

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING S&S FOOD STORES

#### HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, in 1961, Lester and Anne Scaff took a leap of faith and purchased a small market on US 41 in Lake City. At that time, the young couple had no idea that their lives and their business were about to grow into a lifetime of joy and community involvement.

Over the years they purchased more stores which came with new challenges to learn and grow. With a strong belief in customer service, the Scaff's growth continued through the 1980s and beyond. They expanded into eight surrounding counties and were able to target their growth to become a leading employer in the region. That original small company now owns 44 convenience stores and 3 Scaff's Markets.

However, from their corporate office, Lester and Anne Scaff still engage in the daily operations using the same careful, guiding hands that crafted the small one-store operation that grew into the people oriented, customer friendly business that exists today. They continue to be thankful for their customers over these 50 plus years.

S&S Food Stores and the Scaffs take pride in being good neighbors. Their commitment to serving their communities has been evident with the many fundraising activities and charitable contributions donated throughout the years. In fact, the S&S team members have collected close to a million dollars for the Children's Miracle Network/Shands Hospital.

Congratulations to Lester and Anne Scaff and the employees of S&S Food Stores for their 50 years of service to the State and their community.

### COMMEMORATING THE BIRTH OF MR. LOU LARA

#### HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the birth of Mr. Lou Lara, a constituent of mine who, on this day, turns 103 years old. Over the course of his life, Mr. Lara has given many reasons for his community and indeed his country to be proud. Born in West Babylon, New York, Mr. Lara went on to serve his country in the National Guard. He got an education and went on to become an engineer where he went to work for the government. Despite his age, he continues to enjoy woodworking, and brings a smile and joy to all those around him at Twining Village in Holland Bucks County, where he lives in an independent living community. Mr. Lara's life has served as the model by which many oth-

ers can use as an example of how to live a fulfilling life while at the same time giving service to one's country and community.

### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT E. MEEHAN ON HIS RETIREMENT

#### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to pay tribute to Robert (Bob) Meehan as he retires from Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, Inc. It is my distinct pleasure to add my congratulations to that of his family, friends and colleagues as they celebrate in honor of a man who has been involved in every aspect of Horizon's business markets for 20 years. For all the leadership he has shown and the contributions he has made over the years, Bob Meehan is a worthy recipient of the accolades he will receive on July 26, 2011.

I consider it an honor to have served on the Board of Directors of the YMCA of Newark and Vicinity with Bob Meehan for a number of years. Not only has Bob been an asset to the Board with his business savvy and creativity but he also served in several leadership positions including Board President. Bob was instrumental in revitalizing key Y programs and steering the organization through a difficult financial period. He has been a mentor to new Board members and I have been advised that Bob has also been a mentor to many Horizon employees including my New Jersey Chief of Staff.

Bob and I have two other things in common; we both graduated from Seton Hall University and we both spent a number of years with Prudential Insurance Company. Prudential's loss was definitely Horizon's gain as Bob made his mark in a variety of marketing and customer service related areas. His efforts on behalf of the customers and employees of Horizon will long be remembered and Bob's incredible style will be greatly missed by all those who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Mr. Speaker, I know my fellow members of the House of Representatives agree that Bob Meehan has been an integral part of Horizon. Bob's retirement is the culmination of a stellar career and we wish him well in this new and exciting phase of his life.

### RECOGNIZING 95 YEARS OF SUCCESS BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, today I join Senator BEN NELSON and Senator MIKE

JOHANNIS of Nebraska in paying tribute to the National Park Service, which will be celebrating its 95th anniversary on August 25, 2011.

The National Park Service currently administers 394 units across 49 states and U.S. territories, including five National Park Service units in our home State of Nebraska. These units consist of the Agate Fossil Beds National Monument, Homestead National Monument of America, Missouri National Recreational River, Niobrara National Scenic River, and Scotts Bluff National Monument. In addition, the National Park Service administers five National Historic Trails, including the California, Oregon, Pony Express, Mormon, and Lewis and Clark.

National Park areas generate \$12 billion in tourism dollars to local economies, creating 247,000 private-sector jobs. Within Nebraska, National Park Service units generate approximately \$8.8 million in tourism dollars and create approximately 170 private-sector jobs. And in western Nebraska, Agate Fossil Beds and Scotts Bluff Monuments, along with the Chimney Rock National Historic Site, which is an Affiliated Area of the National Park Service, generate close to \$3 million in tourism dollars and create 90 private-sector jobs.

Nebraska has been supportive of the mission of the National Park Service even before the agency existed. In fact, in 1914, two years before the National Park Service was created, citizens in the Scottsbluff/Gering area sought to get a National Park or Monument established. Prominent local champions included elected officials and newspaper editor, A.B. Wood.

Scotts Bluff National Monument is named for a fur trapper by the name of Hiram Scott who was wounded and deserted by his companions in 1828. He gained immortality by making his way to a magnificent formation of bluffs along the North Platte River before succumbing to his wounds. It was for Hiram Scott that Scotts Bluff National Monument, Scotts Bluff County, and the City of Scottsbluff have been named.

Scotts Bluff National Monument, which rises 4,649 feet above sea level, was an imposing landmark which guided wagon trains along the California, Oregon, Pony Express, and Mormon Trails. Native Americans originally called this natural formation ma-a-pa-te, which translates into "hill that is hard to go around."

The Summit Road to the top of the Bluff was completed in 1937, allowing visitors to drive to experience the spectacular view of the valley 800 feet below. This road is the oldest existing concrete road in Nebraska and includes the only three automobile tunnels in our State.

In the Scottsbluff/Gering area, numerous events to commemorate the 95th anniversary of the National Park Service have been scheduled for August 2011, beginning with a Kick-Off Ceremony at Scotts Bluff National Monument on August 12, 2011. Platte Valley Attractions, a coalition of visitor venues in and around the area, is hosting a variety of events

● 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.

and special exhibits through grants and donations from local and regional sponsors to commemorate the theme, "Westward Expansion as seen through National Parks," including:

Farm and Ranch Museum is hosting westward expansion orientation films and an interactive exhibit of westward expansion transportation methods.

Midwest Theater is hosting both the premiere of a new documentary film on the Pony Express and a film by Ken Burns on America's National Parks.

North Platte Valley Museum is hosting a westward expansion map exhibit.

Western Nebraska Community College is hosting a seminar, "Recognizing and Preserving Westward Expansion," with speakers who are all nationally recognized in their fields.

Western Nebraska Community College sponsored a summer youth camp that developed posters to help promote these commemorative events.

