

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING THE 240TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MECKLENBURG DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to commemorate the 240th anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence.

Meck Dec Day marks a defining moment in our nation's history when brave North Carolinians—united by their common pursuit of freedom—stepped forward to become the very first Americans to declare independence from the tyrannical crown of Great Britain.

This courageous act of defiance paved the way for the establishment of the United States of America and our great experiment in democracy.

North Carolina's bold leaders and citizens resisted British occupation during the Revolutionary War, prompting British Commander General Cornwallis to describe our fearless city as "a hornet's nest of rebellion."

It's in this spirit that our community continues to stand for liberty, justice and freedom.

I am so proud of our heritage and for the leadership that the State of North Carolina continues to provide this great nation.

Mr. Speaker, on this historic anniversary, I want to congratulate the city of Charlotte and all North Carolinians.

I welcome each and every one of my colleagues to join us in celebrating this important moment in our history and the great North Carolinians who risked everything to lay claim to our rights and freedom.

HONORING ARMY PRIVATE HENRY JOHNSON AND ARMY SERGEANT WILLIAM SHEMIN

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave service of Army Private Henry Johnson and Army Sergeant William Shemin. Army Private Henry Johnson and Army Sergeant William Shemin valiantly fought to defend our nation during World War I.

Army Private Henry Johnson entered the Army on June 5, 1917. He served in Company C, the 15th New York Infantry Regiment, an all-black National Guard unit. In 1918, Army Private Henry Johnson's unit, then the 369th Infantry Regiment, was ordered into battle in France and fought in front-line combat. Army Private Johnson courageously risked his life to defend those of his fellow soldiers.

Army Sergeant William Shemin entered the Army on October 2, 1917. He served as a

member of Company G, 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry Regiment, 4th Division, American Expeditionary Forces, originally located in Syracuse, New York. In May of 1918, Army Sergeant Shemin arrived in France to fight as a rifleman within his platoon. Army Sergeant Shemin not only put himself in danger to rescue his wounded fellow soldiers, but also took command of his platoon following the death of his superior officers.

Army Private Henry Johnson and Army Sergeant William Shemin proudly served and represented New York and our entire nation. Nearly 100 years after their service, Army Private Henry Johnson and Army Sergeant William Shemin will be awarded the Medal of Honor by President Obama on June 2nd. It is a privilege to share in the recognition of these American heroes, Army Private Henry Johnson and Army Sergeant William Shemin.

HONORING ALIVIA DAVIS, WINNER OF THE 2015 FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF FLORIDA ART COMPETITION

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alivia Davis, winner of the 2015 Fourth Congressional District of Florida Art Competition in my home town of Jacksonville, Florida. Nationally, the Congressional Art Competition recognizes some of the finest high school student artists, and there is no doubt that Alivia belongs among this illustrious group. Her drawing, titled "Magnif.eyed," could not be a better representation of the artistic ability of Northeast Florida, and I am proud to recognize her on the House Floor today.

Alivia recently completed her freshman year of high school at Stanton College Preparatory School, an academically renowned public high school in Jacksonville. Competing against thousands of high school students across the Fourth Congressional District, Alivia's artistic ability and execution set her apart from the rest. Alivia's "Magnif.eyed" depicts her younger brother's face as seen beneath a magnifying glass. The attention to detail is extraordinary; the hair is vivid and lifelike, the eyes incredibly vibrant, and the shading meticulously applied. Alivia shows artistic skills far beyond her years.

Alivia comes from a large and loving family. Her proud father and mother, Daniel and Rebekah, as well as her siblings Caroline, Christian, and Gabe, have been a constant source of support throughout her life. Tony Wood, art teacher at Stanton College Preparatory School, and a renowned artist himself, has paintings displayed in various art galleries around Jacksonville. He mentored and encouraged Alivia to submit her artwork for the competition, and I can only hope that in her upcoming years at Stanton, he will continue to guide Alivia in all of her artistic abilities.

I am honored to recognize Alivia Davis as the winner of the Fourth Congressional District Art Competition, and I could not be happier to see her drawing hang in the halls of Congress over the next year, proudly representing Northeast Florida. Alivia has a bright future ahead of her. Regardless of what that future holds, whether that be to pursue her artistic talents or otherwise, I believe that she will always find success.

RECOGNIZING NACHA ON ENABLING UBIQUITOUS SAME-DAY PAYMENTS DURING DIRECT DEPOSIT AND DIRECT PAYMENT VIA ACH MONTH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize May as the Direct Deposit and Direct Payment via Automated Clearing House (ACH) Month. NACHA—The Electronic Payments Association serves as trustee of the ACH Network, enabling payments such as direct deposit and direct payment via ACH. Annually, the network processes 23 billion ACH transactions valued at more than \$40 trillion. As a self-governing, collaborative rule maker and educator, NACHA helps to expand and diversify electronic payments, ensuring the Network remains universal and secure, creating value, and enabling innovation for all participants.

To coincide with this year's recognition of Direct Deposit and Direct Payment via ACH Month, the NACHA membership has approved an Operating Rules change to enable same-day settlement capabilities for virtually any ACH transaction. The proposal received broad support from financial institutions, businesses, government agencies and regulators, consumer groups, and other interested parties. This new same-day service ACH allows the financial services industry to offer an option to consumers, businesses and governments, who want to move their money faster.

I commend NACHA's commitment to enhancing the versatility and improving the strength of the ACH Network for consumers, governments, businesses, and financial institutions that rely on the network to move their money via ACH. This introduction of same-day ACH is an immediate action undertaken by financial institutions to modernize the payments system, and it creates a building block for a variety of innovative products and services.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing NACHA—The Electronic Payments Association for its work to move payments safely and more efficiently through same-day ACH and in recognizing May as Direct Deposit and Direct Payment via ACH Month.

● 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.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1735) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 1735, the FY16 National Defense Authorization Act.

The National Defense Authorization Act is one of the most important pieces of legislation that this body votes on each year. While this bill does authorize much needed funding for our men and women in uniform, ultimately it ignores the current budget landscape that our military is facing.

Consistent with the Republican budget, this year's defense authorization bill uses the Overseas Contingency Operations budget as a backdoor loophole to get around sequestration by funding \$38 billion of the Pentagon's regular base budget activities with war funds—a blatant abuse of the budget process. Just one year ago, House Republicans criticized the abuse of the OCO loophole in their budget report, stating that it “undermines the integrity of the budget process” and that the Budget Committee would “oppose increases above the levels the Administration and our military commanders say are needed to carry out operations unless it can be clearly demonstrated that such amounts are war-related.”

Moreover, in following the strategy of the Republican budget, the NDAA begins the process of locking in sequestration for non-defense programs, which will have a devastating impact on investments critical to the nation. We need to get back to the table to have an honest debate about our budget and renegotiate the funding caps for both defense and nondefense. Only then will we be able to provide the necessary resources for our national security needs and to ensure we keep the nation's commitments to education, research, infrastructure, and other crucial drivers of economic prosperity.

I also have many problems with a number of misguided provisions in this year's NDAA. Once again, this year's NDAA includes a provision to continue funding restrictions on the construction or modification of detention facilities in the United States to house Guantanamo detainees. I strongly opposed Rep. Walorski's amendment to keep Guantanamo open for at least two more years beyond FY16 and was disappointed that an amendment offered by Ranking Member Smith to provide a framework for closure of Guantanamo by the end of 2016 was rejected.

I also oppose efforts by Republicans to strike an important provision in this bill which would have stated that it was the sense of the House that our military should review whether “DREAMers” should be allowed to enlist and serve in the Armed Forces. In addition, I object to provisions that prohibit the Pentagon from entering into contracts to construct alter-

native fuel refineries and prevent our military from developing alternative energy sources that have the potential to save money and enhance our energy security. Finally, I object to the inclusion of unrequested funding for many weapons systems, including an extra \$1.15 billion for extra F/A-18 aircraft and \$128 million for extra UH-60 helicopters.

Despite my opposition to the overall legislation, I was pleased that a bipartisan amendment I introduced with Congressman Mulvaney was adopted and will require Congress to report on how funds authorized for overseas contingency operations were ultimately used. I also support the increased 2.3 percent pay raise for our troops and their families.

While this legislation does authorize much needed funding for programs that benefit our men and women in uniform, ultimately, this bill falls short in too many areas. It is my hope that many of my objections to the NDAA will be resolved in Conference with the Senate but I can't support it in its current form.

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY ON THE WAY TO 3 MILLION HOMES

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it's Friday night. You come home from work, tired and hungry for supper.

There is a big stack of mail on the table you sift through, including one piece addressed to you from the government.

You open the envelope only to find a survey. The survey asks you a series of questions like: How many toilets do you have in your house? When do you leave and return from work? Does anyone in your home suffer from mental illness? Does your house have a sink with a faucet? Do you have a refrigerator?

This government-mandated questionnaire is known as the American Community Survey. Three million Americans each year are “lucky” enough to be selected to answer this mandatory survey. The American Community Survey is independent from the Census. This survey is more intrusive, more personal and more time consuming. Not to mention, it is 28 pages long and mandatory.

Understandably, many people dismiss this survey, tossing it out or feeling too uncomfortable to divulge such personal information. But throwing it away does not make it disappear.

If you fail to answer the survey, the government will come after you. It begins with phone calls. If the calls go answered or the survey is incomplete, the calls will increase from weekly to daily. Then the eyes of the federal government are sent to houses of the unwilling, to ring the doorbell and peak in the window. This is harassment. No one wants the government doing drop-ins to their home. Quite the opposite, the majority of Americans want the government to leave them alone. And on top of all the harassment and intimidation by Census Bureau emissaries, citizens who still choose not to answer, are threatened with a criminal penalty, and in some cases face up to a \$5,000 fine.

In an effort to help protect American's privacy, I reintroduced legislation that would

make the American Community Survey voluntary. This survey is another example of unnecessary and completely unwarranted government intrusion.

The federal government has no right to force Americans to divulge such private information, especially information that they are uncomfortable giving away.

But this is happening all over America and even right here in Southeast Texas. I have had neighbors contact me for years complaining about this government harassment.

According to the Constitution, article 1, section 2, a count of the nation's population is required to be conducted every ten years. The purpose of the Census is to apportion congressional seats and levy direct taxes. But the American Community Survey achieves none of that, except information on American's toilet flushing patterns.

I believe in a limited government and will work to protect American citizens from government abuse and harassment. Bottom line, Americans should have the choice on whether they want to tell Washington how many toilets they have.

And that's just the way it is.

CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HEAD START

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and celebrate Head Start on its 50th year of service to children and families. Fifty years ago yesterday, President Lyndon Johnson stood in the White House Rose Garden and announced the creation of Head Start.

This pioneering federal program became a foundation of his historic anti-poverty plan. Head Start was designed to ensure that children from low-income families had access to a quality early childhood education.

