

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING DR. ROBERT BEICHNER ON BEING AWARDED THE 2011 HAROLD W. MCGRAW, JR. PRIZE IN EDUCATION

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Robert Beichner for receiving the prestigious 2011 Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education.

Dr. Beichner, an Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor in the Department of Physics at North Carolina State University, is well-known for his work to improve teaching and learning at all levels and for a variety of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, fields. Since 2007, he has been the Director of North Carolina State University's STEM Education Initiative, with a mission to study and improve STEM education from "K to Gray" in North Carolina and around the world. His contributions to science education—from co-authoring a top-selling physics textbook to promoting new ways to educate our students in the classroom—reach far beyond the boundaries of his home campus in Raleigh, North Carolina.

As a first-generation college graduate, Dr. Beichner recognizes the benefits of hands-on instruction that are not typically well represented in STEM fields. One of his major efforts is the Student-Centered Active Learning Environment for Undergraduate Programs, or the SCALE-UP program, which utilizes methodology and teaching efforts proven to be successful in small class settings—such as hands-on activities, simulations and roundtable discussions—and adapts them for use in larger classrooms. The program fosters 21st century skills such as communication, problem-solving, and teamwork, and has been shown to improve students' ability to solve problems; increase conceptual understanding of STEM material; improve attitudes; and reduce failure rates among all demographics.

Since it was launched in the late 1990's, SCALE-UP has been adopted by more than 100 universities across the country—including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Clemson, and Wake Technical Community College—and is now moving into high schools, as well. This innovative curriculum development, evaluation, and dissemination effort is supported by the U.S. Department of Education, the National Science Foundation, Hewlett-Packard, and Pasco Scientific.

Dr. Beichner gained visibility when he co-authored Physics for Scientists and Engineers, the leading college physics textbook, which is used by more than one-third of all STEM college majors. Several years ago he created the PER-CENTRAL website, establishing an electronic "home base" for the Physics Education Research community, and he also consults with education researchers and reformers in biology, engineering, chemistry and statistics.

In addition, he is the founding editor of Physical Review Special Topics: Physics Education Research, the leading journal for those studying ways to improve the learning of physics.

Long regarded not only as an expert in his field, but also as a teacher and a mentor who has greatly influenced the lives and careers of his students and colleagues, Dr. Beichner has received a number of accolades for his education reform efforts. In 2009, he was named the North Carolina Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), and in 2010, he was recognized as the National Undergraduate Science Teacher of the Year from the Society of College Science Teachers and the National Science Teachers Association.

I am proud to see the list of honors continue with this year's awarding of the McGraw Prize in Education, which annually recognizes outstanding individuals who have dedicated themselves to improving education and who have demonstrated successes in doing so. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Beichner for his achievements in improving STEM education and fostering the next generation of leaders in STEM fields.

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE COLLEGE OF NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

**HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer congratulations to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette College of Nursing and Allied Health Professions for its commitment to superior education and training. For the past 60 years, since the inception of the university's College of Nursing in 1951, its faculty and staff have been dedicated to educating and developing future healthcare employees of the highest caliber.

As a healthcare professional, I know the importance of a well-trained medical team. The faculty and staff of the UL Lafayette College of Nursing and Allied Health Professions work hard to provide their students with a first-rate education, making the college's graduates among the most coveted in the nation. Out-of-state hospitals seek UL Lafayette nursing graduates in hopes of gaining a staff member with superior skill and knowledge in the medical field.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) at UL Lafayette is considered as one of the country's most prestigious healthcare degrees. UL Lafayette BSN graduates continually pass licensing exams at a higher rate than state and U.S. averages.

The college was named a 2005–2008 Center of Excellence in Nursing Education for Ongoing Faculty Development by the National

League for Nursing. UL Lafayette's program is one of only four in the United States to earn this title. The college was also recognized by the Louisiana State Nurses Association and the Louisiana Nurses Foundation, earning the 2008 Nursing School of the Year Nightingale Award.

Since 1989, healthcare students have also had the opportunity to earn a Graduate Degree at UL Lafayette. In 1996, the university began offering a Nurse Practitioner program, allowing students to continue utilizing the superior faculty and staff resources of the College of Nursing even after they have received their baccalaureate degree.

I commend the UL Lafayette College of Nursing and Allied Health Professions for their dedication and desire to grow and improve the medical community. I am honored to represent these brilliant and hard-working healthcare professionals in Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND ROBERT H. WILSON

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Reverend Dr. Robert H. Wilson, Sr., retired pastor and an executive of the National Baptist Convention of America, NBCA. Dr. Bob, as he was called, passed away on September 26.

Dr. Wilson was a beloved pastor of the church as much as he was the beloved father of two children, Roberta Nicholson and Robert H. Wilson, Jr. Dr. Wilson dedicated his entire life to his faith, having pastored his first congregation at the youthful age of 16 and then in various other congregations until he was 82 years old.

Gifted with the ability to effectively preach, Dr. Wilson would go on to pastor a number of churches throughout Texas, although his first experience as a pastor began in Columbia, South Carolina. Ultimately, his destiny led him back to Texas, reunited with his family.

Furthering his dedication to the church, Dr. Wilson founded his very own church in Dallas, the Cornerstone Baptist Church of Christ, where he pastored for 25 years.

Not surprisingly, Dr. Wilson made a number of contributions outside of his church as well, primarily with the NBCA. Dr. Wilson held a number of positions there, boasting 18 years of service as the first Congress Director for the National Baptist Congress of Christian Workers as well as being elected Secretary-Treasurer of the NBCA Foreign Mission Board. His wide range of contributions toward promoting his faith was diverse.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Wilson was loved and respected by all. He gave the ultimate sacrifice by dedicating his entire life to inspire and empower members of faith. His legacy will remain

• 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.

with the Cornerstone Baptist Church of Christ and its members. He will be dearly missed and I am honored today to pay a final tribute to this outstanding community leader, Dr. Robert H. Wilson, Sr.

RECOGNIZING ASSISTANT U.S.  
ATTORNEY THOMAS B. THOMPSON

**HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Thomas B. Thompson for his distinguished service to, and retirement from, the United States Attorney's Office.

Since 1984, AUSA Thompson has devoted his expertise to the United States Attorney's Office (USAO), serving in both the criminal and civil divisions of the USAO in the Western District of Louisiana. AUSA Thompson specializes in U.S. bankruptcy law, and has worked as senior litigation council and chief of the civil division of the USAO.

AUSA Thompson is a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association and is authorized to practice in certain federal courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States.

