

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MR. RICHARD ROEHRKASSE FOR HIS 20 YEARS AS A TRUSTEE OF SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the dedicated community service of Mr. Richard Roehrkaske, as he marks his 20th year as a Trustee for Southwestern Illinois College.

Richard Roehrkaske was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Trustees for Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC) in 1991 and has been continuously re-elected since that time. A resident of Red Bud, Illinois, Mr. Roehrkaske had experience in the Information Technology field as a systems analyst, designer and project manager. He had a desire to serve his community and pursued membership on the SWIC Board of Trustees as a way to help ensure access to quality education for area residents.

As a SWIC Trustee, Mr. Roehrkaske has enthusiastically worked with faculty, administration and staff on the Strategic Planning Committee since its inception. He helped to update existing and develop new Board policies and procedures to address strategic planning priorities.

Mr. Roehrkaske has been a consistent, active participant in helping SWIC maintain its longstanding accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), and achieve model-institution recognition from the HLC for its Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) initiatives and achievements.

With his background in Information Technology, Mr. Roehrkaske has been a longstanding champion of IT—from smart-classrooms to community-wide applications—helping to establish SWIC as one of the leading IT-supported community colleges in the state and the nation.

In his longstanding role as Board of Trustees Facilities and Finance Committee Chair, Mr. Roehrkaske has helped to develop and identify funding resources for SWIC and to complete numerous major capital development projects. Among the significant projects to benefit from his involvement are: the Liberal Arts and Information Sciences buildings at the Belleville Campus; renovations and expansions at the Sam Wolf Granite City and Red Bud Campuses; and the Schmidt Art Center, in collaboration with the SWIC Foundation Board.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Mr. Richard Roehrkaske for his 20 years of service as a Trustee of Southwestern Illinois College and to wish him the very best in the future.

RECOGNIZING MR. CARMEN A. POLICY

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Carmen A. Policy, who received the prestigious National Education and Leadership Award from the Sons of Italy Foundation on May 25th. This award is presented by the foundation annually to the Italian American who has upheld a commitment to educational excellence, leadership and the betterment of society. Previous recipients of this outstanding award include Joe Paterno and Antonin Scalia.

Mr. Policy, a native of Youngstown and Ohio's 17th district, graduated from Youngstown State University in 1963, and in 1966 earned his Juris Doctorate Degree from Georgetown University Law Center here in Washington, DC. For many years, he pursued a successful law practice career in Ohio.

In 1983, Carmen traded in the courtroom for the gridiron and became Vice President of the San Francisco 49ers. In 1991 he became President and CEO of the franchise. As an executive in the 49ers organization, Mr. Policy played a key role in delivering 4 Super Bowl trophies back to the city of San Francisco. In 1994 he was named the National Football League Executive of the Year by The Sporting News and GQ listed him as one of the most powerful men in professional sports. In 1998, Carmen became President and CEO of the Cleveland Browns and during his five years with the Browns, he served as a member of the NFL's Finance, Business Ventures, and Super Bowl Advisory Committees.

After 25 years in the NFL, Carmen, along with his wife Gail, began a new life of wine making in the Napa Valley and the couple founded the Casa Piena Winery. The roots of Casa Piena go back to Policy's childhood in Youngstown's Smokey Hollow neighborhood, where the making and sharing of wine played a central part in the vibrant family life of this largely Italian-American community.

He has sent a strong and clean message to the youth of the Mahoning Valley; if you work hard, play by the rules and get a good education, America will reward you with all the blessings of this great land.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate and honor the hard work and dedication of Mr. Carmen Policy and his wife Gail. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognition of this award.

HONORING GOVERNOR RAUL H. CASTRO ON HIS 95TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Raul Hector Castro, Arizona's first Hispanic Governor, on the occasion of his 95th birthday on June 12, 2011. Raul Castro's legacy is imbedded in my home State's history for his high achievements despite the racism he experienced as a young Mexican immigrant raised in Arizona. Besides holding Arizona's highest State office, Governor Castro served as a United States Ambassador three times: to El Salvador, Bolivia, and Argentina. Last year, Governor Castro was honored with the prestigious Cesar E. Chavez Legacy Award at the Ninth Annual Cesar E. Chavez Foundation Gala in Phoenix. In addition, Governor Castro received the Arizona Legacy Award at the 52nd Annual Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Black and White Ball.

Governor Castro and co-author Dr. Jack August, Jr. have written a fascinating biography entitled "Adversity Is My Angel: The Life and Career of Raul H. Castro." The book traces the astounding life of the former Governor through his childhood as a Mexican immigrant in a harsh land to his election as Governor and Presidentially appointed Ambassador. It chronicles how he overcame personal and racial prejudice to rise to the highest levels of accomplishment.

During the last couple of years, the former Governor has been on a mission to visit and speak with middle school and high school students and encourage them to stay in school and get an education. Governor Castro has visited several schools throughout the State of Arizona sharing his legacy and more importantly stressing the value and importance of an education. Education is a top priority of Governor Castro, and the Institute that carries his name is housed at Phoenix College. The Raul H. Castro Institute is focused on improving the quality of life for the Latino community in Arizona and educating and strengthening partners that serve the Latino community by fostering connections with research institutions, promoting best practice dissemination, and impacting policy decisions in education, health and human services, leadership, and civic participation.

The Honorable Raul H. Castro continues to provide vision and leadership in the State of Arizona, and I ask my colleagues today to join me in recognizing his life's accomplishments and his 95th birthday.

● 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.

WALTER "BUS" BERGMAN
TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Walter "Bus" Bergman, one of Colorado's great student-athletes, coaches and war heroes.

Mr. Bergman, originally of Denver, Colorado, was a three-sport star in high school and college. He even hit the game winning shot to give Denver's North High School the state hoops championship in 1938. At Colorado A&M, now Colorado State university, he lettered in basketball, baseball and football, while also serving as student body president.

During World War II, Mr. Bergman enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He earned the rank of Major and received the Bronze Star for heroism during the Battle of Okinawa.

After graduating from college, he became one of the most successful coaches at Mesa State University. He led multiple teams to conference championships and took pride in preparing every athlete for life after college. The college renamed its athletic fields in his honor and its athletic hall of fame is one of six that has inducted Mr. Bergman.

Family was an extremely important part of Mr. Bergman's life. He was devoted to his wife, Elinor, and their three children. His daughter, Jane Norton, was Lieutenant Governor of Colorado and his other daughter, Judy Black, was an assistant to President Reagan for intergovernmental affairs and has held several national Republican positions.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to stand and pay tribute to a husband, father, teacher, athlete, war hero and a great American. Colorado is indebted to his work and I am grateful for his devotion to the State.

HONORING PATRICIA K. MACHT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, as Dean of the California Congressional delegation, I rise to highlight the career of Patricia K. Macht, who is retiring after more than fifteen years of service with the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CALPERS).

Ms. Macht is currently the Deputy Executive Officer for External Affairs at California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS). She has served under six CEOs and Interim CEOs, and four deputy executive officers. During her tenure, she has attended more than 400 committee meetings and 200 board meetings.

While at CalPERS, Ms. Macht established the vision, guiding principles, structure, and resources to administer a world-class communications function. She spearheaded the creation of a media relations program, an executive speechwriting support function and special events support services. She maintained the high quality of the services provided, keeping up with the tremendous changes in speed of communications methods.

Ms. Macht also ensured that CalPERS communications did not take place in a vacuum, as she led the integration of governmental affairs and public affairs and added a stakeholder relations function. She greatly expanded the system's ability to ensure that all stakeholders groups have equal access, timely and quality communication, and participation in the System's policy formulation and administration as possible. Through this integration, CalPERS has enhanced efficiency, access, and timeliness of dissemination of information and education.

Ms. Macht worked cooperatively and collaboratively regarding communications and advocacy with other leaders in the public pension community, including the National Institute of Retirement Security (NIRS), National Association of State Retirement Administrators (NASRA), California Association of Public Retirement Systems (CALAPERS), State Association of County Retirement Systems (SACRS) and numerous other industry groups and association.

Ms. Macht greatly expanded the reach to CalPERS 1.6 million members. Under her leadership, the CalPERS communications office issued more than 800 press releases, resulting in more than a million references to CalPERS in local, state, national and international media articles. She guided the development, execution and dissemination of the widely-read CalPERS' "PERSpective" newsletter. She also created the institution's "Retirement Planning Month", the CalPERS Member Network video programming on cable television, and a robust CalPERS website that is continuously improving to meet the needs of our members and employers. Ms. Macht created the first California Retirement Dialogue summit—bringing stakeholders from labor, employers, and policy experts together to review and discuss pension issues in the wake of the pressures upon employers to meet their pension obligations due to the market downturn.

She received the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award for her career in the communication field from the State Information Officers Council and garnered high praise from all who worked with her.

She began her career in government as the Director of Public Affairs and Education at the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Prior to entering public service, she worked in corporate communications/public affairs positions in the private sector for five years. Previously, she was a journalist for 10 years covering local government issues in the state of Maryland. Ms. Macht has a Bachelor's Degree in journalism from the University of Maryland.

Once again, I would like to commend Ms. Macht for her dedicated public service and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

2011 PEOPLESOFT CERTIFICATE OF
RECOGNITION FOR EMPLOYEES
OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. LUNGREN. Mr. Speaker, the recipients of the 2011 PeopleSoft Certificate of Recogni-

tion collectively and individually provided support and solutions for the transition from Federal Financial System to PeopleSoft Financial System. The conversion to PeopleSoft occurred October 1, and the system went live October 12, 2010. To prepare for this conversion, the employees of the CAO worked tirelessly and were persistent in their efforts to implement PeopleSoft at the U.S. House of Representatives.

Whether working directly with Members or staff, supporting CAO internal operations, or ensuring that technical infrastructure is operational, each employee served as an exemplary role model for the entire CAO community.

Recipients of the 2011 PeopleSoft Certificate of Recognition are:

Jessica Abbott, Marty Adkins, Rose Agnew, Patricia Akinsegun, Mallikarjuna Akula, Sharyn Alexander, Lisa Alvey, Janciera Armstrong, Omar Awan, Peter Baer, Samantha Ball, William Barkell, Robert Barrett, Traci Beaubien, Lashon Bethea, Kelly Boger, Esther Bouryng, Karen Bowers, Chaunette Bowling-Stokes, Shelia Bowman.

Karen Bowman, Kevin Boyle, Toinetta Bridgeforth, David Brown, Kimberly Brown, Annette Brown, Troy Buckler, Kenneth Burch, Elizabeth Burnham, James Butler, Alicia Carcamo, Ronald Carrico, Delisa Carter, Ely Caskey, Andrew Caulk, Jacob Ciango, John Clarke, John Clocker, Faye Cobb, Joel Collins.

Richard Cooper, Luis Cornejo, Thomas E. Coyne III, Mark Dalton, Karen Davenport, James Deaver, Gary Dieffenderfer, Mark Dobbins, Karen Donaldson, Geneva Dooley, Brian Dozier, Sandra Durham, Mary Ellen-Wilson, Gretchen Ewers, Trenea Gates, Michael Gould, Andrew Graeub, Raymond Griswold, Norman Gugliotta, Philip Hamner.

Tina Hanonu, Keith Harrington, Stephanie Harris, Michelle Hayes, John Heeb III, George Holau, Richard Hornburg, Alfreda Horton, Steve Hunter, Jacqueline Hurda, Wanda Jackson, Araceli Jennings, Derek Johann, Reginald Johnson, Andre Johnson, Rob Jordan, Tara Kelley, David Kemp, Katherine Knell, David Lau.

Dion Lawson, Cyrus Leghvan, Carlos Leon, Chau Lim, Andrea Little, Anthony Loving, Louis Magnotti, Steve Marsh, Richard Martins, Marc Mathis, Patricia Mattimore, Bryanne Mayhew, Bradley McDonald, Saint Juan McFadden, David McKittrick, Kathryn Meek, Darlene Meister, Donna Minton, Margaret Mitchell, Rachelle Mobley.

Nelson Moe, Edwarda Moore, Ronald Mullvain, James Murphy, Robert Murphy, John Nadeau, Rebecca Neilson, Juan Nelson, Jonathan Nelson, Hieu Nghiem, Jason Nowak, Igor Nusinzon, Carla Ohlis, Lindsay Oldham, Melissa Oulahyane, Sarah Parker, Stephen Pearson, Lisa Phillips, Richard Piazza, Stephen Pinson.

Kaley Poag, Sharon Porter, Sridhar Ramavarapu, Erica Randolph, Brenda Register, Lawrence Rice, Deborah Robertson, Sandra Rubio-Marrero, Zainab Sanusi-Hopes, Subashini Sethumathavan, Mohammed Shabeer, Kirat Shah, Arlie Shoemaker, Mirna Simonetti, Donita Simpson, Carolyn Sims, Susan Sneden, William Solomon, Clyde Springfield, Angel Stanley.

Christine Stewart, Ayana Stokes, Shannon Strickland, Joyce Stringfield, Keith Sullenberger, Lillie Talcott, James Tammadge, Alison Thompson, James Tiani, Arrica Tillman,

Lawrence Toperoff, Stan Turek, Jermaine Venable, James Ventre, Quoc-An Vo, Cheraise Ward, Kenya Watkins, Sarah Watkins, Dan Weiser, Kenneth Wenzel, Andrea Williamson, Katherine Wyatt, James Young, Shin Yun, Eric Zabel and Jordana Zubkoff.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend congratulations to today's recipients for their unwavering efforts and outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives. I wish them continued success in their endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently cast a "no" vote on rollcall No. 393, as part of the consideration of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill. I would like to change my vote on the amendment to "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 330, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1627, Arlington National Cemetery Monuments, I was unable to vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

DANIEL PERLA AND VALERIE
ALTMANN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, the Bayit, is a cornerstone of the Riverdale community. Today it is honoring Daniel Perla and his wife Valerie Altmann for their involvement in the HIR since they moved to the community in 2000.

Danny was elected President of Hebrew Institute of Riverdale in June 2004, shortly after he completed the prestigious Wexner Heritage leadership training program. Under his leadership, the HIR embarked on a major capital campaign and has completed a building expansion and renovation. The campaign has already raised over \$5 million, half way to its goal with the rebuilt Bayit now accommodating nine separate Shabbat groups, and six different Shabbat tefillot.

The Bayit also houses Yeshivat Chovevei Torah, the preeminent Open Orthodox rabbinical school where Danny is currently studying full-time. Before beginning his Rabbinic studies, Danny worked as an analyst and portfolio manager for a variety of firms, most recently working as a Managing Director of Indian Asset Management, a major institutional money management firm. In addition to his in-

volvement at HIR, Danny serves as a board member of SAR Academy, Yeshivat Chovevei Torah and Yeshivat Hadar.