This program has long served as a catalyst for long-term educational achievement and is considered the nation's premier school readiness program.

Head Start recognizes that parents are the initial and most important educators in their child's life and works to inspire and support affirmative parental involvement with their children.

In addition to building strong parent-child relationships, Head Start along with Early Head Start, provides extensive services to promote strong mental, social, and emotional development in children from birth to age five.

Head Start also provides children and their families with health screenings and nutritional education, among other integral services. The services offered to our communities by Head Start are copious and invaluable.

Evidence-based studies have shown Head Start to be tremendously effective at promoting academic success in school, avoiding crime, and fostering the development of productive, successful leaders.

Head Start is one of the longest running programs in the United States whose mission is to address systemic poverty, and it has indeed yielded impressive results.

In just 2014, Head Start served over 20,000 children and families in North Carolina alone,

including nearly 5,000 in my congressional district. Since its creation 50 years ago, more than 32 million children and families have reaped the benefits of Head Start.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Head Start for 50 years of service and enrichment to our nation's children and their families. Its involvement in the lives of our young people is exceptionally significant and deserving of our sincere appreciation.

IN HONOR OF LIFEGUARD THOMAS
HOLT

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas Holt for the outstanding commitment and dedication he has demonstrated to the City of Imperial Beach. Mr. Holt started his public service as an ocean lifeguard in 1967. During his 47 years of service, Thomas Holt made thousands of ocean rescues and provided medical aid to hundreds of beach visitors.

On March 1, 2014, Mr. Holt officially retired at the age of 70. His service is a remarkable achievement in the ocean lifeguarding field. Mr. Holt is recognized by his lifeguard colleagues and the community of Imperial Beach as a hardworking, reliable and dedicated mentor.

Mr. Holt has devoted his life to preserving the lives of others. His outstanding achievements, his leadership and his commitment to the people of California's 51st District, are an inspiration to us all.

RECOGNIZING ST. JOHN'S-ST. AN-
DREW'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL CEN-
TENNIAL

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of St. John's-St. Andrew's Catholic School in Meire Grove, Minnesota, as it celebrates its centennial.

Founded in 1915, the current schoolhouse was built to meet the growing needs of a thriving Catholic community. After years of remodeling and improvements, and a shift towards being a parochial school, St. John's-St. Andrew's now consists of 40 families. An impressive growth, considering Catholic education in the area began with a deserted log church and 20 children.

For a century, central Minnesotans have sent their sons and daughters to this historic school knowing that they will receive a substantive education centered around Christ. For many, this Catholic tradition spans several generations.

I pray that these children continue to grow in their faith and that they continue to follow Christ's example of service and respect.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this body join me in congratulating St. John's-St. Andrew's Catholic School on 100 years, and thanking them for

building such a strong Catholic-educated community. May their success continue for decades to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COLUMBIA
RIVER BASIN RESTORATION ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Columbia River Basin Restoration Act, a bill that would bring much needed resources to clean up toxic pollution in the Columbia River Basin. The Columbia River is the largest river in the Pacific Northwest. The River and its tributaries provide significant ecological and economic benefits to the Pacific Northwest and the entire United States. Historically, the Columbia and its tributaries have constituted the largest salmon-producing river system in the world, with annual returns peaking at 16 million fish.

The Columbia River was designated an Estuary of National Significance in 1995 and a Large Aquatic Ecosystem (LAE) by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2006. Yet it remains the only LAE to receive zero Congressional funding pursuant to this designation—despite a growing problem of toxic contamination throughout the River Basin.

Toxic contaminants are present throughout the Columbia River Basin and are harmful to public health and ecosystem health. These contaminants make their way into fish tissues, which when consumed can be damaging to human health. Some of these toxics are known to increase cancer risks and have been linked with neurological, developmental and reproductive problems, including birth defects and learning disabilities. This concern is particularly pressing for tribal populations, who rely on local fish as a dietary and cultural staple and consume large quantities of resident fish. In wildlife, contaminants increase mortality and disease susceptibility and impair reproduction and the ability of the fish to avoid predators.

In 2013, the States of Oregon and Washington issued fish advisories warning the public to protect itself against mercury and PCB contamination by limiting consumption of resident fish species living in the 150 mile stretch of river between Bonneville and McNary Dams.

This bill authorizes the EPA to establish a voluntary, competitive Columbia River Basin grants program to support projects aimed at reducing pollution, cleaning up contaminated sites, improving water quality, monitoring the Basin, and promoting citizen engagement. Eligible entities may include States, tribal and local governments, nonprofits, and private landowners. The legislation authorizes \$50 million per year for five years for this effort, which is estimated to create between 700 and 1,000 family wage jobs per year in the region.

The Columbia River is the lifeblood of the Pacific Northwest, but it has become dangerously polluted. It is time to clean up the Columbia River and improve water quality and river health for generations to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF COL. ALFRED
ROBERT FRENCH II

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute, congratulate and recognize Col. Alfred Robert French II, M.D., for his distinguished military career and years of dedicated service to our nation as we celebrate his upcoming 89th birthday.

Col. French II was raised in Bisbee, AZ and attended Bisbee High School, Wentworth Military Academy and Valley Forge Military Academy, graduating in 1944. Upon graduation, Col. French sought immediate induction into the U.S. Army and his journey in the service of our nation began in a crowded ship that left Brooklyn, New York, bound for Le Havre, France.

Upon arrival, Col. French II was requisitioned by the 61st Signal Battalion of the Third Army and began his service as a driver and a courier in Eider Oberstein, Germany. On occasion, he would drive through Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg and France, all in one day. He also spent time in the Saar Protectorate, and then moved to Neckersulm, Germany, where he served as a Guard in a Displaced Persons (DP) camp.

Col. French was eventually transferred to Heidelberg, Germany and assigned to the 79th field Artillery group. There, Col. French II had the honor of attending General Patton's funeral service.

Col. French II returned to Phoenix, AZ, and studied at the University of Arizona. Soon after, however, he decided to continue his service to our country by reenlisting in the Army. He was deployed to Japan with the Army of Occupation and subsequently participated in the first battle of the Korean War as part of Task Force Smith, the first U.S. ground maneuver unit to enter combat in Korea.

Throughout his years of service, Col. French II has won numerous awards and distinctions, including the Bronze Star Medal, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Korean Service Medal, and the UN Service Medal.

After the war, Col. French II returned to Phoenix, AZ, and utilized the G.I. Bill to receive a B.S. from Arizona State University. He later graduated from Tulane Medical School with a specialty in Ophthalmology in 1959 and joined his father, Harry French, M.D., in private practice. Col. French II joined the Army National Guard in 1976 and served until 1993.

Mr. Speaker, Col. Alfred French II is a proud member of the Greatest Generation. He fought for our freedom in two different wars and has lived a life defined by service and integrity. I am deeply honored to recognize all that Col. French II has achieved and pleased to congratulate him as he celebrates his 89th birthday.

HONORING COACH BILL
GUTHRIDGE

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to honor the memory

of Bill Guthridge, long-time basketball coach at UNC-Chapel Hill, a skilled and dedicated mentor and leader on and off the court.

Bill is best remembered for his illustrious coaching career. He won two national championships in three decades alongside Coach Dean Smith, and he was an assistant coach on the gold medal-winning 1976 Olympic basketball team. After Dean retired, Bill was named head coach of the Tar Heels and took Carolina to two Final Fours in three seasons. All told, he played or coached in more Final Fours than anyone else in NCAA history.

Bill was content to operate behind the scenes, and he liked to tell the story that he and his wife Leesie enjoyed an anniversary dinner in Chapel Hill the night before he took over for Coach Smith without being recognized by a single student or basketball fan.

But anyone who knew anything about Carolina basketball understood the critical contribution that Bill made to the program, and his passing on May 12 has brought forth a torrent of fond memories and tributes.

Those tributes include an appreciation for the remarkable role Bill and Leesie have played in the community of Chapel Hill since their arrival in 1967. I have personally appreciated their encouragement and counsel, and my wife and I have admired the generosity with which they have extended themselves to support numerous good and visionary causes. As a former UNC student, I particularly appreciate their efforts to renovate and modernize the Undergraduate Library through the creation of the William W. and Elise P. Guthridge Library Fund.

I am not alone in appreciating Bill Guthridge's contribution to our community. Ask anyone who knew him—and many who didn't—and you will hear about his quiet devotion to the students he coached, his loyalty to his colleagues and friends, and his commitment to community betterment.

I feel very fortunate to have called Bill Guthridge a friend, and I am honored to pay tribute to his many contributions and the lasting impact they have made on the University and the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 240 through 242.

Had I been present, I would have voted yes on #240, yes on #241, and yes on #242.

IN RECOGNITION OF 2015 EASTERN AREA CONFERENCE OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATED

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, from April 22nd through April 26th, 2015, The Eastern Area of the Links, Incorporated hosted their 43rd Eastern Area Conference at the elegant Foxwoods Resort and Casino in Connecticut. This year's

conference theme "Leveraging the Legacy of Friendship and Service" is apropos as we congratulate the 2015 Eastern Area Conference Co-Chairs Sister Links Price and Wilson for organizing this annual meeting. The Eastern Area of the Links is comprised of 73 chapters in the states of Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Virginia.

As one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of extraordinary women, the Links are committed to enriching, sustaining and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry. With a membership of 12,000 professional women of color, which also includes my beautiful wife Alma Rangel and my daughter Alicia, the Links Incorporated has established 274 chapters in forty-two states and in three sovereign nations.

Throughout my public and political career, I have witnessed the astonishing work and outstanding community service provided by The Eastern Area of the Links, which has attracted hundreds of distinguished individual achievers and accomplished women of color, who continue to make a difference for our most vulnerable communities in the Eastern States of our Nation. Today, under the leadership of Eastern Area Director Dianne S. Hardison, the outstanding programming of the Eastern Area of the Links, Incorporated has five facets which include Services to Youth, The Arts, National Trends and Services, International Trends and Services, and Health and Human Services.

The Eastern Area of the Links initiated a Women's Issues Program, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Marcella Maxwell that evolved into a National Trends Facet Component. The focus of the Women's Issues Program for 2013–2015 was to honor and empower Women who have served in our Nation's Armed Forces as they transitioned from military life to civilian life. The Eastern Area Links initiated programs to mentor, educate, train, and employ women veterans as they transitioned from Combat to Corporate.

Partnering with Dress For Success, FedEx, Citi Corporation, Home Depot, Macy's, College and Universities; and veteran organizations such as the 369th Veterans' Association, New York City Mayor's Office of Military Affairs, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, Temple University, Syracuse University, Philadelphia Community College, Medgar Evers College, York College, and the Borough of Manhattan College of the City University of New York, the Eastern Area of the Links Combat to Corporate program has successfully given women veterans, many of whom are single mothers and homeless the opportunity to achieve the American dream and raise their families with dignity and resources.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my esteemed colleagues of the great Eastern States of our Union join me in recognition of the 2015 Eastern Area Conference of the Links, Incorporated, which has focused its mission to support Women Veterans From Combat to Corporate and Women in the Armed Forces that continue to serve our Country proudly and with distinction today.