Before entering the United States Attorney's Office, from 1980 to 1984, AUSA Thompson worked for the late Honorable Richard J. Putnam, Senior District Judge, United States District Court, Western District of Louisiana.

AUSA Thompson earned his baccalaureate degree from McNeese State University and his Juris Doctorate from Louisiana State University. He also served his country in the United States Marine Corps from 1969 to 1975, receiving an Honorable Discharge. During his time with the Corps he was stationed in the Former Republic of Vietnam, obtaining the position of squad leader for two infantry companies.

AUSA Thompson has had a highly distinguished career, and I commend him for his service to our nation, not only on the battlefield, but also as an officer of justice. I am proud to be his representative in Congress and wish him well in his retirement.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN NORTH KOREA:  
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is known to be the world's most isolated country, as its citizens are prohibited from traveling either internally or internationally without permission. Communications with the outside world also are tightly regulated in attempts by the dictatorship regime to filter all information accessible by the North Korean people.

Therefore, the testimony provided last week by our distinguished panel, and in particular our two defector witnesses, was particularly welcome and appreciated. Mrs. Kim Young Soon and Mrs. Kim Hye Sook, who both have

survived the extreme deprivations of the North Korean prison camps, travelled all the way from South Korea to share their experiences with us. On behalf of the subcommittee, I wish to convey to them our sincere gratitude.

They spoke on behalf of the estimated 150,000 to 200,000 prisoners currently held in North Korea's penal-labor camps. It is our hope that their testimony will help to galvanize the international community to take action to secure the freedom of those who are needlessly suffering and dying under truly horrific conditions.

Those living in the prison camps are not the only ones suffering in North Korea. As one of our witnesses, Suzanne Scholte, testified, in North Korea every single human right enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is violated. North Korea is listed by the State Department as a "Tier 3" country with respect to human trafficking. It was just redesignated this month as one of eight "Countries of Particular Concern" for its egregious violations of religious freedom.

But not all the testimony during the hearing was bleak. We heard about new potential for communication to and with the North Korean people, and explored possibilities for peaceful change given upcoming political events in North Korea and changes in other countries in the region. We look forward to discussing this potential to improve the lives of all North Koreans.

Once again, I would like to thank our witnesses for joining us last week.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as we today approve a continuing resolution at a non-emergency spending level equivalent to \$1.043 trillion, and additional War Funding at an annualized rate of \$119 billion, our national debt is \$14,707,406,820,591.87 trillion.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10.63 trillion.

This means the national debt has increased by \$4.07 trillion since then.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

CHINA'S ONE-CHILD POLICY: THE  
GOVERNMENT'S MASSIVE CRIME  
AGAINST WOMEN AND UNBORN  
BABIES

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week I held an extremely important hearing that examined the consequences of thirty-three years of China's implementation of its one child per couple policy.

China's one child policy is state sponsored cruelty and constitutes massive crimes against

humanity. The Nuremberg Nazi war crimes tribunal properly construed forced abortion as a crime against humanity—nothing in human history compares to the magnitude of China's 33 year assault on women and children.

Today in China, rather than being given maternal care, pregnant women without birth allowed permits are hunted down and forcibly aborted. They are mocked, belittled and humiliated. There are no single moms in China—except those who somehow evade the family planning cadres and conceal their pregnancy. For over three decades, brothers and sisters have been illegal; a mother has absolutely no right to protect her unborn baby from state sponsored violence.

Over the years I have chaired 29 congressional human rights hearings focused in whole or in part on China's one child policy. At one, the principal witness, Wuijian, a Chinese student attending a U.S. university, testified about how her child was forcibly murdered by the government. She said, "[T]he room was full of moms who had just gone through a forced abortion. Some moms were crying. Some moms were mourning. Some moms were screaming. And one mom was rolling on the floor with unbearable pain." Then Wuijian said it was her turn, and through her tears she described what she called her "journey in hell."

Last week we heard the testimony of other victims of forced abortion, and we are extremely grateful that they joined us. Not only did it take a great deal of courage to share what must be some of the most painful experiences of their lives, but they are also spoke truth to power, a Chinese Government that may well retaliate not only against them, if given the opportunity, but also family members who may still be in China. Again, I thank them for sharing their stories.

Women bare the major brunt of the one child policy not only as mothers. Due to the male preference in China's society and the limitation of the family size to one child, the policy has directly contributed to what is accurately described as gendercide—the deliberate extermination of a girl—born or unborn—simply because she happens to be female.

As a result of the Chinese government's barbaric attack on mothers and their children, there are some 100 million more males than females in China today. It has been noted that the three most dangerous words in China today are: "it's a girl!"

In July, I offered an amendment demanding the release and an end of the torture of Chinese defense attorney Chen Guangcheng, who bravely defied forced abortion victims in China. Both Chen and his wife Yuan Weijing are at risk of dying from repeated beatings by the Chinese secret police and refused access to critically-needed medical care.

In the latter part of August when Vice President JOE BIDEN was visiting China, he stated that he "fully understood" the one child policy, and that he's not "second guessing." Can you imagine what the public reaction would be if the Vice President had said that he "fully understands" and is not "second guessing" copyright infringement and gross violations of intellectual property rights?

The one child per couple policy is the most egregious systematic attack on mothers ever. For my Vice President to publicly state that he fully understands the one child policy and then say he won't second guess it is unconscionable, and sells out every mom in the PRC who

has suffered this abuse. Instead of defending the one child policy, Vice President BIDEN should have asked for the release of Chen and Yuan, or at least made a formal request to see them.

Although Vice President BIDEN attempted to backtrack on his extraordinarily callous comment about the policy, his voting record as a Senator shines a spotlight on his long-held disregard for the severity of this human rights violation. On September 13, 2000, he joined 52 other senators in defeating an amendment by then-Senator Jesse Helms condemning the one child policy. Then-Senator BIDEN reportedly did so because he was concerned that condemning China on fundamental human rights would interfere with the normalization of trade relations.

I invited the Vice President to a hearing I held last week to explain his “full understanding” of the one child policy. I was informed that he was not in D.C. and could not attend. Given the grave importance of this issue, and the literally millions of lives at stake, I extend to the Vice President an open invitation to testify at a hearing at his convenience to share his “understanding” with the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights, and what actions, if any, the Obama Administration is taking to end this barbaric policy.

I also asked Secretary of State Hillary Clinton at a hearing on March 1st of this year whether she or President Obama raised the issue of forced abortion in China directly in a face-to-face manner with President Hu when he was in Washington. She refused to answer it then, and I have yet to receive a response.