Valerie is a full-time faculty member at Long Island Jewish Medical Center where she oversees residents and practices Obstetrics and Gynecology. She is also an assistant professor at the Albert Einstein School of Medicine. Valerie is a frequent lecturer on medical issues related to health and halakha and recently played an important role in the kallah conference co-sponsored by YCT, JOFA and Yeshivat Maharat. Canadian-born, she is a graduate of McGill University and McGill Medical School.

Danny and Valerie are the proud parents of four children: Benjamin, 14, Rebecca, 12, Yoni, 9, and Gabriel 6. They all attend the SAR Academy in Riverdale. I happily join with the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale in congratulating my good friend of many years Danny and his wife for their contributions to the HIR and to the community at large.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast the recorded votes for rollcall No. 377. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" for this measure.

JORDAN LESTINA TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jordan Lestina of Julesburg, Colorado. Mr. Lestina was recently awarded the prestigious Boettcher Scholarship for his efforts both in and out of the classroom.

Mr. Lestina already has substantial leadership experience as the national FFA Organization president, the Future Business Leaders of America president and student body president at Dove Creek High School. They are positions that require an enormous amount of attention, but ones he is able to balance with his duties as captain of the school wrestling team. In the classroom, he helps instruct FFA and agriculture classes, competed in the International Science Fair, and still manages to allot time for his responsibilities as a ranch hand.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Jordan Lestina today. The excellence he has shown in academia, athletics and through community service is admirable. There is no doubt that he will continue his success at the collegiate level, with the help of the Boettcher Foundation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote Number 395 on H.R. 2017 (GOSAR), I

mistakenly recorded my vote as "yea," when I should have voted "nay."

HONORING ANDREAS D.
COMODROMOS

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend, Andreas Comodromos, for his exemplary involvement in many community, business, and political endeavors, both locally and at the national level. While his dedication to serving others extends to numerous causes, today I would like to recognize his unwavering commitment to the nation of Cyprus, the Cypriot-American community, and the Hellenic-American community at large.

Andreas "Andy" Comodromos was born in Vatili, in the Famagusta District of Cyprus, on March 27, 1949. The oldest of six children, Andy married Cyprus native Anna Zachariades in 1973. They made their home in Cyprus and, after having their first child, moved to the United States in 1974 so that Andy could pursue a college degree. He graduated magna cum laude from Saint Peter's College in Jersey City, New Jersey with a B.S. in Accounting, and soon joined the international accounting firm of Ernst & Ernst. Andy earned his CPA certification in 1982 and, the following year, co-founded the accounting firm of Comodromos Associates, P.A. with his late brother, Michael. Andy has served as president and managing partner of the Paramus-based firm ever since.

Despite leaving Cyprus nearly four decades ago, Andy's dedication to his homeland and to Cypriot-Americans is unwavering, and the well-deserved accolades he has received are numerous. He is the founding president of the Federation of Hellenic-American Organizations of New Jersey, a group which is proudly honoring him at their annual gala on June 5, 2011. He has served in several capacities on the Executive Committee of the Cyprus Federation of America, CFA, including two consecutive terms as the CFA's Supreme President, from 1991 to 1995. The CFA honored Andy with the 2001 "Justice for Cyprus Award" in recognition of his untiring services and dedication to the Cypriot-American community. He was honored with the Offikion Archon Dikaiophylax by his Eminence Archbishop Iakovos in March 1996, and was subsequently elected to the National Council of the Order of Saint Andrew, for which he serves as Assistant Treasurer. He is a member of the Metropolitan Council for the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey, of Evangelismos Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox community, and of Saint Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church in Paramus. In 2000, Andy was honored as "Man of the Year" by Evangelismos Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church in Jersey City. He received the 1996 Ellis Island Medal of Honor for outstanding contributions to America and distinguished community service, and in 2009, was appointed by Governor Jon Corzine to the New Jersey Hellenic-American Heritage Commission.

Andy is the Founding President and current Chairman of the Cyprus-U.S. Chamber of

Commerce, serves on the board of the Cyprus Children's Fund, and has served as Treasurer of the World Federation for Overseas Cypriots (POMAK). He is a member of the Council of Hellenes Abroad (SAE) of the North and South American Region, as well as the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, AHEPA. And, while his involvement in these and many other organizations is as extensive as the plethora of honors he has received, Andy's family is his proudest accomplishment. He and his lovely wife Anna have been blessed with two children and three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate my dear friend, Andy Comodromos, and thank him for his devotion to the Cypriot-American community, both in the great State of New Jersey and across the Nation.

HONORING LINDA JACKSON-WHITMORE ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ms. Linda Jackson-Whitmore, an extraordinary teacher who will soon retire. Her students refer to her affectionately as Ms. J. Ms. J started teaching at Washington High School in Fremont, California in 1975 as a drama instructor, director, choreographer and Performing Arts Club advisor. She transferred to Irvington High School in Fremont, California in 1978, performing the same duties.

Ms. J has been on the staff of Irvington High School as the Artistic Director for 31 years and Artistic Director of the Irvington Conservatory Theatre since 1990 where she has directed two major productions each year and over 70 shows during her professional career.

Adding to her extra-curricular duties, she volunteers as Advisor for the Black Student Union Club, Advanced Dance Club, Hip Hop Dance Club and the Step Club.

In 1986 she was accepted as a Fulbright Exchange Teacher and taught in London for a year. Another acknowledgement of her teaching excellence was her selection as Mentor Teacher in Theatre Arts for the Fremont Unified School District in 1984–1986 and 1997–98.

Ms. J has also served as a part-time instructor in the Theatre Arts Department at San Francisco State University, San Francisco Community College and serves as a high school outreach instructor for Ohlone Community College, a position she has held since 1999.

She received her Bachelor of Arts and Secondary Teaching Credential in 1973 from San Francisco State University. In 1980 she received her Masters of Arts and Community College Credential from the University of San Francisco. She is a member of the California Teachers Association, Educational Theatre Association, International Thespian Society, National Education Association, Fremont Unified School District Teachers Association, Na-

tional Forum of Black Administrators, Black Women Organized for Political Action and a Life Member of the NAACP.

Ms. J is the recipient of many honors and awards that include the International Thespian Society Most Inspirational Theatre Educator Award and the California Congress of Parent/Student/Teacher Association of Outstanding Service Award, in addition to recognition of her community service.

Ms. Linda Jackson-Whitmore has given many students, through the years, guidance in the theatre arts and will leave a lasting legacy as the instructor who gave a thespian voice to our youth. I join her colleagues in wishing her well in her well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JOHN HARDWICK

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and legacy of John Hardwick. John Hardwick was the personification of a community servant. Born in Miami on March 27, 1970, Hardwick grew up in Hallandale, Florida. It is in the City of Hallandale that he touched the lives of so many with his hands and his heart.

Hardwick served as president of the Class of 1988 of Hallandale High. By the age of 19 he started his own business as a barber and three years later he chose to reinvest and renovate his business rather than relocate. He would go on to serve on the Hallandale Beach Chamber of Commerce board of directors, he was instrumental in founding Top Shops, a consortium of mostly minority owned beauty salons in Miami-Dade and Broward counties, and he also served on the committee that gave his often forgotten community a name, "The Palms of Hallandale."

Hardwick's community service efforts sent young children to see live theatre, he was instrumental in organizing the city's Martin Luther King Day parade, and he fought to remove a sanitation transfer station thereby keeping his community beautiful. In general, Hardwick was the type of individual who could give you a haircut while simultaneously educating you about the events in your community. He was the cornerstone for personal grooming and civic awareness. Hardwick's life was cut short last week by complications he suffered from a stroke at the young age of 41.

Mr. Speaker, John Hardwick kept his community looking good and feeling good because he was a good person. It is with privilege and sadness that I honor his life today.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. KAREN BOUNDS

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Mrs. Karen Bounds of

Hermiston, Oregon. Today millions of young people across the country are graduating and looking forward with hope and confidence to the next step in their lives. Whether it is college, service in our armed forces, or civilian employment, young adults are prepared for success by the caring and invested teachers they encountered throughout their education. Karen was one such teacher.

It is with a note of sadness that I honor Karen today, because I do so on the occasion of her retirement. For more than 20 years, she has taught essential courses including English, history, and government at Hermiston High School, which is located in my district. Future students at HHS will, regrettably, miss the opportunity to learn from Karen's knowledge and enthusiasm as well as her manifest passion for teaching and compassion toward her students.

Karen has never been one to call it a day after putting in the minimum number of hours; she has consistently volunteered her time and resources to enhance the educational opportunities available to her students. Many times over the years, for instance, Karen brought groups of exemplary students to Washington, D.C., to participate in the Close Up program, which gives high school students firsthand exposure to their nation's capital. She also dedicated much of her time to training Hermiston's successful Mock Trial team and escorting it to district and state competitions.

Karen never missed an opportunity to expose her civics and government students to the real work of government. I myself enjoyed the opportunity to address her class as a guest speaker. It will come as no surprise that the questions I faced from her students were pointed and informed. It was a pleasure to meet those students and witness their interest and curiosity about our system of government. It is more important than ever that Americans take an active and informed interest in their government, and Karen equipped her students with the foundation essential for doing so.

A California native, Karen met her husband of 45 years, Roger Bounds, while attending their alma mater, Stanford University. Karen and Roger raised four children and, as you might imagine, Karen's efforts on behalf of her students represent just a fraction of the commitments she has assumed over her years as a teacher, a mother, and an involved citizen. Between the kids' sporting and scholastic events, Karen found the time to participate in many community-service organizations, including as a founding director of the Desert Arts Council, which has brought live performances to Hermiston for almost three decades, and as a member of the vestry of Saint John's Episcopal Church.

Mr. Speaker, I acknowledged a trace of sadness in marking Karen's retirement from Hermiston High School, but it is just a trace. I am delighted that she will have even more time in retirement to dedicate to her family, her friends, and her community in Hermiston, Oregon.

On behalf of that community, which I am pleased to represent, I thank Karen Bounds for her years of service and dedication to the students at Hermiston High School. While she will be missed, we wish her a long, productive, and enjoyable retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR, MR. JOSEPH SANTELLI

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an individual who exemplifies a successful small businessperson in our country, Joseph Santelli, who was recently honored, by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The week of May 16–20, 2011 was the 48th Annual National Small Business Week. This is a time when the President of the United States and the country as a whole recognizes and honors the contribution that small businesses are making to our nation. Small businesses are the engines of growth and innovation, and Mr. Santelli, who was honored by the Small Business Administration of Western Pennsylvania, is truly moving his small businesses towards greatness. Mr. Santelli took the honor of being the 2011 local and state Small Business Person of the Year in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Joseph Santelli is the President of Santelli Tempered Glass, located in Monessen, PA. He was involved in the glass and window industry for many years prior to selling tempered glass himself. For fifteen years prior he sold tempering furnaces to companies so they could make the glass. With an ambition to grow his business and some help from outside investors, Mr. Santelli ventured into the manufacturing of tempered glass.

With his investment in the business, Mr. Santelli set up the first tempered glass outfit of its kind east of the Mississippi River. As his business became more successful, Mr. Santelli was able to buy out his business partner and expand his operation to factories in the states of Indiana and Florida.

Through his exploration of tempered glass, he has helped change the lives of residents throughout Pennsylvania and the United States. This type of tempered glass won't shatter if it is broken and greatly reduces injury in case of an accident. Recognizing that success bears responsibility, he has given back to the community by donating tempered glass for Habitat for Humanity projects and to ABC-TV's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition."

In this tough economic time, small businesses are creating jobs, innovative products, and services people need. They are the engine of economic growth. Mr. Santelli epitomizes intuitive and responsible business practices in this country. Mr. Speaker, I would once again like to honor Mr. Santelli for his extraordinary work and commitment as a small business owner.

AUGUSTINE ABEYTA TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Augustine Abeyta for his service and heroism defending the United States of America. The Colorado native is a decorated

veteran who helped defend our country and our values during one of its most trying periods.

Mr. Abeyta enlisted shortly after the outbreak of World War II, in 1944. As an infantryman, he fought in two campaigns in Germany and Ardennes. His bravery in both arenas was quickly recognized and earned him two Bronze Campaign Ribbons. Almost a year after his enlistment, he was wounded in Germany by an enemy combatant on Christmas Day, 1944. He was given the Purple Heart for the injuries he suffered protecting his country.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to stand and pay tribute to a man who served the United States with such valor. His sacrifices are an inspiration and I am truly grateful for his service.

HONORING MR. KENNETH
AHLSTROM

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Kenneth Ahlstrom of Dunkirk, New York.

Mr. Ahlstrom was a proud, patriotic American. He served in the United States Navy during World War II aboard the USS Phoenix in the southwest Pacific. During his service, Mr. Ahlstrom participated in 25 landings in New Guinea, New Britain, the Philippines, and Borneo.

Professionally, Mr. Ahlstrom worked for many years as a salesman with Eber Brothers Wine and Liquor Corporation. Throughout his life, Mr. Ahlstrom demonstrated a deep commitment and devotion to his local community. For more than 50 years, Mr. Ahlstrom has remained active in the American Legion Post 62, serving as treasurer, post commander, an officer of the board of directors and county vice commander. Concurrent with his service at Post 62, he also belonged to the VFW, Dunkirk Exempt Firemen, Dunkirk Lakeside Club, First Ward Falcon Club and the Buffalo Bills Booster Club. Mr. Ahlstrom had served on the Boys State Committee and the American Legion Baseball Scholarship Committee and was a past president and member of the Dunkirk High School Marauder Booster Club. He also had served as secretary-treasurer at Willowbrook Park Cemetery.

Of the many significant accomplishments of his life, Mr. Ahlstrom took the greatest pride in his family. Married to Nancy Ahlstrom for more than 63 years, Mr. Ahlstrom was patriarch of a great Western New York family that includes 8 children, 17 grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. His is a wonderful legacy that each family member may cherish for years to come.

It is with great pride that I rise today, only a few days after our Memorial Day holiday, to honor and commemorate that service of Kenneth Ahlstrom. I hope that you will join with me, Mr. Speaker, and the entirety of our membership in the House in expressing the condolences of the House to the Ahlstrom family.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II
VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the World War II veterans from my district who are traveling to Washington, DC, with Honor Flight Chicago, a program whose goal is to provide as many World War II veterans as possible the opportunity to see the World War II Memorial here in Washington, DC, a memorial that was built to honor their courage and service.

