

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING RUTH BEAVERS

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate Ruth Beavers for being selected as a recipient of the Daily Point of Light Award. This award is a testament that Ruth is a true leader for her volunteer service to St. Francis Medical Center in Monroe, LA.

Ruth joined the St. Francis Medical Center volunteer program in 2000. As of September 30, 2010, she has devoted 7,764 hours of service to St. Francis Medical Center. Ruth has continually demonstrated the mission of St. Francis Medical Center by her commitment to reaching out to others in their time of need. She has brought comfort and hope to patients and their families with her sincere concern for their welfare.

During this past decade, Ruth has dedicated her time, talent and energy to helping others. Her commitment to service is a true example of citizenship. She is truly an unsung hero to St. Francis Medical Center and the St. Francis Volunteer program. Her compassion and faithful service to St. Francis Medical Center's patients, families, and staff exemplifies the best in volunteerism.

She is an example of how one person can change the lives of many, and I commend Ruth for her hard work and dedication to making a positive difference in the community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Ruth Beavers for this significant achievement.

HONORING MRS. MARGARET ANN RUSSELL ON HER EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the eightieth birthday of a distinguished member of Missouri's 4th Congressional District, Mrs. Margaret Ann Russell. Mrs. Russell, of Lebanon, Missouri, will celebrate her birthday March 22nd surrounded by family and friends; I join them in commending her role as a faithful family servant and community pillar.

Born on March 22, 1931 to George T. and Vesta Carr, Margaret grew up rooted in the values of rural America. She graduated from Lebanon High School in Lebanon, Missouri, and went on to attend the historic Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, an institution dedicated since 1833 to the education and cultivation of female leaders.

Mrs. Russell married John T. Russell, also of Lebanon, Missouri, who served in the Missouri House of Representatives and the Missouri Senate for almost forty years. She labored diligently to raise their three children Doug, Jeanette, and Melissa. John, Jason,

Jordan, Jimmy, Nicole, Makenzie, and Audrey have been blessed to know her as their grandmother; now, Harper and Drew have the special privilege of knowing her as their great grandmother.

While prioritizing her family, Mrs. Russell has long been involved in public service as well. She is an active part of the First Baptist Church of Lebanon. She also has encouraged local candidates to pursue public office, has given insight to community leaders, and has worked to strengthen her hometown. Recognizing the key role private citizens can play in protecting children, she consistently supports the Missouri Baptist Children's Home.

I applaud Mrs. Russell for her quiet service in support of family and a vibrant local community. The diligent attention she has given to civil society should inspire us all. It is with sincere admiration that I wish her a very happy birthday on this milestone occasion.

CONGRATULATING JIM REED OF PHILADELPHIA FOR A LIFE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jim Reed, a respected and beloved member of the greater Philadelphia business and civic community, who will be honored on April 14, 2011, at The Enterprise Center, 4548 Market Street, in West Philadelphia.

Mr. Reed is Director of External Affairs for Verizon Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. His service to his community both includes and extends far beyond the workplace. An active and passionate leader, Jim Reed is committed to the well-being of children, youth and adults alike. From board participation to teaching; mentoring, community service and advocating for change, he has proven his commitment to the community.

Mr. Reed is a native of Savannah, Georgia, and was educated in Savannah and the School District of Philadelphia. He is a graduate of The Pennsylvania Institute of Technology and Spring Garden College. He was a math instructor at Dobbins and Edison High Schools in Philadelphia, the Opportunities Industrial Center, founded by Leon Sullivan, and Temple University.

Jim Reed has more than 45 years experience in all facets of telecommunications. He began his career with AT&T and then transferred to Bell of Pennsylvania where he moved to the External Affairs Department as Community Relations Director, and assumed his current position in 1993.

Mr. Reed's community involvement includes a wide range of interests and activities. He has chaired the Mayor's Commission on Services to the Aging. He is an active board member of the Urban Affairs Coalition, West Philadelphia Partnership, Korean Community Center, Citizens Crime Commission, The Men of the 644th Engineer Battalion "C," and many other organizations.

Jim Reed is an active member of Tindley Temple United Methodist Church where he serves as an usher. He is a member of the Methodist Men, and also a board member of Charles A. Tindley Community Development Corporation.

He has been honored by countless organizations including OIC, Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation, Asian American Women Coalition, Cheyney University, Berean Institute, Operation PUSH, Teenagers In Charge, Concerned Black Men, City of Philadelphia, Frontiers International, the Ducky Birts Foundation, Haddington, Multi-Service Center for Older Adults, Grands As Parents, and many others. He is a concerned community advocate in the Wynnefield neighborhood where he resides.

Jim Reed is an exemplary Philadelphian who has earned the admiration and gratitude of all who know him—and will get to know him as he continues his service—in Philadelphia. I offer my warm and sincere congratulations to Jim Reed for a life well lived and brimming with accomplishment.

WEST POINT FOUNDERS DAY 2011

HON. NAN A.S. HAYWORTH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, the 19th District of New York is home to the United States Military Academy and today I join the cadets and alumni of West Point in celebrating Founders Day. On March 16, 1802, President Thomas Jefferson signed into law the Military Peace Establishment Act that founded the United States Military Academy at West Point. Since then, over 50,000 men and women have joined the Long Gray Line and served in the United States Army in times of war and peace. This year, approximately 1,000 cadets will be commissioned as Second Lieutenants and continue a great Army tradition dedicated to Duty, Honor, Country. Their deep and enduring patriotism; their tenacity, talent, and sacrifice, make the United States Army the greatest in the world. May God continue to protect them in their mission to preserve our peace and freedom every day.

HONORING MEMBERS OF 3RD BATTALION, 135TH THEATER AVIATION BATTALION OF LEBANON, MISSOURI

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the safe return of an 11-member

• 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.

section of the Missouri National Guard's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 135th Theater Aviation Battalion, of Lebanon, MO. I want to commend them for their selfless service and sacrifice over the past year of their deployment to Joint Base Balad, Iraq, in support of Operation New Dawn.

They were tasked with providing 24-hour-a-day command and control, supervision, staff planning, personnel service and logistical support to all units attached to the theater aviation battalion. The unit used fixed-wing aircraft to provide services to a forward deployed aviation. This allowed for the air movement of cargo, personnel, and dignitaries from the United States, NATO, and Iraq.

The section of returning Soldiers is commanded by Capt. Seth Everett, who lives in St. Louis, MO. Other members of the unit live in Lebanon, Eldon, Versailles, Linn Creek, Mountain Grove, Dixon, Liberal, Dexter, Hallsville, and Jefferson City. The unit was previously deployed to Balad in 2005.

Without soldiers like those in the 3–135th, we would not enjoy the freedoms we have today, and I am eternally grateful for their service. It is only fitting that they return home safely to their families and loved ones.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in welcoming home the members of the 3–135th, and thanking them for their continued sacrifice as members of the Armed Forces.

HONORING MS. BRIDGETTE DIXON
THURMAN

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service; and

Whereas, Ms. Bridgette Dixon Thurman has given of herself as an educator of Dunaire Elementary, a daughter, a mother and friend; and

Whereas, Ms. Thurman has been chosen as this year's Teacher of the Year, representing Dunaire Elementary school; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community and our Nation through her tireless works, motivational speeches and words of wisdom; and

Whereas, Ms. Thurman is a virtuous woman, a courageous woman and a fearless leader who has shared with the world her vision and passion to help ensure that our future, our children, receive an education that is relevant for today, but also for the future; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Bridgette Dixon Thurman for her leadership and service for our District;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 23, 2011 as Ms. Bridgette Dixon Thurman Day in the 4th Congressional District. Proclaimed, this 23rd day of March, 2011.

52ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIBETAN NATIONAL UPRISING DAY

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, March 10 marked the 52nd anniversary of the Tibetan uprising against the People's Republic of China, during which His Holiness the Dalai Lama fled into exile. On that day, there was a small commemoration on Library Mall in Madison with Wisconsin's Tibetan-American community, which my staff was honored to attend. While the commemoration serves as a painful but important reminder of China's prolonged efforts to outlaw dissent, restrict free expression, and violently occupy Tibet, it also serves as a symbol of our sustained vigilance, continued determination, and enduring hope that Tibetans everywhere will soon be free to live in peace with their land and culture intact.

On this anniversary, I offer support and conviction to the thousands of Tibetans living in exile and the thousands more who have chosen to stand beside them in the struggle for freedom. I support the Middle-Way Approach proposed by His Holiness the Dalai Lama to honor the dignity of both Tibetan and Chinese people and to promote a respectful solution. I strongly believe that the United States has a responsibility to stand up for human rights and the rule of law, and I support efforts to address the plight of Tibetans.

The Dalai Lama issued a statement on March 10, as he does every year, which represents a "state of the union" speech for Tibetans. This year's statement was newsworthy, in that the Dalai Lama announced that he intends to hand over the last vestiges of his governmental responsibilities to the elected leadership of the Tibetan Government in exile, while remaining a committed advocate for the Tibet cause. At a time when despots around the world cling to power as their people yearn for democracy, the Dalai Lama's willful ceding of power is a tribute to his vision to fulfill the aspirations of the Tibetan people and should inspire others around the world.

I insert the Dalai Lama's March 10, 2011, statement into the RECORD.

STATEMENT OF HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA ON THE 52ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIBETAN NATIONAL UPRISING DAY, MARCH 9, 2011

Today marks the 52nd anniversary of the Tibetan people's peaceful uprising of 1959 against Communist China's repression in the Tibetan capital Lhasa, and the third anniversary of the non-violent demonstrations that took place across Tibet in 2008. On this occasion, I would like to pay tribute to and pray for those brave men and women who sacrificed their lives for the just cause of Tibet. I express my solidarity with those who continue to suffer repression and pray for the well-being of all sentient beings.

