

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF
LANKARAN, AZERBAIJAN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome the city of Lankaran, Azerbaijan as a new sister city to a city in my district, Monterey, California.

Lankaran joins six other cities that have sister-city arrangements with Monterey. The other cities are: Tainan City, Taiwan; Nanao, Japan; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Trapani, Italy; Kusadasi, Turkey; and Lerida, Spain.

Lankaran, located on the southern coast of the Caspian Sea offers great potential for a thriving tourism industry for Azerbaijan. As a tourist mecca of its own Monterey can offer a great example of best practices in tourism of Lankaran.

I hope this new relationship will foster good will and friendship between two wonderful cities and two countries allied in peace.

HONORING MR. GLENN PETTINATO

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my constituents, Mr. Glenn Pettinato, on the occasion of his induction as President of UNICO National, the largest Italian-American service organization in the United States.

Since its founding in 1922, UNICO National has represented Italian-Americans across the country with pride and selflessness. Its foundations in charitable works, higher education, and patriotic deeds have taken UNICO from a fifteen-member group to nation-wide organization, with over 7,000 members in 140 local chapters across 19 states.

UNICO has continued to fight for the equal treatment of all Americans, including Italian-Americans and has worked tirelessly to promote its ideals of citizenship and civic duty.

As an Italian-American myself, I am honored to have the opportunity to offer my congratulations to a man who will faithfully serve UNICO as a leader who truly embodies its sentiment for unity, neighborliness, integrity, charity, and opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Mr. Glenn Pettinato, and ask my colleagues to join in praising his commitment to community and country.

SOUTHERN KORDOFAN: ETHNIC
CLEANSING AND HUMANITARIAN
CRISIS IN SUDAN

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I called an emergency hearing yesterday because of the escalating crisis in the Sudanese state of Southern Kordofan. This crisis first arose in June of this year, shortly after the military forces of the Republic of the Sudan attacked the Abyei region, apparently as a provocation to South Sudan's Sudanese People's Liberation Movement, or SPLM. South Sudan was about to become independent, and these attacks may have been intended to provoke a fight that could derail their independence. At the same time, Sudanese attacks on SPLM-North members in the Sudanese state of Southern Kordofan were increasing.

Because of the fighting and the displacement of Sudanese and foreigners from Southern Kordofan, no one is estimating how many people have been killed in that area. We do know that more than 73,000 people have been displaced. Whatever the numbers involved, we can be sure that the suffering of the people in Southern Kordofan, especially the Nuba people, has been catastrophic.

This latest violence is a tragic resumption of a prior war by the Khartoum government on the Nuba. Beginning in the 1980s, Islamist elements in the North began an eradication campaign against the Nuba—pitting Northern Arabs against Africans to the South. Unfortunately for the Nuba, they are not Southerners, even though many fought with the Southern army during the North-South civil war. But neither are they accepted by the elements ruling the North, even though many of them are Muslims.

This left the Nuba on their own to suffer the onslaught of the Khartoum government. The strategy of cultural cleansing pursued by the government involved harsh attempts to depopulate vast areas, killing potential combatants, as well as many others, and herding survivors into tightly controlled government refugee camps. When jihad was declared by the Government of the Sudan in 1992, even Nuba Muslims were targeted, with the rationale that Muslims in SPLM areas were not true Muslims. Rape of Nuba women has been a central component of the government's strategy, aimed at destroying the social fabric of Nuba society. Almost every woman who has been in one of Khartoum's so-called "peace camps" reportedly was either raped or threatened with rape.

According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, between 30,000 and 40,000 people, out of a population of 60,000 in the Southern Kordofan capital of Kadugli have fled the town. Many of the attacks in Southern Kordofan were indiscriminate, including aerial bombardments and

artillery fire by the Sudanese Armed Forces. Bombings have been reported in five villages south of the state capital of Kadugli, as well as in Talodi, Heiban, Kaudo and other towns. The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights told the UN Security Council on July 29th that there were reports, as recently as July 27th, of aerial bombings forcing civilians to flee into the Nuba Mountains.

Some are trying to down play the overwhelming responsibility of the Sudanese government for the devastation taking place in Southern Kordofan by referring to the refusal of the SPLM-North to lay down their arms to negotiate with Khartoum. But there is no moral equivalence between the SPLM-North's actions and those of the government. SPLM-North members are not bombing people indiscriminately, driving Arabs off their lands and out of their homes nor going door-to-door to identify their perceived enemies and execute them. The Government of Sudan's military forces are. We saw photographic evidence of these atrocities at yesterday's hearing.

In addition, the recent attacks on Southern Kordofan have disrupted the planting season and will have a long-term negative impact on the ability of its people to feed themselves. In parts of Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya, people suffer from drought made worse by conflict. In Southern Kordofan, the national government is creating a similar humanitarian crisis.

The death and destruction to which Sudanese Africans have been subjected was thought to have ended with the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005 to end the North-South civil war. However, the genocide in Darfur diverted the international community's attention away from the unresolved issues between North and South. These lingering points of contention threatened to derail independence for South Sudan just as the independence process was coming to a conclusion. And now the struggle over Abyei threatens to stifle the suffering cries and pleas for help that are arising from the Nuba people as they are dragged into a resumption of the Northern war against them.

We discussed this war during the Subcommittee's June 16th hearing on South Sudan. At that time, the fighting in Southern Kordofan was as horrific as any attacks waged by the Khartoum government. The testimony that was presented yesterday by witnesses who have seen the carnage revealed the horrific extent of this situation.

HYDROCEPHALUS TREATMENT IN
UGANDA: LEADING THE WAY TO
HELP CHILDREN

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights, I held a

• 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.

hearing on August 2nd on the global health issue of hydrocephalus, a serious—and seriously neglected—health condition. The hearing also focused on a relatively inexpensive, technologically-sophisticated advancement for curing it, created, designed, and perfected by one of our distinguished witnesses, Dr. Benjamin Warf.

I had the opportunity to learn more about hydrocephalus when I was traveling in Africa last March. Children who suffer from it characteristically have heads that are far out of proportion to the size of their small bodies. I was horrified to learn that in Africa, where superstitions still are widespread, hydrocephalus is commonly perceived as a curse or caused through witchcraft. A child may be subjected to horrific abuse, and even killed, as a result. It was therefore a real eye-opener for me to see the cultural context of hydrocephalus in Africa, and the extraordinary efforts of a number of courageous, compassionate individuals to address it.

The human brain normally produces cerebrospinal fluid which surrounds and cushions it. The fluid also delivers nutrients to and removes waste away from the brain. This fluid is drained away from the brain and absorbed into blood vessels as new fluid is produced.

Hydrocephalus occurs when this draining process no longer functions properly. The fluid levels inside the skull rise, causing increased pressure that compresses the brain and potentially enlarges the head. Symptoms include headaches, vomiting, blurred vision, cognitive difficulties, imbalance, convulsions, brain damage, and ultimately, death.

Hydrocephalus can occur in adults, but most commonly is present at birth. Our witnesses testified that there are believed to be more than 4,000 new cases of infant hydrocephalus in Uganda, and 100,000 to 375,000 new cases in sub-Saharan Africa, each year. By comparison, in the United States, hydrocephalus occurs in 1 out of every 500 births. Another 6,000 children under the age of 2 develop hydrocephalus annually. The U.S. National Institutes of Health estimates that 700,000 Americans have hydrocephalus, and it is the leading cause of brain surgery for children in this country.

A major difference between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa is the number of neurosurgeons available to treat this condition. The U.S. has 3,500 neurosurgeons, whereas Uganda, for instance, has only four.

Another major difference between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa is the methodology used to treat hydrocephalus. In the Western world, doctors surgically insert a shunt into the brain in order to drain the fluid through the neck and into another part of the body where the fluid can be absorbed. A shunt is only a temporary solution, and there is always a danger that any one of a number of things may go wrong. For example, the tube may become blocked, an infection may develop, catheters may break or malfunction due to calcification, or the valve may drain too much or too little fluid. In almost half of all cases, shunts fail within the first two years. And when they do, the patient must have immediate access to a medical facility and a doctor who can correct the problem.

This precarious situation must be a constant source of concern and stress for people in the United States who suffer from hydrocephalus and their families. However, in a place like

sub-Saharan Africa, a shunt is fundamentally impractical. Trained neurosurgeons, as I noted, are extremely few in Africa, as are properly equipped hospitals. And roads and transportation systems on the African continent make travel arduous and long for the vast majority of people under even the best of circumstances. A hydrocephalic child in a place like Uganda, even if he or she could be treated with a shunt, would have little hope of living for more than a couple of years.

Mr. Speaker, in March of this year, I had the privilege of meeting Dr. John Mugamba, one of the four neurosurgeons in Uganda. With the help of a video such as we viewed during the hearing, Dr. Mugamba explained the fascinating surgical procedure that he is performing several times daily in Uganda to cure small children of hydrocephalus. This treatment being provided at CURE Children's Hospital of Uganda is not only overcoming a medical barrier that children afflicted with the condition face; it is also serving to educate Ugandan communities that the condition is not the result of a curse and is not a reason to kill the child. Parents whose children have been cured are helping other parents to identify the condition early in an infant's life, and to know where to go for treatment.

Dr. Warf was the first to identify neonatal infection as the chief cause of pediatric hydrocephalus in a developing country. He also developed the new surgical technique, a combined endoscopic third ventriculostomy with bilateral choroid plexus cauterization (ETV/CPC), which holds great promise not only for the children of Africa but potentially for children in developed countries as well. As Dr. Warf testified, hydrocephalus has never been a public health priority in developing countries. Most infants in Africa do not receive treatment, and even when treated, they often succumb to a premature death or suffer severe disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, it is imperative that we find the causes in order to develop public health prevention strategies. Our distinguished witnesses explained this innovative procedure, efforts being undertaken to determine the causes of hydrocephalus, and initiatives to end the suffering caused by this life-threatening condition. I plea with all stakeholders who care about the children of Africa, including African Ministries of Health, non-governmental organizations, and our own U.S. Agency for International Development, to urgently provide tangible support to these efforts and initiatives.