The American veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen traveling here today answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorial. I am proud to submit the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Joseph F. Bialek, Stephen N. Bobic, George Bosy, Norman N. Breyer, Ralph W. Brockman, Peter G. Broustis, Simon Bult, Joseph W. Burke Jr., Joseph J. Buzinski, Ingemar C. Carlson, John E. Carlson, James E. Carson, John F. Casper Jr., George P. Charnas, Lehman L. Cheshire, William C. Corrigan, Raymond E. Craig, John S. DeHesus, Arthur J. DeLorenzo, Cyril E. Diskin, James V. Doheny, Raymond J. Donovan, William J. Doyle, John T. Dryja, Eileen L. DuPont, Willard E. Duvall, Irving Ellis, Robert L. Elmer, Robert E. Engdahl, Charles L. Ettner, Guy R. Franzese, Julian L. Friedman, William Froelke, Alfred E. Galuszka, Olaf E. Gjovik, Norman Goone, Lester F. Guenther, Gilbert V. Hancock, Robert J. Heinzen, Vernon W. Hill, Donald M. Hintz, Andrew A. Hitzelberger, Rick J. Jimenez, James H. Kinnard, Fred W. Klooster, Alfred R. Koszyk, Guenther C. Krieger, Walter M. Krulac, Andrew F. Kwinn, Lloyd L. Lage, Seymour Laurie, John E. Lavelle Sr., Thomas W. Leo, Irving Lerner, James T. Letarte, Marcel L. Levesque, C. Russell Lockwood, Joseph Mann, John C. Marias, Richard W. Martial Sr., Marvin P. McGreal, Marion M. Mitchell, Edward J. Moran, William J. Nicholson, John Oberholz, Louis J. Olmetti Sr., David Perlman, Richard A. Pevitts, John J. Plisky, Joseph J. Pratl, Emil D. Pribula, George B. Renner, Arthur O. Reynnders, William G. Rieker, Robert H. Riplow, Frank J. Rock, James A. Rossi Sr., Edward T. Ryan, Charles John Sauer, Donald P. Schoo, Robert F. Shields, Edward C. Siessmann, Paul Sternfeld, Howard W. Surret Sr., Anthony J. Thomas, Robert Tinucci, John G. Torhan, Eugene Tronvig, Howard Vander Meer, Robert W. Vehlow, Dorothy Vesely, Lawrence Wallach, Frank Washburn, Albert J. Wiener, Elmer F. Wilhelm, Robert L. Winscott, Theodore Woytowicz, Joseph F. Zajac, Richard S. Zidek

HONORING THE VIRGINIA AQUARIUM & MARINE SCIENCE CENTER

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important milestone in the history of an organization that has been a leader in the national effort in marine science education, conservation, and research—the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center.

Since 1986, the Aquarium has been educating our youth, saving the lives of marine mammals and sea turtles, and spurring economic growth in the region. During the past 25 years, the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center has attracted 11 million guests, including one million students, making it the Commonwealth of Virginia's most popular non-historical, nonprofit tourist attraction.

The Aquarium has been instrumental in educating our future generations with its unique experiences involving live animal displays, interactive science exhibits, marine science programs, the country's only interactive Seal Splash activity, and boat trips.

The Aquarium's Ocean in Motion vehicle has transported live marine animals to visit over 337,000 school students in 78 cities and counties in Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee to offer hands-on activities related to watersheds and key ocean literacy concepts. The vehicle has also traveled to the U.S. Capitol, U.S. Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of Commerce to allow federal workers to learn hands-on.

In addition to its education initiatives, the Aquarium leads the way in conservation efforts through its renowned Stranding Program by responding to marine animals along the East Coast and providing an impetus for numerous research projects on seals, dolphins, right whales and endangered sea turtles.

The Virginia Aquarium has been influential in attracting economic development to the region with winter whale-watching trips which result in hundreds of thousands of dollars in direct spending to the regional economy. Out-of-town tourists who visit the Aquarium spend more money and stay longer in the area. The Aquarium is a key partner in the resort area's master plan for the retail, cultural, maritime, and natural environment, serving as an economic engine for the region and the state.

Congratulations to the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center on this 25 year anniversary and for the education, conservation, and economic contributions to the region. We all look forward to many more years of inspiring work.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride and admiration that I offer my thanks and recognition to the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall No. 394 on June 2,

2011, I inadvertently cast a "no" vote on an amendment offered by Mr. SHERMAN of California, prohibiting the use of funds made available in the underlying bill from being used in contravention of the War Powers Resolution.

RECOGNIZING THE 44TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIX DAY WAR

HON. ALLEN B. WEST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. WEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 44th Anniversary of the Six Day War, in which Israel—our greatest ally in the Middle East—turned a massive buildup and aggression by Egypt, Syria, and Jordan into a tremendous victory in just six days.

After months of continued aggression against it, Israel launched a preemptive attack against the massive Egyptian buildup in the Sinai, destroying most of the Egyptian Air Force and Army in a number of hours. After repeated air and artillery attacks by Jordan and Syria, Israel liberated all of Jerusalem two days later on June 7, 1967, including the Western Wall and Jewish Quarter in the Old City. For the first time in decades, Jerusalem was unified and the Jewish people could visit their holiest site, the Western Wall.

By June 10, just six days after it began, war was over. Israel's superior fighting force had destroyed the armies and air forces of their Arab aggressors, and had captured the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, the Golan Heights, Mas'ada, and the Sinai Peninsula to the Suez Canal.

However, this victory came at a great cost to the Israeli people. Nearly 1,000 Israelis were killed, and over 4,500 were wounded. Last weekend Americans celebrated Memorial Day with cookouts and a day off of work. However, when Israel commemorated their Memorial Day—Yom Hazikaron—a few weeks ago, they honored the memory of the tens of thousands of Israeli soldiers who gave their life in defense of their country by sounding a siren that can be heard all over the country.

During this one minute sounding of the siren, Israelis stop whatever they are doing and stand in silence to commemorate those who were lost—traffic stops in its tracks, throughout the country, people pray. The names of those who gave what President Abraham Lincoln called the last full measure of devotion for their homeland are displayed on television screens throughout the day.

Mr. Speaker, make no mistake, there has always been a Nation of Israel and Jerusalem has been and must always be recognized as its rightful capital.

As a Member of the United States House of Representatives, I believe the United States Congress has a solemn duty to ensure that the homeland of the Jewish people remains as such. The State of Israel is the one bright light shining in a dark ocean of tyranny and oppression.

Israel must be allowed to defend itself from external and internal aggression; the Israeli people must be allowed to continue to build within their borders, and Jerusalem must be recognized as the nation's only capital.

Furthermore, the United States must stand by Israel's side in the face of a United Nations

who clearly views the State of Israel through the lens of anti-Semitism and hatred. Anything less than full support for Israel and its citizens at the United Nations by the United States government is simply unacceptable.

The United States and Israel share the common bonds of freedom, liberty, democracy, and the right to worship in the name of any religion you see fit. We share a common enemy in radical Islam, and have both seen our citizens murdered and maimed by terrorist thugs who kill women and children in the name of religion. We are indeed each other's greatest ally—without the United States, Israel would not exist; without Israel, the United States would soon fall.

Next week, Israel will mark the 44th anniversary of the Six Day War. It will be a time of reflection and remembrance, and will undoubtedly render memories of when Jews—from Israel, the United States, or anywhere around the world—were not allowed to pray at their holiest of sites.

At this time of great challenge for our strong and loyal ally, America must take a stand and show not only Israel, but the rest of the world, that Jerusalem—an undivided Jerusalem—is the capital of the Jewish State, and that security will always come before a two state solution.

ON INTRODUCTION OF THE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE ON FEDERAL LANDS ACT OF 2011

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill that will significantly improve traffic safety and mobility in our national parks and other public recreational lands through increased funding and expanded authorities. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, the Transportation Infrastructure Improvements on Federal Lands Act of 2011.

Our national parks contain some of the most important and valuable historic, cultural, and natural treasures in our country. Millions of visitors flock to these parks every year. Yet safe access to and movement around these sites are compromised by severe and chronic underfunding and irrational provisions in current law.

The state of park transportation systems is deplorable. A recent assessment by the National Park Service (NPS) found that 90 percent of the park roads are in poor or fair condition. This compares with 14 percent for major rural roads in the overall federal-aid highways system. One person is killed or injured on a park road every 4.5 hours. If the National Park System were a state, it would rank 13th highest for road fatalities and injuries among all the states.

The NPS received \$240 million in FY2010 through the Park Roads and Parkways program to build, repair, and rehabilitate roads and bridges, less than a third of what the NPS estimates it needs to provide safe and efficient access for visitors. My legislation would double the annual funding to accelerate the retirement of the growing road repair backlog now estimated at \$4.9 billion.

The poor state of park roads is not caused by insufficient funding alone. Under current

law, Federal highway funds can be used for reconstruction and rehabilitation, but not for regular maintenance that would help extend the life of roadways and preserve taxpayers' investments. Consequently, maintenance of roads and bridges is deferred until they have deteriorated to the point where they qualify for major rehabilitation or reconstruction, at far greater expense. Visitors are put at risk when they try to drive around potholes that are too common on our park roads. My legislation would make regular maintenance of park roads eligible for federal highway funding.

As our national parks become increasingly crowded, alternative transportation systems are being relied upon to a much greater extent to help move visitors around. Unfortunately, that program is also severely underfunded. A third major focus of my bill would raise the annual funding level for the federal public lands transit program from the current \$24 million to \$100 million, with 60 percent of it being targeted for qualified projects in national parks.

Visitors from throughout our country and around the world are discovering the natural, cultural, and historic wonders that are embodied in our national parks. Their experience should not be diminished, and their safety certainly should not be placed at risk, while they visit our national parks. I urge you to join me in sponsoring this legislation to improve visitor safety and enjoyment of our parks through improved maintenance and management of its transportation systems.

HONORING MR. WILLIAM CORNELL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a faithful resident of Western New York, and a good friend, William F. "Bill" Cornell of Jamestown, who recently passed away at the age of 69.

Bill started his career as an instructor of English at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. In his later life, he worked as a data processing manager for Hopes Architectural Products, a position he held for twenty six years. He was also employed by the Carriage House in Fredonia.

Bill was an active member of the Chautauqua County Democratic Committee and was active in many civic and political causes in his hometown. A parishioner of Holy Angels Roman Catholic Church, Bill and his wife Peg were devoted parents to their children Chuck and Kathryn, and they were doting grandparents to 5 beautiful grandchildren.

I got to know Bill Cornell well during my initial campaign for Congress in 2004 and have come to know him well in the years that have passed since. A steadfast Democrat proud of his roots in Jamestown, Bill was the kind of fellow who would give you the shirt off of his back. While he will obviously be greatly missed by friends and family, as a rare breed of Jamestownian, he will be just as sorely missed by the community at large.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me and with our colleagues to honor the life of Bill Cornell and offer the sincerest condolences of the House to Peg, Chuck, Lori, Kathryn and Kurt, and to his entire family.

CELEBRATING 25TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE AU PAIR PROGRAM

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 9th, the Department of State will hold a reception celebrating the 25th anniversary of the au pair program. Host families, au pairs from Germany, Brazil, Thailand, South Africa, France, Sweden and Mexico, along with other countries, and federal officials from the Department of State, will participate in this event recognizing the strength and longevity of this cultural exchange program.

The first au pairs arrived in New York City in June of 1986. Since that time, the program has witnessed dramatic growth, thanks in part to the leadership and vision of one of the first authorized sponsors, Au Pair in America, a division of the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS), located in Stamford, Connecticut. AIFS helped establish a regulatory framework that has allowed more than 87,000 young people to live with and care for the children of American families during a mutually rewarding one- or two-year experience.

This exchange experience has profoundly changed the lives of au pairs, the young children they care for and their host families through their daily exchange of ideas and broadening their global understanding through a sharing of culture, language, and religion. Furthermore, au pairs have been active contributing members of their American community where they live through their engagement in community and religious activities, giving of their time and talents to charitable organizations and volunteering their time to teach young children in schools about their native country.

As a proud alumni of one of AIFS's study abroad programs, I can personally attest to the unique educational opportunity living outside your native country provides a young student. For me, it was a life changing experience, helping expand my horizons and alter my way of thinking.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my voice in commending all those who have worked to develop and expand the au pair program over the past 25 years.

HONORING CALL FOR HELP, INCORPORATED FOR 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO PEOPLE IN NEED WITHIN THEIR COMMUNITY

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Call for Help, Inc. an organization that is celebrating 40 years of changing lives.

Call for Help, Inc. provides the only 24-hour suicide hotline in the Metro-East area of Southwestern Illinois. Call for Help, Inc., was chartered in 1970 and began as a suicide and crisis hotline, operating out of a basement. While this critical service is still very much a part of Call for Help's program offerings, they

have expanded to meet other critical needs through the years.

Two residential programs have been added, one to serve individuals who are homeless and suffer from chronic mental illness. Participants in this program receive medication monitoring, counseling, life skills training and other services. The other residential program provides assistance to homeless young women who are either pregnant or have small children. These women receive support and skill development so they can achieve long-term independence. Training includes life skills, parenting, workplace readiness, GED and other subjects.

Call for Help, Inc. also provides assistance to victims of sexual assault and sexual abuse. Twenty-four-hour response to victims includes arriving on-site at the hospital or police station and help navigating the medical and legal systems.

Last year, Call for Help, Inc., provided critical assistance to over 25,000 individuals and, through the years, they have recorded countless, remarkable stories of success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Board of Directors, administration and staff of Call for Help, Inc., for their 40 years of changing lives and to wish them continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF MAJOR BRIAN J. THOMPSON, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Major Brian J. Thompson, United States Marine Corps, after 20 years of faithful service to his Nation.

Major Thompson graduated from Dowling College in Long Island, New York in 1991 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautics and Management. He earned his commission as a second lieutenant through the Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Course in June 1991. Following his graduation from the Basic School in 1992, he reported to Naval Flight Training in Pensacola, Florida, earning his wings in March of 1993.

Following UH-1N replacement pilot training, he reported to the "Gunrunners" of Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 269 (HMLA-269) in New River, North Carolina. While assigned to HMLA-269 he deployed with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 464 aboard the USS *Wasp*, during which he participated in Operation Strong Resolve as the H-1 Schedule Writer. Major Thompson then completed two deployments with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 162, cruising aboard the USS *Guam* and the USS *Saipan*. During these deployments, he participated in Operations Joint Endeavor, Assured Response, Quick Response, and Balkan Calm/Silver Knight, while serving in a variety of billets, including: Flight Line Officer, Squadron Weapons and Tactics Officer, Future Operations Officer, and Operations Officer.

In March 1999, Major Thompson reported to Naval Air Station Pensacola to serve as a

flight instructor. This tour saw him serve as the Assistant Operations Officer and Operations Officer of Helicopter Training Squadron 18.

In October 2001, Major Thompson was accepted into the Strike Transition Program. He reported to Naval Air Station Meridian, Mississippi for jet training, then to Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia for F-18 replacement pilot training. In March 2004, he joined the "Checkerboards" of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 312 at Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, South Carolina, where he served as the S-4 Officer, Director of Safety and Standardization, and Executive Officer. Following this tour he reported to Marine Aircraft Group 42 in Atlanta, Georgia in October 2006 to serve as the group's Operations Officer.

In June 2008, Major Thompson became the Air Operations Officer for the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit in Okinawa, Japan. In this role, he directed all flight operations both ashore and aboard three air-capable ships for three squadrons. In July 2009, he reported to Training Wing Six in Pensacola, Florida to serve as the Standardization and Training Officer. He also served as the Integrated Project Team Lead for the Undergraduate Military Flight Officer Program.

