its unsuspecting citizens of inalienable rights and replacing them with government controls . . . For the good of the people, of course.

Only when it is too late to turn back the clock does a nation realize that freedom has vanished in the blink of an eye.

Harsh and tyrannical treatment will not nourish respect. On the contrary, such treatment is far more likely to destroy. The breasts of liberty nourish freedom, her voice patiently educates, her ears listen to the formerly unheard, her heart offers respect due others. It is this spirit that can not fail to inspire in people regards for him/or herself and in so doing nourishes others by example.

Patience and perseverance got the snail to the ark.

So too will those valiant souls dedicated to freedom's prospects, individual liberty, and respect for others without the interference of tyrannical dictates of a Godless government overshadowing our every move and choice.

To the Lakes Area Tea Party and liberty minded folks everywhere. I say persevere. Your valiant struggle, stout heart, and dedication to honest and transparent government has not gone unnoticed. Persevere.

HONORING GARY AND JEAN
ALLEN ALES AND THE SAINT
PAUL FRIENDSHIP CLUB

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Gary Ales, Jean Allen Ales, and the Saint Paul Friendship Club, an organization Mr. Ales founded 50 years ago.

In 1964, Gary Ales who was then a Saint Paul Public Schools teacher, organized a community service organization called the Friendship Club that set out to improve the

community without seeking any educational or financial reward. The group would go wherever they were most needed and include any and all helpers regardless of age, gender, race or faith. They volunteered at senior living facilities, on environmental projects and at the YMCA, while also teaming up with local businesses to provide low income families with holiday parties and gifts. With the simple goals of inclusion and altruism, the Saint Paul Friendship Club has touched an astounding number of lives. Even after his retirement in 2001, Mr. Ales continued his work with the club along with his wife, Jean.

Now in its 50th year, the Friendship Club has reached truly remarkable heights under the guidance of Mr. and Mrs. Ales. All told, more than 15,000 members of the club have served over 320,000 members of the community. They have completed over 750 trips to visit with underprivileged and sick seniors, clean up schools and parks, plant over 500 trees, and give Christmas gifts to over 1,000 students. All of these projects were completed on volunteers' own time, without missing any days of school.

While it is nearly impossible to list all the contributions of the Saint Paul Friendship Club during the past 50 years, perhaps the organization's greatest achievement was put into words by a former member of the club in a letter he wrote to Mr. Ales. In his note, the student wrote, "Thank you for showing me a new way to think and see, for opening new doors and paths for me to explore. What you have done for me I will never forget. What you have taught me, I will carry it on and teach it to others."

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise and pay tribute to the Saint Paul Friendship Club and its founders, Gary and Jean Ales. I hope everyone can look towards these remarkable people, and the organization they have created, for inspiration as they continue to pursue their motto of "We Share, We Care." Please join me in rising to honor the 50th anniversary of the Saint Paul Friendship Club.

HISTORICAL RECORD OF U.S. SEC-
RETARY OF STATE HILLARY
CLINTON'S STOPOVER IN AMER-
ICAN SAMOA

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include, for historical purposes, information about former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's stopover in American Samoa on November 7, 2010.

[Press Release, Oct. 26, 2010]

U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HILLARY CLINTON TO STOPOVER IN AMERICAN SAMOA ON NOVEMBER 7, 2010

Congressman Faleomavaega announced that at approximately 1:20 pm on Friday, October 22, 2010, the Honorable Kurt Campbell, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, called Faleomavaega to inform him that U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton would be stopping over in American Samoa on November 7, 2010, at the Congressman's request.

"This stopover has been a long-time in the making," Faleomavaega said, "and I appre-

ciate that Secretary Clinton has chosen to refuel in American Samoa. On February 2, 2010, I wrote to President Obama asking him to stopover during his scheduled trip to Indonesia to say thank you to the thousands of Samoan men and women who currently serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, especially since the Iraq war death rate per 1 million population is higher for American Samoa than any other State or Territory, as reported by USA Today which commended American Samoa for its outsized sacrifice."

"When the President's trip was postponed, I had the opportunity to raise the issue again with Secretary Clinton when she testified before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on February 25, 2010. At our hearing, I informed Secretary Clinton that on February 23, 2010, I met with Assistant Secretary Campbell and that he let me know that she might be considering a stopover in American Samoa. 'I can assure you,' I said, 'that our people will extend to you the same warm welcome that they would extend to President Obama, and we would be honored by your visit. Your presence in the Territory would be historic and, on behalf of our people, I would like to personally extend an invitation to you to make a brief visit as American Samoa is well-positioned to be a regional leader in our effort to strengthen U.S.-Pacific Island relations.'"