REMEMBERING MAURIE BERMAN

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of an important and respected member of the Chicago community.

On May 17th we lost a local legend. Mr. Maurie Berman, founder of the famous Superdawg passed away at the age of 89.

After serving his nation in WWII, Mr. Berman returned to Chicago to serve his community. His vision was to serve delicious Chicago style hotdogs without customers even having to leave their cars. In May 1948, Maurie and his wife, Flaurie, opened the first Superdawg at the end of the streetcar line at Devon and Milwaukee Avenues in Chicago. It would be one of the first drive-in restaurants of its time with Flaurie as the first car-hop.

Almost 60 years later, and countless hungry people fed, Superdawg has become a Chicago institution. The business has been passed down from generation to generation with Maurie's great-granddaughter putting in her first shift just a few weeks ago.

Mr. Berman was known not only for serving one of the best hotdogs, but also for being a truly caring person. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, friend as well as a highly respected member of his community. Maurie never missed an opportunity to help his employees in times of need.

I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating the life and accomplishments of Mr. Maurie Berman.

IN HONOR OF THE 2014 FAIRFAX COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION AND TREE PRESERVATION AWARDEES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of Fairfax County 2014 Land Conservation and Tree Preservation and Planting Awards. Fairfax County is considered one of the best counties in the nation in which to live, work, and raise a family. One reason for this designation is the innovative environmental protection policies that have been implemented by the County and embraced by its business partners, and I was pleased to have led that effort during my tenure as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. These awards recognize the following developers, designers, and site superintendents, who have excelled in their stewardship of the environment:

LARGE COMMERCIAL: CINDER BED ROAD BUS DIVISION

Owner: Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Project Manager: Fred Robertson

Superintendent: Denver Callahan

Contractor: Strittmatter Contracting, LLC

Engineer: Wendel

Site Inspector: Jim Getts

LARGE SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL: GAMBRILL POINTE

Owner: Brookfield Ridge Road, LLC

Project Manager: Scott Gookin & James T. Devine
 Superintendent: Donnie Stewart & Billy Huff
 Contractor: William A. Hazel, Inc.
 Engineer: Land Design Consultants, Inc.
 Site Inspector: Keith Anthony

SMALL SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL: ABBOTS WOOD

Owner: Palisades Development, LLC
 Project Manager: Mike Dropik
 Superintendent: Donnie Stewart & Billy Huff
 Contractor: William A. Hazel, Inc.
 Engineer: Walter L. Phillips, Inc.
 Site Inspector: Jim Getts

INFILL LOT: 9022 FALLS RUN ROAD, MCLEAN

Owner: Joe & Sarah Shames
 Project Manager: Ross Richmond
 Superintendent: Rich Shaffer
 Contractor: Joy Custom Design Build, LLC.

Engineer: LS2 PC Engineering
 Site Inspector: Frank Degboe
 Outstanding Engineering Firms: Wendel (Cinder Bed Road Bus Division)
 Outstanding Superintendent: Clarke Newbill and Billy Huff (Gambrell Pointe)

Outstanding Contractor: Strittmatter Contracting, LLC (Cinder Bed Road Bus Division)

Outstanding Developer/Owner: Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Cinder Bed Road Bus Division)

Certificate of Voluntary Merit: Jackson Ayers, Member of Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1539, Eagle Scout Service Project

Best Protected Environmentally Sensitive Site: Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Cinder Bed Road Bus Division)

Outstanding E/S Inspectors of the Year: Frank Degboe (North Branch), Jorge Tagle (Central Branch), Jim Getts (South Branch)

Outstanding E/S Plan Reviewers of the Year: Roshna Gafoor (North Branch), Jennifer Vargas (Central Branch), Ambachew Nigatu (South Branch)

TREE PLANTING AWARDS:

Project: Capital One—Rt. 123 Median and Tree Transplanting

Developer: Capital One
 Design: William H. Gordon and Associates, Inc.

Landscape: Ruppert Landscape, Inc. Davis/Gilford Construction

Project: East Market at Fair Lake, Phase III

Developer: Peterson Companies
 Design: Lewis Scully Gionet TWS Designs, Inc.

Landscape: KT Enterprises

Project: Jennings Toyota
 Developer: Chesapeake Contracting Group
 Design: Walter L. Phillips, Inc.
 Landscape: Live Green

Project: Newington DVS Maintenance Facility

Developer: EE Reed Construction
 Design: Adtek Engineers
 Landscape: Blake Landscapes

TREE PRESERVATION AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Project: National Library for the Study of George Washington

Developer: Mount Vernon Ladies' Association

Engineer: Rummel Klepper & Kahl
 Tree Preservation Consultant: The Care of Trees

Tree Preservation Contractor: Bartlett Tree Experts

Project: The Preserve at Scott's Run
 Builder: Stanley Martin Homes
 Engineer: Land Design Consultants
 Tree Preservation Consultant: Zimar & Associates

Project: Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax
 Developer: UUCF
 Engineer: Bowman Consulting Group, Ltd
 Tree Preservation Consultant: Davey Resource Group
 Tree Preservation Contractor: The Care of Trees

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these honorees. Fairfax County and its residents have benefitted greatly from the collaborative spirit that is represented by these awards today, and I thank each of the awardees for their efforts.

IN SUPPORT OF THE TOM LANTOS FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ANNUAL SOLIDARITY SABBATH

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Tom Lantos Foundation for Human Rights' annual Solidarity Sabbath. Held on May 22, 2015, this trans-Atlantic event provides a timely and unique framework within which leaders here in the United States and Europe can express solidarity with the Jewish community at a time when acts of social cohesion are more urgent than ever.

The Solidarity Sabbath encourages leaders of all faiths, races, and backgrounds to band together in support of Jewish communities across North America and Europe by participating in a range of Sabbath services and related activities. In the current geo-political climate, where we have seen the ugly resurgence of anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial, particularly in Europe, it is imperative that we unite against intolerance and baseless hatred. I urge leaders both at home and abroad to participate in this important event and stand up for tolerance, peace and co-existence. When leaders of diverse backgrounds come together in defense of fundamental human rights, all of our communities are the beneficiaries.

Indeed, this Solidarity Sabbath initiative is most timely. Sadly, in the past few months we have witnessed a dramatic surge in anti-Semitic incidents across Europe, including the January murders of four Jewish customers at a kosher supermarket in Paris, and the murder of a Jewish man guarding a synagogue in Copenhagen in February. Painful, vivid memories are being resurrected as Jewish communities around Europe are once again living under the cloud of social hostility, embarrassment and violent threats.

It is imperative that we stand with the Jewish community and demand that our European allies work diligently and without delay to confront and put an end to these heinous acts. Hatred and persecution based on race or religion have no place in our world. Each and every one of us has the responsibility to make our own communities safer and more tolerant.

For this very reason, I am pleased to have recently introduced a bipartisan resolution with Representative ROBERT DOLD of Illinois to combat the rise of anti-Semitism in Europe, which encourages our European friends to counter this disturbing trend while also committing the United States to abetting this effort in every way possible.

Mr. Speaker, the power of togetherness cannot be overemphasized. Indeed, it is the bond shared by those of us dedicated to love and tolerance that will form the basis upon which we will defeat bigotry and demagoguery in all of its forms. I urge my colleagues to stand with me in this important expression of tolerance and co-existence.

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF MICHAEL "MIKE" SCROGGINS

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Sheriff Michael "Mike" Scroggins, a devoted civil servant and long-time political leader in Delaware County.

Mike is a lifelong Hoosier and leaves behind a legacy of public service in our state. After nearly 30 years as a police officer, including 11 years as a Uniform Division Commander, he ran successfully for Delaware County Sheriff in both 2010 and 2014. He is also a proud graduate of the respected FBI National Academy.

He devoted his entire adult life to protecting and bettering his community and for that he will always be remembered. Sheriff Scroggins was a member of Whitney Lodge #229, the Indiana Sheriff's Association, and the Mt. Olive Community Church. He was also actively involved with the Delaware County Council, making public appearances regularly to advocate for his officers and his department. In his free time, Mike enjoyed fishing trips and spending time with his family.

Today, it is my privilege to honor the life of Mike Scroggins. My thoughts and prayers go out to Mike's family, and may God comfort those left behind with his peace and strength.

TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau documented at the time, it was a campaign of "race extermination."

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is imperative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide Congressional Record Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide. Below is one of those stories:

FROM ARSHALOUS DARBINYAN, AN ARMENIAN WOMAN, ON BEHALF OF HER FATHER, BABKEN VARDANI DARBINYAN, AND GRANDPARENTS. ARSHALOUS MARKARI DARBINYAN AND VARDAN SARKISI DARBINYAN

Arshalous Markari Darbinyan was happily married to Vardan Sarkisi Darbinyan. The Darbinyans were one of the wealthy families of Van. They were well respected community intellectual leaders. In the spring of 1915, at the time of deportation and forced relocation Arshalous Darbinyan was an expectant mother. Andranik Zorava (a very close friend of the family) personally appointed one of his assistants to deliver a carriage to the Darbinyan residence. They left everything behind, the house and most of their belongings. In a chaotic rush they were forced to even bury their gold and most of the jewelry in their garden, and left behind the pharmacy they owned. The handmade carpets and rugs, and furniture were stuffed in the wine cellar, as they naively believed that once everything settled they would return home.

Unfortunately, when they were halfway there in the middle of the road the carriage flipped over. Arshalous was injured the most. She lost her baby. Also, she received several injuries on her face. Her husband, though in pain himself did his best to help cope with the situation. They suffered emotionally and physically, went through hardships, eyewitnessed the genocide and were lucky enough to survive. They were separated from their siblings, and the family was scattered around the world. Some of them ended up in Fresno, CA and the rest settled in Armenia.

CITATION TO RECOGNIZE BRIGADIER GENERAL DENNIS D. DOYLE, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, G-3/5/7, OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL, U.S. ARMY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, we cannot thank our public servants enough for the job that they do for this country day in and day out. The Federal Government simply cannot function properly without good leaders who are committed to the world and security of our Nation.