SUPPORTING THE APPOINTMENT
OF GENERAL WESLEY CLARK AS
SPECIAL ENVOY TO CAMP
ASHRAF, IRAQ

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my support for the appointment of General Wesley K. Clark, Sr. as the special envoy to resolve the crisis in Camp Ashraf, Iraq. As one of the most highly decorated officers in the history of our nation and an authority in foreign policy as demonstrated by his ability to resolve the crisis in the Balkans while serving as the Supreme Allied Commander Europe of

NATO from 1007–2000, I encourage Secretary Clinton to seriously consider General Clark for this position.

Camp Ashraf is home to 3,400 members of the principal Iranian opposition group, the Mujahedin-e Khalq (MEK). There are 1,000 women among the residents, as well as children. The Iraqi Government has on two occasions attacked the unarmed residents of Camp Ashraf, killing dozens and injuring hundreds of defenseless men and women.

In a press conference on July 30, Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki stated that western countries should not provide refuge to the residents. He has already stated that he intends to expel, and has threatened to arrest Camp Ashraf residents by the end of the year. If Ashraf residents are left at the mercy of Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki, who has repeatedly acted at the behest of Tehran, the residents could be killed, tortured or even sent to Iran where they would surely be murdered.

We need to play a very active role to ensure that no other resident of Camp Ashraf is subjected to massacre, given that we signed an agreement with every resident of Camp Ashraf in 2004 to protect them until their final disposition and that the United States recognized them as “protected persons.”

I strongly endorse the appointment of a special envoy to resolve the looming humanitarian catastrophe in Camp Ashraf, Iraq. The envoy should not only have notable credentials and experience, but should also have the trust of all parties including the residents of Ashraf, European countries and the United Nations.

General Wesley Clark has proven himself to be a diplomat of the highest order as well as an outstanding military commander and strategist. General Clark graduated first in his class from West Point. He completed degrees in philosophy, politics and economics at Oxford University where he earned both his B.A. and M.A. degrees as a Rhodes Scholar.

In 38 years of service in the United States Army, he commanded at the battalion, brigade and division levels. He served in a number of significant staff positions including being appointed as the Director for Strategic Plans and Policy (J-5) of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. General Clark rose to the rank of four-star general as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander of Europe and led forces to victory in Operation Allied Force where 1.5 million Albanians were saved from ethnic cleansing.

His awards include the Presidential Medal of Freedom, Defense Distinguished Service Medal (five awards), Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, honorary knighthoods from the British and Dutch governments, Commander of the Legion of Honor by the French government and numerous other awards.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to stand with me in urging Secretary Clinton to consider General Wesley Clark to lead a special envoy to resolve the humanitarian crisis in Camp Ashraf, Iraq. It is in the best interest of the residents of Camp Ashraf that this effort be led by someone such as General Clark who has military experience and demonstrated successful conflict resolution.

IN HONOR OF MR. TONY
PETKOVSEK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Tony Petkovsek on the 50th anniversary of his Polka music radio show. Deemed "Cleveland's Polka Ambassador," he has worked tirelessly to advance Slovenian culture and Polka music both in Cleveland and around the world.

Starting in August of 1961, Tony began broadcasting a polka music radio show fused with interviews and discussions on the Cleveland community. Tony was also instrumental in establishing the United Slovenian Society and Greater Cleveland and the USS Concert.

In addition to his career, Tony uses polka as a vehicle to perform invaluable community service. Through his Cleveland Slovenian Radio Club's "Radiothons," Tony has helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Slovene Home for the Aged which helps elderly members of Cleveland's Slovenian-American community receive various therapies as well as recreation activities and entertainment. He has also helped form many cultural organizations in Cleveland such as the United Slovenian Society of Greater Cleveland and the Cleveland-Slovenian Radio Club.

Tony has received countless accolades and awards throughout his long and selfless career. He has served on the Ohio Arts Council and in 1991 was inducted into the Broadcasters Hall of Fame in Akron. He has received the Slovenian Man of the Year Award from the Federation of Slovenian homes. This year he is being inducted into the Cleveland International Hall of Fame, Class of 2011.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please rise to honor Mr. Tony Petkovsek on the 50th anniversary of his radio show and his recent induction into the Cleveland International Hall of Fame. He is a staple of Polka culture and is a vital member of the Slovenian-American community.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE GEORGE
RAMOS

HON. LUCILE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late George Ramos, a longtime Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist in Los Angeles, a Cal Poly professor, and a decorated Vietnam War veteran who devoted much of his life to honoring the Latino community that he knew so well and loved.

Mr. Ramos grew up in the area of East Los Angeles known as Belvedere Garden. As we learned through his own writings, Mr. Ramos escaped the trappings of poverty, drugs and gang life that plagued the area to attend college and embark on a distinguished career in journalism.

Among his many professional highlights, Mr. Ramos is heralded for his contributions to a Los Angeles Times groundbreaking series on Latinos in Southern California that earned the newspaper a 1984 Pulitzer Prize.

As part of this series, Mr. Ramos authored a July 27, 1983 article entitled "Going Home: American Dream Lives in the Barrio," in which Mr. Ramos shares with readers the story of his boyhood life growing up in the "hillside barrio." I would like to honor his memory today by submitting the full text of this article into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

On a more personal note, I was also deeply impressed by another thorough, fact-filled, and beautifully written article about Los Angeles' Latino community that Mr. Ramos authored—my father's October 25, 2005 obituary. In the first sentence, he described my father, the late Congressman Edward Roybal, as a "pioneer in Latino politics in Los Angeles and a godfather and mentor to scores of lawmakers." I find it truly fitting that many of the same words are being used over and over to describe his own life's contributions to journalism.

In addition to his reporting, I have also had the privilege, year after year, of joining Mr. Ramos and other Latino veterans on Memorial Day at Cinco Puntos in Boyle Heights near the Mexican-American All Wars Memorial. A Purple Heart recipient and proud Latino veteran, Mr. Ramos made it a priority to honor our fallen men and women in uniform and often served as the event's Master of Ceremony.

To more fully capture Mr. Ramos' life and accomplishments, I would also like to submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following article that appeared in the online publication, CalCoastNews, where Mr. Ramos most recently volunteered as an editor. In the July 26 article, Los Angeles elected officials are quoted universally praising Mr. Ramos' talent for storytelling and his devotion to Los Angeles' Latino community.

Mr. Speaker, as his family, colleagues, fellow veterans, students and many friends prepare to gather for his memorial service August 6 at the Veterans' Memorial Building in Morro Bay, I ask my colleagues to please join me and the entire Los Angeles community in extending our heartfelt condolences to Mr. Ramos' loved ones and all of those whose lives he touched. By all accounts, this self-described "kid from East L.A." served Los Angeles well and will be greatly missed.

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNS IN
MEMORY OF GEORGE RAMOS

(July 26, 2011) CALCOASTNEWS—The Los Angeles City Council adjourned today's meeting in memory of George Ramos, a three-time Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter, columnist and editor for the Los Angeles Times, Cal Poly professor, and CalCoastNews editor who was more comfortable referring to himself as "the kid from East L.A."

Ramos, who suffered from increased complications from diabetes, was found dead at his home in Morro Bay Saturday. He was 63.

"George was a tenacious reporter and a brilliant story teller who always wrote from the heart," said Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. "A proud son of the Eastside, he intimately captured the Latino experience in Los Angeles and never lost sight of the human dimension in journalism. He will be greatly missed but his legacy and enduring love for our City will live on through the many young journalists he mentored throughout the years."

Ramos was born in Los Angeles on Oct. 1, 1947. He grew up in Belvedere Garden, a neighborhood he described in a 1984 Pulitzer Prize series story as an East L.A. hillside barrio inhabited by "poor but proud people" with "hopes as resilient as tall wheat in a summer breeze." Ramos graduated from Garfield High School and attended Cal Poly San

Luis Obispo where he earned a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1969. He joined the Vietnam War effort, serving in the U.S. Army from March 1970 to September 1971 in West Germany and South Vietnam. He was awarded the Purple Heart after suffering a leg wound.

"I first met George over the phone when I was studying in Oxford more than 15 years ago and recently saw him on Memorial Day at Cinco Puntos. In the intervening years, I came to appreciate his unique perspective on issues facing our great city. His death is a loss for us all," said Council President Eric Garcetti.

First District Councilmember Ed P. Reyes said: "George Ramos was a street reporter, passionate and fiery, who constantly searched for the human side of the news. We will miss his ability to seek truth. It's a perspective that's needed now more than ever and we will miss him."

Ramos joined the L.A. Times in 1978 after working for Copley News Service and the San Diego Union. During his career at the Times, he went on to win three Pulitzer Prizes, an honor only a handful of Latino reporters has accomplished in journalism history.

"As a teacher, journalist and veteran, George Ramos was a friend and mentor to many," said Fourteenth District Councilmember José Huizar. "His influence crossed generations. His keen intellect, sharp sense of humor and deep sense of humanity will be dearly missed. I'm fortunate to have had the opportunity to see all his gifts displayed at our annual Veterans' Memorial commemoration at Cinco Puntos in Boyle Heights, which George participated in numerous times. My thoughts and prayers go out to all mourning the loss of this great man."

Tenth District Councilmember Herb Wesson said: "George Ramos had roots in many communities, and the fact that he cared about those communities was reflected in his writing. He was a fine journalist, and a great role model. The many young journalists he trained, and who maintain his high standards, are the important legacy he leaves us."

"George Ramos had a monumental impact because he was fearless in seeking out the truth and sharing it with the public. I am among the many fans who greatly admired him for his journalistic skills, personal and professional integrity and incredible dedication. Most of all, I appreciate how much he accomplished not just through the printed word but through his own humanity, as he was a wonderful and caring person who mentored countless others, giving them tools and wisdom with which to build a better career, life and world," said Fifth District Councilmember Paul Koretz.

Ramos and former Times editor Frank Sotomayor were co-editors of a groundbreaking series on Latinos in Southern California that won the paper the Pulitzer Prize Gold Medal for Meritorious Public Service in 1984. Seventeen Latino journalists worked on the 27-part series. Ramos also was part of the Times reporting teams that were awarded Pulitzer Prizes for coverage of the 1992 Los Angeles riots and the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

Seventh District Councilmember Richard Alarcón said: "Molded by the mentorship of Rubén Salazar and Frank del Olmo, George Ramos had a very personal connection to his Los Angeles roots and his writing reflected this. By embracing his background, Ramos helped shape the conscience of Los Angeles."