Not only is the current Administration turning a blind eye to the atrocities being committed under the one child policy, but it is even contributing financial support—contrary to U.S. law—through the UNFPA. Twenty seven years ago—on May 9, 1984—I authored the first amendment ever to a foreign aid bill to deny funding to organizations such as the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) that are complicit with China’s forced abortion and involuntary sterilization policy. After all these years, it is amazing and disheartening to me that most policy makers—including and especially the Obama Administration—remain indifferent or worse, supportive, of these massive crimes against women and children. The Obama Administration has long enabled this cruel policy by its silence and financial support to the tune of \$50 million a year to the UNFPA, an organization that supports, plans, implements, defends and whitewashes the Chinese government’s brutal program.

U.S. funding for the UNFPA was withheld in accordance with what is known as the Kemp-Kasten provision, which prohibits any monies for an organization that supports or participates in the management of a program of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization, for Fiscal Years 1986–1993, 1999, and 2002–2008.

In June 2008, Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte notified Members of Congress that he had determined that UNFPA had provided “financial and technical resources through its sixth cycle China Country Program to the National Population and Family Planning Commission and related entities,” and therefore provided support for and participated in the management of the Chinese government’s program of coercive abortion and invol-

untary sterilization. It was on this basis that no funding was provided to the UNFPA that year.

Unfortunately, despite the fact that the Seventh Country Programme, 2011–2015, clearly indicates that UNFPA’s support and participation in China’s coercive policies continue, the Obama Administration is allowing money to flow to UNFPA in violation of the Kemp-Kasten Amendment.

On one of several trips to Beijing, I challenged Peng Peiyun—then China’s director of the nation’s population control program—to end the coercion, we had quite a debate. Madame Peng told me that the UNFPA was very supportive of the one child per couple program and that the UNFPA adamantly agrees with her that the program is voluntary and that coercion doesn’t exist. In other words, I—we—are simply making it all up.

For over 30 years, the UNFPA has consistently heaped praise on China’s population control program and repeatedly urged other countries to embrace similar policies.

A few years ago this fall, the UNFPA and the Chinese government rolled out the red carpet and hosted high level diplomats from Africa including health ministers to sell “child limitation” policies. Despite the fact that China’s enforcement mechanism relies on heavy coercion and its aging population will soon implode its economy, many African leaders seem to have taken the bait. Limitations on the number of children a mother may carry to term are under active consideration throughout the continent.

President Paul Kagame of Rwanda for example wants a limit of three children per woman. I spoke to him directly about it and heard the same arguments I heard from family planning officials on trips to Beijing.

Last week, we heard about the broader social implications of the one child policy and the extreme disparity between the numbers of men and women in China, particularly in terms of security. Therefore, the negative ramifications of the policy for the Chinese people that we will be examining have implications also for numerous other countries and the world in general.

I appreciated hearing from all of our distinguished witnesses, and wish to extend my sincere gratitude for them joining us last week.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SPECIALIST RYAN JAMES COOK,  
UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is with great respect and honor that I rise today to recognize the life of Northwest Florida’s beloved Specialist Ryan James Cook, of Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

Specialist Cook was killed in action by an improvised explosive device on Sunday, September 18, 2011 while on patrol in Takhar Province, Afghanistan. At the time, he was assigned to the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, out of Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

A resident of Fort Walton Beach for more than 20 years, Specialist Cook attended

Kenwood Elementary School, Pryor Middle School and Choctawhatchee High School. He was a true patriot. Remembered by those close to him, Specialist Cook was driven, determined, and had a reputation as a dependable friend.

His dependability and his strong sense of duty led him to enlist in the Army three years ago. In a sign of his intrepidity, he chose to serve in the infantry.

Ryan was a beloved member of his community. He is survived by his loving family, daughter, Keira James Cook; mother, Kathleen (Cook) Silva; stepfather, Frank Silva; wife, Kari Cook; sisters, Alyssia (Silva) Hawkins, and Kristie (Silva) Dunaway; brothers, Jordan Silva and Darell Lewis; maternal grandmother, Mary (Cook) Byrne; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor the life of Specialist Ryan James Cook for his selfless service and sacrifice in defense of our nation. My wife Vicki and I offer our prayers for his entire family. He will be truly missed by all.

CHARLES R. HOYNOWSKI

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2011

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Charles R. Hoynowski for his exemplary service to our country and state. Mr. Hoynowski served honorably in the United States Naval Reserve from 1961 to 1967. In that time, Mr. Hoynowski was injured while serving in Cuba during the Cuban crisis. Additionally, Mr. Hoynowski earned the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, Navy “E” Ribbon, and the Navy Reserve Meritorious Service Medal. It is because of the service of veterans like Charles Hoynowski that all Americans have the freedoms that we enjoy today.

After leaving the service, Mr. Hoynowski went on to have a distinguished 20-year career as a Pennsylvania State Trooper. In 1991, Mr. Hoynowski retired from the Pennsylvania State Police, but his commitment to public service, and especially veterans, did not end. Mr. Hoynowski has always fought for the rights of veterans. He believes that the United States must honor all living veterans so they can enjoy the fruits of the liberties they defended.

In 2005, Mr. Hoynowski opened a \$400,000 log cabin veterans’ club on Blackman Street in Wilkes-Barre. He also erected a monument to honor all of those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, and to honor all veterans.

Today, Mr. Hoynowski continues to fight for the rights of veterans in Northeastern Pennsylvania by educating local veterans on what government benefits they are entitled to, and by contacting local elected officials to advocate on behalf of veterans. Americans like Charles Hoynowski are the reason why the United States of America continues to be the greatest country in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize Mr. Charles R. Hoynowski for his service to the United States of America, and to his fellow veterans. He has played an integral role in ensuring that our community’s veterans are given the recognition and benefits they deserve.

HONORING THE TWENTIETH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF CHATEAU DU  
SUREAU

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Chateau du Sureau of Oakhurst, California, on the celebration of its 20th anniversary. The Chateau du Sureau has been instrumental in bringing visitors to see the wonders of the high Sierra Nevada and our San Joaquin Valley. It has also served as vibrant example of what can be accomplished with drive and remarkable business talent.

A truly notable highlight of Central California, the Chateau du Sureau is nestled just sixteen miles from the south entrance of Yosemite National Park. Since its founding in 1991, the Chateau du Sureau has embraced the natural beauty of the Sierras and coupled it with the glamour and luxury of old European traditions. The Chateau du Sureau's magical atmosphere has attracted visitors from all around the world including Europe, Asia, and the entire United States.

The Chateau du Sureau has been widely successful because of its dedication to its guests. Not only has the Chateau du Sureau been applauded by its guests for its impeccable service and attention to detail but it has also received notable and distinguished awards. The Chateau du Sureau received the American Automobile Association's (AAA) Five Diamond Award and the Forbes Five-Star.