BG Dennis Doyle distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious service and superb achievements to the Office of the Surgeon General and the United States Army from 1 November 2005 to 1 November 2015 while serving in a succession of several high positions of great importance. His outstanding leadership, passionate pursuit of excellence, and tireless efforts greatly contributed to the overall readiness of the Army, the transformation of Army Medicine to a System for Health and the delivery of high quality health care to our Armed Forces. During his tenure as Commander of the 10th Combat Support Hospital (CSH) in Fort Carson, Colorado, BG Doyle was hand selected to also command the 43rd Area Support Group (Rear) while the 4th Infantry Division deployed. He superbly commanded both organizations ensuring the Group sustained a high level of readiness in support of Fort Carson tenant units. He proved a staunch supporter to the installation, community, and all post operations supporting deployed Fort Carson units in combat. While deployed with the 10th CSH, BG Doyle delivered

world class combat health care for nearly 40,000 patients, which included 4,000 admissions and over 8,500 operating room procedures with many of these involving the most difficult combat trauma cases in the world. His success in this tremendously challenging mission was recognized as magnificent not only by his chain of command but also by the U.S. Ambassador, the Commander of Multinational Forces-Iraq, the Commander of Multinational Coalition-Iraq, the Iraqi Prime Minister, and many U.S. and Iraqi government officials. BG Doyle served as the Deputy Commander for Administration at Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC). During that time, Walter Reed was the largest military treatment facility in the Department of Defense and flagship for Army Medicine and Home of Warrior Care. During his tenure, BG Doyle's results-oriented approach ensured the command's success in every facet of customer service, operations, personnel readiness, and adequacy of human and monetary capital. He oversaw the establishment of a one stop welcome center to ease the logistical burden for our Warfighters and their Family Members. His keen administrative acumen and innovative problem solving were the driving force in over \$24M in facility renovations, \$4M in housekeeping service enhancements, improved logistics customer response times, and the establishment of a 24/7 operations cell.

Following Walter Reed, BG Doyle was centrally selected to command the 30th Medical Command (MEDCOM) in Germany. Despite assuming command just nine days before deploying to Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan, BG Doyle expertly led his team to quickly assume its critical role as the first Theater Medical Command for Afghanistan, Task Force 30th MEDCOM. Combat seasoned, creative, articulate, technically and tactically proficient, and solution oriented, BG Doyle consistently provided sound, balanced operational advice as the medical Task Force Commander and USFOR-A Surgeon. His joint service command assessed the USFOR-A medical infrastructure and organization and took action to ensure the finest care was provided for all U.S., Coalition, and Afghan forces by a deliberate redistribution of scarce medical resources. He directed a comprehensive analysis of health service support for Regional Command West expansion efforts resulting in the development of force request that met the regional commander's need. BG Doyle led a joint team that provided unmatched combat health service support across the Combined Joint Operations Area—Afghanistan and delivered the highest war time survival rates up to that point in the conflict. A strategic thinker, BG Doyle also forged solid international relations with ISAF medical partners and host Nation assets to ensure unity of effect and effort for all medical assets in the area of responsibility. After Europe, the Surgeon General hand selected BG Doyle to command the William Beaumont Medical Center (WBAMC) in Fort Bliss, Texas. During this period, he also served as the Deputy Commanding General (DCG)—Readiness for Western Regional Medical Command (WRMC) and Chief of the Medical Service Corps. BG Doyle quickly transformed the William Beaumont culture to fully support the Fort Bliss transition from a TRADOC installation to the Army's largest and busiest FORSCOM power projection platform. He exploited partnering with the Veterans' Af-

fairs for a mutually efficient use of limited resources resulting in the award of the largest Fiscal Year 12 VA/DOD Joint Incentive Fund project valued at over \$5M. His team also opened a new WTB campus, established a collocated Integrated Disability Evaluation System site, and launched Embedded Behavioral Health, and Child and Family Assistance Centers. The Surgeon General recognized BG Doyle as a transformational leader and once again hand picked him to command the Pacific Regional Medical Command knowing that he possessed all the skill sets required to direct and influence the right Army Medicine capabilities in support of the Army's and DoD's rebalancing strategy. He was also designated as Commanding General, Tripler Army Medical Center, U.S. Army Pacific Surgeon, Chief, Medical Service Corps, and Manager for the Hawaii enhanced Multi-Service Market (eMSM). His overall performance and contributions were nothing short of stellar.

Balancing five hats, he effective established connections, and strengthened and influenced strategic partnerships with PACOM countries including Korea, Japan, Philippines and Thailand. His PRMC team provided unmatched support to USARPAC and USPACOM interests in the Asia-Pacific. His strategic leadership inspired trust in the health system throughout the Pacific achieving consistent patient satisfaction rates of over 85 percent. In addition, PRMC's Integrative Pain Management Center ranked as the best in the Army because of the close clinical collaboration with multiple disciplines and an emphasis on weaning Soldiers off their pain medication drugs. PRMC was recognized as one of the most productive Regional Medical Commands exceeding patient safety standards and quality measures as well as leading the way in an external accreditation survey and Risk Management oversight spanning the entire PACOM area of responsibility with facilities in Korea, Japan, and Hawaii. The Surgeon General personally selected BG Doyle to serve as her Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7 based on unequalled operational experience, strategic acumen and proven leadership. His transformative excellence was deemed an imperative during a period of significant cultural and organizational transformation. Upon assuming his role, BG Doyle was immediately faced with operationalizing The Surgeon General's transformation from a healthcare system to a System for Health. He infused irreversible momentum in promoting the Performance Triad, the primary mechanism to influence readiness and health by targeting Sleep, Activity and Nutrition behaviors for Soldiers, Family members and all 3.9 million beneficiaries. In the Total Army Force concept, BG Doyle has also been instrumental in driving toward COMPO 2 and implementation with full support from the Chief of the Army Reserve and Army National Guard. The nuances of implementation in the Reserve Components have been fully explored to ensure that this is executable for our Citizen Soldiers. Furthermore, BG Doyle's operational perspective was instrumental in ensuring the direct correlation of Army Medicine command structures with supported Army Corps and ASCC commanders. The decisions currently being enacted represent the largest organizational changes in the past few decades and will ensure that MEDCOM is a balanced, agile and streamlined organization postured to support Army Force 2025 and Beyond

concepts. In parallel with the command's deliberate, strategic initiatives, BG Doyle served as the single mission command focal point synchronizing and integrating TSG/CG, MEDCOM command guidance for the command despite geographic dispersion across five continents and supporting roles to COCOMs and ASCCs. This superb operational coordination/synchronization was accomplished through the Army's largest Direct Reporting Unit, a complex, integrated Army-wide health service system. BG Doyle's bold, transformational leadership was the driving force for the brilliant translation of command intent and communication throughout the staff and major subordinate commands and was affected in an extremely dynamic environment immediately following OTSG/MEDCOM OneStaff reorganization. His passionate desire to lead the preeminent healthcare force in the world: the best led, trained and equipped for without peer, has raised the collective skill level and efforts of the entire headquarters. As a result of tireless, direct engagement on the part of BG Doyle, the command now functions with superior efficiency in establishing core or functional crisis action teams and integrated process action teams to respond to a wide array of complex problem sets. All of Army Medicine's System for Health efforts are grounded in the imperative to optimize performance. Every provider to patient interaction will be viewed through the lens of improving the development, performance, resilience and accelerated rehabilitation of the Professional Soldier Athlete. Through his efforts BG Doyle has established the MEDCOM G-3/5/7 function as the preeminent staff element of its kind in support of the Army's largest direct reporting unit. He has ensured the success of the MEDCOM through the essential task of synchronizing the efforts of the command and communicating the mission, vision and intent of the commander. His impact on this command and the Army is immeasurable. BG Doyle represents the very best of Army and Nation.

Brigadier General Doyle's distinctive accomplishments reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Department of Defense."

**FORECLOSURE PROTECTION FOR
MILITARY SERVICEMEMBERS
LEGISLATION**

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, as our economy continues to recover, some military servicemembers, particularly those leaving active duty, are facing financial challenges, such as finding new employment, among other things. Additionally, a slow recovering real-estate market in some areas of the country can make it difficult for military members to sell their homes or purchase new ones upon receiving new orders.

That's why I'm introducing legislation today, with the gentleman from Washington, Mr. DENNY HECK, to provide a one year extension of foreclosure protection for military servicemembers leaving active duty. In 2014, Congress extended the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act protection against foreclosure for

military personnel to a year post-military service to help give servicemembers time to get on their feet financially and avoid the stress of potentially losing their home. These financial challenges still exist for many servicemembers, particularly those reacclimating to civilian life after serving abroad.

Our nation's military personnel are the best in the world, willingly putting their lives on the lines to protect our freedoms every day. The least we can do for them is to ensure they have a home when they leave active duty service.

The gentleman from Washington, Mr. HECK, and I are pleased to be introducing this bill today. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO NORA TRAMPE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Nora Trampe upon winning the Congressional Art Competition in the 3rd Congressional District of Iowa. Nora, a senior at Roosevelt High School, is the daughter of Dr. Kate Garst of Des Moines, Iowa.

The Congressional Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery," is open to high school students nationwide. Since 1982, the competition has been an opportunity for Members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. The winner is selected by a panel of 16 judges, one from each county in Iowa's 3rd District.

Nora's piece, "100% Awesome," was named the winner out of over 75 entries. It is a unique and creative piece that symbolizes all the things that make Iowa such a special place. Nora's creativity and dedication to her craft is admirable. The example set by this young woman demonstrates the rewards of harnessing one's talents and sharing them with the world. "100% Awesome" will be displayed in the halls of the Capitol for all to admire and enjoy.

I commend Nora for her artistic talents and I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress will join me in congratulating her for being chosen as the winner of the Congressional Art Competition in the 3rd Congressional District of Iowa. It is an honor to serve Iowans like Nora and I wish her the best of luck in her future academic and artistic endeavors.

**THANKS JIM CARR FOR YOUR
YEARS OF SERVICE TO SPRING
VALLEY LAKE**

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank James H. Carr aka "Jim Carr" who is being recognized for his many years of service to the Spring Valley Lake Community and the Spring Valley Lake Country Club.

1980 was the beginning of the Carr family's life at Spring Valley Lake and Spring Valley Lake Country Club. After completion of Jim's "SVL weekender home" in 1980 the first 8 years of weekends were like "mini-vacations" of fishing, and golf with little thought as to the ramifications of both national and local political decisions being made.

Decisions made in 1988 would force Jim to become involved and protective of his "golf and fishing paradise" when it was learned George AFB would be closed. Then in 1990 the Country Club lost more members with the departure of the "Wild Weasel" Air Force squadron from George AFB.

Jim became concerned the Country Club would not survive and had several conversations with the new general manager Greg Davis. In one of the conversations Greg Davis stated his mission directed by Mr. Dedman Sr. was to turn the club around or it would be sold by ClubCorp. It was at that time Jim was asked to Chair the Board of Governors of the Club.

In late 2002 Jim became more active in the Spring Valley Lake Home Owners Association when contacted by a small group of residents that had become aware of deficit spending by the Association. The only solution was to find and elect people to the Association Board with financial/business experience and the will to make tough financial decisions. It took several years, but with the help of many concerned citizens the Association became financially sound and well managed.

I wish Jim the best in his retirement. The Eighth District of California and Spring Valley Lake are thankful for your service.