In 2003, Ramos left the Times to return to San Luis Obispo where he served as Cal Poly Journalism Department Chair. Ramos, a mentor to young Latino reporters, also

served as president of the California Chicano News Media Association and was inducted into the National Association of Hispanic Journalists Hall of Fame in 2007. Ramos returned to the teaching ranks and continued to serve as the faculty advisor to the Mustang Daily, the student newspaper. He also volunteered as an editor for CalCoastNews, a San Luis Obispo-based website. He admitted, however, that he missed Los Angeles.

Ramos was quoted as saying: "I can't just sit on my laurels. I didn't get into journalism for the rewards. I still consider myself as the kid from East L.A."

George Ramos, the kid from East L.A., served Los Angeles well, the city said in a press release.

[From the Los Angeles Times, July 27, 1983]

GOING HOME: AMERICAN DREAM LIVES IN THE BARRIO

(By George Ramos)

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[The following story from The Times' archive was part of a series that won the 1984 Pulitzer gold medal for public service for an in-depth examination of Southern California's growing Latino community.]

It is a ritual observed nearly every day. The mail carrier approaches the small cluster of hillside barrio homes in East Los Angeles, armed with spray repellent in case one of his antagonists gets too close.

The neighborhood dogs, sensing the moment, spring to the ready.

Just as he approaches one mailbox a pack of dogs, separated from the mail carrier by a chain-link fence, lets go a chorus of howls that alters all other canines in the area.

The mail carrier quickly deposits his cargo and steps back to his Jeep. No matter, the dogs keep up the yelping. The roosters and chickens in coops on the hills overlooking this noisy scene crow their presence.

MUSIC DROWNED OUT

As the mail carrier wheels his vehicle for a getaway, one dog scales the fence and gives chase. The howling now seems to drown out the musica Mexicana drifting from the windows of the small homes.

Moments later, the mail carrier is gone. The dog that gave chase nonchalantly returns to his resting place. Mission accomplished; ritual observed.

Welcome to the world of 812 N. Record Ave. After 18 years, I went back to 812 N. Record Ave., to the house where I once lived, at the Belvedere Gardens barrio where I grew up.

My barrio is unique in this megalopolis that is Los Angeles, an obscure corner of an affluent society, a place seldom visited by progress. For example, sidewalks and curbs were installed only recently. English is heard only occasionally.

Downtown Los Angeles is only 4½ miles away, but there is no hint that shiny skyscrapers are just over the horizon. Some neighborhood businesses on Hammel Street, near Record, have deteriorated beyond hope. Dogs, chickens, cars under constant repair, graffiti, homes valued under \$35,000 and neighborhood tortillerias are fixtures in the landscape.

Nestled in a rural-like setting, yet ringed by three urban freeways (San Bernardino, Pomona and Santa Ana) Record is a quiet, out-of-the-way street north of Brooklyn Avenue that trails off in the surrounding hills of another East Los Angeles barrio, City Terrace.

The inhabitants of Record are poor but proud people, comfortable in the knowledge that they own their homes and owe little to an Anglo-dominated society. To them, life on Record is as American as that in Kansas, and

hopes are as resilient as tall wheat in the summer breeze.

No one really knows what to expect when he goes back to the old neighborhood.

I remember rampaging on the surrounding hills, building cabins out of abandoned furniture, auto doors and bamboo, and killing imaginary enemies with a crudely constructed gun made of clothespins. In an ongoing scenario, one close friend, David Angulo, was Tarzan and his brother Stephen was Cheetah the chimp. I was a hunter—I can't remember if I ever used the term "Great White Hunter"—always seeking Tarzan's help.

FENCES TAME THE JUNGLE

Now the property owners look after their investments with fences, forcing local jungle warriors to play elsewhere.

There were organized activities for the area's Chicano youngsters. After-hours softball games at Hammel Street School (Panthers vs. Dragonflies) routinely attracted 40 to 50 youngsters, prompting teachers to let them play all at once. Trying to get a ground ball past two shortstops and three third basemen was hard.

As a Dragonfly I remember one game, 6 to 5, on a disputed call at third base. No amount of intervention by the teachers avoided the game's real outcome later—two bloody noses for the Panthers and one scraped knee for us.

But Hammel, where actor Anthony Quinn went to school as a boy, is a far different place today. In my time, the early 1950s, boys and girls were segregated on the playground during recess. Baseball cards, tops and yo-yos were confiscated as unauthorized items.

The school's tough rules extended even to the after-hour softball games. I was once called out simply because I had entered the batter's box before I was told to do so by a teacher.

Youngsters at Hammel were prohibited from speaking Spanish, a common restriction at the time.

Once a classmate whispered something about a movie on television that night. I told him in Spanish that I would see it at a cousin's house. Hearing the chatter, the teacher approached me.

"Not only do I not like talking in class," he said, "but I especially don't like it in Spanish."

I stood in the corner, back turned to the class for an hour. The same offense later earned me a shaking—the teacher shook you until he thought all the knowledge of Spanish had fallen-out-of-your-head.

BILINGUALISM PREVAILS

These days, all office workers at Hammel are bilingual. All the school signs are bilingual.

Charles Lavagnino, Hammel's outgoing principal, was vice principal when I first entered school there. Lavagnino told me that his fondest years as an administrator were in East Los Angeles.

Looking back he conceded that he had supported some of the restrictive measures imposed in the 1950s, mainly to keep a tight rein on unruly students. But improved teaching methods as well as sensitivity to the reality that East Los Angeles is 95% Latino have made Hammel a better school today, Lavagnino told me.

"This is a good school, we try to involve the parents," he said.

I was reminded of other aspects of life on Record as I revisited old haunts;

—La Providencia, the nearby mom-and-pop corner store, still extended credit to its faithful, my 81-year-old grandmother assures me. The owner trudges up Record with Grandma's groceries about twice a month.

—The neighborhood church, Our Lady of Guadalupe, still chimes its invitation every morning.

—The vatos locos (crazy street guys) have changed hardly at all. Dressed in cholo-type "uniforms" (khaki pants, flannel shirts and bandanas around the head) they still cruise neighborhood streets in lowered autos and ask passers-by for money. They are distrustful of outsiders and are quick to confront anyone who challenges their "turf rule" of the area.

—Many of the families I remember have remained in the area. A close friend of my mother provided some insight: "Yes I'd like a nicer home, pero aqui estoy contento. The kind of people who still live here are maybe not the type of people who want to advance, but I am content."

A POSITIVE RESIDENT

In many ways, life on Record has not improved much since my parents bought the small, wood-frame house at 812 for \$3,500 from relatives in 1946. But don't dwell on the negative when you meet my grandmother, the current resident of 812 N. Record.

Living there has given her a freedom she cherishes in old age. No one tells her what to do. She is free to run her life without interference. And there has been no threat to her safety—neighbors look out for one another, and the dogs herald the arrival of any stranger.

The 530-square foot house, built during the Depression, is currently assessed at \$9,873 and may need a lot of work, but Grandma is an optimist. Soon, she said, a shower to replace the old bathtub will be installed. "And look," she promised in Spanish. "I'm having new pipes for the plumbing put in."

Felicitas Ramos, born in the Mexican state of Chihuahua, has a heart that is as loving as it is coy. She is always offering food and is sometimes critical because I am still single, but there are some subjects best not discussed. For one thing, don't scold her about her oven.

OVEN HEAT PREFERRED

Grandma has this peculiar idea about heating. She'll turn on the oven and lower the oven door.

"It works fine and I'm comfortable," she says.

"But it's dangerous," I remind her. "Something could happen."

"How?"

Concerned grandchildren, fearful that the dreaded would occur, purchased an electric blanket. But during last winter's rains, I noticed that the oven door was still open.

"Oh," she said, "I'm just drying clothes." She then draped clothes over the oven door. "But there would be a fire," I said.

"How?"

Then she changed the subject: "Want something to eat?"

LITTLE VARIATION

Grandma's daily routine varies little. There is the music from the Spanish-language radio station KWKW, the morning chat outside with the neighbor ("Can I borrow some eggs?") and the puttering in her garden.

At midmorning, she will collect clothes for a wash. In the old days, the washing machine was in the bathroom, making it difficult to use the bathroom for most other purposes. Now the washer is in the bedroom. People on Record don't rely much on dryers. Clotheslines are still in vogue.

Cooking seems to be Grandma's favorite pastime. Flour tortillas are made from scratch and beans and rice are the backbone of any meal—beef, eggs, hamburgers or quesadillas. If you're not ready to eat right away, everything is left warming until you

are finally hungry. All meals are accompanied by milk.

By noon it's time for the soaps.

I've never understood how a person with such limited English ability can give a running commentary in Spanish of "Days of Our Lives." But she does.

"Mira, hay 'sta el vejito (describing one of the main thugs). Si, el es papa de Jessica, pero ella no lo quiere. (Why doesn't Jessica like her father, Grandma?) Oh porque el es muy malo con la mama de ella y los parientes de ella lo saben (And how did Jessica's relatives find out about this cruelty?) El abuelito trabaja en un hospital y la esposa supo todos los problemas que Jessica tenia con su padre."

Maybe working in a hospital does give one insight.

Then she pops her favorite question: "Tienes hambre?"

I decide I'm not hungry yet.

By nightfall, it's time for a movie on Channel 13. Again, Grandma will let me know if I miss anything.

GLIMPSES OF A LIFE

One particular night as the movie unfolded, so did Grandma's life story, an off-limits topic if there had ever been one.

Born in 1902, she said she hardly knew her parents. When she was 17, my father was born. Six years later she moved to the Mexican border town of Ciudad Juarez across from El Paso to find work. There she gave birth to my aunt Hortensia.

She and her two children were on their own when she met a Ft. Bliss soldier, Marcelino Ramos. They were married in a Mexican civil ceremony in 1930, and later repeated their vows in a church in 1933.

In 1936, Marcelino, Grandma and her two offspring came to Los Angeles, settling in an area near 8th and San Mateo streets on the southern edge of downtown, now an industrial area.

Well, things didn't work out. Marcelino left, the Army was looking for him, he married someone else. (What happened to the divorce, Grandma?) By now her memory seemed to be getting deliberately hazy.