Again, on behalf of the people of Nebraska, we offer our congratulations to Scotts Bluff National Monument on its Kick-Off Ceremony and the National Park Service on its 95th anniversary.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF BOB  
MOWBRAY

**HON. AARON SCHOCK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. SCHOCK. Mr. Speaker, the small town of Bradford, Illinois this month lost one of its most beloved residents. Bob Mowbray dedicated his life to actually living the words we utter so frequently about loving God and country. He first served his country in his youth, as a corporal in the Marines during the Korean conflict. After he returned home, he served his community in Bradford as the Postmaster for 36 years. He also was a loyal and active member for 58 years of the American Legion, Post #445.

When he was drafted by the Marines, he left behind a promising possible career as a big league pitcher. Even though he chose to return home instead of pursuing his baseball dreams, he never lost his passion for America's pastime.

Anyone who knew Bob knew about his unabashed love for sports, especially the Bears, the Bulls, and the White Sox. But what very few people knew—including those closest to him—was that he acted out his faith in God through his quiet charity. Bob wouldn't talk about it, but he was extremely generous, even giving money to support those he had never met.

Although he never had children of his own, all the children of Bradford—and even many in the surrounding towns—knew about Postmaster Mowbray. Bob brought in countless bags of candy over the years, always having a treat ready to slide over the counter to every kid who came in. And with that piece of candy would come a gentle nod and a warm smile.

Bob Mowbray was a man of few words, but he left a deep impression on many. He will be missed.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 90TH  
BIRTHDAY OF BERNICE FRIED-  
LANDER

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today it is my honor to pay tribute to Bernice Friedlander, who will mark her 90th birthday on Saturday, July 30, 2011, in Houston, Texas. On this special day we will all look back and see the hallmarks of a life well lived. Her quiet determination, unflinching kindness, and unyielding spirit have made her a pillar not only of a proud and loving family, but of all that have come to know her.

Beneath a humble and quiet exterior lies a generous and kind soul. She is beloved not for a litany of accomplishments, but simply for who she is. With such an uplifting and giving nature it is easy to see why she inspires so much love and warmth in others.

For decades she was the dedicated wife of her beloved husband, the late Silas Friedlander. She has been a wonderful mother to her adoring daughters Nancy and Susie, and a generous and doting grandmother to Kevin, Nick, Tyler, and Ashley.

We throw modesty aside today so that we can give the heartfelt thanks that Bernice is long overdue. Her unending love and devotion to those who have the privilege of calling her family have made their lives so much richer for having had her there. Happy birthday Bernice, may you enjoy yourself in happiness and good health for many years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RUNAWAY  
REPORTING IMPROVEMENT ACT  
OF 2011

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce bipartisan legislation, the Runaway Reporting and Improvement Act of 2011, along with my friend and colleague Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I am also pleased to be joined by Representatives KAREN BASS, GWEN MOORE, and PETE STARK.

The estimated number of youth that runaway or are 'thrown away' in the U.S. each year is between 1 and 1.7 million. While the reasons youth run away from home vary, the heightened risk for exploitation and victimization are the same for all of them.

One of the risks for runaway girls and young women is an increased risk for sex trafficking. Young girls who runaway or have been 'thrown away' from home are usually propositioned for sex within 24 hours of leaving home. Many runaway youth engage in 'survival sex' in exchange for food and shelter. Other risks include exposure to drugs and alcohol and violence.

One of the few things more terrible than learning a child is missing would be to learn that everything possible isn't being done to find him or her. The National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database is designed to help make information sharing easier so that

missing children can be found and provided with any needed services.

According to a New York Times' series, 'Running in the Shadows', as many as 16 percent of reported runaways are never entered in to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database.

The Runaway Reporting Improvement Act of 2011 would help solve this problem and protect missing children by making two small but useful changes to the Crime Control Act of 1990. First, the bill would require law enforcement agencies to certify that they comply with Federal law by entering all missing children into the NCIC database. Second, it would require that law enforcement officers provide the reporter of a missing child with information about the services of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the National Runaway Switchboard, as well as 24-hour, toll-free contact information for those resources. NCMEC and NRS have a long and successful history of helping parents and law enforcement agencies work together to find and protect missing kids. Parents and guardians with missing children need to be given information so they are not isolated during this time of crisis.

Mr. Speaker, we simply must do better for our children. The necessary resources are in place but they are not being used to their full potential. The Runaway Improvement Act of 2011 will help ensure that these existing resources are used to find and protect the families that need them the most.

IN MEMORY OF MR. A.J. LEGER,  
LOCAL ENTREPRENEUR, DEDI-  
CATED VOLUNTEER TO SOUTH-  
EAST TEXAS COMMUNITY

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Mr. A.J. Leger, a dedicated community volunteer, a veteran of the Marine Corp, and a shining example of a successful entrepreneur here in America. Growing up in Lafayette, Louisiana, Mr. Leger had a jump start on his career in the restaurant business back in 1952 at the ripe age of 12 years old working as a busboy at Don's Seafood and Steakhouse in his hometown. Who would have thought nearly 16 years later he would own his own restaurant employing his own busboys. His is a story familiar to all of us, as this is the story of America and the opportunities afforded to its citizens.

Soon after his graduation, Mr. Leger married his high school sweetheart, Patricia, before spending 6 years in the Marine Corps. After being honorably discharged, Mr. Leger picked up where he left off on his restaurant career becoming kitchen manager at Don's Seafood in both Baton Rouge and Shreveport locations. In 1968, Mr. Leger decided to cross the Sabine River, and open up with his two business partners one of the longest running and most successful restaurants in Beaumont, Texas, Don's Seafood located right off Interstate 10.

Mr. Leger served for over 40 years as an active member of the Sabine Area Restaurant Association, was awarded Outstanding Restaurateur Sabine Area Chapter by the Texas

Restaurant Association and in 1997 the association selected him for their highest honor by induction to the TRA's Hall of Fame.

In his free time, Mr. Leger could be found cooking for local fundraisers and charitable organizations such as the Young Mens Business League, Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, City of Beaumont, Texas Fire Museum, Boys Haven, and at the Texas State Capitol. Best known for his gumbo, Mr. Leger once said he had "cooked enough gumbo to float a battleship, over 12,000 lobsters, and millions of pounds of crawfish".

On Tuesday, May 31, 2011, Mr. Leger went to be with our Lord but he will always be remembered and highly thought of by the many lives he touched and the countless hours he devoted giving back to the community he called home. Mr. Leger leaves behind his high school sweetheart, Patricia, to whom he was married for 52 years and three loving daughters, Rhonda, Angie, and Jodie with families of their own, including five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, stories like A.J. Leger's remind us of what truly makes America a great Nation. It is an honor to join with the Southeast Texas community in honoring the life of Mr. A.J. Leger.

HONORING ANTHONY "SONNY"  
BERTONE

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2011

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Vermont veteran on his 90th birthday, Anthony "Sonny" Bertone.