Mrs. Erna Kubin-Clanin is the proprietor of the Chateau du Sureau. Erna first opened her award-winning restaurant, Erna's Elderberry House in 1984. Business was so successful; she built the Chateau du Sureau to accommodate the many visitors who traveled from all over the world. Her years of tireless commitment and highest regard for her guests have not only made her a successful business woman, but also made her a beloved member of our community.

I applaud the Chateau du Sureau, Mrs. Erna Kubin-Clanin, her husband Dr. René Clanin, and their entire staff for maintaining exquisite accommodations and elegance beyond expectations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me as we stand and shine a spotlight on the Chateau du Sureau as they celebrate twenty years of pride and progress.

REVEREND PAUL A. McDONNELL

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Reverend Paul A. McDonnell, Oblate of St. Joseph, for his lifelong dedication to serving his church and his community.

Father McDonnell began his spiritual journey immediately after graduating from Wyoming Area High School by entering the Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary in Laffin, Pennsylvania. During his time as a seminarian, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from King's College in Wilkes-

Barre, Pennsylvania. After spending five years in Rome, Italy, Father McDonnell returned to the United States with a bachelor's degree in sacred theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) and a master's degree in pastoral theology at the Lateran University. Upon his return, he was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in his home parish of St. Anthony of Padua, Exeter, by former Auxiliary Bishop of Scranton Bishop Francis X. DiLorenzo.

Father McDonnell has served the Pennsylvania Province of the Oblates of St. Joseph Congregation as assistant pastor; pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Pittston; and the provincial superior of the Our Lady of Sorrows Province. Presently, he serves as the provincial vicar and secretary, as well as the North American representative at the Congregation's Rome headquarters.

Father McDonnell's service extends past his work in the Oblates of St. Joseph. He serves as Chaplain to UNICO and to the Ancient Order of Hibernians. McDonnell's community involvement is clearly evident as he was named the honorary chairman of the 2011 capitol campaign of the YMCA, and he holds positions on the boards of the Wesley Village Nursing Facility and the Earthly Angels Autism Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, on this day I would like to applaud the Reverend Paul A. McDonnell for his 20 years of serving parishes within the Diocese of Scranton and extending his hand to all of humanity. He is deserving of the honor of being named the Italian-American Association's 2011 Person of the Year.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE  
OF PETER L. JOHNSON

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Committee on Ethics, and with and on behalf of my colleague, Representative SÁNCHEZ, the Ranking Member of the Committee, we rise today so that we may recognize the long and dedicated service of Peter Johnson to the House of Representatives. Peter is retiring this week from the Committee on Ethics, where he has performed two important functions for eight years. And well before he joined our Committee, Peter has been serving this community with pride and excellence since 1979.

Unbeknownst to most of the community, Peter has been our connection to so many of you. As both the Systems Administrator of the Committee and the Financial Disclosure Administrator, Peter has kept our office running and your financial disclosures on track. An important part of our tradition of excellent customer service, Peter is the unseen trooper whom anyone with an extension has relied upon. And beyond financial disclosures, Peter has managed the significant amount of material we produce on-line to help you understand our processes, our rules, and our results.

Prior to joining the Committee on Ethics, Peter climbed the ranks of the office of the Clerk of the House, serving the community in the vital function of public disclosure for a number of records trusted to the Clerk's care. Peter has supervised, managed, and adminis-

tered most of the functions so crucial to the sunlight we welcome in this institution. In the Clerk's office, Peter was an institutional liaison to both the Federal Election Commission and the lobbyist community to ensure, in both arenas, that the House of Representatives served the public's interest in access to important information that the people have relied upon for many years.

In short, Peter Johnson has been a model of professional non-partisan dedication to some of the most important functions of accountability and transparency for the House of Representatives for over 30 years now. On behalf of a grateful Committee and community, we thank him for his service and wish him all the best in his retirement from this journey and his transition to the next.

KEITH CARY NAYLOR

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 26, 2011*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Keith C. Naylor for his 36 years of dedicated service at the VA Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Mr. Naylor began his career in 1975 as a kinesiologist at the VAMC. Shortly thereafter, Naylor worked with his fellow therapists to develop the Wheelchair Olympics at the VAMC. Mr. Naylor would be selected to coach the VAMC Wilkes-Barre Wheelchair Olympics team in San Diego in 1995.

A Certified Diabetes Educator, Mr. Naylor was assigned to the orthopedic clinic of Physical Therapy department, where he developed the diabetic exercise and education program at the VAMC in Wilkes-Barre. He was also assigned to the orthopedic and neurological clinics of the Physical Medicine Department, as well as to the psychiatric and substance abuse clinics.

Mr. Naylor has gone above and beyond during his career, obtaining many acknowledgements and awards. He has been recognized on more than one occasion for his performance at the VAMC because he contributed to the mission of his department by substantially exceeding performance requirements. In 1980 he assisted in the Vietnam Outreach program and improved the lives of many Vietnam veterans by encouraging them to use the VAMC to serve their needs. In 1987, Naylor was named Employee of the Year for his work with the employee exercise program. Mr. Naylor gained praise as he became the M.O.V.E. Coordinator in 1993. He used his knowledge and skills to help overweight and obese veterans manage their weight through nutrition and exercise for eight years.

Mr. Speaker, Keith C. Naylor has used his 36 years at the VA Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre to not only provide for his family, but to improve the overall quality of life of our country's veterans. He used his personality, skills, and compassion to help those who need it, and has been an asset to the VA Medical Center. As he steps down from his post, he will certainly be missed by all who have worked with or been served by him.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on the Moore amendment to H.R. 2401. I would have voted "aye" on this amendment (rollcall No. 730).

DR. JAMES AND MARY LOU BURNE

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. James and Mrs. Mary Lou Burne, who will be recognized with the fifth Monsignor McGowan Cornerstone Award for their exemplary community service. The selfless dedication to the service of others makes the Burnes the ideal recipients of an award that highlights the legacy of a truly great individual, Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan.

Dr. James and Mary Lou Burne have dedicated countless hours over the span of several decades to ensuring that those in their community who are less fortunate are able to have a meal. They have accomplished this through the creation of the Family-To-Family Food Basket Program in 1986. To date, this program has helped provide meals to more than 300,000 people.