For more than sixty years, Tibetans, despite being deprived of freedom and living in fear and insecurity, have been able to maintain their unique Tibetan identity and cultural values. More consequentially, successive new generations, who have no experience of free Tibet, have courageously taken responsibility in advancing the cause of Tibet. This is admirable, for they exemplify the strength of Tibetan resilience.

This Earth belongs to humanity and the People's Republic of China (PRC) belongs to

its 1.3 billion citizens, who have the right to know the truth about the state of affairs in their country and the world at large. If citizens are fully informed, they have the ability to distinguish right from wrong. Censorship and the restriction of information violate basic human decency. For instance, China's leaders consider the communist ideology and its policies to be correct. If this were so, these policies should be made public with confidence and open to scrutiny.

China, with the world's largest population, is an emerging world power and I admire the economic development it has made. It also has huge potential to contribute to human progress and world peace. But to do that, China must earn the international community's respect and trust. In order to earn such respect China's leaders must develop greater transparency, their actions corresponding to their words. To ensure this, freedom of expression and freedom of the press are essential. Similarly, transparency in governance can help check corruption. In recent years, China has seen an increasing number of intellectuals calling for political reform and greater openness. Premier Wen Jiabao has also expressed support for these concerns. These are significant indications and I welcome them.

The PRC is a country comprising many nationalities, enriched by a diversity of languages and cultures. Protection of the language and culture of each nationality is a policy of the PRC, which is clearly spelt out in its constitution. Tibetan is the only language to preserve the entire range of the Buddha's teachings, including the texts on logic and theories of knowledge (epistemology), which we inherited from India's Nalanda University. This is a system of knowledge governed by reason and logic that has the potential to contribute to the peace and happiness of all beings. Therefore, the policy of undermining such a culture, instead of protecting and developing it, will in the long run amount to the destruction of humanity's common heritage.

The Chinese government frequently states that stability and development in Tibet is the foundation for its long-term well-being. However, the authorities still station large numbers of troops all across Tibet, increasing restrictions on the Tibetan people. Tibetans live in constant fear and anxiety. More recently, many Tibetan intellectuals, public figures and environmentalists have been punished for articulating the Tibetan people's basic aspirations. They have been imprisoned allegedly for "subverting state power" when actually they have been giving voice to the Tibetan identity and cultural heritage. Such repressive measures undermine unity and stability. Likewise, in China, lawyers defending people's rights, independent writers and human rights activists have been arrested. I strongly urge the Chinese leaders to review these developments and release these prisoners of conscience forthwith.

The Chinese government claims there is no problem in Tibet other than the personal privileges and status of the Dalai Lama. The reality is that the ongoing oppression of the Tibetan people has provoked widespread, deep resentment against current official policies. People from all walks of life frequently express their discontentment. That there is a problem in Tibet is reflected in the Chinese authorities' failure to trust Tibetans or win their loyalty. Instead, the Tibetan people live under constant suspicion and surveillance. Chinese and foreign visitors to Tibet corroborate this grim reality.

Therefore, just as we were able to send fact-finding delegations to Tibet in the late 1970s and early 1980s from among Tibetans in exile, we propose similar visits again. At the

same time we would encourage the sending of representatives of independent international bodies, including parliamentarians. If they were to find that Tibetans in Tibet are happy, we would readily accept it.

The spirit of realism that prevailed under Mao's leadership in the early 1950s led China to sign the 17-point agreement with Tibet. A similar spirit of realism prevailed once more during Hu Yaobang's time in the early 1980s. If there had been a continuation of such realism the Tibetan issue, as well as several other problems, could easily have been solved. Unfortunately, conservative views derailed these policies. The result is that after more than six decades, the problem has become more intractable.

The Tibetan Plateau is the source of the major rivers of Asia. Because it has the largest concentration of glaciers apart from the two Poles, it is considered to be the Third Pole. Environmental degradation in Tibet will have a detrimental impact on large parts of Asia, particularly on China and the Indian subcontinent. Both the central and local governments, as well as the Chinese public, should realise the degradation of the Tibetan environment and develop sustainable measures to safeguard it. I appeal to China to take into account the survival of people affected by what happens environmentally on the Tibetan Plateau.

In our efforts to solve the issue of Tibet, we have consistently pursued the mutually beneficial Middle-Way Approach, which seeks genuine autonomy for the Tibetan people within the PRC. In our talks with officials of the Chinese government's United Front Work Department we have clearly explained in detail the Tibetan people's hopes and aspirations. The lack of any positive response to our reasonable proposals makes us wonder whether these were fully and accurately conveyed to the higher authorities.

Since ancient times, Tibetan and Chinese peoples have lived as neighbours. It would be a mistake if our unresolved differences were to affect this age-old friendship. Special efforts are being made to promote good relations between Tibetans and Chinese living abroad and I am happy that this has contributed to better understanding and friendship between us. Tibetans inside Tibet should also cultivate good relations with our Chinese brothers and sisters.

In recent weeks we have witnessed remarkable non-violent struggles for freedom and democracy in various parts of North Africa and elsewhere. I am a firm believer in non-violence and people-power and these events have shown once again that determined non-violent action can indeed bring about positive change. We must all hope that these inspiring changes lead to genuine freedom, happiness and prosperity for the peoples in these countries.

One of the aspirations I have cherished since childhood is the reform of Tibet's political and social structure, and in the few years when I held effective power in Tibet, I managed to make some fundamental changes. Although I was unable to take this further in Tibet, I have made every effort to do so since we came into exile. Today, within the framework of the Charter for Tibetans in Exile, the Kalon Tripa, the political leadership, and the people's representatives are directly elected by the people. We have been able to implement democracy in exile that is in keep with the standards of an open society.

As early as the 1960s, I have repeatedly stressed that Tibetans need a leader, elected freely by the Tibetan people, to whom I can devolve power. Now, we have clearly reached the time to put this into effect. During the forthcoming eleventh session of the fourteenth Tibetan Parliament in Exile, which

begins on 14th March, I will formally propose that the necessary amendments be made to the Charter for Tibetans in Exile, reflecting my decision to devolve my formal authority to the elected leader.

Since I made my intention clear I have received repeated and earnest requests both from within Tibet and outside, to continue to provide political leadership. My desire to devolve authority has nothing to do with a wish to shirk responsibility. It is to benefit Tibetans in the long run. It is not because I feel disheartened. Tibetans have placed such faith and trust in me that as one among them I am committed to playing my part in the just cause of Tibet. I trust that gradually people will come to understand my intention, will support my decision and accordingly let it take effect.

I would like to take this opportunity to remember the kindness of the leaders of various nations that cherish justice, members of parliaments, intellectuals and Tibet Support Groups, who have been steadfast in their support for the Tibetan people. In particular, we will always remember the kindness and consistent support of the people and Government of India and State Governments for generously helping Tibetans preserve and promote their religion and culture and ensuring the welfare of Tibetans in exile. To all of them I offer my heartfelt gratitude.

With my prayers for the welfare and happiness of all sentient beings.

10 March 2011
Dharamsala

TAIWAN'S EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to the continued exclusion of the Republic of China (Taiwan) from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

As we have witnessed far too often, Taiwan is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, having the natural environment of a subtropical island. In 2009, Taiwan was devastated by Typhoon Morakot. In just two days, a total of 2,500 mm of rain fell in Central and Southern Taiwan, the heaviest rain in over 50 years. Floods and landslides caused severe loss of life and property. Extreme weather events such as these, coupled with rising sea levels caused by global warming, are endangering Taiwan's environment and survival.

The fact that Taiwan is unable to use the resources of the UNFCCC seriously cripples Taiwan's efforts to meet the challenges posed by global warming and climate change. For the welfare of Taiwan's 23 million residents, it urgently needs to be included in the disaster early warning system, to have access to real-time information and to be part of climate change adaptation mechanisms.

This unjust exclusion not only hurts Taiwan, but it also hurts the global community, since Taiwan has a great deal to contribute to global environmental efforts. For nearly four decades, Taiwan has been developing a robust legal framework for environmental protection, beginning with the Water Pollution Control Act in 1974 and most recently in June 2009, with a

law advancing the development of renewable energy. Taiwan's Environmental Protection Agency has implemented measures to reduce greenhouse gas emission and has invited international agencies every year since 1993 to verify the volumes of Taiwan's production, import and export of ozone-depleting substances. Taiwan is also at the forefront of developing solar power, alternative fuels, and wind power, reducing vehicular emissions, improving air quality and managing solid waste.

Taiwan needs to be included in the UNFCCC and the world needs to include Taiwan. I urge my colleagues to support Taiwan's inclusion in the UNFCCC and I yield back the balance of my time.

A TRIBUTE TO WISCONSIN'S FABULOUS 14: "THEY STOOD UP"

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proudly recognize Wisconsin's Fabulous 14. These 14 Wisconsin State senators took a stand on behalf of the people in order to prevent legislation that would strip State public workers of most of their collective bargaining rights and sell off government power plants without bids. This legislation would also grant extraordinary powers to an unelected government official appointed by the Governor, who has been a staunch opponent of medical assistance his entire political career, to make drastic changes to Wisconsin's successful Badger Care, Family Planning programs, and Senior Care Programs.

These 14 courageous men and women, at great sacrifice to themselves and their families, fled to Illinois, to the land of Lincoln. In fact, these 14 Wisconsin Democratic Senators now share something in common with former Republican President, Abraham Lincoln. The then State Senator Lincoln left the Illinois Statehouse to prevent a quorum from being reached to hold a crucial vote in 1840. Lincoln reportedly opened a window and escaped from the second floor of the building. One newspaper joked that Lincoln's "long legs" prevented him from being injured as he left.