A resident of Bennington, Vermont, Mr. Bertone served his country with bravery and honor in the United States Army during the Second World War. Mr. Bertone was assigned to Company "C" of the 634th Tank Destroyer Battalion, a Company that at many times was assigned to campaigns under General George S. Patton.

Mr. Bertone fought in some of the most important campaigns throughout the war, including Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge. Mr. Bertone also fought to secure the Ludendorff Bridge at Remagen, Germany and concluded his service in Czechoslovakia.

Mr. Bertone was honorably discharged from the Army in 1945 and received the Croix De Guerre. Upon leaving the Army, Mr. Bertone went on to raise his family in New Jersey before moving to Vermont.

As Vermont's Representative in this Congress, I ask that Mr. Bertone be recognized for his accomplishments and applauded for his service to the state of Vermont and the United States of America.

46TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
CREATION OF MEDICARE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today, Congressman ED TOWNS joined millions of grateful recipients in celebrating the 46th anniversary of

the enactment of Medicare, signed into law on July 30, 1965 by President Lyndon Johnson. Today, Medicare provides comprehensive health care coverage to 47 million Americans, including 39 million seniors and eight million people with disabilities under the age of 65 years old. Many consider Medicare one of the crowning achievements of the Democratic Party.

"On the 46th anniversary of Medicare it is important to recognize the profound impact it has had on American families. Slightly more than half of Americans over the age of 65 years had health coverage in 1964. Today coverage is virtually universal," stated TOWNS. "Because of Medicare, millions of Americans enjoy guaranteed benefits and affordable premiums for health care at a time in their lives when they need it most."

Medicare is arguably the best anti-poverty program to ever come out of Congress. Nearly 30 percent of seniors lived below the poverty line in 1964. Since Medicare was signed into law that number has dropped to 7.5 percent. Recent studies have shown, the average Medicare beneficiary saves hundreds of dollars per year in premiums because of Medicare. Most Americans believe Medicare must be preserved, regardless of age.

"Support for Medicare is nearly universal among Americans across the political spectrum, yet we have heard recently proposals that would end the program as we know it," TOWNS stated. Some of my colleagues passed a budget that would replace Medicare with a voucher system where seniors would be forced to spend \$6,000 on average to purchase private insurance. I have made a commitment to vigorously fight any policies that would change Medicare. Medicare is a program that has worked well for millions of Americans and their families and I will do all I can to preserve it."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2011

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 308, I was delayed in leaving a meeting with a constituent off the House floor during this two-minute votes series and was unable to cast my vote before the vote was closed.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE BILL TO PROVIDE FOR AN ANNUAL AUDIT OF THE UNION STATION REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce a bill to require greater accountability for a prized federal asset, Union Station in Washington, D.C. My bill would require an annual audit by the Department of Transportation Inspector General of the Union Station Redevelopment Corporation, USRC, and Union Sta-

tion, which is owned by the Department of Transportation. For decades, no official audit has been performed and, increasingly, questions have been raised about the management and condition of the facility.

Commissioned by Congress, Union Station first opened in 1907 as a train facility for the nation's capital, with a much heralded design by the famous architect Daniel Burnham. The station once was the largest building in the nation's capital. However, Union Station deteriorated from a bustling transportation hub and commercial center as rail use declined in the 1950s. Following a long series of failed ideas, wasted federal funds, cost overruns, major utility needs and mismanagement, Congress passed the Union Station Redevelopment Act (P.L. 97-125) in 1981, authorizing the Secretary of Transportation to create USRC, a non-profit corporation, to spearhead the redevelopment of Union Station into a modern facility, to maintain and expand it into a great intermodal facility, and to protect the federal government's interest in the station. In 1988, Union Station, which had become a neglected, boarded up wasteland hardly fit for trains, reopened after a multi-million dollar renovation with federal funds as a beautiful historically restored facility, shopping mall, and major multi-modal transit hub and tourist destination.

When I chaired the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, we held what likely were the first hearings on Union Station since the USRC was formed and the renovations were completed. I was astonished to find that there was no master plan to account for the major renovations and modernizations planned for inside and outside of the station, including reconstruction of Columbus Circle, expanded Metro access for the busiest Metrorail station in the region, development of Burnham Place, a three-million square foot mixed-use development project over the rail tracks, and indispensable expansion of the concourse and waiting areas for Amtrak, the Maryland Rail Commuter Service, MARC, and the Virginia Railway Express, VRE. Today, the various components of Union Station have developed a master plan for the station, including a separate Amtrak master plan that currently is being developed because of the urgent need to improve capacity and service along the Northeast Corridor. Yet both the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management have met significant resistance as we continue to press USRC to create an intercity bus deck in its existing space, in accordance with its mission to develop and maintain a true intermodal facility. It was only after two hearings and letters from the committee and from me that USRC developed a "pilot" intercity bus deck. Even so, after failed negotiations with intercity bus companies, it has required many meetings between USRC and me and my staff, a meeting with Chairman MICA and me, and the inclusion of the Department of Transportation, which, by statute, chairs the USRC Board of Directors, to finally jumpstart meaningful discussions on a permanent intercity bus program.

The audit is particularly essential now because of increasing evidence that USRC may not be able to meet its mandate to be self-supporting. For example, Union Station contains the kind of popular retail shops and restaurants that pay significant taxes everywhere

else in the city, including in other federal buildings. However, USRC has asked the District of Columbia for a reduced Possessory Interest Tax assessment, a tax levied by the District on private businesses located in federal buildings. Yet USRC was given authority under the Union Station Redevelopment Act to negotiate lease agreements in this valuable property in order to ensure that the needs of Union Station would be covered, but USRC has negotiated a master retail lease that obligated USRC to pay half of any Possessory Interest Tax, thereby depriving USRC of significant funds that could be used for station maintenance and improvements. USRC says that its payment of the Possessory Interest Tax would hinder its mission of maintaining and preserving Union Station. The amount of the Possessory Interest Tax is small compared to Union Station's needs and casts further doubt about USRC's ability to meet its congressional mandate to make Union Station self-supporting.

Although USRC was created in 1984 to ensure that Union Station would be self-sustaining, it is impossible for Congress or the public to gauge the health and progress of USRC without a proper audit. Particularly today, when there are no federal funds to rehabilitate Union Station, as Congress provided before, it is essential that we have a definitive and continuing view of the financial viability of Union Station, beginning with a full annual audit that is made available to Congress and to the public.

Major planned development, ongoing negotiations on the intercity bus deck and questions about USRC's maintenance and needed improvements for Union Station make an official annual audit essential. With nearly 90,000 visitors passing through Union Station every day, Congress is obligated to track the financial condition of this great asset in order to protect the significant federal investment and to avoid another cycle of the disrepair that once led to the closure of the facility. The only responsible course is to require a full annual and public audit of this historic federal property.