The Burne Family truly loves its hometown, the City of Scranton, Pennsylvania. This is where they have raised their four children, James Burne III, Dr. Mark Burne, Mary Burne, and Matthew Burne. It was an easy decision for Dr. James and Mary Lou Burne to give back to the community that helped to give them so much. Dr. Burne is a member of the Scranton Chapter of UNICO National, The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, and the Kiwanis Club. Mrs. Burne is currently vice president of The Friends of the Poor and vice president of Lackawanna Pro Bono, Inc., and was the founder and director of the local Special Olympics.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. James and Mary Lou Burne are truly pillars of their community in Scranton. I commend them for their decades of committed service to their faith, their community, and their country. They will surely carry on the spirit of Monsignor McGowan throughout this year and the future.

HONORING MR. KIM CLYMIRE OF  
KELSEYVILLE, CALIFORNIA**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Kim Clymire, Public Services Director for the County of Lake where he has lived and worked as a public servant for more than 30 years.

In his time working for Lake County, Mr. Clymire has spearheaded a number of groundbreaking projects and has been a

member or leader of several community groups focused on improving the quality of public resources enjoyed by the residents of the region. He was a founding member of the Lake County Land Trust Board of Directors, was a Board member, 1986–1990, and President, 1990, of the California Park and Recreation Society District 1.

In his terminal position as Public Services Director, Mr. Clymire has been in charge of the county's Parks and Recreation program, the county's Integrated Waste Management program, the county's Museums and the Buildings and Grounds Division. For several years he was in charge of the county's Office of Emergency Services, OES, and managed OES operations during several natural disasters. Mr. Clymire was also in charge of the county's Visitor Information Center for three years.

Mr. Clymire has been very successful in writing grant proposals through which funding has been obtained to develop new parks and other county facilities. He was instrumental in the acquisition and development of several new county parks during his career, including the Kelseyville Community Park, Upper Lake Community Park, Clearlake Oaks Nylander Park, Hammond Park in Nice, Lower Lake Park, and the 107-acre nature preserve known as the Middletown Trailside Park. He was also heavily involved in the acquisition of 1,520 acres of land on Mt. Konocti which will be preserved for future generations. The new Mt. Konocti Park will be opening to the public on September 24, 2011, shortly before Mr. Clymire's retirement on October 3.

Known widely and in high esteem by his friends, colleagues and other members of the community—especially for his friendly nature and good sense of humor—Mr. Clymire has made an impressive and indelible contribution to the landscape of Lake County and to the lives of the people who live there. He is deserving of our praise and gratitude, without reservation.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time for us to congratulate, thank and applaud Mr. Clymire for his remarkable career of public service. We wish him and his wife, Olga, much happiness and fortune in their retirement.

PATRICIA STELLA

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Patricia Stella, owner and operator of thirteen McDonald's restaurants, for a lifetime of achievement that is the result of passion and a belief in lifelong learning. Patricia Stella, aided by both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in education, pursued a teaching career in both the Abington Heights School District in Pennsylvania and in Wheaton, Illinois. After her parents had opened their second McDonald's restaurant, Ms. Stella resigned from her teaching position to join the family business. By the age of 30, Patricia Stella was one of the youngest owner/operators in the restaurant franchise's history.

Instilling a winning combination of enthusiasm for education and lifelong learning in

her employees, Ms. Stella has made her mark within the McDonald's franchise. She was awarded McDonald's Women Operator Network Shining Star Award and McDonald's Leadership Eagle Award. In addition, she has received the highest award presented to a McDonald's owner/operator, the Golden Arch Award.

As a successful business owner, Ms. Stella followed in her family's tradition of giving back to the communities that give so much to her. She currently serves as a board member for the Volunteers of America, an executive on the board of directors at the Pittston Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the board of directors for the Ronald McDonald House of Scranton. As a result of her service in the Volunteers of America, she was awarded the Spirit of Youth Award. Previously, Ms. Stella shared her experience with organizations such as the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry and the American Red Cross, as well as serving as the vice president of the Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council.

Mr. Speaker, it has been almost 40 years since Patricia and Frank Colletti had purchased their first McDonald's franchise. Their daughter Patricia has demonstrated her diligence and drive to keep her family's dreams alive. I commend her for all she has brought to our community and its residents.

IN HONOR OF CAROL LYNN  
HATTON**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Carol Lynn Hatton, who passed away on August 22, 2009, at the age of 60. Carol was born in Long Beach, California, attended local schools and graduated from Long Beach State University with a BA in Physical Anthropology and earned her Masters Degree in Developmental Psychology at San Jose State University.

Carol was devoted to her family and raised two daughters while working as the Development Officer at All Saints Episcopal Day School and at Santa Catalina High School. She valued the private education that her children received, but was never comfortable with the fact that all children didn't have the same opportunity. For this reason, she worked hard to support efforts that provided scholarships. Likewise, when Carol joined the Development staff at the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, where she was instrumental in raising the necessary funds to bring state-of-the-art digital mammography equipment to CHOMP, she led a campaign that would provide diagnostic services to any woman, regardless of her income.

Following her breast cancer diagnosis in 2002, Carol routinely offered support, counsel, and friendship to other patients while bravely fighting her own battle. She felt fortunate to have had comprehensive health care coverage and though she always expressed her appreciation for having access to the finest physicians in the country, Carol believed it unfair that all women did not benefit from the same outstanding care and health insurance coverage. Carol placed tremendous value on

a level playing field. She often dreamt of winning the lottery, because, as she told her friends, "think of all the people and organizations I could help."

Carol herself benefited from some of her own work to help improve CHOMP's Breast Care Center. The American College of Radiology has designated the CHOMP facility a Breast Care Center of Excellence. Carol's work helped ensure that the Center can provide services to any woman regardless of income. The center offers comprehensive breast care in a single setting, same day biopsy, digital mammography, and minimally invasive diagnostic procedures using ultrasound, MRI and stereotactic guidance. Its team of specialists includes radiologists, pathologists, surgeons, radiation oncologists, medical oncologists, and plastic surgeons.

On Saturday, October 1, 2011, many of Carol's family, friends, and colleagues will gather to rededicate the CHOMP Breast Care Center in honor of Carol. Mr. Speaker, while Carol's friends and family reflect on her accomplishments on this special occasion, we honor her kindness, her courage and her spirit. We honor the family that Carol loved and cherished, her husband Dave Hatton, their two daughters Lindsay Hatton McClelland and Brynn Hatton, and their granddaughter, Hazel Hatton McClelland. The memory of Carol's love and compassion will live on in this legacy, as we rename Community Hospital's Breast Care Center The Carol Hatton Breast Care Center.

I know I speak for the whole House in calling out for special recognition of the special and intertwined relationship between Carol Hatton and the CHOMP Breast Cancer Center. Patients and their families will benefit from their work for years to come.