During the senators' absence, the people of Wisconsin were given an opportunity to review the Budget Repair Bill and the Budget Bill and thoroughly scrutinize its contents of the Governor's proposals. The bill will affect every citizen in Wisconsin, and for many middle class and vulnerable Wisconsinites; it will be devastating.

Governor Walker and Republicans in the State Legislature worked around the 14 senators' protest to prevent a quorum and the bill was signed into law on Friday, March 11, 2011. During the past 3 weeks, I have been in Madison on several occasions standing in solidarity with the people.

On Saturday, March 12, 2011, along with an estimated 100,000 people, I was on hand to Welcome Back "the Fabulous 14" who returned to the State after weeks. I could feel the energy, the intensity of the people of Wisconsin; teachers, nurses, students, plow drivers, fire-fighters, prison guards and dozens of farmers with their tractors gathered around the Capitol square. Mr. Speaker, Wisconsin has

undergone an historic change; it was evident in the faces of Wisconsinites that visibly displayed their resolve and in their shouts of thank you. While this battle may be over, the war continues. I rise to give a hearty thank you to Wisconsin's Fabulous 14.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House floor during rollcall vote No. 177 taken on Tuesday, March 15. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

NATIONAL AHEC WEEK

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, March 14–18 marks National AHEC week. The Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) program was developed by Congress in 1971 to recruit, train and retain a health professions workforce. Today, 56 AHEC programs with more than 235 centers operate in almost every state and the District of Columbia. The AHEC program addresses the imbalances in our healthcare system and inequities in access to and quality of healthcare. Nearly 8,000 AHEC community based training sites are located in underserved areas including 3,500 in designated health professions shortage areas, training a workforce committed to serving underserved populations. This is accomplished by forming academic and community partnerships that link the resources of academic health centers with the needs of the communities. This unique program has continually exceeded HRSA's performance measure targets in terms of the percentage of program participants who are underrepresented minorities and from disadvantaged backgrounds; the proportion of participants that train in medically underserved communities; and the percentage of health professionals entering practice in underserved areas.

On this week, we celebrate the goals and ideals of the AHEC program as well as its innumerable contributions to the advancement of health care in our most underserved communities.

INTRODUCTION OF THE STARTUP
VISA ACT OF 2011

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a new version of the StartUp Visa Act, a bill that would encourage innovation and economic growth by permitting immigrant

entrepreneurs greater access to temporary U.S. visas. The bill matches legislation introduced this week by Senators JOHN KERRY, RICHARD LUGAR, and MARK UDALL in the Senate.

What do American household names such as Google, eBay and Procter & Gamble have in common? They are all former start-ups founded by immigrants.

Our current visa laws have made it unnecessarily difficult for immigrants to launch new companies in the United States. I am reintroducing the StartUp Visa Act because the economic dynamism of foreign-born talent has always been a crucial factor in our country's growth, and we must take steps to enable it to continue. By allowing immigrant entrepreneurs greater access to American visas, we truly can drive American job creation and channel the power of innovation.

This legislation would be an expansion of the bill from last Congress, extending the pool of eligible immigrants to include holders of H-1B visas and entrepreneurs living outside the United States with a market presence in the country.

The entrepreneurial spirit is ingrained in our country's history and success. I believe that this legislation is a vital component of promoting our global competitiveness. We must ensure a strong foundation for foreign-born, highly-skilled talent to create American jobs and promote economic prosperity and this bill works toward that end.

HONORING TEXAS SOCIETY, SONS
OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution for their patriotism and preservation of our country's rich history. Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution members can trace their family heritage to the men and women who fought for our nation's independence. For 115 years, Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution has inspired our communities with the principles and promises of our nation's Founding Fathers.

On February 8, 1896, charter members from around Texas formed the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution. The founding members selected The Honorable Ira H. Evans as the first state president. In 1897, the first annual meeting was held with fifteen members. Today the organization has grown to incorporate sixty-six chapters across Texas and approximately ten thousand members.

Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution is actively involved in communities around Texas by sponsoring and hosting many charitable events such as essay, art, and oration contests for high school students. Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution recognizes ROTC, JROTC, Eagle Scouts, and others for hard work in the community. Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution also works closely with disabled veterans

in homes and hospitals around Texas. The organization honors the importance of the American Revolution through civic events where full color guard and revolutionary war uniforms are worn to commemorate our nation's founding.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution on its faithful service to our communities in Texas.

H.R. 1, FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, over the past few weeks, hundreds of Minnesotans, as well as citizens from across the country, have contacted my office about the military's multi-million dollar taxpayer sponsorship of NASCAR race cars. Frankly, many of my constituents and citizens of all political persuasions—Democrats, Republicans, and Tea Party activists—are dumbfounded when race car drivers receive millions of dollars from the Department of Defense while the Speaker of the House of Representatives tells the American people our country is "broke."

Last month the House of Representatives voted to eliminate funding for homeless veterans, slash community health centers serving low income families, and pass a fiscal year 2011 budget that would force 800,000 Americans to lose their jobs. Yet, taxpayer funded sponsorship of NASCAR racing teams was protected. I find this absurd.

One of my constituents, a twelve-year-old young man named Nickolas of South Saint Paul, Minnesota, provided an eloquent rebuttal to these appalling priorities. Nickolas wrote my office saying:

Congresswomen Betty McCollum,

My name is Nickolas, and I am a Boy Scout working on my Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge.

I read online that you wrote a bill to stop the Pentagon from sponsoring NASCAR race teams as a way to advertise. I agree that it is absurd that the Pentagon is funding NASCAR. We should put the money into NASA and jobs for people. NASA is more important than NASCAR.

If the government is going to pay to support a race, how about a race to Mars? America has already sent people to the moon, why not Mars? Instead of paying for people to go in circles, why not pay for people to go for Mars? Humans are explorers. We should go to answer questions about the Red Planet and the Solar System. In addition, the studies done to get to Mars will give us better technology here on earth.

Nickolas understands that scarce taxpayer dollars need to be invested in innovation, education, and exploration that will create new opportunities to expand our knowledge of space and our economy. I strongly encourage my colleagues to take Nickolas' advice and focus on cutting unnecessary government spending, like government sponsorship of NASCAR race cars while making sound investments in America's future.

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE
4175TH CID

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the safe return of 10 Missouri National Guardsmen from the 4175th Military Police Detachment Criminal Investigation Division.

The soldiers are returning from a nearly year-long deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. They were responsible for conducting criminal investigations for the Army. The group consists of Soldiers from Jefferson City, Columbia, O'Fallon, High Ridge, Hannibal, and St. Charles. The unit commander is Chief Warrant Officer 2 Timothy Forney, of Hannibal, MO.

Without Soldiers like those in the 4175th CID, we would not enjoy the freedoms we have today, and I am eternally grateful for their service. It is only fitting that they return home safely to their families and loved ones.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in welcoming home the members of the 4175th CID, and thanking them for their continued sacrifice as members of the Armed Forces.

HONORING THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS CHAPTER 91 OF DECATUR

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Whereas, DeKalb County serves as home for many Veterans who have served honorably in the United States Military; and

Whereas, the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 91 of Decatur is an organization that continues to serve those who have represented our nation in times of peace and war; and

Whereas, our beloved county, continues to rely on the wisdom, leadership and service from the Disabled American Veterans to assist and build our community; and

Whereas, this unique organization has given of themselves tirelessly and unconditionally to preserve integrity and advocate strongly for our disabled veterans and their families; and

Whereas, the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 91 continues to serve our county by being the sword and shield of those who served our country in the United States military; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 91 of Decatur, Georgia for their outstanding service to our District;

Now Therefore, I, Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 20, 2011 as Disabled American Veterans Chapter 91 Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 20th day of March, 2011.

CONGRATULATIONS GORDY
FAMILY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate my good friend Thomas Gordy and his wife Theresa on the birth of their son Trenton Talmadge Gordy. Trenton was born on Tuesday, February 15, 2011, in Manassas, Virginia. He is welcomed home by his sister Sarah Gordy.

Trenton Talmadge Gordy is seven pounds and one ounce of pride and joy to his loving grandparents, Timmy and Kay Gordy of Monroe, Louisiana, Toni and Michael LeBlanc of Shreveport, Louisiana, and Canoy and Lynn Mayo of West Monroe, Louisiana.

I am so excited for this new blessing to the Gordy family and wish them all the best.

HONORING GEOFFREY BREITKOPF

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is with tremendous pride, but overwhelming grief, that I take to the floor today to honor one of my constituents who was taken from us far before his time, Officer Geoffrey Breitkopf.

When there is danger, there are two types of people. There are the majority of people who run from it, and then there are those brave few who run towards it. Officer Breitkopf was one of those brave few.

He served as a Nassau County Police Officer for more than 12 years, the majority of that time was spent serving in the elite Bureau of Special Operations. Always hard working, Officer Breitkopf earned a spot in the BSO in approximately half the time it normally takes. He was highly decorated for his various acts of bravery, including five Command Recognition Awards, four Meritorious Police Service Awards and one Medal of Commendation.

Despite having a family and an incredibly demanding job, Officer Breitkopf also found time to serve his community. He was a member of the Selden Fire Department for the past 15 years and served in the heavy rescue company, which handles search and rescue, house fires and extricating people from cars.

Tragically, Officer Breitkopf died in the line of duty, doing the job he loved so much and excelled at so well. My thoughts and prayers are with his fellow officers and his family, especially his wife, Paula, and their two sons Connor and Owen.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent a true hero like Officer Geoffrey Breitkopf and ask that we take a moment to reflect on his service to Long Island.