CONGRATULATING GLEN HAEGE,  
"AMERICA'S MASTER HANDY-  
MAN", ON HIS INDUCTION INTO  
THE MICHIGAN BROADCASTING  
HALL OF FAME

**HON. CANDICE S. MILLER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House Floor today to offer my heartfelt congratulations to a wonderful Michigander who is commonly referred to as "America's Master Handyman". When you think of home improvement shows in Detroit, Michigan, one might be quick to mention the popular TV sitcom of the 1990s, "Home Improvement" which featured Michigan native Tim Allen as Tim "The Toolman" Taylor. As you know, this was a fictional show and character. But what I bet many didn't realize is this: there is a real home improvement expert who does exist in Detroit and has had one of the most successful careers long before Tim Allen hit our TV screens.

His name, Mr. Speaker, is Glen Haege, known quite simply as "America's Master Handyman". His name might sound familiar if you are or know someone who is a "do-it-yourselfer". Glen is a nationally renowned radio talk show host, television personality, author, and columnist. He offers people advice with any type of home improvement project and has an uncanny ability to answer any question posed to him. Not even the Toolman's right-hand man, Al Borland, could hold a hammer to him.

Glen's training in the home improvement business started at the retail level where he worked as a store manager and a corporate manager. But Glen was a man destined for much larger audiences.

His extraordinary talents recently earned him the very prestigious award presented by the Michigan Association of Broadcasters for his lifetime of accomplishments: Glen was inducted into the Michigan Broadcasting Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to put this prestigious award into perspective. Mr. Haege joins the ranks of the late great Detroit Tigers Broadcaster and Major League Hall of Famer, Ernie Harwell, and the company of other outstanding individuals who have made a long and lasting impact on the industry and whose talents are never to be forgotten. He shares this rare distinction with people like Bob Reynolds, Mike Whorff, Dick Purtan, Ray Lane, Diana Lewis, Mort Crim, Bill Bonds, Sonny Eliot and J.P. McCarthy just to name a few.

Glen's broadcasting career started in 1983 by making appearances on several Detroit radio and TV shows offering insightful home maintenance techniques to those seeking assistance. These appearances catapulted Glen to a new job hosting his own radio show in 1987. He soon began taking on even more responsibilities as magazine writer and columnist for the Detroit News. Glen's polite, courteous and genuine caring personality allowed him to add listeners and their trust to his ever-expanding and popular show, and more and more readers to his columns.

Eventually in 1996, his show became nationally syndicated and was one the best known home improvement shows in the country. His current program on WJR 760-AM, "The Handyman Show with Glenn Haege", reaches over 1.3 million listeners a week and airs on 150 radio stations across the U.S.

In addition to his own radio program, Glen stays extremely busy with the little spare time he has by producing television shows, appearing on other radio stations offering free advice and tips, attending home improvement conferences, authoring books, and serving as President and CEO of his own business, H&S Services. Yet he also finds the time to maintain his own website that helps him reach out to even more people seeking guidance on their home improvement projects.

Glen is a great teacher and his considerable expertise helps countless people save time and money, inspires them to believe they can be "do-it-yourselfers" while also cautioning them that sometimes professionals are indeed the best option.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Mr. Glen Haege on this most recent recognition as he joins the 2011 Class in the Michigan Broadcasting Hall of Fame. I am very happy to see his hard work, dedication and commitment officially recognized by the Michigan Association of Broadcasters.

Lastly, I want to personally congratulate Glen on this notable achievement and thank him on behalf of the scores of people he has helped by converting their homes into more comfortable, efficient and beautiful living spaces. We are very fortunate indeed to have this outstanding man living in our magnificent state, and I am very proud to call him my constituent and friend.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH  
COUNTRYMAN

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Joe Countryman as he retires from his position as President of MBK Engineers. Through his work as an expert engineer, he has protected numerous regions of California, including Sacramento and the Central Valley, from flooding. Over the last 45 years, his engineering excellence has safeguarded the lives, homes and businesses of millions of Californians. I ask all my colleagues to join me today in honoring a true leader of the Sacramento community.

In the Sacramento area, flooding is of paramount concern to all of us. Joe's work has been crucial to protecting us from disaster, first as a senior civilian at the Army Corps of Engineers and then as the President of MBK Engineers. In 1986, during the historic storms, he managed the Folsom Reservoir flood operations for the Army Corps of Engineers. His decisions and resolve helped avoid a potential disaster for hundreds of thousands of residents in Sacramento along the American River, as a catastrophic flood threatened our dams and levees. Since then, he has worked to improve flood control operations at Folsom Reservoir, Oroville Dam, Shasta Dam, and other critically important sites across the Western United States. He has been influential in countless other projects not only in California, but also in Nevada, Utah, and Colorado.

Since I was elected, I have turned to Joe for his advice on a number of flood protection projects. Mr. Countryman is known not only for his incredible work in his field, but for his integrity and ability to communicate complex engineering and hydraulic information to the public. He has received many honors, including the Award of Merit from San Jose State University, the Commander's Award for Distinguished Service by the Army Corps of Engineers, and the American Society of Civil Engineers' Region 9 Lifetime Achievement Award. He is a member of the American Society of Engineers, the Flood Plain Managers Association, the Environmental and Water Resources Institute, and has been acknowledged as a Diplomat Water Resources Engineer for the American Academy of Water Resources Engineers.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize and thank Joe Countryman for his remarkable service not only to Sacramento, but to many other communities throughout the nation, and for his innovation and accomplishments in the field of engineering. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Countryman on his service and retirement. His expertise will certainly be missed.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 307 I was delayed in leaving a meeting with a constituent off the House floor during this two minute votes series and was unable to cast my vote before the vote was closed. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE  
NOMINATION OF REBECCA  
WODDER**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern regarding the recent nomination of Rebecca Wodder as Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks at the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Until recently, Ms. Wodder served as president of American Rivers, an environmental organization that specializes in the removal of dams across the United States. Under the direction of Ms. Wodder, American Rivers removed over 200 dams in 13 states from 1999 to 2010. In total, the organization claims credit for the removal of 150 dams across America. In many cases, the lawsuits that preceded the removal of these dams cost U.S. taxpayers millions of dollars. This clearly demonstrates that Ms. Wodder's agenda hinges on practices that result in the expenditure of vast amounts of federal time and money in exchange for the promotion of an environmental agenda that has shown questionable results.

The Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks oversees and coordinates all policy decisions made by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service. For someone who has spent much of her career battling the very agencies she will control, this is a prime example of the fox guarding the hen house. Indeed, American Rivers touts the fact that they have "secured the planned removal of more than 100 dams on some 55 rivers in the next five years." I doubt very seriously whether Ms. Wodder will conduct an unbiased assessment on the merits of these and other projects during her tenure at the Interior Department.

