

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONEJOS COUNTY TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Conejos County, Colorado for its 150th Birthday. On November 1, 1861, the Colorado legislature created 17 founding counties, of which Conejos was one. At the time, Conejos was named Guadalupe County, but its name was changed shortly thereafter.

The area that is now Conejos County was originally settled in the 1850's, primarily by Spanish speaking immigrants from New Mexico. The first village settled was the town of Conejos where Our Lady of Guadalupe, the first church to be built in Colorado, was constructed. This area, still part of the New Mexico territory, would not become part of Colorado for another 10 years.

After the county was officially established in 1861, it incorporated most of the southwestern portion of Colorado until it was broken apart and redistributed in 1874. It was at this time that Hinsdale, La Plata and Rio Grande Counties were established.

Today, Conejos County is one of the primary locations for agriculture in Colorado, with agribusiness comprising twenty-five percent of Conejos County employment. Agriculture not only drives Conejos County's economy, but it also contributes to the rich culture and heritage of the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Conejos County for its 150th Birthday. The county's history and culture have contributed greatly to the rich heritage of the state of Colorado.

RECOGNIZING THE SACRIFICE OF ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS CHRISTOPHER A. HORNS

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and the sacrifice of Army Private First Class Christopher A. Horns who died in service to this great nation. On October 22, 2011, Private First Class Christopher A. Horns was killed in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

PFC Christopher Horns, 20, of Colorado Springs, Colorado was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. Afghanistan was his first overseas deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He is survived

by his parents and sister, who reside in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Christopher enlisted in the Army in July, 2010 and joined the 75th Ranger Regiment in March, 2011. He served as an assistant machine gunner and automatic rifleman. By joining the Army Christopher followed in his father's footsteps, who had also served a tour in Afghanistan at the beginning of the war. He was eager to serve his country and the Army. He was especially proud when he qualified for Ranger school after boot camp.

We must never forget the sacrifices that our young men and women have made in defending our freedom. I am humbled and honored to represent such a fine young man as Christopher, who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country. Please keep the family and friends of Christopher in your thoughts and prayers.

I ask the Members of Congress to join me in remembering and honoring Army Private First Class Christopher A. Horns. We must never forget those who take up arms on our behalf to preserve our way of life.

RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 15, 2011 AS THE NATIONAL RECYCLING DAY

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize that today is the National Recycling Day that promotes and encourages recycling in our homes, schools, and workplaces.

I had the privilege of touring KW Plastics last week and was impressed with what this business are accomplishing. KW Plastics is located in Troy, Alabama and employs approximately 300 people. It is the world's largest plastics recycler.

KW recycles post-consumer household plastic items like milk jugs, shampoo and detergent bottles, yogurt cups, paint cans, and plastic bottle caps. Instead of these products ending up in landfills, KW Plastics turns these items into high quality and high value products. These include automotive parts, consumer brand packaging, agricultural pipe and pots, all-plastic paint containers and film wrap.

KW's largest challenge and only hindrance in growing more, employing more, investing more, and generating more revenue for their community is a mere lack of supply. They need more recyclable material. We have the needed supply, but are burying it in our landfills every day.

Several states conducted studies showing the material they paid to place in a landfill would have generated more worth had the material been sorted and sent to a recycling market. We are literally burying treasure in our landfills every day while there are recycling companies starving for material and offering competitive market pricing.

Recycling has important environmental rewards like energy and natural resource conservation. According to the Southeast Recycling Development Council, Alabama has 26 manufacturers who look to recycle content feedstock in their product. This means that 10,700 jobs in Alabama depend on recycled materials with an annual sale of \$6.6 billion.

Recycling is not simply an environmental issue, it is an economic one. There are real manufacturing jobs that depend heavily on recycling. Recycling is good for the earth but maybe more significantly, recycling is good for the economy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise to join me in recognizing November 15th as the National Recycling Day and to continue to encourage our constituents to participate in recycling. It is equally important that we teach our children the environmental and economic benefits of recycling.

IN HONOR OF MR. SEAN S. ENNIS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Sean S. Ennis, a man who has given so much to serving communities both at home and abroad, as he is inducted to the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame.

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame was established by former Governor George V. Voinovich in 1992. It is designed to commemorate servicemen and women whose lives demonstrate a dedication above and beyond the call of duty. The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame seeks to recognize Ohioans who have worn the uniform of this Nation's Armed Forces honorably, and then continue to contribute to their community, state and nation.

Mr. Sean S. Ennis is a prime example of the veterans honored by the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame. He served with the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. Since his military service, Mr. Ennis has been an active member of the veteran and Greater Cleveland community. He has been involved with the March of Dimes for over 20 years and volunteers with the Vietnamese Tax Clinic and the Cleveland Airport USO. He is a board member of Honor Flight Cleveland and the Vietnam Veterans of America, Buckeye State Council. Mr. Ennis is the President of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 15 and the Chaplain of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #2533.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame as they induct Mr. Sean S. Ellis, whose life of service has impacted the lives of countless people in Cleveland and around the world.