"On March 3, 2010, when Assistant Secretary Campbell testified before my Subcommittee at a hearing on a regional overview of East Asia and the Pacific, I reminded him of the invitation that I extended to Secretary Clinton and again stated that I believed her visit would give her the chance to thank the thousands of Samoans who serve in the U.S. Armed Forces and honor the many who have fallen in the line of duty, as well as support our efforts to strengthen U.S. interests in the region."

"Last month, on September 29, 2010, when Assistant Secretary Campbell again testified before my Subcommittee at a hearing on renewed engagement and U.S. policy towards Pacific Island nations, I informed him that my invitation to Secretary Clinton still stands."

"As a result of these repeated and continued discussions with the U.S. Department of State, I am pleased that Secretary Clinton made this request a high priority and that she will be stopping over to pay tribute to our veterans and our people. Though her visit will be brief and her arrival will be late at night, it is an honor for our Territory to receive her in conjunction with her travels to Hawaii, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, and Australia from October 27–November 8."

"Secretary Clinton has been a good friend of American Samoa and Samoa, and more than anyone she stood shoulder-to-shoulder with us to provide aid in the aftermath of the tsunami that left untold damage in its wake."

"I am appreciative that Secretary Clinton authorized an airlift of supplies gathered by our Samoan communities in LA and Utah, and that she worked closely with Congresswoman Laura Richardson and me to see that these necessary goods were provided to our families and friends in the neighboring islands of Samoa at a time when they needed these critical supplies the most."

"The U.S. Department of State informed my office that they contacted Governor Togiola's office on Monday, October 25, 2010 to inform ASG of Secretary Clinton's upcoming visit, and I have every confidence that our local leaders will do their part in welcoming the former First Lady of the United States to American Samoa."

SUSAN TAYLOR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Susan Taylor for sharing her energy and passion with her community.

Susan Taylor is the Executive Director of Villa Manor Care Center where she brings extensive experience and leadership to her team. Susan mentors and encourages her Villa Manor team to explore educational and professional workshops which creates an environment that brings the best possible experience for patients with complex medical conditions.

Susan was proud to be recognized with the 2014 America Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living National Quality Award. Susan is the only person to receive this award in the national Life Care Centers of America organization.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Susan Taylor for being honored by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S JOHN HUTCHINSON

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize Mr. John Hutchinson upon the occasion of his retirement from Gulf Power Company, a Southern Company, as the Director of Community and Economic Development. For more than two decades, Mr. Hutchinson has served the Northwest Florida community, and I am pleased to honor his achievements.

A graduate of Louisiana State University, Mr. Hutchinson held various roles throughout his career in the utility industry, which spanned 32 years, and included Mississippi and Southern Company Services. As part of Gulf Power, he worked tirelessly with local, regional, and state economic development organizations to help grow the company into what it is today. Without question, when one looks at the success of Gulf Power, one does not have to look too far to learn of the impact Mr. Hutchinson has made on the company.

Through his dedicated efforts, Mr. Hutchinson helped bolster the company's job creation, strengthen community relationships and support charitable and civic programs. As Director of Corporate Communications for 22 years, Mr. Hutchinson ensured that Gulf Power stayed connected with the community that it served. His unwavering commitment was particularly important during some of the most challenging times, including Hurricane Ivan, which devastated the Gulf Coast, and, in 2009, he was recognized for his success when he was named the Communicator of the Year by the Florida Public Relations Association.

In addition to serving the needs of Gulf Power's consumers, Mr. Hutchinson helped promote economic growth and opportunity for Northwest Floridians through his work with Enterprise Florida and Florida's Great Northwest, where he worked with economic development organizations to help bring new businesses to the area and help local businesses expand and hire new employees.

In addition to his myriad professional accomplishments, Mr. Hutchinson also serves an integral role in the success of the Gulf Coast's civic community through his leadership and volunteer work. Mr. Hutchinson currently serves as the Community Economic Development Association President, Chairman of the University of West Florida Foundation, and he is a member of the executive committee for Florida's Great Northwest. As a result of his work in the community, Mr. Hutchinson has achieved numerous awards, including the Pensacola Area Chamber of Commerce's Community Leader of the Year, as well as its Volunteer of the Year.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Mr. John Hutchinson for his achievements and service to the Gulf Coast community. My wife Vicki and I wish John and his wife Nancy all the best in his retirement.

HONORING MARION S. BARRY, JR.

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Marion S. Barry, Jr., the four-term Mayor of the District of Columbia and Ward 8 Council Member, who is remembered for his work as a national civil rights leader and as a creator of post-home-rule D.C. Barry passed away on November 23, 2014.