Major Thompson accumulated more than 3,800 flight hours during his career. His personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. He has been married for 17 years to Monica Miller Thompson, with whom he has a 5-year-old son, William Joseph Thompson.

As a skilled naval aviator and leader of Marines, Major Thompson embodies the American virtues of service and sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to congratulate Major Thompson on his retirement. My wife Vicki and I wish him and his family all the best for continued success.

CONGRATULATING THE CECIL C.
HUMPHREYS MOCK TRIAL TEAM

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the mock trial team from the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis for winning the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition that took place March 9th–13th, 2011 in Houston, Texas. The team consisted of LaChina Algers, Angela Harris, Chandra Madison, Joseph McKinney, and their coaches Melanie Stovall Murry and Bridgett Stigger.

The National Black Law Students Association founded this national competition in 2002 to encourage future lawyers to further develop their proficiency in the courtroom. Hundreds of competitors compete regionally each year in the hopes of earning national recognition for their trial advocacy skills.

This year, through their hard work and commitment to their professional development, the team from the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law took home the national title, defeating delegations from Harvard, DePaul, St. Mary's

and Texas Wesleyan along the way. Their victory is a testament to the outstanding students that graduate each year from the University of Memphis to become successful professionals in cities all over the nation and the world.

Since it was founded in 1962, the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law has graduated over 4,500 students. Just this year, law graduates from the University of Memphis posted a 100 percent first-time passage rate on the Tennessee Bar Exam. As an alumnus of the School of Law at Memphis, I could not be prouder of the entire student body for their achievements and of the exceptional faculty dedicated to their success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial National Champions from the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. I commend these students for dedicating many hours of study towards this competition. Their time spent in preparation in addition to their already rigorous professional law program is evident and represents the city of Memphis and the University of Memphis well.

A TRIBUTE TO MARVIN J. WALTER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Marvin J. Walter of Ames, Iowa who passed away this past Wednesday after an eight year struggle with multiple myeloma.

Marvin was born on August 22, 1940 and raised on a farm near Watkins, Iowa. After his high school graduation Marvin went on to receive two degrees in Animal Science from Iowa State University. Shortly after receiving his second degree from ISU, Marv married his wife Janice in September of 1964. Since his days as a commodity broker on the floor of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, Marv maintained both a state and national profile by involving himself in several organizations that are related to the livestock and meat industry.

At the local level, Marv served his community as Chairman of the Board of Ames National Corporation as well as serving on the First National Bank and Mary Greeley Medical Center boards for many years. Marv was also a proud Rotary member and president. In college, Marv was a proud member of Alpha Gamma Rho and the identity and friendships he established in his fraternity would last a lifetime. He would go on to be inducted to the National Alpha Gamma Rho Hall of Fame.

While his contributions to his city and state have resulted in awards for his distinguished service, Marv would be the first to tell you that his family is what he is proud of most. Marv is survived by two daughters, three grandsons, two step-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, Marvin Walter lived his life like a true Iowan by placing service and family above all else. It was truly an honor to count him as my friend and the friendship and counsel he has provided me over the years will be deeply missed. I offer his family my sincerest sympathies and best wishes in this difficult time. Thank you.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM
J. GIANNONE OF MOUNTAINSIDE,
NEW JERSEY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to announce the passing of William J. "B.J." Giannone III of Mountainside, New Jersey. B.J. was only 18 when he died suddenly following an athletic competition.

B.J. should be remembered for his outstanding academic achievements at Saint Peter's Preparatory High School in Jersey City. He was a commentator for the school football games, a co-founder of the Society of Comedic Appreciation and a member of the baseball and swimming teams. He was also active in Campus Ministry, the Yearbook Committee and Marauder's Nation.

With a love for community service, B.J. volunteered his time through his involvement with the Boy Scouts of America and Our Lady of Lourdes Church Youth Organization. And he left behind a strong and growing talent for songwriting.

A cherished son of Maureen and William Giannone and a beloved friend to many, B.J. Giannone will be missed.

I extend to the Giannone family my deepest sympathies and condolences.

HONORING THE STOWE CENTER OF
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT ON
THE OCCASION OF THE 200TH
BIRTHDAY OF AUTHOR AND ABO-
LITIONIST HARRIET BEECHER
STOWE

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, June 14th of the year two-thousand and eleven will mark the two-hundredth birthday of author and impassioned abolitionist Harriet Beecher Stowe.

Stowe, a teacher hailing from Litchfield, Connecticut, became a central figure during the fight to end slavery in America after writing her seminal work, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which was completed in 1852.

The book's heart wrenching depiction of life for African-Americans held in bondage captivated a nation and inspired the public will to end the reprehensible institution of slavery. This treasure of American literature based on factual events helped change the course of our Nation's history by exposing the horror of slavery to the larger population and became a corner-stone of the abolitionist movement and a "clarion call" for freedom.

Today, the legacy of Harriet Beecher Stowe is carried on by the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center in Hartford, Connecticut. There, the Stowe Center carries on her passion and uses her story to inspire future generations to pick up the torch of social justice and carry forth the movement towards equal opportunity and justice for all.

I want to acknowledge and congratulate the wonderful staff from the Harriet Beecher

Stowe Center for their tireless work to continue to inspire the public will to eliminate racial disparities in America and the world. Happy 200th Birthday Mrs. Stowe.

GOOD INTENTIONS GONE HAYWIRE

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit an article which explains some of the problems and unintended consequences of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (P.L. 111–203).

[From Forbes Magazine, by Mallory Factor]

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform & Consumer Protection Act is supposed to shield consumers from problems in the financial services sector that many believe led to the financial meltdown. But Section 342 of the act introduces a brash example of social engineering that masquerades as consumer protection and financial reform. This section imposes gender and racial employment quotas on the financial services industry, which accounts for one-tenth of our economy. The quota provisions will affect over 50,000 financial services firms and other businesses, and the consequences will be enormous.

Dodd-Frank requires at least 29 federal bureaus to open Offices of Minority & Women Inclusion, involving ten branches of the Treasury Department, the Federal Reserve and its 12 regional banks, the Securities & Exchange Commission and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. The new diversity offices will implement rules to ensure “the fair inclusion and utilization” of minorities and women in all firms doing business with each agency. The offices will terminate contracts with any service provider that fails to meet these as yet undetermined standards. Just running these offices is estimated to cost over \$58 million annually, says David Patten in a recent story on Newsmax.com.

These new offices will also assess the “diversity policies and practices” at all entities that fall under their regulatory eye, including banks, broker-dealers, registered investment advisors and now hedge funds. Along with more than 40,000 financial services firms, another 10,000-plus businesses, including accounting and law firms that do business with these government offices, will be subject to this new diversity oversight of their hiring.

What does this mean for the financial services sector? Assuming each firm hires at least one new worker to satisfy the new law, this provision could raise costs \$4 billion or more annually, depending how far forthcoming regulations will extend. Firms doing business with the government will face additional expenses because they will now have to monitor the hiring practices of their subcontractors as well. In addition to these reporting burdens, firms must prove to their regulators and to government offices with which they do business that they are meeting or working toward racial and gender hiring guidelines. In many cases this will require additional hiring beyond the needs of the business.

Forcing America’s private firms to hire on the basis of racial and gender “guidelines,” rather than solely on need and qualifications, is inefficient and makes our businesses less competitive than their global counterparts. Moreover, four out of the eight members of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

wrote a letter to Congress stating that this section of the act would likely “promote discrimination,” and urged its removal from the bill.

There is a better, more cost-efficient solution: Let private companies come up with their own approaches. Deloitte’s 19-year-old Women’s Initiative, for example, has boosted the percentage of female partners, principals and directors from 7% in 1994 to 23% in 2010. And minorities and females currently make up 60% of kpmg’s workforce.

While the idea of encouraging greater participation of minorities and women in the financial services sector is admirable, the government is overreaching when it mandates gender and racial quotas for private businesses. An affirmative action provision has no place in a financial services reform bill and puts additional government burdens and costs on an already struggling sector of our economy, putting our recovery at risk.

The megabills that fly through Congress provide legislators the opportunity to insert politically motivated provisions—under the radar. As Rahm Emanuel famously said after President Obama had been elected, “Never allow a crisis to go to waste.” The financial crisis has given the President and Congress cover to impose their political agenda on private business activity. Watch out: Your industry could be next.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 332, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1657, Revising Fraud Penalties, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

IN RECOGNITION OF MR.

COURTNEY C. BROWN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, recognize, and celebrate Mr. Courtney C. Brown.

Courtney C. Brown is a long time resident of Manhattan, a staple of Harlem, and a tireless advocate for human rights. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina and a Masters in Social Work from Hunter College, School of Social Work in New York City. He completed his post graduate work in Education at City College and Columbia University Teachers College, and completed the New York Seminary Program at the New School for Social Research.

Mr. Brown has been active in Harlem and throughout New York for many years. His employment experience has ranged from a case-worker for the New York City Department of Welfare in 1965, to academic Professor, to Regional Director of the Urban League of Westchester County, Inc. from 1976 until 1983. In the mid 1970’s, Mr. Brown began working at the New York State Division of Human Rights as a Director of Community and Voluntary Services. In May of 1987, he earned the Position of Human Rights Spe-

cialist, a position he holds today. He was honored with the 2006 Governor’s Tribute to African American Leaders of Excellence in Service State Award. Mr. Brown’s dedication to our community is outstanding to say the least, and I am most proud of all the contributions to my Congressional District that Courtney C. Brown has made.

Mr. Brown’s civic priorities have earned him a well regarded reputation of devout social dedication. He has served as Warden and Clerk of the vestry at St. Phillip’s Episcopal Church, Vice President of St. Philips Housing Corporation, Trustee of the Episcopal Diocese of New York, Chairperson of New York Chapter, Union of black Episcopalians, as well as belonging to numerous Boards of Directors. He is a member of the Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Mr. Brown has been honorably recognized for his many deeds, including in 1988, when he received the Ellen Lurie Award for thirty-five years of community and civic work in New York City, a twenty thousand dollar award, which he donated to St. Phillip’s church.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Courtney C. Brown has provided mentorship to our youth and much needed guidance for our elderly. He stands for the empowerment of our community and healthy development of our families.

I ask my colleagues and our Nation to join me in this special Congressional Recognition of Mr. Courtney C. Brown.

HONORING THE REACTIVE MATERIALS TEAM

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Reactive Materials Team from the Indian Head Division of the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Maryland’s Fifth District. Nine scientists composing the Reactive Materials Team were recently awarded the 2010 Dr. Delores M. Etter Top Scientists and Engineers of the Year Award.

This highly competitive and prestigious national award is given annually to Navy civilian and military personnel who exemplify exceptional scientific and engineering achievement. The Department of Navy established this award to honor scientists and engineers attaining superior technical accomplishments and to promote continued scientific and engineering excellence in research. It is named after an outstanding public servant, Dr. Delores M. Etter, former Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition.

Today, I am proud to recognize and congratulate the team—Richard J. Jouet, Joel R. Carney, James M. Lightstone, Richard J. Lee, John H. Wilkinson, Joseph P. Hooper, Sam C. Thuot, Jonathan G. Rogerson, and Edward A. Lustig, Jr.—for their exceptional achievement in developing reactive materials to be used in the explosive cases of our next generation weapon systems. These fine scientists and engineers have are committed public servants—dedicating themselves to research vital to our national security. As Americans, we thank them for their efforts and applaud them on their accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to take a moment to recognize the 3,000 active duty and civilian personnel at Indian Head who work and collaborate every day to develop and deploy technologies to improve the safety and effectiveness of the men and women serving in harm's way. Since 1890, this facility has proven to be an Energetics center of excellence for the Department of Defense (Navy) and I thank those men and women in uniform, along with their families and the civilian employees, for their outstanding service to the Indian Head Division and to the United States of America.

Again, I urge my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the members of the Reactive Materials Team at Indian Head on being recognized as the Navy's top scientists and engineers and in honoring all the men and women at the Indian Head Division of the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Maryland for their continued excellence and commitment to our nation's success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BYRON
WAITE LEYDECKER

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember my friend Byron Leydecker, who passed away on May 12, 2011.

Byron was a good friend, and he was a true champion on behalf of the rivers and fisheries of California. Thanks to Byron's passion and determined advocacy, the Trinity River is today in better shape than at any time since the 1960s.

Byron lived his life with passion. Passion for what he believed and for his friends. He expected a lot of those of us in public service: he would let you know of his gratitude when you met his expectations and his disappointment when we disappointed him. At the end of the day, Byron was fun.

He will be missed by all his friends in California and across the country, and generations of Californians will benefit from his dedication to the Trinity and his tireless belief in the fundamental and lasting value of a healthy river.

I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD this San Francisco Chronicle article about Byron Leydecker's life and many accomplishments, and I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Byron and in expressing our condolences to his children and grandchildren.

[From the San Francisco Chronicle, May 26, 2011]

BYRON LEYDECKER, FORMER MARIN
SUPERVISOR, DIES

(By Peter Fimrite)

Byron Waite Leydecker, a former bank executive and Marin County supervisor who helped stop development in the Marin Headlands and, for nearly two decades, drove the restoration and protection of his beloved Trinity River, died May 12 in his home in Mill Valley.

Mr. Leydecker, who was 83, had been battling lung and liver cancer.

Mr. Leydecker was born in Oakland on Aug. 28, 1927. He served briefly on the battleship Iowa at the end of World War II before

enrolling in Stanford University, where he graduated in 1950 with a degree in economics. During the Korean War, he served as a public information officer in the U.S. Army in Washington.

He worked briefly as a securities analyst and in 1953 got a job at Chico's Anglo National Bank, which later became Crocker Bank. By the time he left, he had become the bank's youngest-ever vice president. In 1962 he helped found Redwood Bank, where he was chairman of the board and chief executive officer until the bank was sold in 1981.

In 1963, Gov. Edmund G. "Pat" Brown appointed Mr. Leydecker to the Marin County Board of Supervisors. He won re-election in 1964. As a supervisor he fought a proposed development known as Marincello, which would have allowed construction of 20,000 homes in the Marin Headlands.

Never shy about speaking his mind, Mr. Leydecker could be a gruff taskmaster. He may have sometimes lacked diplomacy, but he was amazingly adept at getting what he wanted, said his friends and colleagues.

He started racing cars in the 1970s and, driving a modified Porsche, won the 1977 Northern California championship of the prestigious Sports Car Club of America circuit.

The construction of Trinity Dam and Lewiston Dam in the 1960s and diversions of water as part of the Central Valley Project were sore spots to Mr. Leydecker, who had fished the Trinity in the 1930s when it was nearly pristine.