2011 BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate Brain Awareness Week

(BAW) and the benefits of this informative week in educating students and the general public on brain science in my congressional district and across the country. Brain Awareness Week, launched in 1996, brings together the Society for Neuroscience, the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives, and 2400 other organizations in 76 countries who share a common goal of improving public awareness of brain and nervous system research. During Brain Awareness Week, which is being held March 14–20, neuroscientists around the globe educate K–12 students, senior citizens and the public at large on the wonders of the human brain. These activities include tours of neuroscience laboratories, museum exhibitions, and classroom discussions on elements of the human brain. This year, in my congressional district, high school students will have an opportunity to learn about brain physiology by working with Kent State University's graduate students to dissect a sheep's brain. This event will get these kids excited about the mysteries of the mind and the nature of scientific discovery. Today, in recognition of Brain Awareness Week, I would like to highlight a serious neurological disorder that affects millions of Americans—impacting their livelihoods and families: Addiction. In fact, 9 percent of Americans—more than 22 million people—abuse drugs on a regular basis.

As co-chair of the Congressional Addiction, Treatment and Recovery Caucus, I understand the urgency of treating addiction and the burden this neurological disorder has on lives, loved ones, and our economy. According to the U.S. Office of National Drug Control, each year, more than half a trillion dollars is lost to substance abuse in the United States alone. These losses are realized across the board—in health, criminal, and productivity-related areas. That impact totals about \$181 billion for illicit drugs, \$168 billion for tobacco, and \$185 billion for alcohol. Even more worrisome are the statistics on drug-induced mortality. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that more than 38,000 people in the United States died of legal or illegal substances in 2006. That figure doesn't even include the 300,000 to 450,000 deaths each year attributed to nicotine addiction. As disturbing as these numbers are, they don't reflect the unquantifiable impact of drug abuse. Drug abuse dissolves families, shreds the social fabric in neighborhoods, leads to loss of jobs and income, contributes to poor school and job performance, and is often a causal factor in domestic violence and auto accidents.

Mr. Speaker, the consequences of substance abuse for children in society are especially tragic. Drug-addicted parents often don't properly care for their children, neglecting medical and educational needs, and failing to provide basic food and shelter. When parents fail, the government must step in. These deficits are ultimately made up for by the taxpayer. Although more than 75 percent of illicit drug users are employed, these adults are more likely to frequently change jobs, be involved in accidents, be absent, and be less productive even when at work. Notably, heavy drinkers are absent from work four to eight times more often than non-addicts. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), drug use changes brain chemistry and physiology beyond just the brain's reward system and includes regions involved in memory,

learning, impulse control, stress reactivity, and more. Repeated drug exposure “resets” these circuits toward compulsive behavior so that a person’s control over the desire to seek and use drugs is compromised, despite devastating consequences.

Over the course of the last three decades, the scientific and medical communities have made amazing strides in the understanding and treatment of drug abuse and addiction. Combined biological, epidemiological, and social science discoveries have given us a detailed understanding of the risks, mechanisms, and consequences of drug abuse and addiction. Today, the rate of cigarette smoking in youth is at its lowest recorded point since tracking of teen drug use and attitudes began in 1975.

Marijuana use has shown a consistent decline since the mid-1990s, although that trend has flattened in recent years; a study released last month by NIDA found that daily use of marijuana among America’s youth is making a bold comeback—surpassing tobacco use.

Mr. Speaker, recent scientific advances have revolutionized our understanding of addiction as a chronic, relapsing, disease and not a moral failure. According to the NIDA scientists have now identified the specific sites of action in the brain where every major drug of abuse has its initial effects, including opiates, methamphetamine, cocaine, tobacco, and marijuana. Brain imaging technology has demonstrated that addiction is a brain disease by delineating profound disruptions in the specific brain circuits affected by addiction. In-depth, NIH-supported studies of chronic drug exposure confirmed that by causing abnormal regulation of key brain receptor, addictive drugs modify the strength of connections between neurons. The scientific knowledge we have accumulated will be used to transform the way we treat addiction and how we prevent drug abuse and its escalation to addiction. Neuroscientists are working to identify the genetic and environmental factors that put people at risk. For instance, genes account for about 50 percent of a person’s risk of becoming addicted, and environmental factors influence the effect of these genes. Progress in genetics research will lead to more refined prevention and treatment interventions targeted to individual risk or to modifiable environmental influences.

Now, it’s time for our policies to catch up with the research findings. We have to understand that addiction is a treatable disease requiring continuing care and multifaceted approaches, like diabetes, or heart and respiratory disease. We have to continue to support the research advancements by investing in a strong, sustainable research funding platform for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) that will bring us further in understanding and treating drug abuse and addiction. Failure to properly address this growing problem will only lead to more lives ruined or extinguished by drugs, more families broken by abuse, and more taxpayer money squandered on ineffective programs.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Brain Awareness Week, which exposes our constituents to the wonders and mysteries of the brain. I also ask that you join me in continuing to support basic research funded through the NIH and NSF that provides a foundation for new addiction treat-

ments and drug abuse prevention methods that have an enormous impact on the lives of millions of Americans.

ROTA CULTURAL AND NATURAL
RESOURCES STUDY ACT

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing the Rota Cultural and Natural Resources Study Act. The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating certain areas of prehistoric, historic, and natural significance on the island of Rota in the Northern Mariana Islands as a unit of the National Park System.

Rota is truly a “jewel,” as the gentlewoman from California, Ms. NAPOLITANO, called the island at last year’s hearing on this same bill. National Park Service representatives who conducted a reconnaissance survey there in 2004 reported that Rota has the best-preserved village sites of the ancient Chamorro people and that Rota’s native limestone forests provide habitat to locally and federally protected, rare bird species.

The House of Representatives approved the Rota Park study under suspension of the rules in July last year. There was no objection or controversy. But, unfortunately, the other body did not have time on its agenda to act before the 111th Congress ended.

Now, I ask that we quickly restart the process of having the Park Service study the suitability and feasibility of designating parts of Rota for a national park.

There are time pressures involved. Rota is at a crossroads. Major land use changes are possible resulting from development by the U.S. military on the neighboring island of Guam. We have to know which areas on Rota can be and need to be protected, so that the people of Rota can maintain the important cultural and natural features of their island while at the same time taking advantage of opportunities for economic development.

For these reasons the leaders of Rota support the study. The Honorable Teresita Santos, Rota’s representative in the Northern Mariana Islands House of Representatives, flew to Washington, DC to speak in support of the bill at the hearing by Natural Resources Subcommittee on Oceans, Wildlife and Insular Affairs last year.

The Mayor of Rota, the Honorable Melchor Mendiola, submitted his letter for the record during last year’s consideration of the bill in the House. He, too, supported passage.

Today, I am including another letter of support for the study bill. This letter is from the Honorable Paul S. Manglona, President of the Northern Mariana Islands Senate, who represents Rota in the Senate.

And, of course, the National Park Service reconnaissance survey also recommended that the cultural and natural resources are truly of national significance and that the appropriate next step is a suitability and feasibility study.

The people of Rota have done a tremendous job over the millennia in protecting the treasures of their remarkable island. Let us

support their efforts. Let us determine whether this “jewel” should be considered by Congress for inclusion in the National Park System.

I ask that my colleagues support the Rota Cultural and Natural Resources Study Act.

THE SENATE,
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH
LEGISLATURE,
Saipan, MP, March 15, 2011.

Hon. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN,
Delegate, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN, I am writing to support the Rota Cultural and Natural Resources Study Act (Act). The Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability of designating prehistoric, historic and limestone forest sites on Rota as a unit of the National Park System.

As testified to by Commonwealth Legislator Representative Teresita Santos for the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs, the Island of Rota is unique in the Marianas as the only primarily inhabited island spared fighting during World War II. Consequently, plant and animal life was spared the near total destruction similar on Saipan and Tinian.

Archaeologists describe Rota as having the most intact and numerous historic sites of any island in the Mariana Archipelago. Rota has the best examples in the Marianas of Latte houses, the ancient stone houses of the Chamorro culture. Four prehistoric sites on Rota are included in the Register of Historic Places, Monchon Archeological District, Taga Latte Stone Quarry, the Dugi Archeological Site, and the Chugai Pictograph Cave containing examples of ancient Chamorro rock art.

In addition to prehistoric sites, historic relics from the Japanese period—on the Historic Register of Historic Places—include Kohatsu Kabushiki Kaisha Sugar Mill, Japanese Coastal Defense Gun and the Japanese Hospital.

Natural resources are prevalent on Rota primarily due to its native limestone forests that provide habitat for federally endangered listed species including the Mariana crow and the Rota bridled white-eye birds, in addition to two (2) plant species endemic to Rota.

The National Park Service completed a preliminary resource assessment regarding Rota in 2005, concluding designating Rota as part of the national park system appeared to be the best way to ensure the long term protection of Rota’s pre-historic and historic natural and man-made habitat and structures. I strongly encourage you, along with the Rota Legislative Delegation, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability of designating prehistoric, historic and limestone forest sites on Rota as a unit of the National Park System.

Sincerely,
PAUL A. MANGLONA,
Senate President.

CONGRATULATING MR. RICHARD
ORNELLAS FOR HIS COMMIT-
MENT TO THE CLOSE UP WASH-
INGTON CIVIC EDUCATION PRO-
GRAM

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Richard Ornellas, an outstanding

history and special education teacher at Molokai High School in my district. Mr. Ornellas's students are in Washington this week for the Close Up Washington Civic Education Program. The Close Up Foundation is presenting Mr. Ornellas with an award for his dedication to the program over many years.