Finally she concluded with the inevitable, "Are you hungry?" I finally decided to eat.

If life at 812 N. Record Ave. is pleasurable for Grandma, then the opposite was true for my parents.

Miguel Antonio Vargas Ramos and Maria Santos Medina were newlyweds when they moved into 812 N. Record Ave. in 1946. The prospect of living there did not excite them at all.

—They saw no future in the house for a young family, given the surroundings and the condition of the dwelling. It didn't come close to the post-World War II housing tracts being built in places like Lakewood.

—There was no possibility of expanding the house. It already had been expanded to add the bedroom, bathroom, porch and garage.

—There was no door-to-door mail delivery. Mail had been delivered down at the corner of Record and Floral Drive, about 300 yards downhill from our house, since the homes on Record were built.

—The same situation existed for trash collection. It had to be hauled down to Record and Floral, no easy task for residents living up the hill where Record trailed off, a distance of about half a mile.

LOOKING ELSEWHERE

My father, who was employed at the now-abandoned Uniroyal tire plant off the Santa Ana Freeway in Commerce, had tried to find other housing—the Aliso Village project on the edge of downtown, the Ramona Gardens project near County-USC Medical Center in Lincoln Heights and a Boyle Heights trailer park that eventually gave way to a Times-Mirror press plant.

He made too much money to qualify for the subsidized housing, but too little to leave Belvedere Gardens.

"I didn't like the area (Record)," he said. "I wanted to leave, but we couldn't do it economically."

"The area was a dumping ground for everything. You'd wake up in the morning and find a car left there . . . no tires, no engine . . . nothing. We had to call the tow truck to haul them away."

And there were the dogs. Mom hated them:

"I always had to clean up after them. And with you guys (my brother and I) around, I had to be careful. Complain about the dogs? Are you kidding? They (the neighbors) would just ignore you."

And the mail.

No one seems to know why the mail was dropped off at Record and Floral. Maybe the dogs were as ferocious in the early 1950s as they are now. Probably no one bothered to ask for door-to-door delivery.

CAUSE FOR CONCERN

But it changed one day when a thief stole a federal income tax refund check from our mailbox. It wasn't a lot—"something like \$120," my mother recalled—but it seemed a lot to us then and its arrival had been anxiously awaited.

With no support from the neighbors, Dad campaigned for door-to-door delivery. It was instituted after a few calls to the right people at the post office.

Mom in the meantime began petitioning for trash collection at each home. She too succeeded, but only after a false start. On the first day of the scheduled collections (this was in the early 1950s) the neighbors placed their trash in front of their homes. The garbage men never came.

"There I was with egg on my face," my mother recalled.

"So I called again and sure enough the next week they came (to collect the trash). They have been doing that ever since."

Mom even joined the PTA at Hammel Street School, becoming PTA president in 1954. Every time I got into trouble, I was reminded of my mother's good work on the PTA.

Now, when I look back I realize that life was tough on Record. But it didn't seem so at the time.

Yes, my yard was too small to play in, but my ragtag gang of friends considered the streets and hills our playground.

Yes, the house was too small for a growing family, but it seemed adequate to me and I remember how proud my mother was of the new furniture that was bought for the house. (There was no eating allowed in the living room, Mom decreed. Grandma was more lax about such things.)

Dogs? Well, we stayed out of their way. But if someone was challenged to a rock-throwing contest, the dogs turned out to be handy targets. Now, the main objective seems to be to separate neighborhood dogs from other canines and the mail carriers.

A DREAM ACHIEVED

In 1957, my parents finally realized their dream of getting out of East Los Angeles. The found a small tract home for \$12,900 in Downey.

Grandma then moved into our home on Record, but I continued to spend a lot of time there until I went to college because I felt strange in our new environment.

My parents were excited by this new beginning in Downey. It was the end of their rainbow. I thought I should be excited too, but I wasn't sure. I wondered how I would fit in the neighborhood where there were very few brown faces.

An indication of why I had doubts about life beyond Record was as rude as it was puzzling. A classmate called me a nigger.

The term was unheard of on Record.

George Juarez was one of the neighborhood kids I grew up with. He was a street-wise guy who seemed to know a lot. And showed it. But the years have not been kind to George.

He is a victim of the Eastside's street-gang reality. The facts seem hazy; the neighbors, as well as Grandma occasionally whisper about it.

But it seems that George, now 41, was with some friends who brawled with other Eastside youths in a rather ugly incident back in 1961. George was run over by a car and left for dead. He recovered from some of his injuries after time at County-USA Medical Center and two years of rehabilitation at Rancho Los Amigos Hospital in Downey.

But a brief conversation with George these days betrays his pain. One leg is damaged, and he needs the help of railing to get up the stairs of his home, where he lives with a brother and his mother. His speech is slurred and his memory is hazy—he still asks about my brother Michael who died in 1954.

"Pues ya 'stuvo, Georgie old boy," he says in Eastside street lingo. "I dropped a few pills, drank a lot of hard stuff . . . y pues era muy loco."

"Ahora, I know better, My leg hurts a lot. I drink a little beer, but that's about it."

Several other guys on Record have had run-ins with the law. One neighborhood guy had drug problems after he returned from military service in Korea. Several of my friends joined the local street gang, Geraghty Loma (named after the hill that Geraghty Avenue winds around), and sheriff's deputies paid occasional visits to unsuspecting parents, who insisted that their sons were good boys in school.

GANG RIVALRIES

Another companion and I were friends with a rival street gang, Los Hazards (named after nearby Hazard Avenue). The conflict occasionally meant defending oneself with more than fists. Two friends from Record who were part of that conflict eventually became part of California's burgeoning penal system.

But for every problem kid, there is a success story.

Two brothers on nearby Herbert Street, for example, have done well by neighborhood standards; one is a career soldier and the other is a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy, and one resident became a reporter.

Some in the area are alarmed at the street-gang violence and say they won't go out at night. Others bristle at the suggestion that the area is unsafe, Raquel, one of George Juarez's sisters, is eloquent in the street-wise vocabulary that is Record Avenue.

"I tell people I'm from East L.A. And they tell me, 'Wow, man, you must have been chola. Or you're my homegirl.' I'm no chola. I come from a good area. I went to school there."

"I live in Whittier now and I wouldn't have any problems if my kids went to school here."

I have often wondered what will happen to Record Avenue. Will its rural ambiance remain? Will Record still be an obscure corner of society in 20 years?

I don't know all the answers. But of this I am certain.

Spanish will still be the neighborhood language, but the dogs won't always heed it.

Grandmothers like mine will still be there. Life's many chores will be done as they always have been, haphazardly on occasion and other times with meticulous care.

A family's success will not be measured by how much money it earns. It will be evident in the accomplishments of its young.

Record still will nurture dreams of young families for a better life, as well as hold old families to an area where they have grown comfortable.

For those of us who lived there, the world of 812 N. Record Avenue will never be obscure. It will never die.

TRIBUTE TO THE OUTSTANDING
WORK OF THE CALIFORNIA
PROSTATE CANCER COALITION

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask Congress to raise awareness for prostate cancer and recognize the California Prostate Cancer Coalition (CPCC) for its outstanding efforts to fight prostate cancer. The CPCC is a coalition of health professionals, prostate cancer survivors and families, and support groups concerned about this disease across the state of California. I ask my colleagues to join me today to extend our appreciation for CPCC's work on behalf of the men and families affected by prostate cancer.

Until we find a cure for this disease, we need organizations like the CPCC. The men and women working in this organization educate the public, advocate for legislation and funding, and involve communities in the fight against prostate cancer. In my home state of California, prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer among men in almost every ethnic and racial group.

More men are diagnosed with prostate cancer in California than any other state. California also suffers from the highest number of deaths from this disease. I want to thank the CPCC today on behalf of the estimated 25,030 men who will be diagnosed with the disease across the state this year.

Sadly, 1 in 6 men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime. Prostate cancer is one of the most diagnosed and deadliest types of cancer for men today. Every fifteen minutes an American dies from this disease and over 2.3 million men alive have a history of prostate cancer.

The early stages of prostate cancer usually show no symptoms and there are no self-tests. Early detection is the key to surviving the disease. The exact causes of prostate cancer are still unknown, but awareness allows men to make more informed decisions about their personal health. Organizations like the CPCC help educate men about prostate cancer and guide them through their fight with the disease.

On behalf of my wife, Barbara, and my children, Councilman Joe Baca Jr., Jeremy, Natalie, and Jennifer, we would like to bestow our thoughts and prayers to those men and their families suffering from prostate cancer. As we recognize the important work of California Prostate Cancer Coalition, we stand by all those affected by this disease. I would like to thank the health care professionals, researchers, and advocates who are working tirelessly to cure prostate cancer. I would especially like to recognize Dr. Manouchehr Lalehzarian for his commitment to this cause. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the California Prostate Cancer Coalition. God bless the fathers, sons, and brothers battling this disease, and their families for their patience and love.

PROVIDING GREATER AUTHORITY
AND DISCRETION TO CONSUMER
PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

SPEECH OF

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 1, 2011

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud House passage of H.R. 2715, the Enhancing CPSC Authority and Discretion Act of 2011, ECADA.

I voted in favor of this long-awaited bill, because it addresses the needed reforms of the 2008 Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act, CPSIA, without undoing its core protections of consumers from unsafe toys and other products.

This landmark legislation came in the wake of one of the biggest waves of consumer product recalls in American history. In excess of 10 million toys were estimated to have been recalled due to lead paint and other product safety standards, standards that have been on the books for decades. This was and is unacceptable, and Congress responded accordingly.

Specifically, Mr. Speaker, this bill adequately addresses what I believe is the key provision of CPSIA—that consumer products, especially children's products—should be tested as being in compliance with mandatory safety standards.

And testing is the key. We live in a global supply chain environment, where any given product has a dozen or more part suppliers from a dozen or more countries, where safety standards may be weaker than our own.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I am proud and pleased that the final ECADA bill passed by the House today maintains the requirement that products be tested to CPSC lead and other standards. But I am equally pleased that the final bill reflects the need to make such testing affordable.

Additionally, H.R. 2715 directs the CPSC to look for "other techniques for lowering the cost of third party testing consistent with assuring compliance with the applicable consumer product safety rules, bans, standards and regulations."