American Rivers is currently party to seven lawsuits against American taxpayers and the federal government. At a time when Congress is attempting to get our fiscal house in order, we do not need a litigious leader who has brought millions of dollars in lawsuits against our government.

Furthermore, many Americans living along rivers depend on them to support their livelihoods. During this summer alone, flooding has caused insurmountable damage to these communities. If we are going to expend capital on our inland waterways, Congress and the Obama Administration should be focused on maintaining flood control and preserving valuable river infrastructure, not increasing the disparity of funding between fish and wildlife conservation measures and human protection.

The protection of wildlife is a valid concern that should be addressed in a thoughtful manner. However, when efforts to protect wildlife result in irresponsible policy decisions, we must take a stand for the safety of our constituents.

I was proud to join 38 of my colleagues from all corners of this country in sending the following letter to the Senate. In light of not only the country's current financial crisis but also devastating floodwaters that continue to batter our river communities, I urge all of my colleagues in the House and the Senate to carefully consider the nomination of Rebecca Wodder as Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The consequences for millions of Americans could be dire.

Hon. BARBARA BOXER,

Hon. JEFF BINGAMAN,

Hon. JAMES INHOFE,

Hon. LISA MURKOWSKI.

DEAR SENATORS: As you consider President Obama's nomination of Ms. Rebecca Wodder as Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks at the Department of the Interior, we respectfully write to let you know of our serious concerns with her record as the head of American Rivers, a single-purpose interest group focused on litigating against the federal government and removing economically important infrastructure. We seriously question whether she could adequately represent broader and more balanced interests at the federal level, especially at a fragile economic time with national unemployment exceeding nine percent.

The position for which Ms. Wodder has been nominated oversees the management of at least 180 million federal acres and would have a direct influence on current and potential federal regulations impacting private lands, water rights, energy projects and other infrastructure. This is troubling given her past activities at the Wilderness Society and American Rivers, a non-governmental organization with a long record of receiving American taxpayer dollars while actively litigating against the federal government on multiple fronts. Between 1988 and 2011, American Rivers has either sued or been a party to 150 lawsuits against various parties, mostly the federal government. In fact, American Rivers is currently party to seven lawsuits against American taxpayers and the federal government.

One illuminating piece of litigation revolves around American Rivers' long-standing lawsuit against the federal government's operation of four multi-purpose dams in the Pacific Northwest. These dams, located on the lower Snake River in Washington state, provide multiple benefits including emissions-free, renewable hydroelectricity (enough power to serve a city the size of Seattle), navigation to deliver agricultural products to market, recreation and the good-paying jobs associated with these benefits. Writing in the August 25, 2003 edition of *The Dissident Voice*, Ms. Wodder wrote that "Breaching the four dams on the lower Snake River would be the single most effective way to bring back wild salmon." This is a completely unproven statement and the reality is breaching these dams is an extreme action that would have devastating economic impacts across an entire region while not actually assisting fish recovery. Despite broad agreement, including from the Obama Administration, on a biological opinion for Columbia Basin salmon recovery, Ms. Wodder's organization continues an over decade long lawsuit campaign against the federal government in an effort to demolish these dams.

There are numerous examples of how the policies advocated by Ms. Wodder at Amer-

ican Rivers will have serious impacts throughout the country. First, she effectively advocated for federal regulations that caused up to 40 percent unemployment in parts of the San Joaquin Valley, California by diverting farm water under the guise of protecting the Delta smelt, a three-inch fish. Second, she endorsed last Congress' controversial legislation (H.R. 5088 and S. 787) that many argued could allow the EPA to regulate street and gutter water run-off and man-made ditches. This could cause significant job loss throughout rural America and the National Association of Counties, a non-partisan entity composed of locally elected officials, was concerned that this legislation could lead to "more court cases" and federal groundwater regulation. Third, by naming the Susquehanna River as one of "America's most endangered rivers," her organization attempted to stifle the domestic production of affordable natural gas through hydraulic fracturing.

Furthermore, we are also concerned that this appointment may run afoul of President Obama's own goal of ensuring that political appointees would not work on regulations or contracts directly and substantially related to their prior employer. Ms. Wodder has received significant, long-term compensation during her tenure at American Rivers. As previously noted, the organization currently has numerous pending lawsuits against the very agencies over which she would have regulatory authority and for others that directly or indirectly have been involved in litigation with the Interior Department. This creates a very real and serious conflict of interest.

As Members of the House of Representatives, we appreciate the unique role of the Senate in the confirmation process. Nonetheless, the policies advocated by this nominee would be so detrimental to jobs, our economy and the livelihood of rural Americans that we felt compelled to make our views known and ask that you take them into consideration.

Sincerely,

BLAINE LUETKEMEYER.

DROUGHT IN THE HORN OF  
AFRICA**HON. MAXINE WATERS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, the people of the Horn of Africa are facing a devastating crisis. A severe drought has left millions of children, women, and men in Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya and Djibouti malnourished. Many are on the verge of starvation. According to the World Food Program, more than 11 million people in the Horn of Africa require food assistance due to the drought.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) reports that below-normal spring rains in the eastern Horn of Africa led to below-normal harvests and shortages of water and grazing resources for livestock. Livestock health has deteriorated markedly, and milk production has declined significantly. Food prices throughout the eastern Horn of Africa continued to rise during the month of June, contributing to food insecurity for the population.

The conditions in Somalia are especially severe. According to the Famine Early Warning

Systems Network (FEWS NET), which is supported by USAID, two areas of southern Somalia are already experiencing famine. Famine exists when at least 20 percent of the population has extremely limited access to basic food requirements, acute malnutrition exceeds 30 percent, and the death rate exceeds 2 out of every 10,000 people per day for the entire population. Death rates are above the famine threshold in two areas and are elevated across the south. Tens of thousands of people have already died in the past three months.

FEWS NET projects that famine will spread across all regions of southern Somalia within one to two months. The network estimates that 3.7 million people are in crisis nationwide, and 3.2 million of them require immediate, life-saving assistance. These severe conditions are expected to remain at least through December of this year. FEWS NET has declared this Africa's worst food security crisis since Somalia's 1991–1992 famine.

The effects of the drought in Somalia have been exacerbated by the lack of an effective central government and continuing conflict with al-Shabaab terrorists.

Drought has also affected Kenya and Ethiopia, where the situation is complicated by the arrival of large numbers of refugees from Somalia, many of them suffering from acute malnutrition.