I visited Molokai High School in 2008 for a discussion on teacher effectiveness. The group's participants shared their views that an effective teacher is one who is experienced, "helps you understand," and "makes it fun." Mr. Ornellas helped organize his Close Up students to raise funds for the trip by writing fundraising letters and selling plate lunches and food at the Molokai Hoe race. His students have even been blogging about their trip on the school website! For getting his students so excited to learn about our nation's history first-hand, I would definitely call Mr. Ornellas an effective teacher.

Mr. Ornellas is a strong supporter of this program, which gives students a first-hand experience with democracy in our nation's capital. Using the Close Up curriculum—tied to state history standards—Mr. Ornellas helps his students understand how our democracy works and inspires them to become more active in their school and community.

Over 95 percent of the program's 500,000 participants have reported that the program helped them better understand their roles as citizens.

I salute Mr. Ornellas for his dedication to providing a well-rounded civic education for his students. I am presenting him with a flag that flew over the U.S. Capitol in his honor.

Congratulations to Mr. Ornellas and the many students he has helped influence over the years.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF MT. MORIAH BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today—the 150th anniversary of the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church in Delta, Alabama.

The first mention of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church was on October 21, 1859. Mt. Moriah along with eight other churches met and organized what was then called the Boiling Springs Association.

According to Baptist Archives, Mt. Moriah Baptist Church was established by 1860. The First pastor was Hiram J. Hickey, First Deacon ordained was John Garrett and First Clerk was Eli Frost.

On May 3, 1890, church minutes state the previous conference minutes were destroyed by fire and could not be read. On September 1, 1890, membership consisted of 37 men and 65 women. Total funds were \$2.85, but Amazing Grace could still be heard through the church doors despite the hardships endured.

The church has been in three associations of the Southern Baptist Conference for a total of 150 years. When the Boiling Springs Association dissolved in October of 1898, after convening for 39 years, each church was granted a letter to join the Calhoun, Cleburne or Coosa River Association.

One month later 10 churches met at Ramah (now known as Delta Baptist Church) for the purpose of forming the Clay Association which Mt. Moriah became a part of. Association records show the Clay Association was founded on November 25, 1898. Mt. Moriah was recognized as one of two churches that were chartered founders of the Clay Association and were honored at the association meeting for the 100th Anniversary of the Founding of the Clay County Baptist Association in 1998. When the Clay and Carey Association voted to break joint partnership Mt. Moriah became part of the Carey Association.

The present church was erected in 1957. Mr. Earnest R. Clarke, Sr. and Mrs. Irene Sprayberry Daughterty have been members of Mt. Moriah for over 75 years. Since 1957 the church has gone through several remodeling projects and has added a fellowship hall.

I congratulate Mt. Moriah Baptist Church on their 150th anniversary and wish their congregation the best.

NATIONAL AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS (AHEC) WEEK

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to our nation's Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) as we commemorate National AHEC week.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I have strongly supported the expansion of the AHEC program, which was created by Congress in 1971 to recruit, train and retain a health professions workforce. Today, there are 56 AHEC programs with more than 235 centers that operate in almost every state and the District of Columbia.

The first Florida AHEC program was started in 1985 at NOVA Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Florida now has 5 program offices with 10 area health centers working in all 67 of the state's counties. These centers house 600 full-time healthcare professionals and provide more than 1.2 million hours of care to the people of Florida. They also work with over 2,000 medical, dental, nursing, and other health professions students.

The AHEC program addresses the imbalances in our healthcare system and inequities in access to and quality of healthcare. Nearly 8,000 AHEC community based training sites are located in underserved areas, including 3,500 in designated health professions shortage areas, training a workforce committed to serving underserved populations. This is accomplished by forming academic and community partnerships that link the resources of academic health centers with the needs of the communities.

AHEC has continually exceeded the Health Resources Services Administration's performance measure targets in terms of the percentage of program participants who are underrepresented minorities and from disadvantaged backgrounds; the proportion of participants that train in medically underserved communities; and the percentage of health professionals entering practice in underserved areas.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that our colleagues will join us in celebrating the goals

and ideals of the AHEC program as well as its immeasurable contributions to the advancement of healthcare in our most underserved communities. Thank you to all the AHEC professionals for a job well done.

HONORING MAJOR ROBERT CAMINA

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Major Robert Camina for his dedication and contributions to the United States Army and the Army Texas National Guard.

Major Camina started his military career on November 10, 1939 in San Antonio, Texas. He joined with the Mechanized Group Troop of the 124th Cavalry of the 56th Cavalry Brigade. Major Camina originally joined to ride horses, but when WWII broke he was given overseas orders and his unit became the last Cavalry Regiment to be dismounted. During his tour in the China-Burma-India Theatre, Major Camina served as a M.G. Squad Leader and fought alongside 1st Lieutenant Jack L. Knight, who received the Congressional Medal of Honor. For his service in the tour, Major Camina received the Bronze Star Medal and the Combat Infantry Badge.

After the war, Major Camina was discharged from military service, but rejoined in the Army Texas National Guard for 1 year. After Major Camina's military term, the U.S. Department of Agriculture hired him for the next 5 years to aid in their campaign to eradicate Hoof and Mouth Disease from Mexico. Later, Major Camina returned to Brownsville, Texas and joined the A/112th Armored Cavalry Regiment. He served in the 112th until the 49th Armored Division was activated into Federal Service by President Kennedy due to the Berlin Crisis. In 1966, Major Camina served as a Mess Steward for the next 15 years. In 1981, Major Camina retired from the Army Texas National Guard and was commissioned as a Captain in the Texas State Guard. He served as Company Commander, S-3 and S-4 in the 304th Military Police Battalion in Brownsville, Texas. He retired on October 29, 1989—almost 50 years to the date of his enlistment of the Texas National Guard.

During his time in military service, Major Camina was a highly decorated soldier. The Major received the Bronze Star, Combat Infantry Badge, Army Commendation Medal, Texas Outstanding Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Texas Faithful Service Medal and the Texas State Guard Service Medal. He also received many awards as a Mess Steward and helped his company win the Eisenhower Trophy twice.

Military service runs in his family, as four of his brothers also served in military branches. Armando Camina served in the United States Army, was considered for up to six Congressional Medals of Honor, and received a silver medal. Tino Camina served in the United States Navy and Ernest Camino served in the Air Force. Major Camina and his brothers fought for the United States and served to protect this great nation.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the time to recognize the dedication, accomplishments, and commitment of the late Major Robert Camina.

RECOGNIZING THE 19TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KHOJALY TRAGEDY

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Khojaly tragedy that occurred 19 years ago in Azerbaijan. Over the night from February 25th to February 26th, an unprecedented massacre was committed against the Azerbaijani people in the town of Khojaly.

Azerbaijan has been a longtime ally and friend of the United States. On Christmas Day in 1991, President George H.W. Bush announced the recognition of Azerbaijan independence along with other former Soviet Republics. Azerbaijan has been involved in NATO's Partnership for Peace program and has participated in U.S.-led military missions in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq. During this time of unrest in the Middle East, the peaceful alliance with Azerbaijan is more important than ever.

Mr. Speaker, the tragedy of Khojaly was a grim and horrific event and I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the people of Azerbaijan on this tragic anniversary.

HONORING NEW LIFE CHURCH

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Whereas, New Life Church has been and continues to be a beacon of light to our county for well over fifteen (15) years; and

Whereas, Pastor Marlin D. Harris and the members of the New Life Church family today continue to uplift and inspire those in our county and beyond; and

Whereas, New Life Church has been and continues to be a place where citizens are touched spiritually, mentally and physically through outreach ministries and community partnership to aid in building up the community; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious Church of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the needy and empowered our community by preaching the gospel, singing the gospel and living the gospel; and

Whereas, New Life Church has produced many spiritual warriors, people of compassion, people of great courage, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their Church, but with DeKalb County and the world their passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the New Life Church family as they dedicate their new Church Sanctuary and for continued leadership and service to our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 13, 2011 as New Life Church Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 13th day of March, 2011.

TRIBUTE TO ADRIENNE THOMAS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Adrienne Thomas, the Deputy Archivist of the United States who is retiring after 41 years of distinguished service with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Ms. Thomas began her career of federal service straight out of Iowa State University as an archivist trainee in the Office of Presidential Libraries. Since then, she has held a number of important policy and administrative positions. Early in her career, she was instrumental in transforming the Archives into an institution at the forefront of a revolution in public access to records, following the enactment of the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act. During the 1980s, she served as the Director of Planning and Analysis and, in 1985, she was instrumental in putting in place the structure that allowed the Archives to operate as a newly created independent agency, no longer under the direction of the General Services Administration.

Perhaps her most celebrated contributions to this nation are the magnificent public spaces where she was intimately involved in overseeing construction and renovation during her time as NARA's head of Administration and Chief Financial Officer. Her vision has shown the world that archives don't have to be dark dusty repositories. This year alone, one million people will see her attention to detail and love of history when they visit the historic National Archives Building in Washington, DC to view the Charters of Freedom and other American milestone documents, respectfully and accessibly displayed following a building renovation in 2003. Another place where her dedication to excellence for the American people can be seen is just up the road in College Park, Maryland, home to NARA's state-of-the-art facility known as "Archives II," which opened in 1994. Ms. Thomas oversaw Archives II from concept to ribbon cutting. It stands today as the premier archival research center in the world—the gold standard—and a great source of pride in my congressional district.

From archivist trainee to Deputy Archivist of the United States, Ms. Thomas has mentored hundreds of employees and inspired millions of people who visit our National Archives buildings across the country. It is truly my honor to pay tribute today to Ms. Adrienne Thomas, a real "National Treasure" who worked for the American people for 41 years.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY AND AIRPORT WORKERS: SOL PRICE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proclaim that organized labor is often the sole force fighting for the rights of not just union members, but all workers.