IN HONOR OF JAMES T. POWELL

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, we have all had teachers who were inspirations as well as educators. For twenty seven years, James T. Powell was that kind of teacher at my alma mater, Wake Forest University. I would like to pay personal tribute to Professor Powell—who is retiring this year.

I can say, from personal experience, the years a young man or woman spends at Wake Forest shapes the rest of their lives—whether they're recalling burning the midnight oil, pouring over the literature of "The Ancients," or watching Rodney Rogers race down the basketball court.

Back when I was a student, studying the "Iliad" and "Odyssey" were not the most popular subjects on campus—but Professor Powell always kept packed lecture halls.

He was not only applauded and revered by his students and fellow professors—he was also formally recognized for his service, being awarded the Reid-Doyle Prize for Excellence in Teaching in 1996, the Award for Excellence in Advising in 2003, and the Kulynych Family Omicron Delta Kappa Award for Contributions to Student Life.

Professor Powell was also a leader in many campus groups—Phi Beta Kappa, Secretary to the Faculty, the Judicial Council—where he

served as Chairman—the Reynolds Scholarship Committee, the First-Year Seminar Committee, Divinity School Accreditation Committee and Dean of the College Search Committee.

Mr. Speaker, like many young men and women who attended Wake Forest, I am honored and proud to say I studied under Professor James Powell.

H.R. 2408, THE USA FREEDOM ACT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2048, the USA Freedom Act. This bill makes important improvements to the PATRIOT Act, including to Section 2154, which is the underpinning of the National Security Agency's (NSA) nationwide bulk collection program.

Yet a ruling last week by the Second Circuit found that the bulk collection of phone records under this section violated the law. The right to privacy is a fundamental American value. And it is clear that the practice of unconstitutional bulk data collection endangers that right. Last week's court decision underscores this—and makes clear that more robust surveillance reforms are needed. While the USA Freedom Act is a good step forward, it does not go far enough. And I recognize the hard work of my good friend and colleague, Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS, JR., on this important bill. More than thirteen years after the passage of the PATRIOT Act, Congress must do more to balance our national security with the protection of our civil liberties.

The USA Freedom Act should include more robust protections to prevent the surveillance of individuals with no nexus to terrorism or any specific investigation. This would ensure adequate protections against indiscriminate surveillance from the government and ensure that Section 215 cannot be used to collect Americans' records unrelated to any specific investigation. We should also be working for more robust minimization procedures to ensure that information collected under Section 215 is not stored in databases for years. This type of provision was included in a previous version of this bill and must be restored. We should also work to limit additional authorities outside of Section 215 that have been used to collect Americans' records in bulk. We know that the government has used other authorities—such as administrative subpoena laws—to collect Americans' records in bulk. And finally, H.R. 2048 should be amended to ensure that the government does not use authorities under Section 702 as a backdoor to conduct surveillance on Americans. Section 702 allows the government to intercept contents of Americans' electronic communications with individuals abroad—and stores them in a database—without a warrant. Reforms to Section 702 should be included in this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud my colleagues for working in bipartisan manner on this bill. Yet I believe that additional reforms were needed to adequately protect Americans' fundamental right to privacy. More than 13 years after the PATRIOT Act was first passed into law, it is time for Congress to let Section 215 expire

and work toward serious and meaningful surveillance reform.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, on May 18, 2015, my flight was delayed and I was unable to vote on H.R. 91.

If present, I would have vote "yea" on H.R. 91.

H.R. 36

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 36. This bill would ban abortions after 20 weeks without an adequate exception to protect a woman's health—a violation of *Roe v. Wade*—and would impose unreasonable burdens on rape and incest survivors. The legislation is the latest attack by House Republicans on women's health, and what's even more insulting is that they brought it to the floor during Women's Health Week.

H.R. 36 would deny a woman the right to an abortion even if she is experiencing serious medical complications from pregnancy, or her physician is unable to diagnose her fetus with severe and lethal anomalies until after 20 weeks. These anomalies frequently lead to fetal death before or shortly after birth. Moreover, by imposing criminal penalties on physicians who provide abortion care, the bill would eventually lead to the deterioration of the critical patient-doctor relationship.

As you know, Republicans pulled an earlier version of this after a clash in their caucus over the exception for adult rape survivors which would require women to report the crime to law enforcement before they could get an abortion. That language has been modified to require rape survivors to seek and provide documentation of medical treatment or counseling 48 hours prior to an abortion. The bill also includes unfair reporting and documentation requirements for minors who have survived rape and incest. Without a doubt these barriers are deliberately designed to restrict a women's right to choose.

I'm pleased to see a range of organizations voice strong opposition to this bill including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Nurses Association, American Public Health Association, NARAL Pro-Choice American, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, National Organization for Women, National Women's Law Center, National Council of Jewish Women, and others.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand up for women's health and oppose this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE SHEPHERD'S CENTER OF OAKTON-VIENNA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the volunteers of the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna and to thank them for their many contributions to the Northern Virginia community. Organized in 1997, the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) is a non-profit that provides services to help older adults continue living independently, and it offers programs that supply opportunities for enrichment, learning, and socialization.

Every year, approximately 200 volunteers support older residents who want to age in place in their homes and stay engaged in social activities. Services are available free of charge to anyone age 50 or older who resides in the local community.

Last year was a particularly successful year for SCOV. In 2014, drivers provided over 1100 round-trip rides for medical reasons and other errands. Volunteers made regular contact with individuals who may have limited interaction and may feel isolated in their homes. "Handy Helpers" made minor home repairs to help older adults keep their homes safe and livable. The Health Team provided individual health counseling, referral to community resources, and blood pressure readings. Volunteers also run programs such as Lunch n' Life, Adventures in Learning, trips and outings, special events, and caregivers' support groups. All told, SCOV served more than 3000 individuals in 2014. For these accomplishments, SCOV was recognized as 2014 Outstanding Volunteer Caregiving Program by the National Volunteer Caregiving Network.

The services and programs offered by this extraordinary organization help to ensure that our seniors stay connected to the community through promotion of active lifestyles, ongoing social integration, and availability of resources for older residents to use their experience, training, and skills in significant roles in society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Shepherd Center of Oakton-Vienna for its work to enable older adults in our community to age in place and enjoy their golden years with dignity and independence. I thank the many volunteers who generously dedicate their time and efforts to the welfare of our neighbors. The value of their contributions cannot be overstated and are deserving of our highest praise.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF VIRGINIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD BRIGADIER GENERAL WAYNE A. WRIGHT

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Brigadier General Wayne A. Wright for his 34 years of service to our nation and to congratulate him on his announced retirement.

Brigadier General Wayne A. Wright retires as the Chief of Staff/Air Component Commander, Virginia Air National Guard, responsible for the command and control of 1,230 Virginia Air National Guard members, representing five organizations. Provided to the Governor and Adjutant General of Virginia, Air Guard military forces protect and defend the Commonwealth, and when activated to federal military duty, provide those same forces to the President of the United States.

General Wright entered the United States Air Force and received his commission in 1981 after graduating from the University of South Carolina. He transitioned from active duty to the Georgia Air National Guard in 1992. General Wright has held various leadership and command positions at the squadron, group, wing and major command levels. His assignments involved operations and formal training of United States Air Force and allied Command and Control personnel. He also worked in the developmental and operational testing arena. General Wright is a Master Air Battle Manager with qualifications in six ground-based Command and Control systems including joint and allied systems.

General Wright has been awarded the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters), Air Force Commendation Medal (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters), Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, Combat Readiness Medal, National Defense Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Service Star), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Ribbon Short Tour, Air Force Overseas Ribbon Long Tour, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon (with 1 Silver and 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

Brigadier General Wright has excelled throughout his distinguished career and I am honored to pay tribute to this Airman. I thank Wayne's wife, Jeanette, and their daughter, Jessica and Son-in-law, Jeremy along with their children, Noah and Haley as well as their son Justin and his wife Caitlin and also Kelly and Dawson for the many years they have supported Wayne while he served his country. I wish Wayne and Jeanette Godspeed, and continued happiness as they start a new chapter in their lives.

AMERICA'S HEART AND SOUL

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance and in honor of all of The Fallen and their families this Memorial Day. The Men and Women who have given that last full measure in the name of freedom. I submit this poem penned by Albert Carey Caswell.

On this Monday each year.
As all across our Nation appears.
Rows of flags in graveyards here.
And far across the distant shores too revered!
As we take the time as a Nation so clear.
With memories of them in our hearts so dear.

As the parade's line the streets all across the towns.

As throughout the Nation in graveyards planted flags are found.

When, we as a Nation take the time to stop and pause.

To remember and honor all of those patriot's in their just cause.

Because, Memorial Day represents America's very Heart so clear.

Her very soul all in what we hold dear!
For on no other day do we as a Nation remember and grieve so here.

And shed such tears,
as above all else this ranks each year.
For all of those who now lie in soft cold quiet graves.

Who over the decades have shown,
how men and women of honor behave!
I'm sorry but your son Johnny's not coming home!

But for the greater good their fine lives they gave!
Because Freedom Is Not Free,
but with only most precious lives bought and paid!

A price so high and grave!
Remember this,
and remember them this Memorial Day!
And give thanks to all of their families with tears upon their faces.

Whose hearts on this and everyday so break in places!
And thank all those heroes who came back from war.

Without arms and legs and PTS the more!
Who the rest of their young lives must endure.

Memorial Day is our heart and soul,
the one fine reason we have all that we behold!

Our Freedom bought and paid for with the blood of human gold!
The one's who will never get that chance to grow old!

Carry them in your hearts so,
and give thanks and remember what to them you owe!

Memorial Day is but,
America's Heart and Soul!

CONGRATULATING CORNELIA "CONNIE" BAER

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Cornelia "Connie" Baer, an exemplary civic servant, advocate, and community leader in Ventura County.

Connie has embodied public service through her staunch leadership and advocacy, as well as steadfast dedication and continued commitment to our community. Over several decades, Connie has generously given her time and energy as a valued and highly respected board member and representative for an array of organizations, including the Harbor Community Council, the National Women's Political Caucus, and the League of Women Voters. Both locally and nationally, Connie has been a vocal advocate for equality. She was instrumental in the founding of the Stonewall Democrats of Ventura County. In addition, she has played a significant role in the establishment and development of the Ventura County Women's Political Council, which encourages all women to actively engage and participate in the political process.

Additionally, since earning her bachelor's degree in International Relations, Connie has

been an active alumnus of the University of Southern California (USC). Connie also attended the Southwestern University School of Law, where she received her Juris Doctor degree, and later embarked on a respected career in law in Ventura County.

Connie's dedication and outstanding volunteerism is best illustrated by her 19 years of service on the Ventura County Medical Resource Foundation's Board of Directors. Through her service and leadership, Connie has successfully assisted the organization in furthering its mission of supporting the medical needs of Ventura County's under-served and vulnerable communities.