Born in Itta Bena, Mississippi in 1936, one of 10 children in a family of sharecroppers and one of Tennessee's first black Eagle Scouts, Marion brought his prodigious work ethic to the civil rights movement before coming to the District of Columbia. He left his PhD program in chemistry at Fisk University to help form the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), became its first national chairman, and continued to work for civil rights in the District and nationally.

In 1965, Barry moved to the District of Columbia, and was quickly adopted by the city and its voteless residents. Barry used his political gifts and brilliant skills as a community organizer not only in the fight of its residents for jobs, equal rights, home rule, and statehood, but also applied them to the political process to become mayor of the city. He established Pride Inc., which received federal funding as it trained and found jobs for residents. Marion Barry was elected first as a member of the D.C. School Board. He went on to be elected as an at-large Member of the D.C. Council and then became the second home-rule mayor of the District of Columbia, in 1979.

As mayor of the District of Columbia in the first years of home rule, Barry began the work to make home rule work. In his first term in office, Barry, who inherited a \$100 million deficit, ordered the first audit in a century. He re-

duced the city's debt and balanced its budget. He opened employment and business contract opportunities to African Americans for the first time and established a summer jobs program that was to become his signature program. It gave many young people their first work experience, for which thousands still remain grateful. During his four terms as mayor, Barry never forgot his own roots in poverty, becoming an iconic figure, especially to the city's poor even as he worked to build an African American middle class. After his years as mayor, Barry became council member for Ward 8, the lowest-income ward in the city, where he also lived and was continually re-elected. In his role as Ward 8 Council Member, Barry strongly supported congressional legislation that transferred valuable federal land, including Poplar Point in Ward 8, to the District of Columbia, and the congressional legislation that established the Department of Homeland Security headquarters, now being built on the St. Elizabeths property located in Ward 8, the first federal complex east of the Anacostia River.

Marion Barry, who blazed his own path of ups and downs, published his autobiography, "Mayor for Life: The Incredible Story of Marion Barry, Jr.", this year. He was loved for his indomitable capacity to keep getting up and rise above controversy and criticism to work for residents of the District of Columbia until his last days.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in honoring Marion S. Barry, Jr., for his many accomplishments for the District of Columbia and for a lifetime of fighting for the oppressed and underserved.

TRIBUTE TO BEN WICKE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Riverside County, California are exceptional. Riverside County has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Ben Wicke is one of these individuals. On Tuesday, November 25, 2014, Ben was honored for his service with the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors.

For twenty years, Ben has faithfully served his community. After being first elected to the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors in 1994, Ben ran unopposed in 1998 and was selected by the County Board of Supervisors to fulfill a four year term. In 2002, Ben again ran unopposed, and was appointed to carry out another four year term. Throughout his tenure on the Board, Ben's heralded leadership was often called upon, serving as President in 1997, 2000, 2004, 2007 and finally, in 2011. In addition, Ben also represented the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors to several community organizations. These include Western Municipal Water District, the Eastern Municipal Water District, the Canyon Lake Water Sub-Committee and the Quail Valley Coalition Corporation.

Due to his combined passions for water and for the residents and communities of Southern California, Ben also volunteers his time throughout the region on additional Boards of Directors. Since 1995, Ben has held a seat on the Meeks and Daley Mutual Water Company Board of Directors, working as its President since 2001. The Association of California Water Agencies Region 9 Board of Directors also utilizes Ben's talents as he represents all of the water agencies in San Bernardino, Imperial, and Riverside counties in the advancement of legislative and regulatory priorities. Ben has always emphasized working with officials throughout the state to develop plans that would effectively manage one of our most important natural resources—water.

In light of all that Ben Wicke has done for the community of Lake Elsinore, it is only fitting that he be honored for his many years of dedicated service. Ben's tireless passion for conservation and public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our community. I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he retires.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CAPT.
MARK EDWARD DREILING

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Mark Edward Dreiling, who is retiring from the United States Air Force. He is a third generation Airman who comes from a family with a long history of military service to this nation.

Capt. Dreiling entered the United States Air Force through ROTC Detachment 465 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He then began his career as a Missile Warning Crew Commander where his crews provided warning and battle space awareness to deployed personnel engaged in both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. With over 2500 error free hours of operations and five Highly Qualified Evaluation ratings, his crew earned the Air Force Space Command Crew Member Excellence Award. During this time, he was selected to serve as both the Chief of Crew Force Management and the Chief of Operations Training.