He decided to take action in 1991, when a channel improvement project by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation choked the Trinity River with silt. It was so bad that Mr. Leydecker got stuck in the mud on a side channel while he was fly fishing. "He was madder than a wet hen," said his friend Tom Stokely, the water policy analyst for the California Water Impact Network. "He called me up and he must have yelled at me for a half hour. Then he said, 'I've got money. I can hire a lawyer.' It was the beginning of a long and wonderful relationship."

Mr. Leydecker forced the bureau to stop digging along the river and in 1992 founded the nonprofit Friends of the Trinity River. The group fought to establish minimum annual water flows, improve fish habitat and enhance the riparian ecosystem.

"He was an authentic champion for rivers and fish, but especially the Trinity River," said Assemblyman Jared Huffman, D-San Rafael, who chairs the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee.

Mr. Leydecker, who always wore a pressed button-down shirt with blue jeans and cowboy boots, fought until the very end for Trinity River improvements and against water diversions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

"He gave so much of his time and effort that it would be remiss as his friend for me not to continue that effort," said Rep. George Miller, D-Martinez, who once spent several days hiking and rafting the river with Mr. Leydecker. "He had a sense of romance about big rivers and what they bring to a society."

He is survived by sons John Leydecker of San Rafael and Mark Leydecker of Aspen, Colo.; daughters Caroline "Lama Palden" Alioto of San Rafael and Criss Troast of Nantucket, Mass.; and eight grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held June 5 at 3 p.m. at Marin Art & Garden Center, 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., in Ross. Donations may be sent to the California Water Impact Network, 808 Romero Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS—DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Disabled American Veterans (DAV)—Department of California on the occasion of its 90th anniversary. Founded in 1921, the DAV—Department of California has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of service-connected disabled veterans and their families.

Service officers from the DAV—Department of California offer critical support to our state's service-connected disabled veterans. The service officers—many of whom are disabled veterans themselves—help veterans apply for disability compensation as well as the pension, health, and education benefits they've earned. They also volunteer their time at Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities and rehabilitation centers, and they help disabled veterans find jobs and secure scholarships to pay for college.

In the area I represent, the Disabled American Veterans George E. Morey Chapter 59 hosts an annual Memorial Day ceremony in Lodi to honor the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country. Another local chapter in my district, the Disabled American Veterans Al Jordan Chapter 15, provides food coupons to disabled veterans during the holiday season. This group also focuses on community outreach and awareness by holding an annual picnic in Stockton for disabled veterans and their families, an event which I have attended.

The Disabled American Veterans—Department of California's work is just as important today as when the organization was first established 90 years ago. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Disabled American Veterans—Department of California on the occasion of its 90th anniversary for its exceptional service to our Nation's disabled veterans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1407, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living-Adjustment Act, I was unable to vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING ALLAN ALFRED VOIGT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Allan

Alfred Voigt, a truly remarkable Renaissance man who passed away May 13, 2011.

Al Voigt was a scientist who held several patents, an artist, a community leader, a loving and devoted husband to his wife, Judith, a caring and inspiring father to his children, Che and Shanta, and doting grandfather to Logan Allan and Katherine Annabelle.

Al founded a series of aerospace engineering firms in Sonoma County that contributed to some of our most important national defense projects. His technical innovations in tactical missile and surveillance systems led to the development and success of the Stinger missile and Predator drone. More than 350 people in Sonoma County have high paying, technical engineering and manufacturing jobs because of these projects.

But Al's passions were much more extensive. He and his wife founded the Voigt Family Sculpture Foundation, which has placed more than two dozen sculptures, either pieces owned by the foundation or on loan by collaborative artists, in publically accessible places in Sonoma County.

He also won furniture design awards with his abstract chairs and his aerodynamic tricycles have set world speed records.

Mr. Speaker, Al Voigt was a prodigious thinker who never rested on his laurels. He was always looking ahead for the next idea. His fundamental skill was analyzing a problem and finding the solution, whether it was in national defense, art, or a functional piece of furniture. It is therefore appropriate that we honor him at this time for his service to our country and to his community.

HONORING THE BROWARD COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

HON. ALLEN B. WEST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. WEST. Mr. Speaker, I realize education is essential for every child in our nation. Education is the great equalizer and with a sound education any child can live the American Dream.

As a former teacher in Broward County, Florida, I am proud to congratulate Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) for the 11 high schools in their county receiving top national ranking in the Washington Post.

The Washington Post named 11 Broward County high schools in its High School Challenge list of top 1,900 public high schools in the nation. The schools were Fort Lauderdale (109), Marjory Stoneman Douglas (238), Nova (285), Miramar (355), Cooper City (376), Stranahan (431), J.P. Taravella (507), Flanagan (554), Plantation (739), Coral Springs Charter (983) and Pembroke Pines Charter (1,108) high schools join an elite group of public high schools nationwide. The Washington Post list represents only seven percent of schools across the United States.

Fort Lauderdale High School placed top among Broward high schools, with a national ranking of 109 and a state ranking of 24. According to the Washington Post, the Challenge Index's formula is to divide the number of Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) or other college-level tests a school gave in 2010 by the number of graduating seniors.

The Washington Post advises that while the index is not a measure of the overall quality of the school, the rating can reveal the level of a high school's commitment to preparing average students for college. With a few exceptions, public schools that achieved a ratio of at least 1.000, meaning they had as many Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate tests in 2010 as they had graduates, are noted on the national list.

The Broward County Public School System is the nation's sixth largest public school system and the largest fully accredited district with over 234,600 students in more than 230 schools and education centers. The Broward County Public School System is committed to giving all students access to a college-ready, job-ready curriculum that meets rigorous expectations which prepares students for post-secondary options and also ensures that students are able to be successful and complete post-secondary schooling once they begin.

To ensure student's can succeed in the 21st century, I will always focus in Congress on what's best for students, parents, teachers, and communities. This means helping children achieve their full and unique potential by equipping them with the tools and knowledge to succeed in the 21st century workforce. I believe the Federal Government must restore local control, empower parents, let teachers teach, and protect taxpayers. These principles should guide our efforts to reform federal education policy and protect the rights and responsibilities of states and local communities when it comes to educating the next generation.

CONGRATULATING FRANK
GULLUNI

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Frank Gulluni on being honored with the Tom Ahlers Systems Building Award presented by the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals on May 17, 2011.

For 49 years, Frank has played a key role in the workforce development and educational community, touching the lives of countless students. In his position at Asnuntuck Community College in Enfield, Connecticut, he has been a leading force in preparing and training students for careers in our manufacturing sector. And, using his unique experience on the front lines of education, he has been a driver in our community towards finding unique ways to connect the needs of our manufacturing sector with the skills of our students.

Since 2007, I have been proud to work with Frank in advancing his goals of investing in our nation's manufacturing capabilities, helping those who have lost their jobs re-train for new careers, and lay the ground work for a workforce highly skilled in advanced manufacturing of alternate energy technologies and medical devices.

With his leadership guiding the way, Frank and I worked to successfully secure critical funding to expand Asnuntuck's Manufacturing Technology Center (MTC). Thanks to this initiative, new equipment and training services

were developed to ensure that the MTC continues to keep pace with the emerging needs of his students and the manufacturing skills they need to fill the jobs of today—and tomorrow.

I have been so impressed and excited with Frank's results. Thanks in large part to Frank's efforts, Asnuntuck Community College has secured a 90% job placement rate for its students. When I visited the MTC last November, I heard first-hand from the students that the newly expanded center allow the program to continue to grow and expand to allow more services to students enrolled both at the college and those in local K–12 schools that partner with Asnuntuck. I also heard graduates of the program are found to be earning 40% more than their counterparts in all other industries.

Mr. Speaker, simply put Frank is someone who "gets it." When so many simply lament the decline of American manufacturing and the skills mismatch between the training of current workers and the needs of industry, Frank has taken action. He is a passionate believer in manufacturing and education. He truly understands the unique struggles of our laid off and dislocated workers as they seek to transition to new careers. He has built the kinds of partnerships with industries that has ensured that his students on to rewarding and meaningful careers in furthering our manufacturing sector. And, Frank has been a true leader in underscoring the unique value that our community colleges play in training the workforce of the future that will be the backbone of our nation's economy.

Connecticut, New England, and our nation are no doubt better off thanks to Frank's tireless work. For that, I urge all my colleagues to join me in honoring Frank for winning the Tom Ahlers Systems Building Award.

HONORING THE 70TH
ANNIVERSARY OF ROBINS AFB

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing a very happy 70th birthday to the Warner-Robins Air Logistics Center and Robins Air Force Base. This is an appropriate occasion to reflect and celebrate their proud history and heritage.

From the United States' entry into World World II to today's conflicts in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya, the men and women of Warner-Robins ALC and Robins AFB have been an essential ingredient in our U.S. Air Force's ability to provide airpower for freedom around the globe.

One constant theme these past seventy years has been that the men and women of Team Robins have been most ready when the nation has been least ready. In 1948–1949, Robins' repair and supply personnel played a critical role in the Berlin Airlift. In 1950, workers at the center literally unwrapped and refurbished hundreds of "cocooned" Boeing B–29 Superfortresses. Understaffed and working around the clock, they made sure that United Nations forces in the Far East had the necessary tools to fight the North Korean invaders. And in 1973 during the Yom Kippur War,

Warner-Robins personnel surged to resupply Israel during Operation Nicklegrass with dozens of C-141s. Providing the Israeli military with critical supplies helped to prevent their defeat in its war with its Arab neighbors.

As we approach the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001, we must never forget those who paid the ultimate price that day. I can think of no better way to honor their memory than maintaining a world class U.S. Air Force with world class installations like Robins AFB!

Mr. Speaker, please join me to wish Robins AFB many best wishes during this important anniversary year. I remain confident that the men and women of Team Robins will continue their tradition of excellence over the next seventy years.

RECOGNIZING SGT. PETER P. KRUPSKI AND PVT. RUSSELL M. PENNY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lives of two American heroes, Sergeant Peter P. Krupski and Private Russell M. Penny. Sgt. Krupski and Pvt. Penny personified American patriotism and selflessness in making the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedoms for future generations.

Peter P. Krupski enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1941, reaching the rank of Master Technical Sergeant. Sgt. Krupski reenlisted in the Marines in March 1943, earning prominent distinctions such as the American Defense Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, and World War II Victory Medal. In 1943, as the American forces began their offensive through the South Pacific islands occupied by the Japanese, Sgt. Krupski died of wounds sustained during the Battle of Guadalcanal aboard a U.S. Navy mobile hospital. Though just 22 years old when he was killed, Sgt. Krupski has been fondly remembered on the East End of Long Island ever since his passing.

Russell Penny enlisted as a member of the United States Army on January 5, 1940, answering our country's call to service following the advances of the Nazi Third Reich through Europe. Stationed at the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor, Pvt. Penny was killed during the surprise attack against the base by the Japanese on December 7, 1941. A lifelong resident of Mattituck, New York, Pvt. Penny holds the tragic distinction as the first casualty of Suffolk County and as one of the first of the over 400,000 Americans killed during World War II.

In honor of the sacrifices made by Sgt. Krupski and Pvt. Penny, a new community room at the Veterans Memorial Park in Mattituck, New York was named in their honor on May 28, 2011. It is my great hope that our community will continue to remember and support our veterans, forever recognizing them for their essential role in defense of our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Sgt. Peter P. Krupski and Pvt. Russell M. Penny for their valor and service, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring their memory and sacrifice on the occasion of the dedication of the com-

munity room at the Veterans Memorial Park in my district.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 331, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1383, the Restoring GI Bill Fairness Act of 2011, I was unable to vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

STEVEN AND CHANI LAUFER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Steven and Chani Laufer came to Riverdale in 2005 and joined the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale the following year after attending a warm and moving Yom Kippur service there. They have been enthusiastic supporters ever since. They love the sincerity of the community, the caring and devotion of the rabbinic team, and the inspirational and progressive vision for the larger community that Rabbi Avi Weiss champions.

Chani grew up in Pittsburgh, and has worked in television, politics, and as a reporter for the Bergen Record and The Philadelphia Enquirer. After earning her law degree, Chani represented children as a law guardian in the Bronx and New York City family courts. She is currently taking care of her family and also serves on the board of Yeshivat Maharat.

Steven grew up in Stony Brook, N.Y., and is pursuing a doctorate in economics at New York University, after teaching high school science for several years. He is a former Tot Shabbat leader and organizes the HIR Purim Texas Hold 'Em Tournament.

Steven and Chani have three children; Shoshana, 5, Ari, 3, and Erez, 4 months. Like their parents, the children are enthused with the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale. They love celebrating holidays at HIR so much that Ari wakes up each morning for weeks afterwards asking "Is it Simchat Torah today? Is it Purim today?"

HIR is honoring this wonderful couple with the Young Leadership Award. I want to join with the HIR in congratulating and thanking this young couple for their good work in the community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION REGION III YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR, MR. CHRIS SIDICK

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an individual who exemplifies a young, ambitious entrepreneur, Chris Sidick, who was

recently honored by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Mr. Chris Sidick is the sole managing member of C-Side Sports Academy, LLC, located in Washington County, PA. This young entrepreneur began playing minor league baseball after college and was left with no income during the off season. With the encouragement of a fan, Mr. Sidick began training young players when he wasn't playing during the summer. Using his parents' garage and a \$700 investment in a batting cage he started his own training business.

Mr. Sidick soon took his business from a few kids to almost fifty. He had to move the facility out of his parents' garage and rent a space that cost him \$1,000 per month. Realizing that this investment was just the beginning, Mr. Sidick solicited the University of Pittsburgh Small Business Development Center to assist him in developing a business plan and renting a larger space.

Utilizing a credit line, bargaining power, ingenuity, and hard work, Mr. Sidick was able to create a new 13,000 square foot facility to train young athletes. This exceptional space became quickly utilized by many colleges, high schools, and youth teams. While his business practices were extremely successful, Mr. Sidick wanted more for his company. He wanted to offer greater space and services to the young athletes. This is why he reformulated his business plan to get a \$1 million bank loan and build a brand new facility.

Mr. Sidick has been able to transform his initial \$700 investment in his parents' garage into a soon-to-be completed 27,000 square foot facility that will house a full-size baseball infield and a half-dozen batting cages. The building will also offer additional sports such as football, soccer, and laser tag. His accomplishments have landed him the local and regional Young Entrepreneur of the Year award from the Small Business Administration.

It is the keen mind of young people like Mr. Sidick that we can rely on to keep our economy going. He saw a need for a service, and utilized his specific skill set to fill that void. Even in this tough economic time, Mr. Sidick has been able to keep his business thriving. It is the passion for what he does and the energy he puts in his business that makes it successful.

Mr. Speaker, I would once again like to honor Mr. Sidick—a true young entrepreneur and small business owner who has pursued an idea that helps so many of our young people.

HONORING MR. RICHARD GILFORD

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today in memory of Mr. Richard Gilford who was killed tragically while serving his community in the aftermath of the 2011 spring storms and flooding that impacted west Tennessee.