IN HONOR OF WALTER J. HANNON  
OF QUINCY, MA

### HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Walter J. Hannon in recognition of his outstanding contributions to his hometown of Quincy, MA, and to commend him for almost fifty years of dedicated service to his community.

The son of Helen and Walter Hannon, Walter was born on September 4, 1931, in the Hough's Neck section of Quincy, where he lived until 1945. Walter attended Quincy public schools and he graduated from North Quincy High School in 1949. While he has left Hough's Neck, Walter continues to reside in the City of Quincy.

Subsequent to his graduation, Walter went to work in the family tire business, the Hannon Tire Company. In November of 1953, Walter assumed control of the Hannon Tire Company and expanded the business, running its day to day operations until 1972. Concurrently, Walter served as Ward 5 City Councilor from 1964–1971, and as a State Representative from 1967–1973. He was elected Mayor of Quincy in 1972, serving in that capacity until 1975.

After serving as Mayor, Walter went to work for the South Shore Chamber of Commerce in

1976 as the Director of Small Business Development. In 1978, he was appointed Director of Planning and Development for the City of Quincy. On April 2, 1979, he was named Director of Development by Marina Industries to direct the master planning of Marina Bay in Squantum. Governor William Weld recognized Walter's ability and appointed him to the Massachusetts Port Authority as Director of Maritime Development. In 1996, Walter went to work for the Marina Bay Company to oversee the Granite Links project, a spectacular reclamation of a quarry into a first class golf course and restaurant. He presently holds the position of Director of Civic Affairs for the Granite Links Golf Club.

As many in the Quincy community will attest, Walter is known for his quick sense of humor, his loyalty to his friends, and his devotion to his family. He has had the good fortune to be married to Patricia for fifty-eight years and they are the proud parents of five children and ten grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take the floor of the House today to join with Walter J. Hannon's family, friends, and contemporaries to thank him for his remarkable service to his community of Quincy.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL BREAST  
CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, I rise today to stress the importance of getting regular mammograms. Women of all ages need to be screened for this deadly disease in order to catch it early. The earlier it is found, the higher the chance of winning the battle against breast cancer.

It has come to light in the past few years that breast cancer, once thought of as an older women's disease, does not discriminate between young and old. While it remains true that the likelihood of developing breast cancer increases with age, the incidence of breast cancer diagnoses has increased dramatically among women in their 20s and 30s. That is why it is absolutely vital that women, regardless of age, get routine mammograms.

Mammograms are a very powerful tool in the fight against breast cancer. Another tool in that fight, and one that should be performed every month, is a breast self-exam. They can help discover abnormalities in time for the doctors to successfully treat the disease and help your chances of a full recovery. Self-exams only take a few minutes of your time and could be the difference between life and death.

It is a little known fact and one that is rarely talked about, that men are also affected by this disease as well as women. While it is uncommon for men to get breast cancer, it does happen. Men should also perform breast self-exams on a regular basis.

Everyone is affected by this disease regardless of age, wealth or status, which is why it is so important to encourage your loved ones to make an appointment to receive a routine mammogram.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the entire House when I urge women of all ages to seek

regular mammograms; it is truly a matter of life and death.

RECOGNIZING UNION COUNTY  
MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL IN  
SCOTCH PLAINS, NEW JERSEY  
FOR BEING NAMED ONE OF THE  
"BEST HIGH SCHOOLS FOR MATH  
AND SCIENCE" BY U.S. NEWS  
AND WORLD REPORT

### HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Union County Magnet High School in Scotch Plains, New Jersey for being named one of the "Best High Schools for Math and Science" by U.S. News and World Report.

U.S. News and World Report acknowledges schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. Union County Magnet High School is proud example of academic excellence where students have high levels of performance, stellar student achievement, and where educators facilitate a strong learning environment.

I commend the faculty, the students, the parents, and the entire community on receiving this prestigious award. Union County Magnet High School is a proud example of academic excellence and is worthy of national distinction.

HONORING THE WHITTIER ELKS  
LODGE 1258

### HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Whittier Elks Lodge 1258 on their 100th Anniversary. This is a remarkable milestone that deserves our recognition and praise.

For 100 years, the City of Whittier has benefited from the generous contributions and selfless acts of members of the Elks Lodge 1258. Beginning with about two dozen members in 1911, Lodge 1258 grew alongside Whittier and helped it become the prosperous and welcoming city it is today.

The Elks Foundation, driven by local lodges such as 1258, has been a model of organized civic engagement, sharing with communities' their ideals of charity, justice, brotherly love and fidelity. These cardinal virtues are the keystone philosophies the Elks Foundation were founded upon.

The Elks Lodge 1258 has not only helped bring Whittier together, it has also served as a second home for many of the city's residents. The Elks Foundation, with help from Lodge 1258, contributes more than \$80 million yearly to benevolent education and patriotic community-minded programs, while actively advocating on behalf of physically and mentally challenged children and veterans.

Due in large part to the generous financial support of the Elks, countless Whittier parents have seen their children attend and graduate

from college, fostering future generations of service-oriented, civically engaged Whittier residents.

The contributions and achievements of the Elks Lodge are far too many to count, but the enrichment and sense of community they have created have greatly benefited the city of Whittier. For that reason, I would like to recognize Whittier's Elks Lodge 1258 for a century's worth of honorable deeds and good work. I am certain the next 100 years will be as successful.

RECOGNIZING UNION COUNTY ACADEMY FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN SCOTCH PLAINS, NEW JERSEY FOR BEING NAMED ONE OF THE "BEST HIGH SCHOOLS FOR MATH AND SCIENCE" BY U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT

### HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Union County Academy for Information Technology in Scotch Plains, New Jersey for being named one of the "Best High Schools for Math and Science" by U.S. News and World Report.

U.S. News and World Report acknowledges schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. Union County Academy for Information Technology is a proud example of academic excellence where students have high levels of performance, stellar student achievement, and where educators facilitate a strong learning environment.

I commend the faculty, the students, the parents, and the entire community on receiving this prestigious award. Union County Academy for Information Technology is a proud example of academic excellence and is worthy of national distinction.

ACCOUNTABILITY IN SRI LANKA FOR LASTING PEACE

### HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concerns about the current reconciliation efforts in Sri Lanka and my hope for a lasting peace for all of its people. This past May marked the second anniversary of the end to the Sri Lankan civil war between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, LTTE, and the government forces. This tragic war lasted a quarter century and undoubtedly weighed heavily on all Sri Lankans, including an entire generation of young adults that has only known war until two years ago. Peace was achieved, but for how long?