• 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.

COAST GUARD AND MARITIME
TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 4, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2838) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, today the House of Representatives debated a bill that combines a Coast Guard reauthorization with unrelated provisions that will hurt our environment, our economy, and maritime workers. This bill will eliminate the ability of states to protect their waters from invasive species and significantly limit the rights of injured maritime workers, the families of workers who die at sea, and workers who are wrongfully denied their earned wages. This bill puts the profits of maritime corporations above the safety of our environment, our economy, and maritime workers.

Invasive species are a major threat to our environment and our economy, costing the U.S. economy over \$120 billion annually. In communities that rely on our lakes, rivers, and oceans, invasive species can decimate local economies, as they take over fisheries and damage water infrastructure. If zebra or quagga mussels were to spread from the Great Lakes to Oregon's rivers, for example, they could wreak havoc on not only our sensitive ecosystems but also cause major problems for hydropower production. These species could clog pipes and dam intakes in the Columbia River, potentially costing the Pacific Northwest \$25.5 million a year to clean up. Ballast water is the primary source of invasive species into our water, as ships from around the world release water from their last port of call into our waters.

This bill will prevent states from introducing common sense controls on ballast water releases in state waters. The bill sets a low national standard, and does not allow states to choose higher protections for sensitive local waters. It also removes one of the protections we already have—a federal permit requirement under the Clean Water Act. The bill will also further undermine the Clean Water Act by restricting public participation, and opens the door to future threats to our water quality.

This bill also harms the rights of maritime workers. The bill caps the amounts workers can recover when their employer wrongfully withholds their wages, and lessens the incentive to enforce wage laws because there is less to recover. Many maritime workers, especially fisherman, are not protected by many workers' compensation laws. Their only recourse is the right to go to a court to force boat owners to pay compensation or face the loss of their fishing permit. This bill would eliminate this right, and make it easier for boat owners to avoid compensating the families of killed or injured workers. The bill also incentivizes hiring non-U.S. citizens, as it removes the requirement for cruise ships to provide the same treatment for U.S. and non-U.S. citizens in U.S. waters. This makes it cheaper to hire non-U.S. citizens, eliminating American jobs.

This bill is a bad deal for the environment, for the economy, and for U.S. workers. While I support the Coast Guard, I oppose this legislation. I urge the House to vote on a Coast Guard authorization bill without provisions that threaten our environment and our economy.

HONORING ANDREW ESPOSITO ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join all of those who have gathered to extend my sincere congratulations to my dear friend, Andrew Esposito, as he celebrates his retirement after more than four decades with Ironworkers Local 424. Andy's contributions to his union, his brothers and sisters of the labor movement, as well as his community have left an indelible mark that will not soon be matched.

The son of Italian immigrant parents—the second youngest of ten children at the end of the depression era—Andy learned early on that hard work and natural talents garnered success. Throughout his childhood, Andy was drawn to athletics and the skills he honed in the local parks and recreation centers made him a formidable player by the time he joined his high school team. He played three sports and captained the noted 1955–56 basketball team to a winning season, a feat which is still spoken of today. Andy's love for sports has been a lifelong passion. After his own playing days ended, he did the next best thing—he coached and refereed.

Andy became an official with the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials, IAABO, and refereed both high school and college ball throughout Greater New Haven. His dedication was recognized with a multitude of awards and commendations including the Outstanding Basketball Official of the Year as well election into the Hall of Fame. While living in East Haven, Connecticut, Andy coached bitty basketball and was one of the founders of the town's midget football league. Andy also volunteered to coach the first wheelchair basketball team in Connecticut, the Spokebenders; a team that has since gone on to attain national recognition for their abilities on the court. In addition to coaching and refereeing, he served 25 years as Chairman of the John P. Criscuolo Memorial Scholarship Awards dinner, a benefit to raise funds for high school scholar athletes in Greater New Haven. These are only a few examples of the innumerable ways Andy volunteered on behalf of his community and how his generosity and kind heart has touched the lives of others.

After serving honorably in the United States Army and marrying his high-school sweetheart, Andy spent several years searching for work for which he had a passion. In the late 1960's he found work with Ironworkers Local 424 and his life would forever be changed. Though he would choose no other for his life's work, Andy's many years of ironworking were long and hard. In 1994, his dedication and contributions to Local 424 were recognized with his election to the position of President/

Business Agent. He served in this position until 2000 when he was elected Business Manager/Financial Secretary/Treasurer. During his tenure he also served as Labor Co-Chair of Ironworkers Local 15 & 424 Annuity, Health & Welfare & Pension Funds, as well as President of the New Haven Building Trades. From his beginnings to today, his commitment to unions, fairness, and justice for men and women in the workplace has never wavered.