Mr. Speaker, this last language is critical because it will protect consumers and create jobs here in America. I know this because in my Congressional District a company, XOS, Inc. has developed state of the art instruments for detecting lead, mercury, cadmium and other heavy metals in children's toys and other products.

This new technology is the only CPSC approved method for the detection of lead paint without using wet chemistry. This method was also adopted by one of the most widely respected voluntary standards development organizations in the country (ASTM).

Finally, I would suggest that, as this bill is on the precipice of becoming law, we consider that, if a small company in upstate New York can find a solution to "how much lead is in this product," we can find more home-grown solutions to many of the other pending issues facing our country. We need to focus all our efforts on investing in our people and in creating jobs and this bill does just that.

SUPPORT H.R. 1154, THE VETERANS
EQUAL TREATMENT FOR SERVICE
DOGS ACT

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, in 1985, Army Ranger Light Kevin Stone's life changed when the Army vehicle he was in tumbled over a mountain edge and down 144 feet. Stone broke his neck and suffered severe brain trauma to the point of losing every memory prior to the six months before the accident.

A true miracle, Stone now lives an independent life thanks to his service dog, Mambo. But sadly, rules at some Vets Hospitals welcome seeing eye dogs while preventing service dogs like Mambo from coming in.

The working best friends of our wounded vets must be allowed with them at all times in order to do their jobs—including during VA visits. That's why I'm proud to cosponsor Judge CARTER's effort, H.R. 1154, legislation which will close the working-dog loophole and welcome all dogs into VA care centers.

The VA considers service dogs like Mambo needed prostheses, like legs or arms. And Stone compares Mambo to a crucial tool—a wheelchair.

Current policy allows each VA center to set dog guidelines. That means, Stone is given care at some facilities if Mambo is with him.

We can fix this problem by passing the Veterans for Equal Treatment of Service Dogs Act, or the VETS Dogs Act.

This will ensure working service dogs can accompany their owner to every single VA facility, just like seeing eye dogs are allowed to do. This will be a permanent solution for our wounded veterans.

Kevin Stone credits his service dogs—Mambo, and Mambo's predecessor, Jonah—with allowing him to successfully represent his country around the world. He's no longer in camouflage, but another type of uniform: Kevin Stone used his service dog to compete on the U.S. Paralympic team. He won bronze in Athens and he's set American records in Beijing. With Mambo at his side, Stone continues to represent the U.S. Olympic Committee on the U.S. Paralympic Committee's Military Program as a coach and mentor.

Not all wounded vets compete with their service dogs, but they do everyday things like other Americans: when they get on the bus, get their groceries, get their mail and go to the doctor's office, their service dogs are there.

Colleagues, you may not know a veteran personally injured in Iraq or Afghanistan, but go to a VA in your district, and you'll meet hundreds of our nation's heroes who gave so much, but had so much taken away.

If service dogs allow our wounded vets to lead happy and independent lives, then we have a duty to ensure government regulations help, not hinder, the relationship between dog and owner.

Join us as we work to better the lives of our vets and as our veterans are empowered to overcome challenges. Because retired Army Ranger Light Fighter Kevin Stone isn't playing a game when he tells Mambo to "fetch".

BUDGET CONTROL ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 1, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, if this had been a clean vote to raise the debt ceiling, I would have supported it—as I have in the past, and as our nation has done 78 times since 1960.

But this was far from a clean vote. The cuts were too large, there were no revenues, no plan for job creation, and thus it was an unbalanced approach to the deficit problem.

Although cuts to Medicare and Medicaid were averted in the first round of cuts, the 'sequestration trigger' included cuts to Medicare providers which would hurt my district, and ultimately Medicare recipients as well.

What's more, making such large budget cuts now, in the midst of a struggling recovery would lead to a further loss of jobs—at a time when there are already five Americans out of work for every one job opening. This deal makes things worse; it would slow economic growth.

The process by which this deal was reached was no less ugly. This issue was taken hostage by the most extreme parts of the Republican Party, who put forward non-negotiable demands, which is not how democracy works.

By refusing to even consider closing tax loopholes and ending special-interest subsidies, the Republicans made clear who should pay for their extreme agenda: those who can least afford it.

I will not be a party to a plan which is likely to hurt the interests of my district, my city and my country as it struggles to emerge from the worst economic crisis since the Depression.

HONORING THOMAS SHERIDAN

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of my life-long friend, Mr. Thomas Sheridan.

Tom Sheridan and I grew up together in our hometown of East Hartford, Connecticut. We attended Saint Rose's School where we were taught by the Sisters of Notre Dame and were teammates playing football for Pappy's Black Knights; I was the quarterback, he was the center.

After graduation Tom went on to serve with distinction during the Vietnam War earning several medals including the Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and a Presidential Unit Citation.

At the close of his military service Tom came home to Connecticut to be with his beautiful wife, Nancy, and raise their two sons who were the greatest joys of his life, Kevin and Brett.

Tom became a successful attorney and later served the Connecticut General Assembly as the Clerk of the House. It was one of the greatest moments in my career when I had the honor to appoint him Senate Clerk, where he served until his final days with distinction, integrity, and fairness.

Tom will be dearly missed and it is my honor to remember my friend today before this esteemed body.

OFFERING CONDOLENCES TO THE PEOPLE OF NORWAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deep condolences to the people of Norway with respect to the recent tragedy which took the lives of innocent citizens, many of them children.

Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg has wisely observed that the people of Norway are "unused to violence in your quiet country of 4.8 million" and that they "must struggle with how to improve security without jeopardizing the freedom and openness of your society." I commend his courage and encourage the people of Norway to embrace his wisdom.

While the horror of what has happened can carve a dark hole in the hearts of the people of Norway, each person has the power and the strength to heal those who have lost their loved ones through their individual commitment to remain open to each other. Each citizen can choose not to let those who would divide their nation sow their seeds of doubt, hate and division.

As we mourn the loss we ask the people of Norway to remember that their country has many admirers. On several occasions during the last decade the nation of Norway has been recognized as the best country in which to live. This compassionate country built a public health care system that cares for all of its citizens. Their nation created an education system that sets their literacy rate at almost 100 percent. Their understanding of the importance of family provides parental benefits and paternity leave for the first full year in the life of a newborn child.

As the citizen's of Norway already demonstrate in their daily interactions with each other and in their willingness to build a society that truly cares for the well being of all of its citizens; openness, compassion and the ability to reach across cultural and ethnic lines is essential to build peace and strengthen nations.

The nation of Norway is a noble one. We know its citizens will stand together through this dark hour. We want them to know that we are standing with them.

SUPPORT OF H.J. RES. 66: APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS CONTAINED IN THE BURMESE FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2003

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.J. Res. 66, approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the "Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003."

I support this resolution because it is consistent with our humanitarian and democratic

values against forced labor. As Americans, we must not only sustain these values in our country but we must act globally and deter other countries from tolerating or employing practices that have no place in a civilized society such as forcing innocent men, women, and children to work under harsh and slave-like labor conditions. For this reason, it is critical that we renew the import restrictions contained in the "Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003."

Mr. Speaker, it is helpful to recount briefly why import restrictions were placed by the United States on Burma and why it is important to renew them.

In 1990, Burma's State Peace and Development Council, SPDC, known then as the State Law and Order Restoration Council, held multiparty elections. The overwhelming number of parliamentary seats (82 percent) was won by the National League for Democracy party, led by Nobel Prize for Peace Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi. However, the military regime refused to honor the election results, however, and arrested and imprisoned both democracy activists and elected members of parliament, including Aung San Suu Kyi.

Multiparty general elections were next held in Burma on Nov. 7, 2010 as part of the "roadmap to democracy" proposed by the ruling military regime. The National League refused to participate over concerns that the electoral process was fraudulent, concerns that were confirmed by the United Nations and most Western countries, which noted widespread fraud, voter intimidation and cheating throughout the country.

Since then, the Burmese regime has continued its campaign of suppression and persecution against political opponents, dissidents and other minority populations. This shameful conduct has resulted in the internal displacement of more than 600,000 people and forced more than 130,000 persons to live in refugee camps along the Thai-Burma border. Additionally, during this time the SPDC regime has been protecting drug traffickers and forcing residents into slave labor.

In response to these atrocities, Congress enacted the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act in 2003, which it reauthorized in 2009. The law imposed import restrictions; froze any assets held by the regime in the United States; and expressed U.S. opposition for international lending to the SPDC. The law also prohibited the issuance of U.S. entry visas to members of the SPDC and condemned the regime's campaign against its people and expressed support for opposition groups.

These restrictions are to remain in place until the State Department certifies that the regime no longer systematically violates the human rights of the Burmese people; no longer uses slave and child labor; and halts the conscription of child soldiers. The law also requires as a precondition to lifting the restrictions that the regime make demonstrable progress in releasing political prisoners, permitting free speech, permitting the peaceful exercise of religion, and holding free and fair elections.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, the regime in Burma has not made the necessary progress to justify lifting the restriction. According to a recent report of Human Rights Watch, the highly respected NGO, tens of thousands of villagers have been displaced and fled to the Thai-

Burma and China-Burma borders and there are many credible reports of cases of sexual violence against women and girls by Burma army troops. These reports are in line with extensive documentation of sexual violence perpetrated by Burmese military personnel over many years.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees recently listed Burma as the fifth largest source country of refugees in 2010, with 415,700 refugees.

In view of its atrocious record it would send the wrong signal to the Burmese regime, the international community, and, most important, dissidents working to bring real democratic change to their country.

For these reasons, I strongly support the continued imposition of sanctions on the Burmese regime. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for H.J. Res. 66.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE COUNCIL
ON AMERICAN-ISLAMIC RELATIONS'
EIGHTH ANNUAL SHARING
RAMADAN INTERFAITH
IFTAR DINNER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Eighth Annual Sharing Ramadan Interfaith Iftar Dinner hosted by the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) Ohio's Cleveland Chapter. This event creates good will and understanding among members of the Muslim and interfaith communities while providing a traditional Middle Eastern dinner.

During Ramadan, Muslims fast each day from dawn to sunset. Iftar is the meal eaten after sunset to break the fast. This event allows members of the Muslim and interfaith communities of Cleveland to share in the Ramadan tradition of Iftar together.