The U.S. Government has already spent a total of approximately \$458.7 million on humanitarian assistance in the Horn of Africa during fiscal year 2011. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton issued a statement on July 20th expressing concern on behalf of the U.S. Government. She noted that additional international assistance for the region is needed and announced an additional \$28 million in U.S. assistance to Somalia and Somali refugees in Kenya. However, more needs to be done. FEWS NET has called for an immediate, large-scale, and comprehensive response to save tens of thousands of lives.

I am deeply concerned that the State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill for fiscal year 2012, which was marked up yesterday, will not provide sufficient funds for critical priorities like these. The bill includes an 18 percent cut in development assistance, which funds projects such as food security and basic education. The bill also cuts international disaster assistance by 12 percent compared to the fiscal year 2011 level and a shocking 42 percent compared to the fiscal year 2010 level. Such drastically reduced funding levels will not allow the United States to help millions of people in need or respond to emergencies, such as famines, hurricanes and earthquakes.

I have seen children who were starving. It is a terrible sight to see. We cannot sit by idly and allow thousands of children to die and not take any action to help them. To do so would be contrary to our national interests and contrary to our values.

I call upon my colleagues and indeed all Americans to show compassion to our brothers and sisters in Africa. And I call upon the U.S. Government to organize a comprehensive effort to save the lives of millions of hungry people throughout the Horn of Africa.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED  
CAREER OF CRAIG PROSSER

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2011

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Craig Prosser, retiring city manager of Tigard, Oregon. Craig has announced his retirement at the end of July, capping a 35-year career of distinguished service to our community.

Craig began serving Tigard in 1999 as finance director, and since 2005, as city manager. Craig's accomplishments include the formation of the city's first urban renewal district, the Tigard-Lake Oswego Water Partnership, as well as major improvements along Pacific Highway. He also oversaw the opening of the Westside Express Service Commuter line that runs through Tigard. Craig's foresight helped to make Tigard an attractive place to live and do business. Because of his leadership, Tigard was able to retain crucial city services through one of the worst financial crises in our country's history.

Craig has been a consensus builder who has always focused on the needs of the citizens, and he has worked tirelessly to address their concerns. He has approached his work with integrity and a true sense of dedication while empowering staff and those around him. In his retirement announcement Craig said, "I would be willing to put the City of Tigard staff up against any public workforce in the state, if not the nation. The citizens of Tigard are fortunate to have such dedicated elected officials and public employees working on their behalf."

Former Oregon Governor Tom McCall once said, "Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say, this is my community, and it is my responsibility to make it better." Craig Prosser truly is an American hero, for he has devoted much of his life to making his community better.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Craig for his outstanding service and for providing a heroic example to us all.

HONORING UNITED STATES MARINE  
LANCE CORPORAL CODY  
JAMES ELLIOTT

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2011

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor 21-year-old United States Marine Lance Corporal Cody James Elliott of Pismo Beach, California. On June 12, 2011, while out on patrol, LCPL Elliott ran to help his Brother in Arms, Josh McDaniels, who had been injured in an IED explosion. While en route to his fallen comrade—without regard for his own safety—LCPL Elliott was severely wounded by another IED explosion. Every day, magnificent men such as Cody shine on the battlefields of honor, bringing their light of heroism and selflessness to the darkness of war—making us all proud to be Americans. In the blast, LCPL Cody lost his left leg, broke his tibia in his right leg, and lost one of his fingers. In just a

few short weeks, he has come a long way in dealing with his wounds and is moving full speed towards recovery. With the help of his family, he continues to recover and show us what it means to bravely serve our country. I ask that this poem penned in his honor by Albert Caswell be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

RUN TO ME

(By Albert Caswell)

Run . . .  
Run to me . . .  
On battlefields of honor bright . . .  
There are but all of those who so carry the  
fight!  
All with their most magnificent light! To  
win that day, to that night!  
Who so shine, all in their most sacrificial  
light . . .  
Who for all of their Brothers In Arms, are  
but so ready to die!  
All in the blood that binds them, this most  
sacrificial tie!  
Which brings such tears to the Angel's eyes!  
As it was on the day in June, when Cody you  
so ran . . . as your heart so swooned!  
As your Brother Josh lay dying, as you ran  
to him . . . not asking why then!  
All in your most magnificent shades of  
green, oh yea you United States Marine!  
As when that bomb went off, as you lie there  
in all its cost . . .  
All in what you had given, all in what you  
had lost!  
As the tears rolled down your face, all in  
what this war had brought!  
As up ahead but lie a new front . . .  
Only twenty-one years old, and barely hang-  
ing on . . .  
As it was then there you so saw you had a  
choice!  
As you told yourself, get up Marine . . .  
while listening to your most inner  
voice!  
As from deep down within, but came such a  
force!  
As now Cody, your new life would so begin  
. . .  
With that first step, all in that pain and  
heartache which lie so up ahead . . .  
As somehow, you lifted up your fine head  
and so said!  
I did not die, I am not dead! As you so chose  
to feel that wind upon your face . . .  
All for your Fallen Brothers, all in your  
heart they now so hold such a special  
place!  
For you've got a life to live, as now you  
picked up the pace!  
A life to lead, as it's now Cody you've so cho-  
sen to move at light speed!  
For you are a United States Marine, all in  
what your recovery has so seen . . .  
You see, people like you Cody . . . so give to  
us all what we so need!  
Because, You So Teach Us! And You So Be-  
seech Us!  
As so deep down inside, You So Reach Us!  
With all of your most courageous faith, You  
So Speak To Us Out On Our Ways!  
For you will run, and you will breathe . . .  
and oh yea Cody you will so succeed!  
And if I ever, I so have a son . . . I pray that  
he may be as courageous as you  
my son . . .  
Whose heart to me so runs! Because, Cody in  
heaven you need not arms or legs, and  
that's where you are going one day . . .  
And, you will hear our Lord so say, "Cody,  
Run To Me!"  
All for what you gave, Run To Me!

CONGRATULATIONS DIANE  
HARPER

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Diane Harper on her upcoming retirement. After working for Northrop Grumman for almost 23 years, Diane's last day with the company will be July 29, 2011. Having over 40 years of defense-related experience, her career has taken her from the House Armed Services Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives to the Office of the Secretary of Defense to the Department of the Navy. Also at the Northrop Grumman Corporation, she was primarily responsible for acting as the liaison between the United States Congress and the Corporation with regard to legislation relevant to the company and national defense issues.

Diane, and her husband, Mike Harper, have been very encouraging to me and my wife Roxanne during my Congressional service. We appreciate their friendship and wish her Godspeed in the next stage of her life.

IN HONOR OF JAKE FISHER

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jake Fisher of Portageville, Missouri for his years of service to the University of Missouri Delta Center. The people of my congressional district, the state of Missouri, and Missouri's flagship University are forever grateful for Jake's contributions and commitment to making the Delta Center what it is today, a world-renowned research facility we can all be extremely proud of.