Since 1991 Richard worked for the Crockett County, Tennessee Highway Department. On May 4th, while clearing debris from rain swollen roads, Richard along with his father, Butch, and brother, Frank were trying to cut a

fallen tree when it snapped and hit Mr. Gilford. A fellow colleague said of Richard, "He loved his job and always gave 110 percent at everything he did, including putting in 16 hours of overtime during the week of the storms."

Mr. Gilford leaves behind his wife of 13 years, Elisha, and two sons, parents, brother and sisters. He was a Tennessee Titan fan that could often be seen playing in the yard with his children. Richard Gilford, like many unheralded public servants, spent his working life helping the people of Crockett County by making sure their travel back home was always safe. We are forever thankful. The Gilford family can rest assured that the thoughts and prayers of a grateful community are with them during this time.

Please join me in honoring the life, sacrifice, and commitment of Mr. Richard Gilford.

HONORING THE LIFE OF U.S.
DISTRICT JUDGE ALEX T. HOWARD

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to acknowledge the loss of a dear friend and a remarkable public servant, U.S. District Judge Alex T. Howard, Jr., who recently died in Mobile following a battle with pneumonia at the age of 86.

Judge Howard grew up in Mobile and graduated from Murphy High School as one of its best and brightest students. He then attended Auburn University, but his studies were cut short by the outbreak of the Second World War. He enrolled in the 106th Infantry division and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. By his 20th birthday, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. He carried that formative experience with him the rest of his life, and the lessons he learned during war allowed him to excel at practically everything he undertook throughout his life.

Upon his return to civilian life, he attended the University of Alabama, and graduated in 1950 from Vanderbilt University School of Law. He eventually settled in private practice in Mobile at the firm now known as Johnstone, Adams, Bailey, Gordon & Harris.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Howard's character, years of service and his wide-ranging experiences in law led him to a nomination by President Ronald Reagan for a newly created position on the federal bench in 1986. He was confirmed by the Senate just 15 days after the President's nomination. From his first days on the bench, his influence was felt throughout southwest Alabama.

Cecily Kaffer, a Mobile lawyer who clerked for Judge Howard from 1988 to 1999, recently told the Mobile Press-Register that Judge Howard was an insightful lawyer and an evidentiary genius.

Outside of the courtroom, Judge Howard taught Sunday School at Dauphin Way United Methodist Church for many years and attended services with his family.

My condolences go out to his wife, Anne Boykin, his daughter, Catherine Dawson, and his son, Alexander. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR JANECKA

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize the achievements of Arthur J. Janecka. This month Arthur will retire after spending more than 45 years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Arthur, or as his friends refer to him, "Art" serves as the Deputy District Engineer, Chief of Program and Project Management for the USACE's Galveston District. As the congressional representative of a large coastal district, I have had the privilege of working with Art on a wide range of coastal navigation issues. Like so many others, I have always been deeply impressed with his dedication to his job. His retirement, though richly deserved, will be a tremendous loss for both the Army Corps and the people of south Texas.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District was established in 1880 to create deep-water ports along the Texas Coast. Today, the Galveston District's boundaries extend through the entire coast of Texas and 150 miles inland.

As a dedicated servant with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Art has carried out its mission of protecting the environment, reducing flooding, and ensuring that the nearby waterways are easy to navigate.

Art began his career with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as an intern in 1964, after graduating from Lamar University in Beaumont, TX. In 1966, he was assigned to the Texas Coast Hurricane Study in the Planning Branch of the Engineering Division. And in 1969 he became a member of the Society of American Military Engineers.

Art joined the Programs Management Branch in 1973 and became Chief of the Branch in 1987. In 2000, he moved to the Project Management Branch of the Program and Project Management Division to serve as chief. In 2005, he was assigned to his current position.

Throughout his career, Art has been involved with many Corps projects along the coast of Texas, including Brazos Island Harbor; Corpus Christi Ship Channel; Freeport Harbor; the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway; the Houston and Galveston Ship Channels; and the Sabine Neches Waterway.

It is clear that Art Janecka has been a tremendous asset to not only the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, but the entire State of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to thank Arthur J. Janecka for more than 45 years of service to this country.

HONORING COLONEL JOHN
RAWLEY, DECORATED VETERAN
AND OUTSTANDING MEMBER OF
THE CAMDEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel John Rawley for his dedication

to protecting our country, both as a member of the United States Armed Forces and as a member of the Camden County Sheriff's Office.

Colonel Rawley began his distinguished career in the military in 1954 at the age of 20, when he joined the United States Marine Corps as a Private First Class. In 1957, he joined the United States Army and served over 30 years. During his illustrious career, Colonel Rawley earned numerous decorations, including the Soldiers' Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Parachute Badge, the Army Service Ribbon, and countless others. He retired from the United States Army on August 8, 1987, after more than 30 years of protecting our country.

After his decades of military service, Colonel Rawley's patriotism and dedication were continued when he joined the Camden County Sheriff's Office in 1997. Colonel Rawley, known affectionately as "The Colonel" or "Ranger John," worked 13 years for the Camden County Sheriff's Office, mentoring and training officers throughout the department. He retired on December 1, 2010 as a respected and distinguished member of the department.

Colonel Rawley's selfless dedication to our Nation demands recognition. His decades in the military and the Camden County Sheriff's Office should serve as an inspiration to others. I thank him for his service, and extend my sincere best wishes to Colonel Rawley in his retirement.

HONORING ELIZABETH BICKFORD

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Elizabeth Bickford, director of financial aid and scholarships, at the University of Oregon for her years of service.

Ms. Bickford is retiring after 30 years at the university. Since 2000, she has led the university's student aid programs. During her time as director of financial aid and scholarships, Elizabeth Bickford has been a pioneer and leader, including helping to make the University of Oregon one of the Nation's first direct lenders in the early 1990s. I had the privilege of working with Ms. Bickford on many student aid issues including implementation of my contributions to the University of Oregon Presidential Scholarship Fund. I commend her for making a priority of promoting financial literacy for students and parents as well as meeting the financial needs of students and their families. Ms. Bickford has led UO's financial aid programs with an eye to compliance with federal rules. A member of the Cherokee Nation, Ms. Bickford has contributed to a host of efforts throughout our state to support and promote student access to institutions of higher education.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANCISCO "QUICO" CANSECO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. CANSECO. Mr. Speaker, I was briefly absent from the Chamber on June 2, 2011,

during rollcall vote 398 and rollcall vote 407. On rollcall vote 398, I would have voted "aye" and on rollcall vote 407, I would have voted "nay."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes 408 and 409 on June 2, 2011. If present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 408 and "no" on rollcall vote 409.

CONGRATULATING NISWONGER
FOUNDATION

Tennessee in the House of Representatives

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Niswonger Foundation as last month it celebrated its 10th year of service to Northeast Tennessee this month.

The Foundation's work is known by an ever growing number of students and teachers in my district. Its school partnership and scholarship programs are aimed at educating and improving our region through the betterment of its young leaders. Niswonger scholars are chosen based on their proven leadership in the community, strong academics, character, and a pledge to return to our area to work, and lead, in their chosen profession. This need-based scholarship offers students the opportunity to attend the college or university of their choice.

Likewise, the Foundation established the Northeast Tennessee College and Career Ready Consortium, an ongoing partnership with public high schools that will eventually touch 29 high schools and 26,100 students. This program gives county schools best practices, provides additional resources for Northeast Tennessee's dedicated teachers, and gives students a challenging and engaging academic atmosphere in preparation for college or a career.

Again, I commend the Niswonger Foundation and its founder Scott Niswonger on ten years of life-changing service to Northeast Tennessee.

RABBI TOMER AND EFRAT
GROSSMAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Tomer and Efrat Grossman moved to Riverdale from Israel three years ago as Jewish Agency Shlichim of Bnei Akiva. Rabbi Grossman worked as the main Shaliach of Bnei Akiva in North America, and helped run Bnei Akiva activities at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale.

In response to the warmth of the HIR community and its strong connection and commitment to Medinat Israel, Rabbi Grossman organized an Israeli Seder, an Israeli Minyan for

Simchat Torah and two fundraisers—one after the Carmel Fire and another for poor families in Israel.

During his stay in Riverdale, Rabbi Tomer was appointed by the Jewish Agency as the Head of Formal Educational Shlichim in North America and as the main organizer of the National Bible Contest. He is currently the rabbi at Brandeis School in Long Island.

Tomer was born in Petach-Tikva and learned at Yeshivat Hagolan in Hispin. He served in the army as a tank commander and as a Division Rabbi in the Reserved Forces, in addition to working as a programming manager at Motorola.

Efrat, as a designer, immediately fell in love with the HIR community's creativity and open mindedness and participated in last year's Shavuot programs and gave a lecture in Hebrew.

Efrat works as a Hebrew literacy teacher at Ma'ayanot Yeshiva High School for Girls as well as a pottery artist. Efrat was born in Jerusalem, and continues a dynasty of more than 10 generations in Israel. In Israel, she was head of the Visual Arts Department of Ariel University after serving as the Head of the Jewish Education Faculty at Emunah High School in Tiberias.

They have two daughters: Ayala, 8, and Hallel, 8 months old.

This marvelous couple is being honored by the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale with the Community Service Award, and I join HIR in congratulating them and thanking them for all their good work in our community.

HONORING MAYOR HENRIETTA
BLACKMON OF CAMDEN

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a citizen turned public servant who has earned the admiration and respect of her Southwest Alabama community.

In 2000, Henrietta Blackmon made history as Camden, Alabama's first female mayor. While a newcomer to politics and the campaign trail, Henrietta was by no means a stranger to the people of Wilcox County.

For some three decades before taking office, Henrietta Blackmon was recognized as an invaluable partner in her husband's local medical practice. She administered the business while her husband, Dr. Sumpter Blackmon, treated the sick. In fact, she never relinquished that role even after becoming Camden's chief executive.

Mayor Blackmon came to office on a mandate to take the city in a new direction and she certainly did. Over her three terms as mayor, she revitalized the downtown, balanced the city budget, secured block grants to upgrade the city sewer system and obtained funding that will be used to build a new city hall.

After 10 successful years guiding Camden, Mayor Blackmon surprised many of her friends and supporters when she announced on February 7 that she was stepping down.

However, anyone who thinks the mayor intends to slow down had better think again. She will not only continue to administer her

husband's medical practice, but she has also agreed to help run her son's new local construction business.

Camden has progressed under the progressive leadership of Mayor Henrietta Blackmon and her presence at the helm of the city will be sorely missed. I join with her many friends in wishing Mayor Henrietta Blackmon, her husband, Dr. Sumpter Blackmon, and their family the very best in the days and years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF ALZEN FLOYD

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and legacy of Alzen Floyd. He was born March 15, 1919 and passed away on May 20, 2011.

As a young man, Floyd showed leadership by helping his mother in the purchase and renovation of their home while he was just sixteen years of age. In 1937, he joined the U.S. Army and he retired in 1960 as a Sergeant First Class.

After serving his country Floyd returned home and became a prominent member of his community though several entrepreneurial ventures. He owned and operated "Al Floyd's Soul Food," "Al Floyd's Photo Service," and "Al's Security." He would go on to open Broward County's first Black-owned security corporation, "Floyd & Associates Protection Corporation." This company would grow to half a million dollars in assets.

Floyd was a lifetime member of the NAACP and a faithful member of First Baptist Church Piney Grove since 1929, where he was a member until he could no longer attend.

Mr. Speaker, Alzen Floyd's motto was "If I can help somebody." His life was an example of dedicated service: service to his family, service to his country and service to his community. It gives me great honor to recognize his life and his service.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. FRANCIE
MOORE HANSELL

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Mrs. Francie Moore Hansell. Children across the country are excitedly looking forward to their last day of school and summer vacations filled with friends and family. While they are focused on their vacation plans, they are also looking ahead to the next school year and wondering who their teacher will be. At Rocky Heights Elementary School in Hermiston, Oregon, students and parents alike will be disappointed when they learn that Francie will not be among next year's teachers because, after 26 years at Rocky Heights, she is retiring at the conclusion of this school year. Over her long career at Rocky Heights, Francie has launched more than 650 second-graders onto their next level of instruction.

Francie's service and commitment to her students, her school, and her community are to be commended.

Born in Prosser, Washington, Francie moved to Hermiston after her 1970 marriage to her Washington State University college sweetheart, Tyler Hansell. Together, Francie and Ty became integral members of the Hermiston community. Francie began her teaching career at Umatilla Middle School shortly after their wedding. After five years, she took a break following the arrival of their first child, Erin. Subsequently, Francie and Ty added four boys to their expanding family: Tyler Jr., Kenzie, Lucas, and Ruben. Raising her exuberant family and helping to run the family ranch took most of Francie's time and attention, but throughout she continued teaching Sunday school to the children of Hermiston Presbyterian Church. She also participated as an active member of the church choir and several other community volunteer organizations.

In 1985, Francie returned to teaching by joining the staff at Rocky Heights Elementary School as a second grade teacher. In 2010, Francie was awarded the coveted Crystal Apple award in recognition of her contributions as a devoted, accessible, and encouraging teacher for her many students.

Students always remember the special teacher who inspired them to believe in themselves and appreciate the unlimited power of learning—for many alumni of Rocky Heights Elementary, Francie Hansell was that teacher.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hermiston community that I have the honor to represent, I want to commend and thank Francie for her many years of service and dedication to her students and community. While Francie is retiring from teaching and as the grandmother of six (so far), I know that she will continue to dedicate herself to her family, friends, and her beloved community of Hermiston.

INCREASING STATUTORY LIMIT ON THE PUBLIC DEBT

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I voted against allowing the United States to default on its debt.

Although the preamble of the bill took a gratuitous poke at the President by stating erroneously that it is the President's budget for Fiscal Year 2012 that makes it necessary to increase the debt ceiling, this statement was insignificant in relation to the effective part of the bill.

For more than two centuries, the United States has been a trustworthy creditor. In previous years, members of both parties have set aside their policy disagreements to ensure the United States fulfills its obligations to creditors and maintains its credit rating.

Unfortunately, the Republicans didn't want Tuesday's vote on the debt ceiling to be about maintaining our creditworthiness. Instead, it was the latest in a series of reckless political games being played by my colleagues who brought this bill to the floor to have it fail. Even the author of this bill voted against it.

We saw this brand of economic brinkmanship just last month, when Congressional Republicans brought the federal government to within minutes of a shutdown. While these actions may please some narrow ideological constituency, they endanger needlessly the financial security of the United States and the economic security of the American people.

Whether one blames the debt on unpaid bills of the Reagan defense buildup, food stamps and other social programs, the Bush tax cuts and two wars not paid for, or any other action of government over the past decade or past century, this was not the place for that argument.

Whether you think taxes are too low or spending is too high, this was not the occasion to try to impose one's own idea of a correction.