By sharing Ramadan with the community, the Cleveland Chapter of CAIR-Ohio believes it can allay stereotypes about Islam, build friendships among members of the Muslim and interfaith communities, and prevent the spread of Islamophobia.

The keynote speaker at this event will be Muneer O. Awad, who is Executive Director of the Oklahoma Chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations. After just two short weeks on the job, Mr. Awad made great strides in the fight for civil rights for Muslims when he filed a federal lawsuit to stop Oklahoma from amending its Constitution to ban consideration of Islamic principles in court. He is also a recipient of the 2011 Tulsa Metropolitan Ministries Russell Bennett recognition, which is awarded to people who demonstrate courage in social justice leadership in Oklahoma.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I invite you to join me in recognition of CAIR's eighth annual Sharing Ramadan Interfaith Iftar Dinner, which brings together people of diverse backgrounds for a night of celebration, friendship, and mutual understanding.

INTRODUCING H.R. 2790, THE CHILD
AND FAMILY SERVICES EXTENSION
AND ENHANCEMENT ACT
OF 2011

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2790, the Child and Family Services Extension and Enhancement Act of 2011.

Two child welfare programs expire on September 30 this year, namely the Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families programs. Although only a small part of total federal child welfare funding, these two programs support State efforts to keep families together so children can safely remain with their own parents or be supported by other caring adults when necessary.

The Child and Family Services Extension Act will ensure that these two programs continue to help children remain safely with their own families or be cared for by other loving adults. This bipartisan bill extends these important programs, while adding important transparency and accounting requirements. Additionally, it does so without increasing spending or deficits.

This bill also requires that States establish common data standards to improve the sharing of information, which will improve the efficiency of the programs while allowing States to better coordinate services for children and families.

In introducing this bill, we are continuing the tradition of bipartisan child welfare legislation in Congress. I thank the Ranking Member on the Human Resources Subcommittee, Mr. DOGGETT of Texas, for introducing this legislation with me, and for his efforts to move it forward. I look forward to moving this legislation through the Ways & Means Committee in the coming months.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE
HONORABLE RON SWEGLES

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of The Honorable Ron Swegles, a highly distinguished constituent, former Mayor and Vice Mayor, a dedicated City Councilman, a cherished friend and a beloved member of his community of Sunnyvale, California.

Ron Swegles passed into eternal life on July 20, 2011, at the age of 67. He blessed us all with his presence and his devotion to the people of Sunnyvale. He was a committed family man and is survived by his wife Gail, his five children, nine grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Ron Swegles graduated from Wayne Memorial High School in Wayne, Michigan, and shortly thereafter, he joined the U.S. Navy, serving from 1962 to 1966. After his military service, Ron attended Cleary University. In 1984, he moved his family to the Bay Area and made the Peninsula his new home.

Ron was a friend to everyone. He was well known in the community for always wanting to help others. He was a mentor to many Bay Area residents, which led him to seek local office. He was first elected to the Sunnyvale City Council in 2003 and he served as the City's Vice Mayor from 2004 to 2005, and as its Mayor from 2005 to 2006. Ron was a member of the City's Planning Commission, the Downtown Planning Committee, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Senior Advisory Committee. He was a graduate of both Leadership Sunnyvale and the Sunnyvale Public Safety Community Academy, and he served as a board member for the Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce.

Ron prized the value of civic service, dedicating his time to every aspect of local government. He was a member of the Military Affairs Council since 2004; the Moffett Restoration Advisory Board from 2004 to 2007; the Santa Clara Valley Water District Water Commission since 2008; the California Housing and Community Development Commission; and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Policy Advisory Committee. He was also a member of the Onizuka Local Redevelopment Authority and Citizens Advisory Committee for Base Closure, working toward a reuse plan that would convert the closing of Onizuka Air Force Station to an area that would continue to benefit Sunnyvale and the surrounding communities.

Ron was honored for his service on numerous occasions, including being named Sunnyvale Rotarian of the Year in 2003 by the Sunnyvale Rotary Club. One of Ron's greatest joys was when he was serving as a Director of Leisure Ministries at Los Altos United Methodist Church. Apart from his community service, Ron's professional career with Brandenburg Staedler & Moore spanned more than 21 years as their Community Advisor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring the extraordinary life and accomplishments of Ron Swegles and extend our sympathy to his family and friends whom he loved so much. His decades of contributions to his community and his country stand as lasting legacies of a life lived well. How privileged I am to have known this wonderful man and to have had him as a colleague and a friend. Those of us who knew him will miss him deeply, and his life stands as a testament to what it means to be a community leader and a true patriot.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SALVATORE
R. CALANDRA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mr. Salvatore R. Calandra, a municipal court judge from Cleveland, Ohio.

The son of Italian immigrants, Mr. Calandra was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. He graduated from Cathedral Latin High School and went on to John Carroll University and Cleveland Marshall Law. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

In 1957, Salvatore married Marie Manfredi. During the same year, he started his career in public service and was appointed as an assistant city law director. He served in this role

under three mayors and became a legal adviser to council, a role in which he served for 10 years. He then became the law department's chief counsel and was appointed to be a judge in 1972.

Mr. Calandra was elected as a municipal court judge in 1973 and was re-elected three consecutive times until his retirement in 1997. He was proactive on the bench and made many contributions, such as streamlining the jury system so jurors did not wait as long for trials to start. Additionally, he began a work service program for the impoverished.

In addition to his public service career, Mr. Salvatore was an active member of the Cleveland community. In addition to washing dishes at spaghetti dinners and the annual Labor Day festival at St. Rocco's parish, his family helped to build the Italian Catholic Church on Fulton Road. He was also president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland; head of the Justinian Forum, lawyers of Italian heritage; and was inducted into the Ohio Italian-American Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Salvatore R. Calandra, a man whose ceaseless dedication and service to the Cleveland community will be sorely missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 603, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF PARMA HEIGHTS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Parma Heights, Ohio, as they celebrate the city's centennial. Since 1911, Parma Heights has been an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Conrad Countryman and his family were Parma Heights' first residents when they moved to the corner of Stumph and Pearl Roads in the Western Reserve Township of Brooklyn in 1817. By 1826, Parma Township, now known as Parma Heights, had severed from Brooklyn Township. Parma Heights continued to grow and expand, and in 1907, Wooster Pike, now known as Pearl Road, became the first rural red brick road in the nation. Parma Heights officially became a village in 1911.

By November of 1953, Parma Heights had adopted a Charter of the City of Parma Heights, and, in January 1959, Parma Heights attained city status. Since then, Parma Heights has been known as a "small town oasis in a convenient big city location."

Over the years, Parma Heights has produced such distinguished civil servants as Magistrate Paul W. Cassidy and Mayor Michael P. Byrne. Magistrate Cassidy honorably

served the City of Parma Heights for fifty-six years before retiring in 2009. Michael P. Byrne became the fourteenth mayor of the City of Parma Heights in 2010.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Parma Heights, Ohio as its residents celebrate the city's centennial.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF THE CASA DEL DESIERTO (HARVEY HOUSE)

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Casa Del Desierto, a historical Harvey House located in the city of Barstow, CA, on the occasion of its 100th birthday.

One of eighty four Harvey Houses stretching along the Santa Fe Railway from Kansas to California, the Casa Del Desierto was designed by Fred Harvey Company architect Mary Colter and was constructed in 1911 by the Santa Fe Railway. Its distinctive Spanish Renaissance and Classical Revival architecture stands as a lasting legacy of America's westward expansion in the Mojave Desert.

Harvey Houses revolutionized the service delivery to railroad companies, businessmen, and families making the long journey out west. Prior to the development of the Fred Harvey Company establishments, travelers were forced to choose from roadside establishments with limited options for dining and lodging. The Harvey House model included standardized, quality, sizable meals, and eventually lodging at some of the larger Houses. At the beginning of the twentieth century there was a Harvey House located nearly every 100 miles along the Santa Fe Railway.

In 1975 the Casa Del Desierto was declared a national landmark on the National Register of Historic Places and in the 1990s the City of Barstow undertook a sizable restoration of the building, ensuring that the proud history of the west can be shared with generations to come. The building is now the home to the Barstow Chamber of Commerce, the Route 66 Museum, and the Western American Railroad Museum.

I am proud to join with the City of Barstow to recognize the Casa Del Desierto on their centennial and trust that because of the great efforts of the residents of Barstow to preserve their western heritage, our children and grandchildren will be able to enjoy and learn about our storied past.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 461, I was detained off the House floor during this vote series and was unable to cast my vote before the vote was closed. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

COMMEMORATING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF SIXTY-SIX VERMONT TOWNS

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 66 Vermont towns that are two hundred and fifty years young this year.

Two and a half centuries ago, Vermont as we know it did not exist. Ownership of the territory that now makes up the state was disputed between the colonies of New Hampshire and New York. Authorities in both colonies granted charters for towns in the territory to speculators. Benning Wentworth, colonial Governor of New Hampshire, granted nearly 130 of these charters in the early 1760s. It is for this reason that so many of Vermont's towns are currently celebrating their Semiquincentennial anniversaries, with several more to follow in the coming years.

It is from this unusual history that Vermont towns and those who inhabited them developed their spirit of independence, self reliance and community. That spirit was passed along to future generations and remains just as vibrant today as it was in the early 1760s. It is a heritage that has defined our state and one we are proud to celebrate.

As Vermont's representative to this House, I rise today to recognize the following towns, whose contributions to Vermont began before our nation's founding and continue today as they celebrate their two hundred fiftieth anniversaries:

Addison, Andover, Arlington, Barnard, Bennington, Brandon, Bridgewater, Bridport, Brunswick, Castleton, Cavendish, Chester, Clarendon, Cornwall, Danby, Dorset, Fairlee, Ferdinand, Glastenbury, Granby, Guildhall, Guilford, Hartford, Hartland, Killington, Leicester, Ludlow, Maidstone, Manchester, Marlboro, Middlebury, Mount Tabor, New Haven, Norwich, Panton, Pawlet, Peru, Pittsford, Plymouth, Pomfret, Poultney, Reading, Rupert, Rutland, Salisbury, Sandgate, Shaftsbury, Sharon, Shoreham, Shrewsbury, Somerset, Springfield, Stockbridge, Strafford, Stratton, Sunderland, Thetford, Tinmouth, Tunbridge, Wallingford, Weathersfield, Wells, Weybridge, Windsor, Winhall, and Woodstock.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE LIFE OF DAN REYNA

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and the lasting impact that Dan Reyna had on our Nation. As General Manager of the U.S. Section of the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Commission, he worked to address critical public health issues in the border region, such as diabetes and tuberculosis.