This was seen this past fall when union workers at the airport stood up for the rights of all concession, parking and restaurant workers by bringing forward a worker retention policy at the San Diego Regional Airport Authority.

Up until then, workers had no job protections in the event of new contractors taking over business at the airport. If a shop or restaurant lost its lease, every employee working there could lose their job.

Led by Airport Authority chairman Robert Gleason, the agency brought workers into the search for a solution. Workers were not only given a voice in the process, but their opinions and concerns were valued as expert testimony on the importance of the Airport Authority providing a sense of job security for workers with as many as 35 years of experience.

Even when delays in the process occurred, it was due to Airport Authority commissioners believing that they could accomplish even more through their policy.

By a final vote of 7-to-1, the Airport Authority eventually passed a worker retention policy that will protect airport workers. The vote proved that all parties can win when the voices of workers are taken into consideration.

It gives me a great honor Mr. Speaker, that in light of their passage of a worker retention policy, I join with the Executive Board of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council in honoring the San Diego Regional Airport Authority and Airport Workers with the 2010–2011, "Sol Price Spirit of Cooperation Award."

A TRIBUTE TO YOLANDE NICHOLSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Yolande Nicholson.

Ms. Nicholson has been a member of the New York State Bar for more than 20 years. She earned her J.D. from Columbia University School of Law in 1989. She began her legal career practicing as a corporate finance attorney in the capital markets group at Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton, the preeminent international law firm.

As a young lawyer, Ms. Nicholson had the opportunity to work with multinational corporations, international financial institutions, sovereign governments and their agencies, as well as domestic corporations and financial institutions. At Cleary, she developed her craft as a securities lawyer. From 1997 to 2003,

Ms. Nicholson served as Vice President and Assistant General Counsel at The Chase Manhattan Bank. In 2003, as an Executive on Loan from JPMorgan, she began working with Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation (BSRC) in Brooklyn to restructure and reposition the corporation's anchor commercial real estate and public housing assets. She subsequently served in the position of Executive Vice President and General Counsel at Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. In 2006, Ms. Nicholson returned to Wall Street practice and corporate finance as a senior attorney in the financial products group at Clifford Chance, the leading international finance law firm.

On October 1, 2010, Ms. Nicholson launched her private practice, as principal of Yolande I. Nicholson P.C., specializing in foreclosure prevention, litigation and defense. Ms. Nicholson is the author of a White Paper: "Proposal to Appropriate Funding Available under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act ("EESA") in Keeping with The Troubled Asset Relief Program ("TARP") to Stabilize Hardest-Hit Communities, Support Selected Homeowner Families and Achieve Quantifiable Returns on Investment for Taxpayers and Main Street Communities" (copyright July 2010). With the White Paper, she lends her knowledge and voice to the proposals aimed at precluding foreclosure sales against homeowners who are hardest hit by high unemployment, predatory lending and mortgage fraud.

Ms. Nicholson was born in Grenada, W.I., into an extended family of ever-aspiring parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles that included notable school principals, teachers, nurses, musicians and entrepreneurs. She credits her father for teaching her and her siblings the value of community activism; her mother for teaching them the value of community service; and both for serving as daily examples of grace and dignity. She aims to continue applying her law license, experience and practice in a manner that is responsible and thoughtful when delivering advice and representation to clients.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Yolande Nicholson.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER CALOMIRIS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Christopher Calomiris, who is fondly remembered by the residents of the District of Columbia and this region for a landmark business, Calomiris Fruits & Vegetables at the Eastern Market—a family owned and operated business for 62 years.

As the child of Greek immigrants, Christopher grew up on Capitol Hill and was groomed in his father's D.C. produce business, which was located in several markets before settling at Eastern Market. With Christopher Calomiris' gentle and dependable guidance, Calomiris Fruits & Vegetables thrived and continues to offer their signature friendly, high-quality customer service with the leadership of Christopher's wife, Maria, and the

Calomiris children, Tom, Leon, and Joy, all of whom helped in this classic generational business.

Christopher Calomiris' battle with cancer over the last several years did not prevent him from working on weekends to continue to support the family business. The business that Christopher Calomiris built represents the best tradition of family-centered, American-made business.

In recognizing his lifetime of hard and productive work and service to the community, I ask the House to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Christopher Calomiris of Calomiris Fruits & Vegetables in Washington, DC.

CONGRATULATING SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Skyline High School for 40 years of outstanding service to the Dallas community. Skyline first opened on March 1st, 1971 as our nation's first magnet school. Since then, thousands of students have graced the halls of Skyline, and many have gone on to make immense contributions to the Dallas Metroplex.

Skyline's diverse student body has excelled academically with students earning nearly \$25 million in scholarships last year. Under the leadership of Principal Harold Wright, Skyline earned a "higher performing school" rating from the National Center for Education Accountability. The motto of "Unity in Effort...Pride in Result" exemplifies the drive and achievement of Skyline's students, teachers and administrators.

Skyline has had many illustrious alumni, including: Dallas City Counsel Member, Pauline Medrano; Olympian, Michael Johnson; and Bryan Trubey, principle designer and architect of the new Dallas Cowboys stadium. These individuals continue to utilize their education at Skyline to give back to the community.

Skyline High School was the first of many outstanding magnet schools in the Dallas area, and helped revolutionize the way we approach education. They have shown with the proper resources and motivation students can and will succeed. I am proud to represent Skyline High School, and look forward to its success in the years ahead.

HONORING FIREFIGHTER HOWARD CARPENTER

HON. NAN A.S. HAYWORTH

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Firefighter Howard Carpenter of Kent, New York for his steadfast commitment and dedication to our community as a forty-year active member of the Kent Volunteer Fire Department. Firefighter Carpenter is a founding member of the Kent Fire Department and

has remained active for the entirety of its existence. Firefighters like Mr. Carpenter have a crucial role in protecting our homes and families. It is because of committed volunteer firefighters like Mr. Carpenter that our communities have active emergency responders that come to our rescue in our times of need. Mr. Carpenter has a longstanding history of commitment to his community and his fellow firefighters. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Firefighter Howard Carpenter for his 40 years of outstanding fire service.

A TRIBUTE TO SHEILA A. DURANT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Sheila A. Durant.

Early on, Sheila Durant discovered her life's passion: educating children. She carried this passion for over 30 years and continues to do so. Sheila was born and raised in New York City, as one of five children. At an early age, her parents instilled the value of discipline, determination, and having a dream. Sheila knew her calling was to be an educator. Sheila's own education began in the New York City's public school system, a diverse and multicultural learning environment. She went on to enter the CUNY system and earned a Master's degree in special education from Hunter College. Sheila later received an Administrative Diploma in School Administration from the City College of New York.

When Sheila Durant became Assistant Principal at P.S. 69, in 2003, the State of New York designated the school, "a School in Need of Improvement." Fortunately, she worked with a principal who was an outstanding educational leader, mentor and collaborative partner. Together, they sought to build a "learning" community, dedicated to a climate of open communication, sharing, collaboration, and respect. They began reform at P.S. 69 by implementing conflict resolution platforms for teachers, students, and parents. The school is now constantly improving. Since 2003, Advocates for Children recognized P.S. 69 as both a school of choice and one of the "top 100 schools" in New York City. Today, Sheila is the Principal of P.S. 69. Her journey from Assistant Principal to Principal gave her invaluable insight into making P.S. 69 a successful child-centered educational environment.

Growing as a leader and a continual learner, Ms. Durant is involved in a number of other organizations. She is a member of the Greater Central Baptist Church, New York Academy of Public Education, New York Elementary School Principal Association, Schools That Can, Harvard's Wide World, CEI-PEA, North American Reggio Emilia Alliance, and Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. She is also the Executive Board member for Council School Consortium and serves as a board member of 500 men.

A guiding principle influenced Sheila's career: "Good teachers move mountains for their students, great teachers show their students how to move mountains for themselves." Sheila's goal is to prepare her students with

the skill and desire to achieve their dreams. Sheila welcomes parents as collaborative partners seeking to educate their children's young minds and hearts. Together with her dedicated staff, she will continue to strive to prepare all students for college readiness, as digital learners, to compete in a global society.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sheila A. Durant.

BOB BALGENORTH, STATE BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA SPIRIT OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very dedicated, committed leader of the labor movement in our state who deserves to be recognized for his many achievements and contributions to organized labor.

Since being awarded the title of "Apprentice of the Year" by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 441 in 1969, Bob Balgenorth has dedicated his life to protecting the rights of workers in California's construction industry.

After being elected business manager/financial secretary of his local union and head of the Orange County Building Trades Council, Balgenorth has spent the past 18 years as president of the State Building & Construction Trades Council of California, which represents the 186 private-sector building trades local unions and regional councils that represent 350,000 men and women employed in the state's construction industry.

As president of the council, President Balgenorth has helped forge a partnership between two historically opposed movements: the construction industry and environmentalists. While advocating on behalf of construction workers throughout the state, he's also served on the boards of environmental organizations such as the California Apollo Alliance, California Unions for Reliable Energy, the California League of Conservation Voters, and the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy.

With leaders such as President Balgenorth pressing to develop relationships with non-traditional allies, the Labor Movement is positioned to build a broad coalition of support for workers rights.

It gives me a great honor Mr. Speaker, because of President Balgenorth's career-long commitment to building solidarity between interests which have traditionally been opposed, I join with the Executive Board of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council in honoring him with the 2010-2011, "Spirit of Solidarity Award."