This was not the occasion to reshape our economy or score ideological points. If House Republicans were serious about improving the nation's fiscal outlook, then they would have voted in favor of this measure so we could move on to legislation that will help Americans get back to work.

I acted responsibly so the United States can continue to fulfill its financial obligations by voting in favor of this clean debt ceiling bill.

CELEBRATING THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHSIDE CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT, INC.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the founding of the Northside Center for Child Development, Inc.

In March of 1946, shortly upon the conclusion of World War II, two young African American psychologists, Mamie Phipps Clark and her husband, Kenneth B. Clark founded the Northside Center for Child Development. Originally called the Northside Testing and Consultation Center, the Northside Center for Child Development's first home was in the basement apartment located in the historic Dunbar Housing Development on 150th Street in Harlem.

The research of Kenneth and Mamie Phipps Clark challenged the notion of differences in the mental abilities of black and white children, which played an important role in the desegregation of American schools. At the Center, the Clarks conducted experiments on racial biases in education. Their findings were presented at school desegregation trials in Virginia, South Carolina, and Delaware; and in 1954, in a famous footnote, those findings were cited in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*, the landmark Supreme Court decision that ruled public-school segregation unconstitutional.

Kenneth Clark was the first African American to earn a doctorate in psychology at Columbia, to hold a permanent professorship at the City College of New York, to join the New York State Board of Regents and to serve as president of the American Psychological Association. In addition to his work as a psychologist and educator, he assisted corporations

with racial policies and minority hiring programs. His books include *Prejudice and Your Child* (1955), *Dark Ghetto* (1965), *A Possible Reality* (1972), and *Pathos of Power* (1975). During Columbia's student protests in 1968, Clark, whose son Hilton (Columbia College 1968) was a leader of the Society of Afro-American Students, served as mediator between the black student protesters in Hamilton Hall and the administration.

Mamie Phipps began studying self-perception in black children as a graduate student at Howard University, where she met and married Kenneth Clark. Between 1939 and 1940, the two published three major articles on this subject. Phipps Clark continued her work at Columbia where, in 1943, she became the first African-American woman and the second African American (after her husband) in the University's history to receive a psychology doctorate. It was her work on the way black children seemed to prefer white dolls to black ones that particularly impressed the Supreme Court justices. In 1966, Columbia recognized the couple's work by awarding each the Nicholas Murray Butler Silver Medal.

Prior to the establishment of the Northside Center for Child Development (Northside Testing and Consultation Center), the Clarks decided to tackle the lack of services for troubled youth in Harlem. They approached nearly every social service agency throughout New York City with their modest proposal to urge established agencies to expand their programs to provide social work, psychological evaluation, and remediation for youth in Harlem, since at that time there were virtually no mental-health services in the community. Each agency they explored rejected their proposal and they decided to open their own developmental center to address those needs that were lacking for Harlem families and the youth.

In 1948, Northside moved to the 6th floor of the New Lincoln School, located at West 110th Street across Central Park. In 1974, Northside moved its headquarters east one block in Schomburg Plaza on Fifth Avenue.

Today, the Northside Center continues its mission to further the healthy development of children and families and empower them to respond gainfully to negative communal factors, including racism and its related consequences. By providing comprehensive, high quality mental health and educational services, coupled with research, Northside is able to assist children and families in their development to seek their full potential.

Under the leadership of Executive Director Dr. Thelma Dye, Northside Center doors are open to over 500 families and children who walk in on any given day for support, guidance, psychological evaluations, and therapeutic services or just to talk about their day or utilize the library of books available at the center.

Mr. Speaker, in the words of Dr. Dye, "whether children and families come to Northside because they are deeply troubled and look to us for solace, compassion, direction and understanding, or they come because they are excited and happy and look forward to the next enjoyable learning adventure, we welcome them. We work toward empowering and helping them learn and grow in an environment that reinforces their strengths, their cultures, their self-worth and their dignity. What we do at Northside is important, challenging and immensely rewarding."

I ask my colleagues and our Nation to join me in this special Congressional Recognition on the 65th Anniversary of the Northside Center for Child Development, Inc.

IN HONOR OF DR. CHARLES
MACCORMACK

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many achievements of Dr. Charles MacCormack, whose tireless work to improve the lives of children around the world serves as an example to all of us.

As President and CEO of Save the Children, Dr. MacCormack has overseen humanitarian aid programs in more than 50 countries. In the wake of natural disasters and in regions of the world torn apart by war, Save the Children helps children avoid unbearable pain and suffering. Dr. MacCormack's retirement creates a void at Save the Children that will be difficult to fill and he will be missed by friends, colleagues and the countless children across the world whose lives are better, because of him.

As many as a billion children around the world go to sleep hungry each night. For nearly two decades, Dr. MacCormack has led a global organization that protects the most vulnerable children and creates real change in the lives of those most in need. Throughout his life, Dr. MacCormack has conducted research, taught, and led organizations that promote greater mutual understanding among cultures, provide basic necessities to those in need, and defend the defenseless.

Before joining Save the Children, Dr. MacCormack was President of World Learning, a non-profit organization that promotes understanding among people from diverse cultures through educational exchanges and research. He serves on the Board of InterAction, an association of more than 160 humanitarian and development organizations, and on the Boards of the Basic Education Coalition and the Campaign for Effective Global Leadership. Dr. MacCormack has taken leadership roles with the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid, the Food Security Advisory Committee, and the Non-Governmental Committee on UNICEF and is a founding board member of Malaria No More.

Dr. MacCormack has enriched the lives of people around the world. But today, let us all turn our attention to him and express our gratitude for his lifetime of service. As a Representative, I am proud to honor him here today; and as a fellow citizen and friend. I am indebted to Charlie for all he has done and continues to do—for the children of the world.

ON THE REINTRODUCTION OF THE
FILIPINO VETERANS FAMILY RE-
UNIFICATION ACT

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce two versions of the Filipino Vet-

erans Family Reunification Act, both of which will provide for the expedited reunification of the families of our Filipino World War II veterans.

The first version I am introducing is a companion to S. 1141, a bill recently introduced by Senator DANIEL K. AKAKA. I am introducing this bill in acknowledgement of his leadership on this issue.

The second version I am introducing is identical to earlier versions of the bill that I have introduced in the 110th and 111th Congresses. S. 1141 differs from these earlier versions of the bill in that it provides that the petitions filed by the sponsoring Filipino veteran shall remain valid regardless of whether the petitioning parent is living or dead.

As you know, Filipino veterans are those that honorably answered the call of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and served alongside our armed forces during World War II. They fought shoulder to shoulder with American servicemen; they sacrificed for the same just cause. We made a promise to provide full veterans' benefits to those who served with our troops. And while we have recently made appreciable progress toward fulfilling that long-ignored promise, we have not yet achieved the full equity that the Filipino veterans deserve.

In 1990, the Congress recognized the courage and commitment of the Filipino World War II veterans by providing them with a waiver from certain naturalization requirements. Many veterans thereafter became proud United States citizens and residents of our country. However, allowances were not made for their children and many have been waiting decades for petition approval.

The Filipino Veterans Family Reunification Act would allow for the further recognition of the service of the veterans by granting their children a special immigration status that would allow them to immigrate to the United States and be reunified with their aging parents. It is important to note that the Filipino soldiers who fought under the command of General Douglas MacArthur at this critical time in our nation's history represent a unique category. These soldiers were members of the United States Armed Forces of the Far East. They were led to believe that at the end of the conflict they would be treated the same as American soldiers. It took more than sixty years to begin to make good on our commitment. The Filipino Veterans Family Reunification Act recognizes the special circumstances of this group of soldiers.

I look forward to working with my colleagues by providing for the reunification of our Filipino World War II veterans with their families.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT AARON J.
BLASJO

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a hero from my congressional district, United States Army Special Forces Sergeant Aaron J. Blasjo. Today I ask that the House of Representatives to join me to honor and remember this incredible young man who died in service to his country.

Aaron was born in Riverside, California and graduated from Ramona High School in 2004.

He was determined to be in the Special Forces and after graduation he promptly enlisted in the United States Army. Aaron was assigned to A Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. His most recent deployment was his third tour in Afghanistan, where he served in the Special Forces canine unit. About Aaron, his grandfather, Wesley Blasjo, stated, "I think he wanted to do something for his country. He liked the camaraderie and all the things that go along with Special Forces."

Aaron was a member of the Palm Baptist Church and traveled to Africa on a short missionary trip to help others. A youth pastor at the church remembers Aaron as serious but caring member of their church community.

In 2009, he married Crystal Thompkins in Riverside. Two months ago, Aaron became a proud father to his son, Talon Blasjo, which was one of the highlights of Aaron's life. On May 29, 2011, the day before Memorial Day, Aaron was killed in action in Wardak Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He was 25 years old. In addition to his wife Crystal and son Talon, he also leaves behind his mother and father Daniel and Roberta Blasjo; and his extended family.

As we look at the incredibly rich military history of our country we realize that this history is comprised of men, just like Aaron, who bravely fought for the ideals of freedom and democracy. Each story is unique and humbling for those of us who, far from the dangers they have faced, live our lives in relative comfort and ease. The day they learned of Aaron's death was probably the hardest day the Blasjo family has ever faced and my thoughts, prayers and deepest gratitude for their sacrifice go out to them. There are no words that can relieve their pain, and what words I offer only begin to convey my deep respect and highest appreciation.

Sergeant Blasjo's wife, son and parents have all given a part of themselves with the loss of Aaron, and I hope they know that their husband, father, and son, the goodness he brought to this world and the sacrifice he has made, will always be remembered.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MRS.
HORTENSIA G. SILVA

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 91st birthday of teacher and volunteer, Mrs. Hortensia G. Silva. She has dedicated her life assisting the south Texas community, educating and serving children.

Mrs. Silva was born on June 5, 1920 on a ranch located on the outskirts of Rio Grande City, Texas, to proud parents, Serapio and Martha Guerra. After the passing of her father in 1929, she began working in a local grocery store to help her mother provide for her three younger siblings. During World War II, telegrams were sent to the Juan B. Galindo Grocery Store and Mrs. Silva was often charged with delivering families the heart-wrenching message that their soldiers had fallen. One of the only people with the ability to read or write, Mrs. Silva often wrote catalog orders so

that neighborhood persons could acquire clothing and shoes. She attended school in Rio Grande City and graduated in the top ten percent of her class from the city's high school in 1939. She continued working in Galindo's grocery store until her marriage to Nicolas Silva, Jr. in 1947. The couple had two daughters and owned and operated a Texaco Service Station, where she served as the bookkeeper.

Mrs. Silva worked for Rio Grande City Independent School District as a teacher's aide in their pre-school department and continued to teach once the program was annexed by Headstart. She served on the South Texas Development Council until she retired at age 80, after 32 years of service. Throughout her career, she volunteered for her neighborhood's 4-H Youth Development Organization and frequently acted as judge in the program's float and craft competitions. Her dedication to children inspired her two daughters to emulate their mother's passion and attain masters degrees in Education.

In addition to her passion for children, Mrs. Silva was an avid arrowhead hunter—a passion her husband and children all enjoyed. The family has maintained, arguably, the largest personal collection in Texas, which was exhibited in the family's business. She is a faithful member of Immaculate Conception Church, and continues to dedicate her time to children, including her 4 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, and others in her community. She is the beloved matriarch of her family and is sought for advice and guidance to her friends, family, and former students.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored and privileged to have the opportunity to recognize the extraordinary commitment to education and the community exhibited by Mrs. Hortensia G. Silva, and I wish her the happiest of birthdays.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS H. DAVIS
JR.—RETIREMENT FROM COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION OF SOUTH
ALABAMA

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the work of Thomas Davis Jr., a respected leader in his field and an outstanding citizen of Mobile, Alabama.

Mr. Davis recently retired as President and CEO of the nonprofit Community Foundation of South Alabama, an organization which has flourished under his guidance over the past 27 years. Beginning as the program's development director in 1984, Tom quickly rose to become its executive director in 1985 and went on to become the president of the foundation in 2008.

Under his direction, the foundation's assets increased from \$3 million to over \$50 million. Even more impressive is the growth of the foundation's charitable funds and endowments. By the time he left office, this number had gone from 60 funds and endowments to over 400.

Mr. Davis' success is the product of hard work, an exceptional work ethic and an unparalleled ability to lead, which proved handy during his oversight of foundation programs that

provided assistance to earthquake and tsunami victims in Japan as well as those recently affected by the Gulf oil spill. He was also instrumental in obtaining health insurance for local underprivileged children.

It would be a hard task to designate one of his many achievements as being his greatest, for Tom accomplished so much throughout his tenure. However, the nonprofit's recognition as a "Partnership to Build Community Capital" by the Kresge Foundation is a distinct honor, placing the Community Foundation of South Alabama in an elite group of which there are only six such programs nationally.

On behalf of the people of Mobile, I want to thank Tom Davis for his service and wish him—and his family—continued success in the years to come.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. KATHLEEN
BATEMAN

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Kentuckian, Mrs. Kathleen Bateman. After 33 years of teaching, Mrs. Bateman will retire leaving behind a legacy of dedication to her students and her community.

Mrs. Bateman graduated from Murray State University in 1977 with a Bachelor of Arts in Education and earned her Master's in Counseling from Western Kentucky University in 1986. She obtained her Rank I in Art through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in 1990.

Mrs. Bateman's most recent position was at East Hardin Middle School, but she has touched the lives of countless students throughout her career while teaching at several elementary and middle schools in the Commonwealth.

A great teacher has the power to affect students throughout their academic journey, opening new horizons and starting them on a positive path with high expectations for the future.

Mrs. Bateman did just that with the unwavering commitment she gave her students. It takes a special person and a tremendous level of perseverance to be an educator—qualities that Ms. Bateman exuded throughout her years of hard work.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Kathleen Bateman for her many great contributions to the Commonwealth of Kentucky and for contributing to the success of many young people in our community.

INTRODUCING THE "SALMON
SOLUTIONS AND PLANNING ACT"

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, salmon are one of America's most precious but delicate resources. Since the construction of four Federal dams on the lower Snake River in Washington State, certain salmon species have become extinct. Others continue to see drastic

declines in number. Today, thirteen salmon and steelhead species in the Columbia and Snake River Basin are listed for protection under the Endangered Species Act. If we do not act now, we stand to lose this valuable resource forever, which is why I am reintroducing the Salmon Solutions Planning Act.

Salmon and steelhead populations have major economic, environmental and cultural significance to the Pacific Northwest. Generations of fishermen have relied on salmon as an integral part of their communities along the west coast. Today, even at their current depressed levels, salmon add hundreds of millions of dollars to the American economy and remain an essential part of communities around the Northwest. If we restore these populations to their original levels their economic benefits will reach well into the billions and these communities will be able to continue their rich traditions.