In order to help achieve a lasting peace, the burdens of the civil war must be lifted and the root causes of the conflict must be addressed. For these reasons, I commend the govern-

ment of Sri Lanka for making commitments to address the needs of all ethnic groups. It has also recognized that a political settlement and reconciliation among all ethnic groups is necessary for any chance of a peaceful and just society. The Sri Lankan government's inquiry, Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission, LLRC, was created as a primary mechanism for the reconciliation process as it investigates allegations of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by both opposing forces during the civil war. The LLRC will not succeed, however, if it fails to gain the trust of the people for which it is trying to provide justice. Both Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International have criticized the LLRC for failing to provide any accountability for atrocities that are alleged to have taken place. Further, the recently released United Nations' "Report of the Secretary-General's Panel of Experts on Accountability in Sri Lanka" determined that the allegations are credible and recommends an independent international mechanism to investigate these allegations and provide accountability.

I have faith in the government of Sri Lanka to provide for the peaceful well-being of all its people. To achieve this noble goal, however, the Sri Lankan people must also have faith in their government and fellow citizens. Too many questions remain unanswered. Too many suspicions can reseed conflict. I appeal to the government of Sri Lanka to follow its commitments to addressing the needs of all ethnic groups and embrace the recommendations of the U.N. report. Only a trusted accountability mechanism will relieve the tensions of distrust hardened by war and lay a clean foundation for sustainable peace for Sri Lanka and all its people.

RECOGNIZING HOLY TRINITY INTERPAROCHIAL SCHOOL OF WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY AS A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARDED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Holy Trinity Interparochial School of Westfield, New Jersey for being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

The Department of Education acknowledges schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. Holy Trinity Interparochial School is a proud example of academic excellence where students have high levels of performance, stellar student achievement, and where educators facilitate a strong learning environment.

I commend Sister Maureen Fichner, the faculty, the students, the parents, and the entire community on receiving this prestigious award. Holy Trinity Interparochial School is a proud example of academic excellence and worthy of this national distinction.

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD OBESITY AWARENESS MONTH

### HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, in September we observe National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Task Force on Childhood Obesity, I rise to call attention to the increasing incidence of obesity among our Nation's youth and the need for comprehensive solutions to this growing epidemic.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than one third of children and adolescents are overweight or obese. Childhood obesity has more than tripled since 1980. Overall, nearly 25 million children in the United States are overweight or obese. At the Odessa Brown Children's Clinic in Seattle, which serves mostly low-income and minority patients, nearly 40 percent of children treated are overweight or obese.

Obesity places our children at greater risk of developing heart disease, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, high blood pressure and high levels of cholesterol, sleep apnea, joint problems, as well as social and psychological conditions such as depression and low self-esteem. Unless this trend is reversed, for the first time in history the current generation of children could have a shorter life expectancy than their parents.

In addition to the many public health implications of childhood obesity, the financial consequences are just as alarming. The indirect costs of obesity have been estimated at \$56 billion per year and climbing. Children treated for obesity cost our health care system three times more than the care for children of healthy weight. There is also growing concern among our military leaders about the potential effects of rising childhood obesity rates on our Nation's military readiness and defense. Many young adults who wish to serve their country are unable to join the armed services because they cannot pass the minimum physical fitness standards required for entry.

Mr. Speaker, while the statistics are painful and the outlook appears dim, the good news is obesity is preventable and we can reverse the trends and defeat childhood obesity in America. During this month and throughout the year, I encourage all Americans to speak up about this problem, educate themselves, and explore ways they can make a difference in their own communities. It can be as simple as grabbing a friend or family member and going for a walk, hike, or bike ride; or working with local educators to introduce fresh, healthy meal options in our classrooms. Treatment alone isn't the answer and the task before us is not easy—there is no "quick fix" or magic diet pill—but if parents, schools, communities, health care providers, and government officials work together we can and will succeed in creating healthy environments and healthy lifestyles for our children.

RECOGNIZING ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE SCHOOL OF CLARK, NEW JERSEY AS A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARDED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. John the Apostle School of Clark, New Jersey for being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

The Department of Education acknowledges schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. St. John the Apostle School is a proud example of academic excellence where students have high levels of performance, stellar student achievement, and where educators facilitate a strong learning environment.

I commend Sister Donna Marie O'Brien, the faculty, the students, the parents, and the entire community on receiving this prestigious award. St. John the Apostle School is a proud example of academic excellence and worthy of this national distinction.

### HONORING THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

### HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a resolution commending the American Academy of Arts and Sciences on its centuries of work as an independent, non-partisan research institution and on the induction of its newest class of members. The resolution and the list of new inductees to the Academy from Massachusetts follow.

#### RESOLUTION

Commending the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and its 231st Class of members on the occasion of the institution's October 1, 2011, Induction ceremony in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Whereas these 211 new members earned election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences for extraordinary individual achievement;

Whereas they are among the world's most influential artists, scientists, scholars, authors, and institutional leaders;

Whereas in accepting membership into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, these individuals agreed to contribute their talents, experience and knowledge to help the Academy advance the Nation's social welfare;

Whereas the American Academy of Arts and Sciences is an august, quintessentially American institution founded by John Adams and other scholar-patriots during our Nation's brave struggle for Independence;

Whereas the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, chaired by Louis W. Cabot and led by President Leslie C. Berlowitz, is a vital center of knowledge focused on the great challenges and concerns of the day, from science and technology policy to global security; social policy to the humanities; and culture and education;

Whereas members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences include more than

250 Nobel laureates, some 100 Pulitzer Prize winners, and the world's most celebrated artists and performers; and

Whereas the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, as an independent, nonpartisan research institution, exhibits a standard for civil discourse to which organizations everywhere can aspire: Now therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) extends heartfelt congratulations to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and its newest members;

(2) salutes the American Academy of Arts and Sciences for its continuing service and intellectual leadership around the country and across the world; and

(3) wishes the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and its 231st Class of members good luck and Godspeed with future Academy endeavors.