From providing the life-saving medical equipment for premature infants to providing dental and vision care to children of low-income households to funding breast cancer prevention, early detection and treatment programs, the Ventura County Medical Resource Foundation is ensuring that quality health care services are readily available and accessible to all of Ventura County's residents. However, this outstanding organization could not offer these invaluable services if it were not for the remarkable generosity and commitment of individuals such as Connie Baer.

For these reasons, it is my sincere pleasure to join the Ventura County Medical Resource Foundation in recognizing Connie Baer with the 2015 Trailblazer Award for her extraordinary life of leadership and service to the entire Ventura County community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDGE DAVID SILVA

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Judge David Silva. Born in Beeville, Texas, on May 26, 1944, to Marcos and Altagracia Silva, Judge Silva passed away on March 16, 2015, after losing a long battle with leukemia.

Judge Silva's life exemplified the American Dream. He graduated from A.C. Jones High School in 1963, before joining the U.S. Air Force to faithfully serve his country. While in the Air Force, Silva attended Boise State College in Idaho and married Yolanda Olivares.

One year after being honorably discharged from the U.S. Air Force, Silva graduated from Bee County College. He would go on to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree in American History in 1975 and a Master of Arts Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies: History, Psychology and Sociology from Texas A&M University in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Judge Silva understood how education would forever transform his life. From 1974 until his passing, he taught at Beeville College, helping students realize their potential through education.

In addition to his active role in educating citizens of Beeville, he was a church pastor, served on the Juvenile Board to help at-risk youth, provided guidance to the Local Emergency Planning Committee, and helped plan the future of Beeville. Silva's contributions to his community are without equal.

In 2004, Silva's reputation for fairness, dedication, and love for his community earned him

an appointment to the Beeville Municipal Court. This moment in Silva's life arrived after decades of dedicated effort and service to his community. He worked his way through high school as a janitor in the same courthouse where he would later serve as a judge. He lived a life defined by integrity, commitment and dedication.

Silva would continue to be a pillar of the Beeville community during his later years. He found time to help lead community boards as he continued his passion for education. His capacity to perform at a high level was second to none.

Our community suffered a tremendous loss with Judge Silva's passing, but his legacy will be preserved by the positive change he made in his community and through the many students who had the privilege to learn from him in the classroom.

Judge David Silva is survived by his beloved wife of 44 years, Yolanda Olivares Silva; his daughters, Cassandra Dianne Silva (Casey Hawkins), and Cristianna Dawn Silva Meineke (Aaron Meineke); siblings, John Marks Silva, Amado Silva (Zenaida), and Grace Ramirez (Adolfo). He is also survived by a granddaughter, Audria Nouvelle Diem Silva.

On this day, I remember Judge David Silva. May he forever rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF BISHOP CURTIS E. MONTGOMERY

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Bishop Curtis Montgomery of Tacoma, WA. Curtis epitomized the role that long-standing faith leaders play in their community. He was a tireless advocate for the members of his congregation and the greater Tacoma community.

Bishop Montgomery was a key leader who shepherded Tacoma's Hilltop neighborhood through the civil rights struggles of the 1960s and the gang and drug violence of the 1980s. His steadfast leadership and staunch belief in the power of community involvement will be remembered in the revitalization of this historically significant neighborhood.

His contributions to the Hilltop include the establishment of Christ Temple Church in 1959, which later became Greater Christ Temple Church in 1977. Under his leadership, Greater Christ Temple Church has become much more than a place for worship. Parishioners are community leaders, volunteers, and advocates for the work that Curtis has espoused his entire life.

One of his most esteemed accomplishments was the realization of the Oasis of Hope Center. This faith-based community outreach center was the culmination of Bishop Montgomery's efforts and long-standing vision to provide a safe and stable place for the community to serve their neighbors. Opened in 2004, the Oasis of Hope Center has operated feeding programs, a clothing bank, counseling services, youth programs, and donation drives.

Mr. Speaker, last year there were over 500 Hilltop community members served at the Center's annual Share the Harvest Thanks-

giving Meal. I have been told there were more volunteers than they could possibly need for that dinner. This simple fact is just one piece of evidence representing his legacy and his vision. Scripture tells us that God loves a cheerful giver. It's safe to say God loves Curtis Montgomery and his parishioners—who have given so much, to so many, for so long.

Bishop Curtis Montgomery was born in Selma, AL, which was central in the civil rights struggles of the 1950s and 1960s. He was raised to stamp out discrimination and racism. He built his church and developed a powerful message of tolerance and peace. Bishop Montgomery served his community in the steps of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who he admired and followed from an early age.

Mr. Speaker, I had the honor of visiting Selma on the 50th Anniversary of Bloody Sunday and had the privilege to join leaders like Rep. JOHN LEWIS in commemoration of the struggle for equal rights. I am proud to have walked in the hometown of Bishop Curtis Montgomery with the knowledge that his contribution to a safer and more equitable society would not be forgotten—that his legacy was etched with his brothers and sisters in Selma, 50 years later.

On behalf of his congregation and the people of the Hilltop Neighborhood in Tacoma, WA, I stand today, proudly, to honor the lifetime achievements of Bishop Curtis Montgomery of Greater Christ Temple Church in the Congress of the United States.

HONORING MS. ANDREA JENKINS

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Andrea Jenkins, who has been chosen to serve as Grand Marshal for the 2015 Twin Cities Pride parade and festival because of her distinguished contributions to the citizens of Minnesota in the form of art and activism.

Ms. Jenkins has been among the Twin Cities' leading advocates for transgender equity, especially at the intersections of race and class. During her 12-year career as a policy aide for the Minneapolis City Council, Ms. Jenkins was central in raising the profile of transgender issues among Minnesota's most influential policymakers. Under her leadership, the City of Minneapolis started the Transgender Issues Work Group, a roundtable dedicated to changing city ordinances to improve the lives of transgender citizens. Local and national media outlets have covered her efforts—raising the profile of an often-overlooked segment of the population. At a time when our nation is seeing an epidemic of violence against transgender individuals—specifically trans women of color—Ms. Jenkins's work is critical.

In addition to her work in the political realm, Ms. Jenkins is an award-winning poet and performance artist. Her work has been honored by the Jerome Foundation, Intermedia Arts, The Playwrights' Center, the Walker Art Center, the Givens Foundation, the Loft Literary Center, and countless other arts organizations. In 2011, she was named a Bush Fellow.

On top of crafting nuanced pieces that reflect her identity as a trans woman of color,

Ms. Jenkins serves on numerous boards and panels, including serving as the board chair of Intermedia Arts. This leadership has allowed Ms. Jenkins to create some of the Twin Cities' most inclusive and boundary-pushing events, frequently centering the voices of those at "the margins of the margins." One such event, the Queer Voices reading series, is the longest-running series of its kind in the country.

Recently, Ms. Jenkins left her position with the City of Minneapolis to begin curating the Transgender Oral History Project, part of the University of Minnesota's Jean-Nickolaus Tretter Collection. In this role, she will travel throughout the upper Midwest to document the experiences of transgender people. This permanent record will serve as one of the nation's most comprehensive catalogs of contemporary transgender life.

At a time when the T in LGBT is often overlooked, Andrea Jenkins has helped move the spotlight to the trans community. Her work has sparked conversation, propagated knowledge and forged a path for future trans leaders. Her work in our community is inestimable and I congratulate her on being selected Grand Marshal. I am proud to call her a friend and ally.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE HELP HIRE OUR HEROES ACT

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge the House to bring to the floor my bill, the Help Hire our Heroes Act.

My bill would renew the Vocational Rehabilitation Assistance Program (VRAP) and permit additional veterans to participate in the program. As you may know, the VRAP program provides up to 12 months of re-training assistance to veterans in need of employment training, but who are unable to participate in other VA programs because of their age and time since active duty service.

Specifically, the program provided training assistance to unemployed veterans between the ages of 35 and 60 who are no longer eligible for the GI Bill. Veterans could use these benefits at community colleges and technical schools in occupations that the Department of Labor identified as "high demand."

The VRAP program started in 2012, but funding for this program expired in March 2014 and the VA has not been able to enroll new veterans in VRAP.

In 2014, there were 573,000 unemployed veterans, 55 percent of whom were age 45 and up. I simply do not understand why the Majority has allowed this important veterans' job training program to lapse. It has resulted in thousands of older, qualified veterans being unable to access job training to help them find work.

As we approach Memorial Day, Congress should be doing all it can to help unemployed veterans find work. Please bring my bill to the floor, so that we can renew the Veterans Re-training Assistance Program.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2250) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in reluctant support of H.R. 2250, a bill to fund the operations of the U.S. House of Representatives for 2016 and for other purposes.

In these times of needed fiscal discipline, everyone must do their part. We are bound by funding caps and, though the president has put forward a blueprint to address sequestration, the Republican leadership has chosen to disregard the plan. As a result, appropriators have produced a bill that makes deep cuts to agencies and programs that support the legislative branch when compared to the president's request.

H.R. 2250 provides a total of \$3.341 billion for vital House and House affiliated functions as well as for greater Congressional operations. This is a reduction from the president's request of \$200 million. Within the total available funding, \$492.2 million is provided for the Architect of the Capitol which oversees maintenance and repairs of House and Senate office buildings in addition to many other important buildings in the Congressional complex. Excluding Senate items, this is an \$84 million reduction in funding for maintenance of the Capitol Visitor Center, the Capitol Grounds, the Library of Congress and the U.S. Botanical Garden. \$591.4 million is provided in the bill to fund Library of Congress (LOC) operations. In addition to being the repository of the nation's print and recorded media, the LOC serves as the research arm of Congress, helping to inform the legislative debate on Capitol Hill. This bill cuts its funding by \$33 million below the president's request. The bill also reduces funding for the Government Accountability Office (GAO). The GAO functions as the "congressional watchdog" by investigating how federal agencies spend American taxpayer dollars. This bill funds GAO at \$522 million, which is \$31 million less than the president's request. H.R. 2250 does increase funding for the Capitol Police when compared to enacted funding levels, but the increase is actually a \$10 million cut when compared to the president's request.

I believe spending taxpayer dollars carefully should always be a priority of Congress, and seeking ways to reduce government spending should also be a priority. There are funding reductions in the bill that I support, including the pay freeze for Members of Congress. But the American people expect us to make wise cuts. They don't want us cutting for the sake of cutting—especially when vital services may be impacted. The president's budget contained a strategy to address sequestration that would have made many of these cuts unnecessary. I regret that my Republican colleagues chose to ignore it.

HONORING COAST GUARD CAPTAIN
SAMUEL DUKE WALKER

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of a great American and my dear friend, Coast Guard Captain Samuel Duke Walker.