The Delta Center has grown to be the jewel of the University of Missouri land grant system under Jake's leadership. This is a testament to Jake and the dedicated staff and faculty he works with on a daily basis. Every time I visit the Delta Center, I am encouraged by the work I see and what it means for the future of agriculture and our state.

Jake's leadership has been critical in providing the faculty and staff with the vision and necessary resources to discover new solutions, address needs for our state and help the welfare of our citizens through scientific advancement in agriculture. His forward thinking has been instrumental in the Delta Center making great advancements which will lead the future and keep our agricultural producers on the frontline in meeting the challenge of feeding a growing world population.

Not only is the Delta Center a world renowned research facility, it also remains an integral part of the community in Southeast Missouri. Jake has worked to forge a strong partnership between local communities, area producers, the entire Southeast Missouri region and the Delta Center. These partnerships make the Delta Center a special place for the people of Southeast Missouri and have contributed to its successes over the years.

Everybody back in Missouri knows Jake outside of his role at the Delta Center as a self-

less member of the community. Whenever there has been a disaster or other challenge facing the community, Jake always lends a helping hand to neighbors in need. When a historic ice storm struck our area in 2009, cutting off power and heating to our residents during the coldest part of the year, Jake was one of the first to step up and help the community by opening up part of the Delta Center as a warming center where many of the utility crews were fed as they worked to restore power.

As Jake steps back from his leadership role at the Delta Center, I am certain the center will be in good hands. However, it will be a difficult transition for many, including me, as he has personified leadership for the Delta Center over the years. It is hard to think of the Delta Center without Jake Fisher.

More than anything, I appreciate having Jake's friendship; and I look forward to keeping it for years to come.

Congratulations, Jake, on a job well done and best wishes for you and Shelly as you enter a new and exciting part of your lives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS  
ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2584) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Chair, I appreciate the House's need to reduce the deficit and cut back on spending. Tightening our belts is something we need to do. However, these cuts should be targeted—with a doctor's scalpel instead of a machete—so that we do not collapse the economy that we are trying so hard to build up. Unfortunately, the Interior bill we are currently debating is the work of a machete. This bill cuts or eliminates funding for countless programs that exist to help communities—including the Environmental Protection Agency's Smart Growth Programs and the Office of Sustainable Communities.

The EPA Office of Sustainable Communities is part of an inter-agency partnership with the Department of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. It was established to provide a resource for communities who need technical assistance to plan for economic growth and development and account for a changing population.

The services offered by the EPA Sustainable Communities Office are in high demand—they have been able to assist only 9% of interested communities due to budget and time constraints. Since 2005, over 1,300 communities have requested assistance from the EPA; 122 have been assisted, all for a total of \$4.5 million.

This is a program that helps local governments expand their economic development options and make their communities more at-

tractive to business and local citizens. The EPA's Office of Sustainable Communities works with HUD and DOT to make government better at helping communities develop housing, transportation and energy efficiency plans. This partnership removes barriers and cuts bureaucratic red tape, which means more efficient investments.

My home state of Missouri is already benefiting from the work of the Partnership for Sustainable Communities. Last fall, my district of Kansas City received a \$4.5 million grant from the Partnership. The Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant brings together assistance from HUD, DOT, and EPA to study six development corridors that connect 30 communities to Kansas City's urban core and coordinate housing, transportation and environmental protection along these corridors. The Kansas City region also received a \$50 million TIGER grant for investments in regional transit corridors, additional transit centers, bus stop improvements, as well as sidewalk, street, and transit improvements in the city's Green Impact Zone in the urban core.

Kansas City also received a grant that will support outreach and production of a handbook of tools and incentives designed to facilitate the redevelopment of older commercial brownfield sites in urban and suburban locations throughout the city. Commercial brownfields sites often include contamination and can be challenging to redevelopment in suburban communities.

The first phase of the project will inventory the tools, incentives, and techniques available locally to create smart growth designs and revitalize brownfields. Research will then be performed on relevant national models and best practices in these fields. A handbook will be compiled containing information on smart growth techniques for brownfield commercial sites that can cut development costs, offer unique amenities, and respond to environmental impacts. It will also highlight relevant brownfield incentives, tools, and strategies.

A design workshop will be conducted for two local, commercial brownfield sites, one urban and one suburban. The results of the workshop will be incorporated into the handbook, which will be presented at a series of roundtable events held for developers, landowners, and others involved in the redevelopment process. The project will actively seek input from the community on methods to make commercial site reuse attractive and to determine the needs of communities near commercial brownfield sites. The results may be used to suggest improvements to city codes and policies to encourage reuse and smart growth design of brownfield sites. This project will help balance regional growth in urban and suburban locations through marketing assistance for both areas, and encourage mixed-use redevelopment to better meet community service and housing needs.

Additionally, Missouri's capital, Jefferson City, has received EPA assistance to improve an area in the city core that serves as the gateway to the State Capitol and the larger Capital Complex.

Smart Growth projects similar to the projects I highlighted in Missouri are in 200 communities and almost all 50 states. Seven members of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee have at least one Sustainable Communities project in their district. These programs within EPA, HUD, and DOT provide

assistance to communities for the tools they need to create the community that people want to live in. This partnership removes barriers and cuts bureaucratic red tape, which means more efficient investments. If we are truly interested in cutting costs at the government level, we should be promoting efficient and cross-cutting government programs like this one, instead of de-funding them.

#### IMPACT OF INSURED DEPOSITORY INSTITUTION FAILURES

SPEECH OF

**HON. CORY GARDNER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2011*

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, thousands of local community banks operate across the country, making a valuable contribution to America's economy. Colorado has a rich history of community banking, where small business owners and employers can do business with a bank they know and trust, and people know that the money they deposit is being re-deployed into the community by an institution that wants to see the community succeed as much as they do.

That shared interest in the community has traditionally led local banks to act in a responsible manner and shield themselves from systemic problems, but they are not immune from tough times. Unfortunately, federal regulators are forcing community banks in particular to fight through the rough economy with one hand tied behind their backs.

In short, we must increase bank lending to improve the economy, but regulators are preventing such lending by forcing banks to hoard capital, and by prohibiting community banks from effectively working with their borrowers. We cannot expect to reinvigorate the economy while this is the case.

Congress has been considering this problem since 2009, and it is time for action. It's been two and a half years since the fall of 2008, and yet we are still facing high unemployment, a weak dollar, and a sluggish economy. It is time to move forward, and we know that to move forward we need to stimulate lending. That is why I support this bill.