Under his leadership in Crew Force Management, his team secured the first-ever error free Space Command Inspector General assessment for the office, earning the Professional Team Award during the 2008 operational readiness inspection. During his tenure in Operations Training, Capt. Dreiling's leadership helped his team garner the 2010 Air Force Space Command Operational Readiness Inspection operations group "excellent" rating. By leading the instruction and war fighting proficiency efforts for over two hundred missile warning crew members, he ensured the technical accuracy and effectiveness of training materials and operational procedures for the entire crew force.

Capt. Dreiling's next assignment was to the Joint Functional Component Command for Space, where he was the first DoD representative to complete certification on one of the

government's newest overhead sensors. During this time, he completed over five hundred error free hours providing unprecedented indications and warning for nine high interest events.

Most recently, Capt. Dreiling served as the Test Director for the family of Advanced Beyond Line-of-sight Terminals at the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center Detachment 4. During his final assignment, his work on a \$3.9 billion military satellite communication terminal program directly informed a Secretary of Defense Milestone decision critical to the maturation of the future Presidential and Air Force Strategic Nuclear Command and Control System.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Capt. Dreiling and his family a heartfelt thanks on behalf of a grateful nation for their dedication and service to our country.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF THE HONORABLE JOHN H.
LAND

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, the former City of Apopka, Florida Mayor and a wonderful friend, John H. Land. John passed away Saturday, November 20, 2014. I have had the honor to work with Mayor Land for over four decades during his public service as Mayor.

As Mayor of Apopka for 61 years, John was one of the longest-tenured public officials in the nation. He proudly served his community and was committed over the decades to make a positive difference in the lives of all those he was elected to serve.

Mayor Land was born in Plant City, Florida. He attended the University of Florida until World War II, when he signed up for the Army, serving under Gen. George S. Patton in Europe.

Following his return, John worked in his family's mill, Consumers Lumber and Veneer Company, and later won election in 1949 as Mayor of Apopka, a small Florida city that boasted a mostly rural population of 2,254. Over the next six decades as mayor, Apopka grew to a population of over 45,000 with a diversified tax base.

Over his many years in Public Service, faith was always deeply important in the life of Mayor Land. He loved his family, community and country. He was a spiritual leader and deacon at the First Presbyterian Church. I, and many others, sought his council.

American history was another passion that Mayor Land and I shared. As a fitting tribute to Mayor Land, the Tri-County League of Cities renamed its Lifetime Achievement Award, on the evening before his passing on November 21, 2014, as the Mayor John H. Land Award, of which he was the first recipient.

For his tireless work on behalf of thousands of Central Floridians, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Apopka Mayor John H. Land. What a great privilege it has been to work with him. I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife, Betty; their children, Suzanne Larkin, Cathy Waters and John Land, Jr.; and John's many grandchildren.

Mayor John H. Land's final resting place is Greenwood Cemetery in his beloved city. He will always be remembered as one of the key architects who helped lay the foundation for Apopka's growth and success. I asked my colleagues today to join me in paying tribute to John H. Land.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO PROTECT MULTI-EMPLOYER
PENSION PLANS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on January 1, the laws governing the pension plans for over 10 million Americans will expire, threatening the retirement security for these families and causing great uncertainty for their employers who sponsor these retirement vehicles.

These pension plans, known as multi-employer pension plans, are traditional pension plans that have provided millions of Americans a secure retirement for several generations.

Multi-employer pension plans are retirement plans negotiated by a union with a group of employers, typically in the same industry. Collective bargaining contracts say how much the employers must contribute to the plans for their employees. The plans are run by trustees selected by the union and the employers. The trustees typically determine the amounts that the plans will pay in lifetime monthly benefits.

While fewer workers may be utilizing these traditional pensions than in the past, Congress should be taking steps to bolster these traditional pension plans and help to expand their availability between businesses and workers, not slow walking their demise by allowing important funding rules to expire.

While this bill is a simple one-year extension of the expiring rules, these rules provide needed certainty to businesses who offer pension plans to their workers. Without this certainty, businesses will be subject to outdated, unfamiliar rules that could threaten not only their employees' pensions, but also the basic sustainability of their business operations.

Specifically, current multi-employer pension funding rules stipulate that if a pension plan becomes underfunded, or unable to meet its negotiated obligations, the trustees of the pension plan are given a set amount of time to create a restructuring plan to ensure that negotiated benefits can be paid out over the long term to employees. These pension plan trustees, who are appointed by both labor and management, can use this time to create a long-term framework to ensure all obligations are met. This works to the benefit of employers and employees.