### THE 231ST CLASS OF MEMBERS, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, FROM MASSACHUSETTS

Name	Affiliation
Dr. Victor Ambros	University of Massachusetts Medical School
Dr. James Ireland Cash, Jr.	Harvard Business School
Professor Timothy J. Colton	Harvard University
Professor David Paul Corey	Harvard Medical School/HHMI
Dr. George Q. Daley	Children's Hosp. Cancer Inst./HMS/HHMI
Professor Philip Fisher	Harvard University
Dr. Julio Frenk	Harvard School of Public Health
Professor Annette Gordon-Reed	Harvard University/HLS/Radcliffe Institute
Dr. Daniel Arie Haber	Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital/HHMI
Reverend Ray A. Hammond	Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
Professor Jeffrey Henderson	Boston University
Mr. Robert F. Higgins	Highland Capital Partners/Havard Business School
Professor Jay H. Jasanoff	Harvard University
Professor Farish Alston Jenkins, Jr.	Harvard University
Mr. Alex S. Jones	Harvard Kennedy School
Professor Frances Myrna Kamm	Harvard University/Harvard Kennedy School
Professor Thomas Forrest Kelly	Harvard University
Dr. Robert E. Kingston	Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital
Mr. Robert Kraft	The Kraft Group
Professor David I. Laibson	Harvard University
Professor Chester Charles Langway, Jr.	State University of New York at Buffalo
Professor Louis Menand	The New Yorker/Harvard University
Dr. W. Jason Morgan	Harvard University/Princeton University
Dr. David Conrad Page	Massachusetts Institute of Technology/HHMI
Dr. Malcolm Austin Rogers	Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Professor Peter Williston Shor	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Professor Charles Haines Stewart III	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Professor Daniel Merton Wegner	Harvard University

### RECOGNIZING NEW PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL OF NEW PROVIDENCE, NEW JERSEY AS A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARDED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize New Providence High School of New Providence, New Jersey for being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

The Department of Education acknowledges schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. New Providence High School is proud example of academic excellence where students have high levels of performance, stellar student achievement, and where educators facilitate a strong learning environment.

I commend Mr. Paul Casarico, the faculty, the students, the parents, and the entire com-

munity on receiving this prestigious award. New Providence High School is proud example of academic excellence and worthy of this national distinction.

### UNITED STATES ARMY CORPORAL EDUARDO PEDREGON

### HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor United States Army Corporal Eduardo Pedregon, who tragically went missing during the Korean War.

In 1947, Eduardo Pedregon left his hometown of San Elizario, Texas, when he was only 17 years old. He wanted to serve his country, but, because he was not yet old enough to enlist, he convinced his mother to sign his enlistment papers granting him parental permission to join the Army. In 1950, he was deployed to fight the spread of communism on the Korean peninsula.

Corporal Pedregon's unit moved across the 38th Parallel into what is now North Korea where they fought in the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. In the harsh, mountainous terrain, it was a brutal fight in the freezing cold—as low as 35 degrees below zero as the winds swept in from Siberia. Weapons malfunctioned, and the roads were often impassable, as they were encircled by 60,000 Chinese troops.

The U.S. forces were eventually able to retreat, but not before suffering massive casualties—including Corporal Eduardo Pedregon, who was last seen on November 30, 1950.

Corporal Pedregon's family hoped and prayed that he would be found. This spring—over sixty years later—Corporal Pedregon's family learned that the remains of their lost family member were finally identified using the latest technology and DNA provided by his late mother.

Today as the House of Representatives convenes, Corporal Pedregon's remains are returning home. Our community will join his family to honor him at the San Elizario Chapel on Saturday, and he will be interred in this nation's most hallowed ground on October 6, 2011. He will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery with his brothers and sisters in arms who, like him, made the ultimate sacrifice. I can think of no greater honor to give to an American hero.

As a fellow combat veteran, I have seen firsthand the sacrifices that soldiers like Corporal Pedregon and his family make in defense of our great nation. The Pedregon family sacrificed more than most; of the 11 children in the family, 5 served in the armed forces, including Eduardo and his brother, Roberto, who fought in the Korean War.

These brave men and women deserve the honor and respect they have earned by risking, and even giving, their lives to defend our freedom. We will continue to keep faith with the families of all soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines and never leave a service member behind.



RECOGNIZING TEWKSBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF CALIFON, NEW JERSEY AS A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARDED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**HON. LEONARD LANCE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tewksbury Elementary School of Califon, New Jersey for being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

The Department of Education acknowledges schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. Tewksbury Elementary School is proud example of academic excellence where students have high levels of performance, stellar student achievement, and where educators facilitate a strong learning environment.

I commend Mr. Jim Miller, the faculty, the students, the parents, and the entire community on receiving this prestigious award. Tewksbury Elementary School is proud example of academic excellence and worthy of this national distinction.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I was unfortunately unable to cast a vote on Roll Call 741 on the evening of Friday, September 23, 2011.

I strongly oppose H.R. 2401 and I would have voted NO on its passage. H.R. 2401 would delay indefinitely two important public health regulations under the Clean Air Act, the Mercury and Air Toxics Standard and the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule. These long overdue rules will prevent thousands of premature deaths from respiratory and cardiovascular disease and yield billions of dollars in net benefits each year. H.R. 2401 would block the Environmental Protection Agency from updating these protections, placing vulnerable populations, including children and seniors, at even greater risk. I will continue to oppose legislation that exposes American families to harmful pollution and reduces the quality of the air we breathe.

RECOGNIZING THE PEOPLE OF LOUISA COUNTY FOLLOWING THE AUGUST 23RD EARTHQUAKE

**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2011*

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the people of Louisa County following the earthquake that rattled the East Coast on August 23, 2011. The 5.8 magnitude earthquake—which was centered in the 7th District of Virginia—was one of the most widely felt in American history, ranging from Alabama to as far north as Canada.

The August 23rd earthquake and its aftershocks had a devastating effect on the Louisa community—destroying homes, closing businesses, and severely damaging schools. The effects of the earthquake cannot be measured by dollars alone. This was a rare event that

has disrupted lives, changed routines and has forced the citizens of Louisa County to adapt in ways that they never expected.

The day after the earthquake, I had the chance to visit the community to survey the damage and meet with local officials, first responders, business owners, and families who were affected by this sudden and unexpected natural disaster. Communities and individuals were suddenly faced with the need to complete unexpected and expensive repairs in order to live and work in their homes and businesses. We should all be proud of the way the greater Louisa community has responded and its ongoing efforts of people to help their neighbors during this difficult time. I also want to commend our local and state officials who have worked tirelessly over the past several weeks with federal officials to assess the damage and determine what is needed to help people recover and get the community back on its feet.

While in Louisa, I also visited the North Anna Power Station operated by Dominion Virginia Power, which is located only 12 miles north of the epicenter of the quake. The team at North Anna acted promptly and decisively to safely shut down the two nuclear reactors and thus far no major damage has been reported. I was extremely encouraged by the workers at the power station, who did everything they were supposed to keep the plant and the surrounding community safe in an emergency.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the residents of Louisa County for coming together during this time of crisis. I commend them for their continued strength and resolve as the community continues to rebuild following the unexpected disaster.