TRIBUTE TO BERT RANDOLPH SUGAR

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me

in honoring Bert Randolph Sugar for his contributions to the boxing profession, as well as for his support of youth in the District of Columbia at Kids In Trouble, Inc. By serving as a member on the Board of Directors of Kids In Trouble, Inc., Mr. Sugar, a native Washingtonian, a graduate of District of Columbia Public Schools, and a boxing historian, has provided our youth with special inspiration by his achievements. His induction into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 2005 speaks to his special talents, and makes all D.C. residents, particularly our children at Kids In Trouble, Inc., proud.

Throughout his career, Bert Randolph Sugar has honed his skills as a boxing analyst, making frequent appearances on HBO's pay-per-view boxing broadcasts and ESPN. He has published dozens of books and articles, and has served as an editor of *Boxing Illustrated* and of *Ring Magazine*.

Over the years, Kids In Trouble, Inc. has grown to serve thousands of D.C. youth, especially in the Brightwood neighborhood in Northwest D.C. Bert Randolph Sugar has contributed to our youth at Kids In Trouble, Inc. over several decades, and was honored with the Kids In Trouble, Inc. 2005 Lifetime Achievement Award at the 40th Anniversary Toy Drive for needy children in D.C.

I applaud the contributions Bert Randolph Sugar has made to Kids In Trouble, Inc. to help improve the lives of minority and under-represented youth residing in the District of Columbia. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Bert Randolph Sugar for his contributions to Kids In Trouble, Inc., his commitment to youth in the District of Columbia, and particularly for a lifetime of achievements.

A TRIBUTE TO SALEMA DAWSON-MARBURY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Salema Dawson-Marbury.

Salema grew up in the Hollis neighborhood of Queens, New York. She attended Jamaica High School and went on to attain several educational degrees: a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Mathematics, from Stony Brook University; a Master of Science degree in Secondary School Math Education, from Lehman College; and a Master of Arts degree in Educational Administration, from City College. Salema is married to Done E. Marbury, Jr.; has two step-sons, Duwan A. Marbury and Done E. Marbury, III; and a step-grandson, O'mari M. Marbury.

Salema is the Principal of the P.S. 329 in Coney Island, Brooklyn. She began her educational career in 1988, as an intermediate school teacher at two schools: I.S. 1116, in the South Bronx; and the Mark Twain Intermediate School for the Gifted and Talented, in Coney Island, Brooklyn. Although her first passion is teaching math, she became known for developing programs to improve student self-esteem, academic prowess and leadership.

Early in her career, Salema realized that most children dream of becoming rich and fa-

mous in the same manner as their favorite sports, television and movie stars. She knew this dream would not be a reality for most students. Salema felt that what children really desired was acknowledgement for their accomplishments and the opportunity to achieve economic power in the process. She became determined to provide students with the direction they needed to achieve recognition and economic success. Salema began her tenure at P.S. 329 in 1995, as a teacher in charge of attendance improvement. She was later appointed to Assistant Principal in 1998 and, in 2008, she became the Principal. She is heavily involved in the school community. She established several of the school's seminal programs, including the school's Young Entrepreneurship Program and the school's Performing Arts Program. She also writes, co-produces and co-directs the school's annual drama and dance productions.

Salema believes that all children possess a unique talent. She encourages her students to, "never surrender their dreams," and strives to ensure they acquire the needed confidence for achieving their maximum potential. Salema is proud of her and her staff's work. Today, P.S. 139 is commonly referred to as, "Coney Islands Best Kept Secret."

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Salema Dawson-Marbury.

THE TAX FREE TIPS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to help millions of working Americans by introducing the Tax Free Tip Act. As the title suggests, this legislation exempts tips from federal income and payroll taxes. Tips often compose a substantial portion of the earnings of waiters, waitresses, and other service-sector employees. However, unlike regular wages, a service-sector employee usually has no guarantee of, or legal right to, a tip. Instead, the amount of a tip usually depends on how well an employee satisfies a client. Since the amount of taxes one pays increases along with the size of the tip, taxing tips punishes workers for doing a superior job!

Many service-sector employers are young people trying to make money to pay for their education, or single parents struggling to provide for their children. Oftentimes, these workers work two jobs in hopes of making a better life for themselves and their families. The Tax Free Tips Act gives these hard-working Americans an immediate pay raise. People may use this pay raise to devote more resources to their children's, or their own, education, or to save for a home, retirement, or to start their own businesses.

Helping Americans improve themselves by reducing their taxes will make our country stronger. I therefore hope all my colleagues will join me in cosponsoring the Tax Free Tips Act.

HONORING STATE
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN CAREY

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man of determination, conviction and integrity—State Representative John Carey of Durant, Ok.

Carey, a former member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, served his district and state with distinction during the years of 2002 to 2010.

John's legislative work has been devoted to improving education, making the state government more efficient and helping the brave men and women who have served our nation in the military.

His personal career has also been focused on improving the lives of hard-working Oklahoma families through economic development, business growth and community outreach.

Representative Carey has been active in civic affairs for several years, serving as a Gear-Up mentor, a Crisis Control board member, a board member of the Oklahoma State University Consumer & Family Services Advisory Committee, past chairman of the Bryan County Junior Livestock Show and as a member of the Southeastern Oklahoma State University Homecoming Committee.

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to acknowledge not only his successes in the Oklahoma legislature, but also his work as a devoted father and a steadfast friend.

John Carey is the husband of Pam Carey and father of G.W., Emma, and Anna Carey.

The 21st House District of Oklahoma is a better place because of the service of my friend and colleague, John Carey.

A TRIBUTE TO MS. VERA WINN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Vera Winn.

Vera received a Bachelors of Science degree in Nutritional Management from SUNY Empire State College. She is a New York State certified Dietitian-Nutritionist and, for 29 years, was employed by Nassau County as a dietitian.

Vera is an active member of the Brooklyn community. Since 1968, she participated in organizations such as the Stuyvesant Heights Lions Club and the Brooklyn Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs ("NANBPWC"), Inc. Vera is widely recognized for her commitments. Among her list of accolades, she received the Lion Foundation's highest honor, the Melvin Jones Fellow Award; and the NANBPWC's highest honor, the Sojourner Truth Award.

Vera is extremely dedicated to the NANBPWC and Lions Club, serving both organizations in several capacities over the years. Vera's list of positions with the NANBPWC includes Third Vice President in charge of Youth

and Young Adult Clubs, Chairperson of Public Relations, and Chairperson of the Bylaws Committee. Her list of positions with the Lions Club includes Fundraising Chairperson, Chairperson for Membership and Retention, and Chairperson for the Afternoon of Elegance.

From 1993 to 2003, Vera served as Public Board Member of the University of the State of New York's Education Department. She was later reappointed to serve on the peer panel as an extended member until September 2013. Vera received an award of achievement and appreciation from the University of the State of New York's Education Department for this dedication. The award was signed by President Mills and the Commissioner of Education.

Vera is a member of the American College of Counselors and a member of the World Changers Church of New York. Vera is the wife of the late Franger Winn, Jr.; mother to two daughters, Franshone Winn-Amelemah, Esq. and Gale Winn Inlaw, Library Media Specialist; and mother-in law to Edward Amelemah, M.D. She is also grandmother of Win Inlaw and David Franger Amelemah.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life of Ms. Vera Winn.

UNITED FOOD & COMMERCIAL
WORKERS LOCAL 135, LABOR
UNION OF THE YEAR:

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very dedicated Labor organization that has distinguished itself in San Diego County.

In Labor, we realize that hard-fought victories can only be accomplished if we stand together to reach a common goal.

This is especially true when unions come together to stand up for issues that don't directly affect their membership. The United Food and Commercial Workers Local 135 is an example of how all unions can contribute to Labor's victories.

The blue and yellow of UFCW Local 135 can be seen at nearly every Labor Council event.

From precinct walks to rallies and job actions, UFCW Local 135 understands that Labor must stand up for each other in order for it to achieve success.

In the weeks leading up to June's primary election, at least a dozen UFCW Local 135 members volunteered for each precinct walk and weekly phone banks to protect union jobs in construction, an industry in which they have no members.

This was repeated in the fall as UFCW Local 135 strongly supported the election of Jerry Brown for governor.

This leadership by example was rewarded throughout 2010 as members from other unions supported UFCW Local 135's priority issue of requiring large big box retailers to prove they don't have a negative economic impact on neighborhoods.

The desire of other unions to write letters, make phone calls and attend community planning meetings was a result of the respect won by UFCW Local 135 for the solidarity they've shown other unions.

For their exemplary display of leadership and volunteerism, I join with the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council in honoring United Food and Commercial Workers Local 135 as 2011—San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council's Union of the Year.

PRO LIFE

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor notable women in America's history, like Alice Paul and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who fought to extend American rights and freedoms to every American citizen. These women, who played an integral role in extending the right for women to vote, held American ideals and standards in the highest regard. One of the principles that they considered to be sacred is the sanctity of life. Not only did America's founding women fight to ensure each and every citizen was vested with the unalienable rights granted by our Constitution, they also fought to preserve the life of every American, including the unborn.

Today, I firmly believe that the right to life needs to continue to be protected. As a pro life Member of Congress, I have made it a priority of mine to fight for the most vulnerable members of our society. I have been proud to uphold the sanctity of life by supporting legislation that affirms that life begins at the moment of conception, defunds Planned Parenthood and prohibits any federal funding from ever being used for abortions. I joined with my colleagues to repeal the government takeover of healthcare, which would overturn a 30 year bipartisan effort banning all federal dollars from being used for abortions.

I will continue to fight to preserve the America that these women fought for so hard, and this includes protecting the right to life for the unborn.