Already we recognize the importance of preserving this precious resource. The Federal Government and ratepayers in the Pacific Northwest have spent more than \$10 billion in salmon recovery efforts on the Columbia and Snake River Basin. These efforts, while commendable, have done little to help salmon populations recover. This legislation commissions studies to focus our efforts so that all factors are taken into account when considering removal. It is critical that our salmon recovery efforts be informed, cost effective, and successful.

Without action, scientists estimate that several of the salmon populations could be extinct in less than 20 years. The time to act is now. Salmon are the lifeblood of the Pacific Northwest, and we, as a country, cannot afford to lose this national treasure.

CONGRATULATING NORB ASCHOM
FOR EXCELLENCE IN RADIO
BROADCASTING

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Norb Aschom for 50 years of excellence in radio broadcasting. Norb has been news director of WPRE-AM and WQPC-FM radio stations since 1962. Throughout his time at the station, Norb has served a critical role by providing this tight knit town with the news each day, installing a sense of community through the airwaves.

Norb is a fixture in the Prairie du Chien community, a town in southwestern Wisconsin on the banks of the Mississippi River. At 71 years of age, Norb has worked in the same building every day for 50 years. While his broadcasting home on St. Feriole Island in Prairie du Chien was recently flooded, he was forced, along with the rest of the station staff, out of their office and into a temporary workspace in the local Police Department. After a two week hiatus, Norb was able to return to his normal office on April 23. Throughout his time working out of the police department he never veered from his commitment to bring the news to the people of Prairie du Chien.

In his 50 years, Norb has interviewed everyone from former First Ladies Johnson and Carter, to fellow radio personality Paul Harvey.

He has covered every major local event including the record floods of 1965, the 1981 closing of the Hwy. 18 bridge and the flooding of more recent years. Norb embodies what every rural community needs, a friendly and thoughtful voice to bring them the events of the day.

With no plans to retire anytime soon, Norb plans to continue making a difference in the lives of the residents of Prairie du Chien. I am proud to know Norb and believe that his work not only impacts his community but serves as an example to the rest of the country.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2017) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to the Fiscal Year 2012 Homeland Security appropriations bill, H.R. 2017 brought to the House floor by the Republican majority.

The problems with H.R. 2017 began even before the legislation was considered by the House. The rule to allow debate on H.R. 2017 enacts the House Republican's highly controversial budget plan to end Medicare as we know it. I voted with every Democratic Member of the House to oppose this rule—H. Res. 287—and to protect tomorrow's seniors from being forced to pay an average of \$6,000 in additional health care costs every year. My Republican colleagues should be admonished for their decision to begin debate on a bill intended to safeguard American citizens with a rule that undermines the health and economic security of every American senior.

The Fiscal Year 2012 Homeland Security appropriations measure fails to meet the public safety needs of communities in Minnesota and across the country. H.R. 2017 undermines support for our local law enforcement partners by slashing funding for firefighter assistance grants and State Homeland Security Grants, which are used primarily for training and equipping first responders. The International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) said of the legislation: "At a time when state and local public safety budgets are shrinking, it is unconscionable to implement cuts of this magnitude." The National Association of Counties is opposing H.R. 2017, arguing that reductions in critical grant programs cripple the ability of communities of all sizes to prepare for a range of threats, including potential nuclear, chemical, and biological attacks.

Moreover, H.R. 2017 does not include sufficient funding for transit agencies to hire additional law enforcement officers, acquire bomb sniffing dogs, or install explosive screening devices. Funding to states and localities to secure sensitive tunnels and bridges and install surveillance systems in other high-risk areas is significantly reduced. This bill does not provide

sufficient funds to protect harbors from terrorist threats or train maritime law enforcement personnel to safeguard U.S. ports.

Even, however, with cuts this extreme, the Republicans fund discredited projects. The notorious "287(g)" program founded by the Bush administration, and abused by such anti-immigrant zealots as Arizona Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio had its funding increased by millions of dollars. Sheriff Arpaio is under investigation for discrimination and illegal searches and seizures during his so-called "immigration sweeps" using the 287(g) program.

This bill undercuts federal partnerships with local law enforcement and reduces America's capacity to respond to natural disasters, criminal actions and potential terrorist attacks. And the rule for this bill forces enactment of a reckless Republican budget that breaks faith with America's seniors and forces unnecessary cuts to education, innovation and infrastructure to pay for another tax cut for the wealthiest Americans. I will vote no on H.R. 2017 and urge my colleagues to do the same.

IN RECOGNITION OF EDDIE PALMIERI, THE DC JAZZ FESTIVAL'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT AND FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO AMERICAN JAZZ

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a distinguished American, Mr. Eddie Palmieri, the recipient of this year's District of Columbia's Jazz Festival's Lifetime Achievement Award. Mr. Palmieri, renowned for his unique fusion of Jazz and Latin rhythms, has blazed many trails in his remarkable career. "El Rumbero del Piano," a title which reflects his magic on the piano, has earned his place among the great ones for his dedication to Jazz and the cultivation of its creative soul.

Having grown up in Spanish Harlem to Puerto Rican parents, Latin beats were a part of Eddie Palmieri's life from an early age. He began his lifelong passion for creating music at the tender age of eight. By age thirteen, Eddie had joined his uncle's orchestra playing the timbales. From his early exposure to the music instruments of the South Bronx, was borne the beautiful medley of Jazz and Latin music that is now firmly weaved into American life.

A musical trailblazer, Eddie Palmieri received the first of what would be numerous Grammys in 1975 for the recording "The Sun of Latin Music"—marking the very first time in the history of the Grammys that the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences recognized Latin music. In 1988, the Smithsonian Institution recorded two of Mr. Palmieri's energetic performances for the catalog of the National Museum of American History in Washington, DC. In a sign of changing times, in 1993, he was appointed to the Board of Governors of the New York chapter of National Association of Recording Arts and Sciences.

Twenty years after placing Latin music on the Grammys map, Eddie once again char-

tered new territory, opening the door for the new category of Latin Jazz. More recently, in 2009, his widely popular composition "Azucar Pa' Ti" was inducted into the National Recording Registry of the United States Library of Congress as a significant and compelling American sound recording. Mr. Palmieri shares this honor of induction into the National Recording Registry with other titans of American music like The Band, Willie Nelson, Loretta Lynn, The Staple Singers, Patti Smith, Cliff Edwards, Little Richard and R.E.M.

A nine-time Grammy Award winner with a musical career spanning more than 50 years and 36 recordings, Mr. Eddie Palmieri is an inspirational pianist, composer, arranger, and a celebrated leader of Salsa and Latin Jazz orchestras. For his numerous contributions to the American musical landscape, but more for his brilliant work in introducing the world to the rhythms of Latin Jazz, I ask that the House of Representatives honor and commend El Rumbero del Piano for a lifetime of achievement.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2017) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the FY12 Homeland Security Appropriations Act.

The bill makes severe cuts to the funding available to front line employees of the Department of Homeland Security for critical operations along our borders, at our nation's airports and seaports, and for responding to natural disasters. The bill also reduces funding for state and local preparedness grant programs.

The bill provides a total of \$1 billion for all State and local grants and \$350 million for Firefighter Assistance Grants. Respectively, these figures are 65 percent and 50 percent below an already reduced request. Given the budgetary challenges already faced by our states, these cuts, if permitted to survive through the legislative process, could be devastating. According to the International Association of Fire Fighters, 1,600 fewer local firefighters will be on the job if the cuts in this bill are enacted into law. Such deep cuts will damage local preparedness, emergency response and the economic recovery.

I was happy to vote for an amendment offered by Ranking Member PRICE that permits states and local governments to rehire laid-off firefighters and to prevent others from being laid off. The amendment also waives certain budgetary requirements local fire departments have to fulfill to qualify for a grant. But, even with the addition of this important amendment, I cannot support a Homeland Security funding bill that ultimately makes the homeland less secure.

The House voted to include on the floor an amendment offered by Representative MICA that stripped hundreds of millions of dollars out of the Transportation Security Administration's budget and an amendment offered by Representative ROKITA that limits the collective bargaining rights of TSA employees. These amendments will devastate morale among the TSA workforce and, by slashing TSA's resources, will make Americans less safe.

I will monitor the progress of this bill in the Senate and conference. I am hopeful that future changes and improvements will give me a chance to vote on a more acceptable alternative.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SMALL
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION RE-
GION III EXPORTER OF THE
YEAR, MS. EILEEN MELVIN

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Eileen Melvin, a crafty business woman in Johnstown, PA who was recently honored by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

In 2008, Ms. Melvin joined the board of directors of United Metal Fabricators, a producer of exam room equipment for the healthcare market. Her roots in the company lie much deeper as her father had worked as a legal advisor to the company 20 years earlier.

In transitioning to UMF, Ms. Melvin saw an organization that held onto the ideals of good craftsmanship, but failed to keep pace with the technological and manufacturing advances of the day. She saw potential for a strong company in a global market that was craving quality American made healthcare goods.

With her ascension to board president and CEO in 2009, Ms. Melvin worked to introduce technological advances into processing and sales, while still maintaining the quality craftsmanship and workforce UMF is known for. She has also worked to introduce UMF products around the world.

Throughout her tenure on the board, UMF has seen a 62 percent increase in their exports. Ms. Melvin's immense exporting in Saudi Arabia has also led to her participating in a Trade Mission to the country. UMF products are now being utilized in hospitals around the world.

Ms. Melvin helped a struggling company become a major exporter in the Johnstown region. For her accomplishments, she has been recognized as the Small Business Administration's local and Region III Exporter of the Year. Mr. Speaker, once again I would like to honor Ms. Melvin and her contributions to America's share in the global economic market.

A NATION'S GRATITUDE FOR THE
SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF
CAPTAIN JOSEPH W. SCHULTZ

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week our nation learned that Capt. Joseph W. Schultz died May 29, 2011 while on a mounted patrol when the vehicle he and his Special Forces team were traveling in struck an IED in the Wardak Province, Afghanistan. He was born March 20, 1975 and grew up in Sacramento, California and graduated from El Camino High School in 1993. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 1997 and received his commission as an intelligence officer from Officer Candidate School in 2003.

His first assignment was to 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, PIR, 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, NC. He then served as the assistant battalion intelligence officer and as a rifle platoon leader in Company A, 1-504 PIR. Upon completion of his tour with the 1-504 PIR, he then went on to serve as the counterintelligence/human intelligence operations manager for the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division; and later as the G-2 advisor, 10th Iraqi Army Division.

After completing Special Forces Selection and Assessment, he graduated from Special Forces Qualification Course at Fort Bragg, NC. Upon graduation and receiving his green beret, Schultz was assigned to Co. C, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) where he served as the Detachment Commander of Special Forces Operational Detachment—Alpha 3333. Schultz deployed in support of various operations across the globe, including: Operation Iraqi Freedom, Iraq and this deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with Company C.

His military education includes: the Military Intelligence Officer Course, Infantry Captain Career Course, Defense Strategic Debriefing Course, Airborne School, Ranger School, and the Special Forces Qualification Course.

Schultz's military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal; Purple Heart; Army Commendation Medal; Army Achievement Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Afghanistan Campaign Medal; Iraq Campaign Medal with one campaign star; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Overseas Service Medal; Army Service Ribbon; Combat Infantryman Badge and Parachutists Badge. He also wore the Special Forces Tab and the Ranger Tab.

Prior to his military career, Schultz worked for California Governor Gray Davis and later the U.S. State Department, where he was assigned to the Middle East desk.

Capt. Schultz is survived by his mother Betsy Reed Schultz of Port Angeles, Washington. Condolences from our nation to his family, friends and fellow service members who mourn his loss.

HONORING TENNESSEE STATE
TROOPER ANDY WALL

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to pay tribute to the life of Tennessee State Trooper Andy Wall. Trooper Wall was killed tragically in service to the state of Tennessee while escorting the United States Air Force Thunderbirds to the Great Tennessee Air Show.

At the age of 36, he had already served the community and our state for many years. He began his law enforcement career as a patrolman with the city of Dickson Police Department. After graduating from the Tennessee Highway Patrol Training Academy in 2004, he eagerly began his job as a Tennessee State Patrolman. His father, former sheriff for Dickson County Tom Wall, said "his son always aspired to be a trooper so that he could serve all the citizens of Tennessee." His friends frequently remember his laugh and smile as one that would brighten an entire room.

It is with great honor and respect that I salute Tennessee State Trooper Andy Wall. Emergency personnel are asked all the time to place their lives on the line. Trooper Wall made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the state he loved. The life of Andy Wall will always be remembered by the love of his family, friends, and colleagues. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

Please join me in saluting the life and service of Tennessee State Trooper Andy Wall.

KIDNEY ACTION DAY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me on June 11, 2011, in recognizing Kidney Action Day in the District of Columbia to raise awareness of chronic kidney disease and of the importance of early detection and treatment.

Over 31 million Americans suffer from chronic kidney disease, but many people are unaware that they may be at risk. In the District, there are nearly 6,000 people on dialysis and 1,600 people on the kidney transplant waiting list. Not only does the District have the highest rate of kidney disease in the nation, kidney disease is the 13th leading cause of death here. In areas of the city that are heavily populated with minorities, the rate of kidney disease is double the national average.

Since chronic kidney disease can go undetected for years, people are urged to get screened for it, either through blood or urine tests. Early stage kidney disease can be treated with medications, healthy eating and exercise. I cannot stress enough the importance of early detection and treatment of kidney disease, which, if undetected, can lead to diabetes and hypertension, which, in turn, increase the risk of heart attacks, strokes, and heart-related deaths. As chronic kidney disease progresses, patients may require dialysis, which

helps clean the bloodstream of toxic waste, or a kidney transplant.

On June 11, 2011, I will attend the American Kidney Fund's "Steps that Count" walk at Nationals Park here to raise awareness of kidney disease and to call on the residents of the District to get screened for it. I ask the House to join me on June 11, 2011, to recognize Kidney Action Day in the District of Columbia and to urge Americans to get screened for kidney disease.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL EDWARD
PERKINS

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with heart-felt sadness that I note the recent passing of

Mr. Michael Edward Perkins, a well known athlete and martial arts expert from Saraland, Alabama.

Michael Perkins passed away May 14, 2011, after fighting a constant battle with cystic fibrosis since infancy. He was only 27.

He was known around the community as a devoted and inspiring husband to his wife, Kellee Jones Perkins, and a proud father to their infant daughter, Piper Catherine.

Michael will be remembered in so many ways. Not only did he love being outdoors and enjoying other recreational activities, he received a Black Belt in two different martial arts.

He also donated much time helping teach children at Cottage Hill Baptist Church, and will be remembered as an encouraging, buoyant young man. Everyone who knew Michael has an inspiring or humorous story they can retell.

Even when Michael was extremely ill, he never let his own problems affect his otherwise positive outlook on life and he was always bending over backwards for family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, all who knew Michael personally will surely miss him, and South Alabama has truly lost a beloved member of the community. Michael Perkins was inspiration to young and old alike.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I would like to extend my condolences to his wife, Kellee, and their daughter, Piper Catherine, for their loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.