Captain Walker has served as Commander of Coast Guard Sector Mobile since July of 2013. Before coming to Southwest Alabama, he served as Chief of Response for the Eighth Coast Guard District, where he also served as the Federal On-Scene Coordinator for the Deepwater Horizon Spill of National Significance Response.

Captain Walker graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Officer Candidate School in 1987. He is a graduate of Rhode Island College with a degree in Electronic Design, and he also holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of South Alabama's South of Business.

During his time with the Coast Guard, Captain Walker has earned many accolades. Captain Walker was promoted to the rank of Captain on July 1, 2008, and he served as President of the Class of 2009 at the National War College. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Coast Guard Achievement Medal, and Combat Action Ribbon.

Captain Walker has been a leader in the Coast Guard, but he has also been a leader in the local community. Captain Walker has called Mobile home for much of his life, and he is a 2001 graduate and Class President of Leadership Mobile. During a recent boating tragedy in Mobile Bay, Captain Walker acted as a steady leader and reassuring voice to members of the community. It is safe to say that Captain Walker has truly become a member of the Southwest Alabama community.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Captain Walker, his wife, and their three children for their dedicated service to the United States Coast Guard, the Gulf Coast, and the entire nation.

So on behalf of the people of Alabama's First Congressional District, I want to wish Captain Walker all the best in his retirement. We will miss his service to the Coast Guard, but I am happy to know Captain Walker will continue to call Mobile home.

RECOGNIZING THE MARIPOSA
COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL GRIZZLY
BAND FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENTS
AND COMMITMENT TO VET-
ERANS

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise in recognition of the Mariposa County High School Grizzly Band, which will be performing in the upcoming National Memorial Day Parade.

The Mariposa Grizzly Band brings much pride to a small rural community in the Sierra

Foothills; it serves this community by supporting American veterans at every possible opportunity. This commitment has led the band to perform patriotic music at every Memorial Day service conducted by the local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6042.

Its participation in this year's Memorial Day Parade is not the first time the Grizzly Band has travelled across the country to showcase its talent. The band's impressive reputation afforded it the opportunity to perform in New York City for the 92nd Annual Veterans Day Parade.

During this school year alone, the Grizzly Band has received first-place recognition for its performance at four separate events. It is no wonder the Grizzlies are so beloved in the foothills—their talents have won a total of thirty-seven first-place awards in the last decade.

Furthermore, the band was the recipient of the GRAMMY Foundation's Signature Schools Enterprise Award. This growing list of accomplishments is evidence of the hard work and dedication of these young men and women.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to welcome the Mariposa County High School Grizzly Band to Washington, DC, and I look forward to hearing of both their future accomplishments and their support of our local veteran community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2014-15
DUBUQUE FIGHTING SAINTS
SEASON

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I want to congratulate the Dubuque Fighting Saints of the United States Hockey League (USHL) on their successful 2014–2015 season.

The Fighting Saints, led by head coach and general manager Matt Shaw, finished the regular season 36–19–5, resulting in 3rd place in the Eastern Conference and earning them a berth in the playoffs. Goalie Jacob Nehama posted the second lowest GAA in the USHL for the season at 2.31 and forward Brett Boeing completed the season in the top 10 in the league for goals scored with 28 for the year.

The Fighting Saints won the "Cowbell Cup," winning the head to head matchups among the three teams in eastern Iowa, finishing one game ahead of the Waterloo Blackhawks and two games ahead of the Cedar Rapids Roughriders.

The impact of the team extends outside the arena and into the greater Dubuque community. Through the "Live Like a Saint" initiative with Two by Two Character Development, the Saints visit local schools and teach empathy, kindness, respect, responsibility, teamwork, and the importance of physical education to young people.

I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to the 2014–15 Dubuque Fighting Saints on their successful season and thank them for their charity work in the Dubuque community.

I look forward to cheering them on next year to a championship.

CELEBRATING 65 YEARS OF
EXCEPTIONAL MEDICAL CARE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank OakBend Medical Center for providing quality healthcare for Fort Bend County for 65 years.

OakBend Medical Center is the largest full service healthcare facility in Fort Bend County. As Fort Bend County continues to grow, medical centers like this provide easy access to professional care. With the traffic congestion we experience as our region continues to grow, easy access to critical care is essential.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you again to OakBend Medical Center for 65 years of service to the Fort Bend community. We look forward to many more years of exceptional medical care.

FOSTER YOUTH SHADOW DAY

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to talk a little bit about foster care. As many of my colleagues are aware, today is Foster Youth Shadow Day and this morning I had the pleasure of meeting with Dawna—a foster youth who spent 7 years in the foster care system of my home state of Washington.

Fortunately for Dawna, she was adopted when aged out of care. But for many foster kids this is not the case. In 2013, over 23,000 kids aged out without finding a forever family. And, even the kids that do find their forever families are often mistreated and even abused while in the system. Dawna was overprescribed psychotropic medications and forced unnecessarily into an adolescent psychiatric hospital. Her story is not the only one like it. When I was Chairman of the Human Resources Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee we held a hearing on this very issue and heard many other similar stories. This is a tragedy and it is unacceptable.

We can do more to help our youth in foster care, they are our responsibility and we cannot let them down. I will continue to fight to provide youth in the foster system the best possible care, and to help them find forever families, and I urge the rest of this Congress to do the same.

TRIBUTE TO ISAAC JOE

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Isaac C. Joe on the occasion of his upcoming 100th birthday. As a soldier, educator, and civic leader, Mr. Joe has devoted his life to public service, and I join many in his community in wishing him a happy birthday.

Born on June 24, 1915, Mr. Joe grew up in Thomastown, South Carolina, a small town in Lee County. As an African American in the Jim Crow South, he had to walk five miles each way to a school that was only open seven months of the year, while the white schools remained in session for nine. He persevered to work his way through Morris College, from which he graduated in 1940. Mr. Joe has been dedicated to his alma mater ever since, donating 83 acres of land to the college in 2013.

Mr. Joe began his teaching career in Lee County immediately after college. But after just one year in the classroom, he put his teaching career on hold to serve in the United States Army. He was in basic training when Pearl Harbor was bombed and rose to the rank of Master Sergeant, working at regimental headquarters. Although Mr. Joe's six years in the Army took him away from his students, he put his teaching skills to good use, teaching some of his fellow soldiers how to read, write, and sign their names so that they could collect their paychecks.

In 1954, seven years after Mr. Joe returned to the classroom, the United States Supreme Court issued its *Brown v. Board of Education* decision outlawing segregation in public schools. Inspired by this decision, Mr. Joe returned to school himself, earning his master's degree from South Carolina State College in 1956. He returned to the Lee County school system in 1957 as principal of the newly built Mount Pleasant High School in Elliott, where he served until his retirement in 1977.

Mr. Joe's community involvement has continued in the decades since his retirement. In 1980, he was elected to a term in the South Carolina House of Representatives, serving from 1981 to 1983. He is an active member of St. Mark's Baptist Church in Bishopville where he has held various leadership roles and spearheaded numerous committees and projects.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in wishing Mr. Joe a very happy 100th birthday. It is a remarkable milestone befitting a remarkable man. I wish him good health and Godspeed.

HONORING DR. MARGARET "PEG"
BURKE LEE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Margaret "Peg" Burke Lee for her distinct service to the people of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois and Oakton Community College. Dr. Lee will be retiring in June of this year, and I would like to congratulate her on 30 years of commitment to our community.

Since Dr. Lee became vice president of academic affairs at Oakton Community College in 1985, her achievements have captured national recognition for the College while serving 450,000 residents in 16 municipalities—including a salute by *The New York Times* recognizing Oakton as one of the top 10 community colleges in the nation. Dr. Lee's commitment and contributions to education and Oakton are immeasurable. She has been rec-

ognized by college staff members and community members as a relationship builder inside and outside of the college community, a legacy she is proud to share.

Dr. Lee was named one of the "Most Powerful and Influential Women of Illinois" by the National Diversity Council in 2012. In March 2011, Holy Family Medical Center honored her with its second annual C.A.R.E.S. Award for exemplifying Resurrection Health Care's Core Values: compassion, accountability, respect, excellence and service.

Dr. Lee has contributed to multiple educational events across the world, including in China, Netherlands, Thailand, and Spain. She was part of a diplomatic delegation to India where she traveled with Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Karen Hughes and five other college and University presidents to build bridges to American higher education through meetings with government, university, and business leaders. In addition, Dr. Lee is the author of several monographs on global education in community colleges and the critical role of language learning in developing cultural competence.

Dr. Lee holds a doctorate and a master's degree in English language and literature from the University of Chicago, where she was a Ford Foundation Fellow in the Humanities and a Woodrow Wilson Dissertation Scholar in Women's Studies. At the age of 17, she spent 8 years as a nun, a perspective and experience that she brought to her role as a college administrator. She has always taught with compassion and enthusiasm throughout her career to help those most in need. Dr. Lee is known to go above and beyond to improve the quality of life in the community and she has touched the lives of many people through her commitment to providing innovative educational programs at the college.

In January, the Margaret Burke Lee Science and Health Careers Center opened on Oakton Community College's Des Plaines campus. It is home to Oakton's anatomy and physiology, biology, chemistry, earth science, medical laboratory technology, nursing, physics, and physical therapy assistant programs. Dr. Lee's legacy will continue at Oakton not only through this new facility, but through the fabric of Oakton Community College. After she announced her retirement, dozens of posts were made on Facebook demonstrating how much she is loved by the people she mentored over the past 30 years.

I want to sincerely congratulate Dr. Lee for everything she has accomplished at Oakton Community College and for the people of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois. Your legacy will live on and will never be forgotten. May you enjoy this new chapter in your life including additional time you can spend with your nine children and 14 grandchildren.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING
MARINE SERGEANT WARD MARK
JOHNSON IV

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marine Sergeant Ward Mark Johnson IV, a fallen hero who died while on a mission

of mercy in Nepal on May 12, 2015. Sgt. Ward spent time growing up in Central Florida where today our community remembers his service to our nation.

Sgt. Johnson enlisted in the Marine Corps on March 23, 2009 after earning two degrees from Seminole State College of Florida. Assigned to the Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 69, Johnson served diligently in Afghanistan with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit prior to being deployed to Nepal as a crew chief in charge of maintaining the helicopter. As a testament to his outstanding performance, Johnson has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Air Medal with Strike/Flight Numeral 5, the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal and the Afghanistan Campaign Medal.

Sgt. Ward Mark Johnson IV will always be remembered for the honor and courage with which he fulfilled his duties, and for the love and joy he gave his family and friends. This was his third deployment around the world and he never wavered in his commitment to his family, the Corps and his country. As you know, Mr. Speaker, our military deployed on a humanitarian mission to earthquake-ravaged Nepal, and Sgt. Johnson answered that call. With him were five other Marines who perished. We mourn their loss and extend our sympathy to their families.