HONORING FIREFIGHTER DOUGLAS
CASEY

HON. NAN A.S. HAYWORTH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Firefighter Douglas Casey of Kent, New York for his steadfast commitment and dedication to our community as a forty year active member of the Kent Volunteer Fire Department. Firefighter Casey is a founding member of the Kent Fire Department and has remained active for the entirety of its existence. Firefighters like Mr. Casey have a crucial role in protecting our homes and families. It is because of committed volunteer firefighters like Mr. Casey that our communities have active emergency responders that come to our rescue in our times of need. Mr. Casey has a longstanding history of commitment to his community and his fellow firefighters. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Firefighter Douglas Casey for his 40 years of outstanding fire service.

A TRIBUTE TO ANA WALKER-GOLDSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Ana Walker-Goldson.

Ana was born and raised in the Canal Zone of the Republic of Panama. She was exposed to business at an early age; her grandparents, Claude and Louise Walker, were proprietors of the McGrath Walker Business School and Publishers of the Panama Tribune. Ana holds two degrees from Long Island University: a B.A. in Business Administration and a M.A. in Communication. Over the years, she worked in an administrative capacity for several companies, including Beecher, Peck & Lewis and Borden, Inc.

Ana is a founding member, and former Senior Vice President, of the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Inc (CACCI). She presently serves as the Director of Operations for the Flatbush Caton Market on behalf of CACCI. Flatbush Caton Market, located in the East Flatbush section of Brooklyn, houses over 45 vendors of diverse ethnic backgrounds and several offices. The market was envisioned and initiated by former New York City Councilmember Una Clarke to remove vendors from the streets. It was officially opened in January 2002. Under Ana's leadership, the market received the distinguished Village Voice "NYC 2009 Best Ethnic Market Award" and is recognized and showcased by numerous media outlets.

Ana is a mentor to many, including Aduke Aremu, with whom she partnered to create the International Arts Business School. Ana is widely recognized for her community dedication and youth advocacy. She received numerous awards from community leaders, including Congresswoman YVETTE CLARK and Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz.

Ana is married to a retired military officer, Fernando Goldson. They are proud parents of their daughter, Sonja, and equally proud of their grandchildren. Ana is truly a people person. She lives her life by being a blessing to those she serves. Ana's greatest accomplishment is her daughter, a soft cleft baby and a breast cancer survivor. She thanks her mother, Iona Walker, for the gift of life and gives God Almighty all the glory for the things He has done and will continue to do in her life.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ana Walker-Goldson.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF TENSION ENVELOPE COMPANY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the 125th Anniversary of Tension Envelope Corporation, a prestigious family-owned business in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, which I am honored to represent. In 1886, the forerunner of

Tension Envelope opened in Kansas City, Missouri, as Berkowitz and Company. Named after its founder, William Berkowitz, the company specialized in popular advertising novelties and business stationery. In 1894, the company put into operation the first envelope machine west of the Mississippi River.

By 1901, the company began to fully concentrate on envelopes, which were in great demand by businesses and organizations. William Berkowitz's two sons joined the firm in 1907, and the company's first envelope patent was issued in 1909. Sons Walter and E.B. Berkowitz assumed management of the company as the 1920s approached. Walter soon discovered new high-speed envelope folding machinery that had been developed in Germany. The company purchased the North American patent and distribution rights and brought the equipment into the United States, revolutionizing the American envelope industry.

In 1937, the company acquired another pioneer in the U.S. envelope industry, the Tension Envelope Company of Brooklyn, New York. In 1944, all of the Berkowitz Envelope manufacturing and sales operations were consolidated under the widely recognized name of Tension Envelope Corporation. In 1962, Bert Berkley, grandson of the company's founder, became President and CEO of Tension. In 1988, Bill Berkley, great grandson of the founder, became President and CEO.

Today, Tension Envelope Corporation is one of the nation's leading manufacturers of envelope products, selling directly to companies and organizations across the United States. Tension manufactures many of the envelopes you see and handle every day. With its headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri, the heart of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, Tension produces over eleven billion envelopes a year with plants, distribution, and service offices stretching from coast to coast.

Not only have Tension's leaders revolutionized an industry with their ingenuity, they are also dedicated philanthropists. Bert Berkley, Chairman of Tension, has a long history of participation in local, regional, and national civic and advisory councils. He even co-authored a book, *Giving Back*, on the subject of volunteering, sharing with the community, and involvement with charitable endeavors. My good friend, Richard Berkley, served as Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri, for three terms prior to my election to that post in 1991. He currently serves as Tension's Secretary and Treasurer as well as several area civic advisory boards. Current President and CEO, Bill Berkley, has served on the boards of several area nonprofits, businesses, and education organizations.

Considering the tremendous contributions of Tension Envelope Corporation to Missouri's Fifth Congressional District and surrounding areas, it is an honor and a privilege to recognize the leaders and employees for their one hundred and twenty-five years of excellent service to the Kansas City area and beyond. Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the Berkley Family and expressing our gratitude to Tension Envelope Corporation for their incredible dedication to both their industry and community.

JIM MAHLER, LABOR LEADER OF THE YEAR

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very dedicated committed leader of the labor movement who deserves to be recognized for his many achievements and contributions to organized labor.

The past year was an important one in the history of California's Labor Movement, with workers campaigning to restore a pro-labor governor for California.

Tens of thousands of California's union members dedicated 2010 to ensuring that our next governor would stand up for the fundamental right of workers to organize.

In San Diego, American Federation of Teachers Local 1931 President Jim Mahler answered nearly every call in ensuring that collective bargaining rights and worker protections remained a priority in California.

As workers prepared for the March for California's Future, which featured union members marching from Bakersfield to Sacramento in a call to solve the state's budget crisis, Mahler committed his union to driving its success. Several buses full of AFT Local 1931 members and their students left San Diego City College at dawn on March 5, bound for Los Angeles and Bakersfield, to kick off the historic march.

When the Labor Council proposed an aggressive approach to courting voters' support for Jerry Brown for governor, Mahler and AFT Local 1931 committed \$100,000 to fund the program. He also realized money alone could not win the governor's race, so he organized nightly phone banks to support Brown and Proposition 25, the simple majority budget bill. His organizing yielded phone bank nights and Saturday precinct walks that overflowed with student and teacher volunteers.

For his dedication to keeping California worker-friendly, I join with the Executive Board of the Labor Council in congratulating Jim Mahler as the 2011 Labor Leader of the Year.

A TRIBUTE TO DENISE SULLIVAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Denise Sullivan.

Denise Sullivan was born in Jamaica, New York, to Albert C. Wiltshire and the late Jeannette Morgan-Wiltshire. Denise has three wonderful children, Chris, Michael and Danielle. She takes great pride in her public school education and understands the importance of higher education; Denise graduated from Forest Hills High School and New York City Technical College (formerly known as New York City Community College).

While Denise pursued a liberal arts curriculum at New York City Technical College, she had career interests in healthcare. Denise entered the profession in 1985, as a Registration Clerk for the Cumberland Diagnostic & Treatment Center. Her exemplary work for this

company resulted in a promotion to Specialty Clinics Supervisor. Denise enrolled in the Nurse's Aide Program at Medgar Evers College shortly thereafter.

Upon graduating Medgar Evers College Nurse's Aide Program, and successfully passing the Boards, Denise continued her education: She became a Patient Care Associate, after attending Woodhull Hospital's Patient Care Associate Program; and received her Licensed Practical Nurse certification from the Brooklyn Adult Learning Center. Today,

Denise works as a Licensed Practical Nurse in the Adult Medicine Clinic.

Denise's passion for delivering health care extends to community service. She participated in numerous programs and organized events over the years, including Arlington Terrace & 154th Street Stop the Violence; and Weekend "Safe Place," where she mentored students and created educational, social and sports activities. In addition, she consistently participates in the annual Breast Cancer Walk with her children, brothers, sisters, nephews

and nieces. Denise believes that everyone has a contribution to make in caring and encouraging family and the community. Denise, with her selfless ways, is an example of commitment, giving so much of her time for a better community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life of Ms. Denise Sullivan.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on 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, March 17, 2011 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 29

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. European Command and U.S. Strategic Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Suzan D. Johnson Cook, of New York, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, Department of State.

SD-419

Armed Services

Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense efficiencies initiatives.

SR-232A

MARCH 30

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine how complexity, uncertainty and other factors impact responses to tax incentives.

SD-215

10:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations from Paralyzed Veterans of America, Air Force

Sergeants Association, Military Order of the Purple Heart, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Wounded Warrior Project, Vietnam Veterans of America, The Retired Enlisted Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War.

SD-106

1 p.m.

Armed Services

Personnel Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Active, Guard, Reserve, and civilian personnel programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-222

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the National Park Service.

SD-366

MARCH 31

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

2 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps and Global Narcotics Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine counter-narcotics and citizen security in the Americas.

SD-419

APRIL 5

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Southern Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services

Airland Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

APRIL 6

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Allison A. Hickey, of Virginia,

to be Under Secretary for Benefits and Steve L. Muro, of California, to be Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SR-418

APRIL 7

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Transportation Command and U.S. Africa Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-106

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of David Bruce Shear, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and Kurt Walter Tong, of Maryland, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as United States Senior Official for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum, both of the Department of State.

SD-419

APRIL 12

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SH-219 following the open session.

SD-106

APRIL 14

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 343, to amend Title I of PL 99-658 regarding the Compact of Free Association between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Palau, to approve the results of the 15-year review of the Compact, including the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Palau Following the Compact of Free Association Section 432 Review, and to appropriate funds for the purposes of the amended PL 99-658 for fiscal years ending on or before September 30, 2024, to carry out the agreements resulting from that review.

SD-366