I had the pleasure of working with Dan for the past five years, and I was impressed with his dedication and tireless advocacy for improving health and quality of life on the border. Dan spent over 25 years as an advocate for the U.S.-Mexico border and was a national expert on border health issues, working for the

Texas Department of Health and the New Mexico Department of Health before joining the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Commission.

One example of Dan's positive impact was the Border Health Commission's Healthy Border Initiative 2010. The overarching goals of the campaign were to improve the quality and increase the years of healthy life and eliminate health disparities for border residents. The initiative was a success, decreasing the prevalence of diseases, and giving individuals the tools they need to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Dan also served his country proudly for over 21 years in the U.S. Army. He retired from the U.S. Army Reserve as a colonel, having served in Afghanistan as the Senior Health Action Officer and Coalition Forces Liaison to multiple national ministries including the Ministry of Health in 2003 and 2004. Dan's exemplary military career began early. Even as a cadet he was honored as a Distinguished Military Graduate, an honor only achieved by the Nation's top cadets. Throughout his career he continued to distinguish himself earning awards that included the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Bronze Star Medal and the Legion of Merit.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Dan's wife and family during this difficult time as well as the staff at the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Commission. One thing that I will always remember about Dan is that no challenge was ever too difficult or complex to conquer, and, if everyone adopted this approach, the world would be a better place. Dan's work and impact on the border region will always serve as an inspiration for others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 333 I was delayed in leaving a meeting with a constituent group when the vote was called and was unable to reach the House floor to cast my vote before the vote was closed. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING MITCHELL CARY

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District to honor the life and memory of Mr. Mitchell Cary.

Cary, 64, was a retired United States Air Force Colonel and test pilot. He worked as an Air Force Civil Servant at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Regrettably, Cary was piloting the Wright "B" Flyer's Silver Bird look-alike when a mishap occurred that led to his passing on Saturday July 30, 2011. Mitch had a passion for flying, and over the course of his military career and into retirement, he flew more than forty-five types of Air Force, Navy and Army aircraft.

Mitchell Cary grew up near Hamilton, Indiana on a farm, graduating from Purdue Uni-

versity, the Air Force Institute of Technology and the University of Dayton. At the time of his passing, Mitch was a board member, volunteer and former president of Wright "B" Flyer Inc. of Dayton. This is an organization that flies and displays look-alikes of the Wright Brothers' first production airplane. Mitch had a passion for preserving and promoting the heritage of the Wright Brothers and the Birth of Aviation. He took their story of innovation around the world.

Thus, today I ask my colleagues to join me and the constituents of the Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in honoring the life, legacy, and memory of Mr. Mitchell Cary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 413 I was delayed in leaving a meeting with a constituent group when the vote was called and was unable to reach the House floor to cast my vote before the vote was closed. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

HONORING DON RAY GUM

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District to honor the life and memory of Mr. Don Ray Gum.

Gum, 73, was a Professional Engineer and was employed at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Regrettably, Gum was piloting the Wright "B" Flyer's Silver Bird look-alike when a mishap occurred, resulting in his passing on Saturday, July 30, 2011.

Gum received his degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Cincinnati and his Master in Science from The Ohio State University. Gum served as Branch Chief in the Simulation Techniques Branch of the Air Force Human Resources Laboratory, in the then-Flight Dynamics Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. He also served his community as a member of the City of Beavercreek Planning Commission.

After retiring, Gum spent time doing what he loved most, building and flying planes and spending time with his family. He worked hard at promoting the legacy of the Wright Brothers through volunteering his time as a pilot and as an aircraft builder with the Wright "B" Flyer Inc. Don was a pilots' pilot and took the story of the Wright Brothers and the Birth of Aviation around the world.

Thus, today I ask my colleagues to join me and the constituents of the Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in honoring the life, legacy and memory of Mr. Don Ray Gum.

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF EDUCATING LAWYERS WHO LEAD AT SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the centennial celebration of Santa Clara University School of Law. The law school was founded in 1911 and has always been dedicated to educating lawyers to become leaders in our community.

Santa Clara University, founded in 1851 as "Santa Clara College," is California's oldest operating institution of higher learning. It was established on the site of Mission Santa Clara de Asis, one of the original California missions. The Institute of Law was formed in 1911 as a small night program and, in 1914, degrees were conferred upon the first graduating class of the law school—a class consisting of just 14 young men. Women were first admitted to the law school in 1956 and in, 1963, Associate Dean Mary Emery was among a group of 3 women who were the first to graduate. Dean Emery went on to become the Director of the Heafey Law Library, a post she continues to hold today.

Santa Clara Law has a long history of dedication to underrepresented groups. In the early 1970s, law students formed organizations for Asian, Black, Latino, and female law students, and a law clinic was formed to assist low-income clients in 1971. In the early 1980s, groups were founded to support Jewish, Middle Eastern, and gay law students as well.

In the last decade, Santa Clara Law has fought injustice with the Northern California Innocence Project, The Katharine and George Alexander Law Center, and the 9th Circuit Immigration Law Clinic. The law school has stayed on the cutting edge of local and international issues through the Law Review, High Tech Law Journal, and International Law Journal.

For the last 100 years, Santa Clara Law has educated thousands of lawyers while emphasizing the University's ideals of competence, conscience and compassion. Our Santa Clara County community as well as the legal profession have benefited from the efforts of Santa Clara to produce lawyers who lead.

I am proud to be an alumna of Santa Clara University School of Law, I would like to commend them for a hundred years of exceptional work, and I wish them the best in years to come.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN CLARENCE ELLSWORTH MILLER

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District to honor the life and memory of Congressman Clarence Ellsworth Miller.

Congressman Miller began his extensive and prolific public service career in 1963 when he was elected mayor of Lancaster, Ohio.

During that time, he was also very active in the National League of Cities and the Ohio Municipal League. Congressman Miller was also a member of the executive committee of the Mayors Association of Ohio.

In 1967, Congressman Miller was elected to represent Ohio's Tenth Congressional District where he served for 26 years. Congressman Miller always represented his constituents with pride and integrity. He understood his southeastern Ohio district and fought vigorously to ensure that his constituents' needs were constantly being met.

Congressman Miller was well known for being a staunch fiscal conservative. While in Congress, Congressman Miller gained respect for introducing bills that were aimed at reducing spending but still meeting the obligations of our Nation. He was awarded a Treasury watchdog award every year he was in Congress because of his great concerns with regard to the national debt and overspending at the federal level.

Throughout his time in the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman Miller served on several House committees including Appropriations, Agriculture, and Public Works and Transportation. Additionally, he served as vice chairman of the Office of Technical Assessment and served on a special committee who forced other countries to reimburse the United States for costs associated with the 1991 Gulf War.

Congressman Miller dedicated much of his time in Congress to the Armed Forces. The Congressman worked tirelessly to ensure that all branches of the military had the resources they needed to protect this great nation. He respected all men and women in uniform and admired their dedication and bravery.

Following his service in Congress, Representative Miller further impacted Lancaster and Fairfield County by serving on the Board of Directors for the YMCA and Red Cross, and devoting time and support to public officials and the area.

In honor of Congressman Miller's influential and selfless efforts to the community, the Lancaster Post Office was renamed after him as well as the county health department building.

Congressman Clarence Ellsworth Miller truly was a fine example of what all members of Congress and those in public service should strive to become.

After a long life of dedicated public service, Clarence Ellsworth Miller, 93, passed away on August 2, 2011. Congressman Miller was preceded in death by his wife, Helen, and left behind a son, Ron, daughter, Jackie, five grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and two stepgrandchildren.

RECOGNIZING FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT ALVIN DAVIS FOR HIS EXEMPLARY SERVICE AND DEDICATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Alvin A. Davis, who as a teacher has shown outstanding merit and dedication to his profession and who has been a source of inspiration and

courage for hundreds of students in my hometown of Miramar, Florida. For his accomplishments as the head band and music teacher for Miramar High School, Mr. Davis has recently been awarded the 2012 Florida Department of Education's prestigious Teacher of the Year Award. Additionally, Mr. Davis has previously been recognized as the 2011 Broward County Teacher of the Year and the African-American Community Unsung Hero Award in 2010 for his dedication to his students and the community.

While Mr. Davis teaches music, many see him as more than just a 'music teacher.' For the past ten years he has taken the initiative to go above and beyond his duties as a teacher and makes the focus of his class on three things: academics, discipline, and music. He requires his students to receive one-on-one counseling with a member of the band staff and he personally reviews students' report cards and interim reports, even though it may not be part of his job description. Every school band rehearsal includes a one-hour study hall where students are tutored, even though his school may not have the budget for it.

But what is most outstanding is how Mr. Davis has made it his personal mission to ensure that his students make it on to college and move on to a brighter future, one that some students could never dream of. The Broward County school district confirms that for the past three years, every student who was a regular participating member of the Miramar High band program has gone on to college. Mr. Davis personally counsels his students on their future decisions and requires that seniors be only able to perform if they have registered for the ACT or SAT and if they can prove that they have applied to a college or university. Through his vision and steadfast dedication, Mr. Davis has single-handedly transformed the lives and futures of hundreds of students and their families.

Education is the back-bone of our country. It is what has made America prosperous, what has made the quality of life in this country the envy of the world, and what has safeguarded our democracy. Yet today we live in a time where the American education system, once ranked as top in the world, has slipped and tumbled to the point of not even making top twenty in some categories. Unfortunately, there are some voices who now decry the public education system as hopeless and worthy of scrapping. To those who have lost faith, I say that they should hear of the vision and successes of Mr. Alvin Davis who is dedicated, selfless, and capable, and works tirelessly every single day to transform the future of Florida's education system.

Mr. Speaker, as we recognize and honor Mr. Alvin A. Davis today for his accomplishments and his dedication, may we also recognize the hope and light educators like Mr. Davis bring to the future of this country.