#### IN HONOR OF ROBERT AND GLORIA NOBLE OF QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Robert and Gloria Noble of Quincy, Massachusetts. They will be recognized for their tremendous contributions to our community on August 1, 2011, when Manet Community Health Center will bestow the first Elizabeth A. Swanton Community Service Award upon Mr. and Mrs. Noble.

This award is presented in memory of Elizabeth A. Swanton, a former member of the board of Manet Community Health Center who passed away in January 2011 at the age of 69. She dedicated 30 years of her life advanc-

ing the Manet mission, including her service as President of the Manet Board of Directors. The award recognizes an individual or group who, like Elizabeth Swanton, has demonstrated a significant commitment to volunteerism and community service.

Robert and Gloria moved to Quincy in 1951, a year after they married. Immediately, they immersed themselves in civic life and community service. Some of their more notable roles—and there are many—include Bob's service as Massachusetts Commander of the American Ex-Prisoners of War and Gloria's tenure as Director of D.O.V.E., which seeks to help victims of domestic violence.

For over two decades, they have also helped to organize Quincy holiday celebrations as members of the Quincy Christmas Festival Committee. In 2008, the couple was recognized for their commitment to the community with the Quincy Sun's "Citizen of the Year" award.

Their life has not only been rich in accomplishments and accolades, but also in family. They have been blessed with four children, 10 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren, and have been fortunate enough to watch their family grow roots in Quincy.

Bob and Gloria are known throughout Quincy as true local heroes, and they have created a legacy of community service on the South Shore that will be hard to match and surely never forgotten. When I think of them, the words that come to mind include devoted, selfless, caring and committed. Our communities are all better thanks to their tireless activism. They are, without a doubt, a perfect choice for the first-ever Elizabeth A. Swanton Community Service Award.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CECIL L. HEFTEL

**HON. COLLEEN W. HANABUSA**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous career of the late Representative Cecil L. Heftel. H.R. 2149 is a bill which designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4354 Pahoehoe Avenue in Honolulu, Hawaii, as the "Cecil L. Heftel Post Office Building."

Known for his prowess in building radio and television broadcasting stations, in 1976, Cecil Heftel was elected to the 95th Congress to represent the First Congressional District of Hawaii. While in Washington, Representative Heftel's first assignments were on the Education and Labor Committee and the Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Representative Heftel was reelected four times, serving a total of five terms. During the 96th Congress, Representative Heftel was elected to the Ways and Means Committee where he stayed until his resignation in 1986 to run for Governor of Hawaii.

While in office, Representative Heftel sponsored 160 bills and was a champion of tax reform and energy independence, always showing aloha to his constituency. In response to President Ronald Reagan's tax cut proposal, Representative Heftel said "I cannot support a tax proposal which would benefit me so much

more than those of my constituents who earn less than \$30,000.00 a year." Statements like this would define who Cecil Heftel was, both inside Congress and out.

In 1983 Representative Heftel was involved in a car crash near the Lincoln Memorial that left him with severe injuries. The accident occurred before cars were legally required to have airbags. This experience helped shape Representative Heftel's view of government regulation in the private sector. After the accident, Representative Heftel unsuccessfully filed suit against General Motors, blaming his accident on faulty brakes in his Oldsmobile. Though General Motors had sent Representative Heftel a letter explaining that his specific car model might have faulty brake, he did not receive the letter until after the accident occurred.

Upon his return to the 99th Congress, Representative Heftel immediately introduced legislation that would provide criminal penalties for manufacturers who fail to notify owners of motor vehicle safety defects. This continued a trend of Representative Heftel using his life experience to impact his constituency and put forward efficient and innovative laws that lasted until his resignation.

In 2004 at age 80, Heftel was successfully elected to the state Board of Education for the Oahu-At-Large seat continuing his passion for public service into his golden years.

In light of a career dedicated to advancing the common good, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2149 and name the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4354 Pahoehoe Avenue in Honolulu, Hawaii, as the "Cecil L. Heftel Post Office Building."

#### INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION TO CONDEMN THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN NORWAY

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2011*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution condemning in the strongest possible terms the cold-blooded terror attacks that wounded as many as 96 people and took 76 lives in Norway on July 22, 2011. The attacks commenced with the brutal bombing of government buildings in Oslo, and the violence then reached its peak with a twin attack at a youth camp on Utoya Island, where the majority of casualties were children.

Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg condemned the attacks as "peacetime Norway's deadliest day", and I urge my colleagues to stand by Norway, a great friend and ally, in its darkest hour by supporting this resolution.

For the Norwegian government and people, these attacks are an atrocity, a nightmare, and a national tragedy.

For the world, this is a stark reminder that, as long as hatred and intolerance are allowed to persist, even the most peaceful of nations are not immune to its devastating effects.

A founding member of the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Norway is the home of the Nobel Peace Prize and offers a safe haven to refugees and the politically persecuted. Many of its police officers don't carry arms.



To think that even this peaceful society can be the target of brutal, relentless hatred and violence is utterly shocking, and a call for action is necessary. The international community must not stand for this type of ideological violence, and this resolution reaffirms the resolve of Congress to combat all forms of terrorism, both domestically and abroad. It also expresses deep sympathy, solidarity, and condolences for Norway and reaffirms our joint commitment to peace and the elimination of actions motivated by hatred and religious or cultural intolerance worldwide.

Despite the terrible violence committed against unarmed and innocent civilians, the country has courageously demonstrated that their commitment to peace, freedom, and tolerance remains unwavering. Morten Helleso Johansen, an 18-year-old survivor of the attack, expresses this sentiment in no uncertain terms. "I want to return to that Island next year," he says. "It is the best way to honor the memory of those who died by showing that I'm not afraid, and that I'm not silenced!"

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to personify Morten's courageous spirit by supporting this resolution and honoring the victims and survivors of this tragedy. To those who perpetuate fear, hatred, and intolerance throughout the world, we say: "We are not afraid, and we will not be silenced!"

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IMPACT OF INSURED DEPOSITORY  
INSTITUTION FAILURES

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2011*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2056 offered by my colleagues on the Financial Services Committee, Rep. LYNN WESTMORELAND and Rep. DAVID SCOTT. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation which requires the FDIC Inspector Gen-

eral to conduct a comprehensive study of issues raised by persistent failures of U.S. banks. These issues include appraisals, capital, loss share agreements and other issues that arise when a bank becomes vulnerable to closure.

I have heard from banks in my district that have been working with the FDIC to recapitalize and restructure their institutions so they can avoid being closed. They argue that the FDIC offers them little flexibility or time to raise the capital they need or make the changes they need to satisfy the FDIC. I hope the study this bill authorizes will examine these procedures and bring to light any procedural changes that the FDIC can implement to address these concerns.

H.R. 2056 was amended in committee to reflect some additional factors that the FDIC thought were important to include in the study's parameters. I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.