But if these funding rules are allowed to expire on January 1 and a pension plan becomes underfunded, instead of giving labor and management the tools to create a sustainable path forward, the law would demand excessive cash payments and excise fees from employers. Forcing companies to make massive cash infusions into their pension plan while also facing new government-levied excise taxes will not guarantee a fully funded pension plan for their workers. Rather, it increases the likelihood that the employer will be forced to abandon their pension plan.

Abandoning pension plans does not benefit either employers or employees.

Make no mistake, this legislation should not be seen as a long-term remedy to the issues involving retirement security. Rather, this bill is a simple extension of the law to prevent uncertainty and turmoil to employers, workers, and retirees.

Next year, the Congress should re-examine the nation's pension laws—those governing individual company plans as well as these labor-management negotiated plans.

Enactment of this bill will not cost the federal taxpayers any money, but lack of action on this bill will cost both businesses and families, who could lose the security that these traditional retirement plans provide.

I encourage my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation that provides certainty to employers, and protects the retirement security that workers and retirees have labored for during their careers.

TRIBUTE TO JUDY GUGLIELMANA

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Riverside County, California are exceptional. Riverside County has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Judy Guglielmana is one of these individuals. On Tuesday, November 25, 2014, Judy was honored for her service with the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors.

Judy's passion for Riverside County began long before her service with the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors. After making Lake Elsinore her home in 1972, she enrolled both of her sons in Elsinore schools. Judy then advocated for the Elsinore High School District as the Community Liaison and as a member of the High School Board of Trustees.

In 2006, Judy was first elected to the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors. She extended her leadership in 2008 to hold the position of Board Treasurer and continued her service as Vice President in 2009. Following her reelection in 2010, Judy assumed the role of President in that same year, Board Treasurer in 2013 and finally as Vice President in 2014. Throughout her tenure Judy advocated for the highest quality water through her work on the Legislative, Conservation and Outreach Committee and the Groundwater Advisory Committee. Judy emphasized the importance of providing water and sewer services at the lowest possible rates and strived to maximize water resources through planning, management and conservation.

In light of all that Judy Guglielmana has done for the community of Lake Elsinore, it is only fitting that she be honored for her many years of dedicated service. Judy's tireless passion for conservation and public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our community and I am proud to call her a fellow

community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for her service and salute her as she moves on to her next challenge.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 2, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 3

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to continue consideration of S. 2963, to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels, and the nominations of Virginia Tyler Lodge, and Ronald Anderson Walter, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

TBA

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs

To hold hearings to examine evaluating the impact of the 'Umbrella Movement'.

SD-419

10 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine farmers and fresh water, focusing on voluntary conservation to protect our land and waters.

SR-328A

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mark R. Rosekind, of California, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and Carlos A. Monje, Jr., of Louisiana, to be Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, both of the Department of Transportation, and Tho Dinh-Zarr, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board.

SR-253

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) implementation of the Fukushima Near-Term Task Force recommendations and other actions to enhance and maintain nuclear safety.

SD-406

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, Joan Marie Azrack, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Loretta Copeland Biggs, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina, Elizabeth K. Dillon, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, and Michael P. Botticelli, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy.

SD-226

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the high cost of treating veterans with the Hepatitis C virus and the impact of the disease on the VA health care system.

SR-418

2 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine dismantling Iran's nuclear weapons program, focusing on the next steps to achieve a comprehensive deal.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Finance

Subcommittee on Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure

To hold hearings to examine natural gas vehicles, focusing on fueling American jobs, enhancing energy security, and achieving emissions benefits.

SD-215

DECEMBER 4

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to continue consideration of S. 2963, to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels, and the nominations of Virginia Tyler Lodge, and Ronald Anderson Walter, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

TBA

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 2946, to provide improved water, sanitation, and hygiene programs for high priority developing countries, an original bill entitled, "United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reauthorization Act of 2014", S. Res. 578, supporting the role of the United States in ensuring children in the world's poorest countries have access to vaccines and immunization through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the nominations of Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary, Robert Francis Cekuta, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan, Richard M. Mills, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia, Jess Lippincott Baily, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia, and Margaret Ann

Uyehara, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to Montenegro, all of the Department of State, Leon Aron, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and Carol Leslie Hamilton, of California, to be an Alternate Representative to the Sixty-ninth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

S-116

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Leigh A. Bradley, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

SR-418

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

SD-366

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine The FANS Act, focusing on if sports blackouts and antitrust exemptions are harming fans, consumers, and the games themselves.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

DECEMBER 9

10:30 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism

To hold hearings to examine campus sexual assault, focusing on the roles and responsibilities of law enforcement.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights

To hold hearings to examine the state of civil and human rights in the United States.

SD-226