HONORING JOHN PATRICK CARR, JR.

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of John Patrick Carr, Jr. of York, Maine.

John Carr, Jr. was a truly dedicated family man, a strong community advocate and a friend. John began his career working with the New England Telephone Company and moved on to become the International Representative for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. He remained a longtime member of the IBEW Local 2222.

Following his retirement, John and his wife, Joan, relocated to York, Maine in order to live closer to family and enjoy time with their children and many grandchildren, of which they now have 12. Never one to stay on the sidelines, John became very active as an advocate for senior citizens throughout the State of Maine.

He served as the President of the Maine Council of Senior Citizens for upwards of 10 years, during which time he made a tremendous impact on his community and his state. He fought hard for affordable healthcare for senior citizens and to educate lawmakers on the full impact of numerous pieces of legislation on his community. He also served as a dedicated and active member of the York County Democratic Committee.

I always enjoyed my opportunities to work with John; he had a passion for his work and for the people on whose behalf he advocated. John will be missed by many, but I know that his contributions to the state of Maine are a lasting legacy.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring John Patrick Carr, Jr. for his life of dedication and service to his community, his family and to the State of Maine.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF THOM RUMBERGER

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thom Rumberger, who dedicated much of his life to preserving and restoring the unique, national treasure that is the Everglades. Thom's dedication and perseverance, in fact, earned him the nickname "Defender of the Everglades."

The importance of the Everglades to both Florida and our country cannot be understated, and so neither can the accomplishments of a man who spent a significant amount of his career working to protect this one-of-a-kind national treasure. As an instrumental part in the passage of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and the securing of several billion dollars in funding to execute this overarching plan to restore the Everglades, we owe him a great debt of gratitude both as Americans and as Everglades supporters.

Thom's noteworthy accomplishments are not just limited to the Everglades, he was also involved in the implementation of two constitutional amendments as well as some of the first manatee protection laws.

Thom's success extends to his career in private practice, as a founding partner of the Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell law firm. Under his leadership, the firm's modest beginnings quickly expanded to the forefront of global business litigation, representing such multi-national corporations as American Airlines, Inc.,

Sears, Roebuck and Co., and Toyota Motor Corporation. Today, his firm includes 75 trial attorneys in five offices across Florida and Alabama. Thom has also been listed in Florida Super Lawyers every year from 2007 to 2010.

In addition to spending his career as a public servant, judge and prosecutor, Thom is a dedicated father and grandfather.

Throughout his four decades in public service, Thom Rumberger embodied the importance of looking out for the common good. Thanks to the selfless commitment of folks like Thom, the restoration of America's Everglades is well underway.

I urge my colleagues to support this bi-partisan resolution recognizing and honoring the life and work of Thom Rumberger.

HONORING STEVE LEVESQUE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the accomplishments of Steve Levesque of Maine.

The National Association of Defense Communities has honored Mr. Levesque with its 2011 Base Redevelopment Leadership Award for his hard work on behalf of Brunswick, Maine and the surrounding communities. This award recognizes Mr. Levesque as the country's best base redevelopment official for his work in leading the conversion of Brunswick Naval Air Station for civilian reuse by the Mid-coast Regional Redevelopment Authority.

Steve serves as the executive director of the Mid-coast Regional Redevelopment Authority and has been charged with overseeing reuse of the 3,200-acre former air station, which closed as a military installation on May 31.

Recipients of the Base Redevelopment Leadership Award exhibit leadership abilities that not only enhance the success of their project, but provide management, direction and vision to building an effective and thriving community redevelopment program. The recipient must have proven success in achieving the ongoing goals of the redevelopment plan and creating a successful economic development plan. Steve has met and surpassed these qualifications with his work on the Brunswick Naval Air Station transition.

I am confident that Steve will carry on his track record of excellence in his continued role with the Mid-Coast Region Redevelopment Authority working on the reuse of the Brunswick Naval Air Station. Steve has left a lasting mark on this region and the state of Maine. On behalf of the people of Maine, it is with pride that I congratulate Steve for his excellent work.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Steven Levesque on the receipt of this award, and in thanking him for his dedication to the state of Maine.

RECOGNIZING EUROPE'S BLACK POPULATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution recognizing Europe's Black population and expressing solidarity with their struggle as we mark 2011 as the International Year for People of African Descent.

Some years ago, on April 29, 2008, I chaired a U.S. Helsinki Commission hearing entitled, "The State of (In)visible Black Europe: Race, Rights, and Politics" which focused on the more than seven million people who make up Europe's Black or Afro-descendant population.

Since that hearing, I have been calling for the recognition of Black Europeans, who, despite their numerous contributions to European society, like African-Americans, face the daily challenges of racism and discrimination. This includes being the targets of violent hate crimes and racial profiling, in addition to continuing inequalities in education, housing, employment, and in other sectors. Few Black Europeans are in leadership positions, and political participation is also limited for many, providing obstacles for addressing these problems.

This resolution supports the 2011 International Year for People of African Descent goal to recognize and support the economic, political, cultural, and social inclusion of Black Europeans, including by urging European governments to develop and implement anti-discrimination legislation and other plans of action in cooperation with Black European communities.

Given the lessons learned from our own civil rights struggle and continuing anti-discrimination and diversity efforts in Europe, the resolution also supports an increase in transatlantic cooperative efforts between U.S. and European governments, civil society, and the private sector to provide useful partnerships and assistance in combating racism and discrimination abroad and at home. Specifically, U.S. government support is requested to aid such efforts in line with U.S. support for human rights.

I believe that cooperation is key to addressing the global problems of racism and discrimination. It is for this reason that, since 2009, I have worked in cooperation with minority and other European legislators to hold annual events in Brussels, Belgium at the European Parliament focused on addressing the situation of Blacks and other minorities, with a focus on increasing political participation. These events include the 2009 Black European Summit: Transatlantic Dialogue on Political Inclusion and the 2010 and 2011 Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conferences, where solutions, such as a U.S.-EU Joint Action Plan on Racial and Ethnic Equality and Inclusion have been discussed.

As I continue to work on these initiatives, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this Resolution Recognizing Black Europeans during the International Year or People of African Descent. Additionally, I would like to submit the following background materials on Black Europeans for the official record.

HONORING GRETCHEN KIMBALL AND ANNETTE CALDWELL

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gretchen Kimball and Annette Caldwell for receiving the 2011 "Maine Agriculture in the Classroom" Teacher of the Year award and for receiving one of the five "Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture" awards from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and the National Agriculture in the Classroom Consortium.

Gretchen and Annette created the Buckfield Garden Project at Buckfield Junior/Senior High School in Buckfield, ME. The project is a 1.2-acre garden and farm stand run by the teachers' middle school students. The students research and plan which plants to include in the garden, and every step of the process, from soil cultivation to managing the budget, involves student participation. The project teaches the students agricultural, business and problem solving skills.

The Buckfield Garden Project has become a point of pride for the entire community, not just the students. In the project's first harvest, the students earned \$3,500. The students elected to donate this money to a local family struggling with severe medical hardship. Through Gretchen and Annette's unique and innovative approach to education, these students are learning practical skills as well as making valuable connections with their community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Gretchen Kimball and Annette Caldwell's achievement in receiving these awards.

RECOGNIZING MS. CAROL J. ROSELLE FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PALM BEACH COMMUNITY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a lady who has made a lifelong commitment to transforming her talents and hobbies into thousands of acts of kindness and giving. Ms. Carol J. Roselle, a resident of West Palm Beach, FL, has been knitting and crocheting since she was a young girl during World War II. Her Aunt Emma would take her to Red Cross meetings, where Ms. Roselle observed women knitting cuffs to keep soldiers warm. Throughout the intervening years she has knit an array of gifts for friends and family members, but when she began volunteering for the Lantana Health Center in 2002, the scope of her giving expanded dramatically.

Ms. Roselle and her knitting group, the 3 B's, have spent the last 9 years lovingly knitting booties, blankets, and beanies for newborns, as well as lap blankets for veterans in wheelchairs at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Riviera Beach, FL. Over the years, the ladies have knitted thousands of items, and they have donated each one out of the kindness of their hearts. Ms. Roselle and her

knitting group are a shining example of how each and every American can make a difference while having fun in the process.

Mr. Speaker, by identifying their unique strengths and passions and then using those strengths and passions to contribute to their community in a substantive, meaningful way, these ladies have created a win-win situation for everyone involved. Ms. Roselle has been awarded the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Palm Beach County Health Department for her selfless efforts, and it is my great honor to underscore the merits of her work. I offer my heartfelt thanks and admiration for her creative and proactive willingness to give back, and I urge every American to follow in her footsteps by using their own unique gifts to give back to society and make the world a better place for all of us.

HONORING SISTER MARY
NORBERTA

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Mary Norberta, who will retire this year after 29 years of leadership at St. Joseph Healthcare in Bangor. Since 1982, Sister Norberta has guided St. Joseph Hospital and St. Joseph Healthcare as a dynamic President and Chief Executive Officer.

As President and C.E.O. of St. Joseph Hospital, Sister Norberta has been instrumental in transforming a once small community hospital into the largest facility in the state of Maine. Not only has she introduced modern ideas to the hospital such as digital mammography, laparoscopic surgery, lithotripter service and the allowance of fathers in the delivery room, but she has also expanded primary care services in rural areas, helped to organize small community hospitals in Maine and completed thousands of hours of community service.

Sister Norberta is the recent recipient of the Woman of the Year Award for the state of

Maine, bestowed upon her by the Business and Professional Women's organization. The Woman of the Year Award is given to a woman who exemplifies a character of drive, innovation and compassion in the workforce. Sister Norberta more than meets these standards.

Earlier this year, she was also recognized with the lifetime achievement award from the Honor Society of Nursing due to her longtime work in nursing leadership and education at the local, state, and federal levels. In tribute to Sister Norberta's upcoming retirement, the chapter has established an annual scholarship in her name.

After a career devoted to strengthening health care institutions, providing the highest level quality of care for patients and supporting the most vulnerable in the state of Maine, Sister Norberta is, without doubt, deserving of her recent awards and honors. Upon her retirement from St. Joseph's, she will truly be missed for her leadership skills and kindness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in thanking Sister Mary Norberta for her tremendous contributions and service to her community and to the people of Maine.