Sgt. Johnson was a patriot in every sense of the word and is remembered by a loving family and countless friends. He is survived by his wife Haley; their two young children, Nathan and Noah; and his parents, Mark and Shirley Johnson who reside in Florida's 7th Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in remembering and honoring Marine Sergeant Ward Mark Johnson IV. We extend the condolences of this Congress and the American people, who he served gallantly, epitomizing the very best of our nation.

RECOGNIZING BROOKWOOD
ELEMENTARY'S NANCY
BONNEAU WORTH

HON. KEVIN YODER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of one of the most dedicated teachers of the Third Congressional District in Kansas.

Nancy Bonneau Worth is shutting the doors to her Brookwood Elementary classroom for summer break for the last time next week.

She's ending a thirty year career as an educator, twenty of them at Brookwood.

It began at Norman Rockwell Elementary School in her home state of Nebraska.

She then moved to Great Bend, Kansas, where she worked for a short period at Barton County Community College before transitioning to a special education teacher in the Great Bend School District.

Her Masters in Speech Pathology brought her to the Third District to teach at the Kansas School for the Deaf before moving on to Nall Hills Elementary, and eventually Brookwood.

In fact, she integrated sign language into her teaching even after she left KSD by teaching her students to sign the Pledge of Allegiance every morning before school.

Hundreds of successful children, teenagers, and young adults throughout Kansas have called Mrs. Worth their teacher over the years—and are better people because of it.

Congratulations on your retirement, Mrs. Worth and thank you for everything you have done for Kansans.

Your impact on our district and state is immeasurable.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAY AS
NATIONAL HAMBURGER MONTH

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, with summer approaching, many Iowans are firing up their barbecues. While hotdogs, bratwursts, and pork chops are all traditional family favorites, I rise today in special recognition of the hamburger—a delicious staple of grilling season.

May is National Hamburger Month which warrants special recognition in Iowa. Iowa's beef products are considered some of the best in the world, supplying several well-known steakhouses around the U.S., including here in D.C.

According to the Iowa Beef Industry Council, Iowa is home to over 26,000 cattle operations, with ranches in all 20 counties in my district. Furthermore, the cattle industry in Iowa supports over 15,000 jobs and injects over \$6 billion into the economy. Additionally, the cattle industry supports corn growers in Iowa by using corn as a feed source, consuming over 148 million bushels of corn every year.

Iowa's ranchers and packers play important roles in making sure consumers have safe and nutritious ground beef for our burgers.

For great hamburger recipes, cooking tips, and beef safety information, I encourage all my constituents to visit www.iabeef.org.

TITUS REMEMBERS GARY GRAY

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, Nevada lost a very good man when Gary Gray was killed recently in an automobile accident coming down from his beloved Mt. Charleston.

Gary has been one of my best friends since he took a master's class from me at UNLV in 1977. And Tom and I have enjoyed many delicious dinners and lively conversations about politics and travel with Gary and his wife Chris Giunchigliani over the years.

It is impossible to think of Gary in the past tense because he was larger than life. Who else would serve mountain oysters at a fancy dress party? Who else could turn an inexperienced group of freshman assemblymen (Jim Spinello, Matt Callister, Gene Porter, and Wendall Williams) into a political force the likes of which has not been seen since in Nevada politics? And who else would be brave enough to take on the indomitable Chris G?

Life was always an adventure for Gary. No place was too dangerous to visit, no food too strange to eat, no person too threatening to

strike up a conversation with. So I would never have been surprised to hear that something had happened and he wasn't coming home. But I expected him to be taken from us by an earthquake in Indonesia, an avalanche in the Alps, or perhaps a revolution in one of the 'Stans, not by something so mundane as a car crash. It just doesn't seem right.

Gary truly changed the face of politics in Nevada: he elected candidates at every governmental level; he proudly pushed a progressive agenda; and he professionalized the campaign business. He was a civic activist, a pillar of the community, and a citizen of the world. He leaves a void that cannot be filled.

Bon voyage, mon ami.

TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

HON. BRENDA L. LAWRENCE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, both sides of the aisle recognize the importance of our transportation network to remain globally competitive and to keep our roads, railways, and bridges safe. We all know that long-term projects are more cost effective and provide good-paying jobs.

In Michigan's 14th District, we know the reality of driving on crumbling bridges and roads. The Federal Highway Administration says nearly 30 percent of our state's bridges are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete. What else needs to go wrong before we do what is right? We must have a long-term funding plan in place before this latest 60-day patch job ends.

We have passed 32 short-term extensions in the past six years. This lack of long-term planning wastes money and resources. More importantly, it has cost lives. Lives that could have been saved or spared serious injury had we all taken this issue seriously. I do not want to attend one more funeral for the victim of a transportation disaster knowing that Congress failed to act on this problem.

HONORING RABBI HERMAN AND
LOTTE SCHAALMAN

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate Rabbi Herman and Lotte Schaalman, an internationally-renowned and beloved couple, on their 99th and 100th birthdays. Rabbi Schaalman celebrated his 99th birthday on April 28, 2015 and Lotte Schaalman celebrated her 100th birthday on January 13, 2015.

Rabbi Schaalman was the Senior Rabbi at Emanuel Congregation in Edgewater, in my district, for 32 years, and is in his 28th year as Rabbi Emeritus. The Schaalmans will be honored at a special event on May 31, 2015 at Emanuel Congregation, which is establishing the Rabbi Herman and Lotte Schaalman Fund, to assure that their remarkable legacy of service will continue.

Rabbi Herman and Lotte Schaalman have devoted their life for the good of their fellow Jews and for humanity. Rabbi Schaalman fled Nazi Germany in 1935. He became known as one of America's foremost leaders in American Reform Judaism, serving as Rabbinical leader and President of the Reform Rabbis Association. Lotte Schaalman has exemplified the heart of Congregation Emanuel. Together the Schaalmans are the epitome of a thriving and wonderful life partnership.

After his retirement as Senior Rabbi at Emanuel Congregation, Rabbi Schaalman continued his active involvement in many educational, civic and religious organizations. He has participated in education programs at many institutions, including at Barat College, DePaul University, North Park Seminary, Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary and Northwestern University. He served three terms on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, was President of both the Chicago Board of Rabbis and the Chicago Association of Reform Rabbis, and was a member of the National Jewish Communal Affairs Committee. He was President of the Jewish Council of Urban Affairs and served in leadership roles on the Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago and the Edgewater Association of Clergy and Rabbis.

Rabbi Schaalman also served as a member of the Education Committee of the National Holocaust Memorial in Washington, DC. As part of his commitment to interreligious understanding and the promotion of a peaceful world, he has been a Trustee on the Board of the Millennium Institute and a member of the Executive Committee of the Council for the Parliament of World Religions.

Rabbi Schaalman's list of distinguished awards and honors is many pages long. His awards include the Julius Rosenwald Memorial Award from the Jewish Federation of Chicago, the Order of First Class Merit from Germany, the Order of Lincoln Award from the Lincoln Academy of Illinois, the Interfaith Gold Medallion from the International Council of Christians and Jews, being elected to the Hall of Fame for the Jewish Community Centers, and having a park on Sheridan Road in Chicago named "The Herman and Lotte Schaalman Park" in their honor.

Rabbi Herman and Lotte Schaalman are a remarkable couple and I am proud to honor them today.

HONORING MARGARET DAVIS FOR
HER SERVICE TO THE REPUBLICAN PARTY AND HER DEDICATION TO TUOLUMNE COUNTY

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Margaret Davis for her many years of service to the Tuolumne County Republican Party, and for her unwavering efforts in support of Republican ideals across California and our nation.

For decades, Margaret has devoted her time to advancing conservative principles as a member of the Tuolumne County Republican Central Committee, the Tuolumne County Republican Women Federated, and the California Federated Republican Women's Central Division.

Margaret served multiple terms as President of the Tuolumne County Republican Women Federated. She has also held a variety of positions within the organization, and tirelessly supports Republican candidates and values.

In addition to her past contributions, Margaret currently serves as the 1st Vice President of the Tuolumne County Republican Women Federated, the 2nd Vice President of the California Federated Republican Women's Central Division, and the Treasurer of the Tuolumne County Republican Central Committee. She does all of this while simultaneously presiding as Chair of the Tuolumne Chamber of Commerce's Governmental Affairs Committee.

With all of these roles, it is clear that Margaret is a fundamental pillar in the local community. On a personal level, Margaret is well-respected and known for her high moral character. She's regularly involved in events, but more than that, she is the first to volunteer in support of her state, and her community.

Margaret balances her lifetime commitment to the Republican Party with her lifetime commitment to her family. Perhaps the only responsibility she places above her dedication to Tuolumne is her role as a widowed mother. Margaret gives her free time to Republican efforts, but her primary focus remains caring for her adult daughter, who is suffering from effects of a severe stroke.

Mr. Speaker, Margaret Davis does not just stand for conservative values; she lives by them. Tuolumne County Republicans consider Margaret Davis a remarkable example. California will continue to benefit from her efforts for years to come, and I rise to express my profound gratitude for her tremendous service.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 4

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 454, to amend the Department of Energy High-End Computing Revitalization Act of 2004 to improve the high-end computing research and development program of the Department of Energy, S. 784, to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish microlabs to improve regional engagement with national laboratories, S. 1033, to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act to replace the current requirement for a biennial energy policy plan with a Quadrennial Energy Review, S. 1054, to improve the productivity and energy efficiency of the manufacturing sector by directing the Secretary of Energy, in coordination with the National Academies and other appropriate Federal agencies, to develop a national smart manufacturing plan and to provide assistance to small- and medium-sized manufacturers in implementing smart manufacturing programs, S. 1068, to amend the Federal Power Act to protect the bulk-power system from cyber security threats, S. 1181, to expand the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Program to include commercial trucks and United States flagged vessels, to return unspent funds and loan proceeds to the United States Treasury to reduce the national debt, S. 1187, to improve management of the National Laboratories, enhance technology commercialization, facilitate public-private partnerships, S. 1216, to amend the Natural Gas Act to modify a provision relating to civil penalties, S. 1218, to establish an interagency coordination committee or subcommittee with the leadership of the Department of Energy and the Department of the Interior, focused on the nexus between energy and water production, use, and efficiency, S. 1221, to amend the Federal Power Act to require periodic reports on electricity reliability and reliability impact statements for rules affecting the reliable operation of the bulk-power system, S. 1223, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to improve the loan guarantee program for innovative technologies, S. 1229, to require the Secretary of Energy to submit a plan to implement recommendations to improve interactions between the Department of Energy and National Laboratories, S. 1230, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program under which the Director of the Bureau of Land Management shall enter into memoranda of understanding with States providing for State oversight of oil and gas production activities, and S. 1241, to provide for the modernization, security, and resiliency of the electric grid, to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out programs for research, development, demonstration, and information-sharing for cybersecurity for the energy sector.

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