I have known Andy for many years and I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank him for his constant friendship and support. I consider myself fortunate to call him my friend. Throughout his life, Andy has demonstrated a unique commitment to his work and his community. He has made Greater New Haven a better place to live, work, and grow. I am proud to join his wife, Marie, their sons, Mark and Gary, as well as daughter-in-law, Karen, and their grandchildren, Gary and Danny as well as all of the family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating Andrew Esposito on his retirement and wishing him all the best for many more years of health and happiness.

TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST SAVINGS
BANK OF PERKASIE AND THE
WELLSPRING CLUBHOUSE**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the complications of mental illness in the United States, and to honor a local organization in my district for their efforts in assisting individuals who are recovering from these illnesses. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, mental illness affects 57.7 million adults in the U.S. per year. Four out of the ten leading causes of disability in the United States are mental disorders. There is no clear-cut socio-economic basis for these statistics; it is evident that mental illness can affect almost anyone, and the impacts on our economy are staggering.

Despite the disheartening statistics, mental illness is treatable, and there is much hope for people who battle with these afflictions. Given the right tools, people with mental illness can achieve their goals and be productive members of society. The First Savings Bank of Perkasie and the Wellspring Clubhouse work hard to help individuals recovering from mental illness in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and they deserve to be recognized for their outstanding achievements.

On behalf of the 8th District of Pennsylvania, I am pleased to recognize the work of Fred Schea and Marie Koch of the First Savings Bank of Perkasie, in their collaboration with the Wellspring Clubhouse to provide employment opportunities for individuals recovering from mental illnesses. Thus far, First Savings Bank has provided an opportunity for 10 individuals to return to work in the community, gaining valuable experience, and life skills. Wellspring Clubhouse members work in the Bank's Customer Care Center, which is supervised by Marie Koch. Members work alongside other Bank employees, and are responsible for scanning bank documents, verifying data, and performing data entry.

Marie and Fred have been outstanding community employment partners, and I am honored to be their representative in the 8th District of Pennsylvania.

It is a pleasure to honor First Savings Bank of Perkasio for their commitment to the Wellspring Clubhouse and its mission of providing hope and opportunities for people with mental illness. Thank you once again for all that you do for the Bucks County community.

WASHINGTON POST ADMITS
ERRORS IN KOCH STORY

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Washington Post recently published a story about alleged questionable business practices by Koch subsidiaries dating back to the 1990s. The Post received criticism for the unbalanced and incomplete story on Koch Industries.

Patrick B. Pexton, Washington Post Ombudsman, stated "I think The Post erred in republishing this story, or at least in the way it did. And when the Kochs complained to The Post after publication, The Post's response wasn't handled well."

In addition, the Ombudsman goes on to state, ". . . I think the story lacked context, was tendentious and was unfair in not reporting some of the exculpatory and contextual information . . . I think newspapers should always be provocative. But they should also be fair and provide context . . . The Post could have included a sidebar summarizing and linking to the rebuttals. It could have called Koch directly—it didn't—and put its comments in the sidebar."

I hope that the Washington Post will be more thorough and accurate in its reporting in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
CLEVELAND MEDIATION CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Cleveland Mediation Center as it celebrates its 30th anniversary. The Mediation Center has provided an essential forum for dialogue and communication which has fostered cooperation and peace within the community. It has proven especially valuable for the city's youth, who often lack the voice to raise their concerns about problems which directly affect them.

The Center began as the Community Youth Mediation program in 1981. Focusing on the Near West Side community of Cleveland, this organization became the first grass-roots youth oriented mediation program in the country. The Center provided guidance to thousands of individuals and helped to address issues of truancy, school violence, and cases of abuse and neglect. Two of the programs developed by the Center would go on to be used by both the Juvenile Court and Cleveland Public Schools.

Following these successes, the Center was utilized in engaging the city at large. By 1992, it had expanded its youth centered approach to include issues such as neighbor to neighbor mediation and training. Homelessness has also been one of the Center's major concerns, particularly in addressing discrepancies between the city's homeless population and services provided by city agencies. Today, the Cleveland Mediation Center continues their mission of promoting constructive conflict resolution, especially among youth, and strengthening community ties with an emphasis on mediation and mediation training.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Cleveland Mediation Center in celebrating their important role as facilitators within their communities and enabling fellow citizens to work through their conflicts in peaceful and constructive ways.

COAST GUARD AND MARITIME
TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 4, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2838) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise today to support H.R. 2838, the "Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2011." This legislation authorizes funding for the Coast Guard through fiscal year 2014 and authorizes service strength of 47,000 active duty personnel.

As a Senior Member on the Committee on Homeland Security and the Border and Maritime Security Subcommittee, I understand the importance of protecting our maritime borders. In our post 9/11 climate, homeland security continues to be a top priority for our nation.

In 1787, Alexander Hamilton, in Federalist Paper Number 12 laid the foundation for the modern Coast Guard when he noted that "[a] few armed vessels, judiciously stationed at the entrances of our ports, might at a small expense, be made useful sentinels of our laws."

I believe protecting our country by air, land, and sea is critical to our national security interests. As Coast Guard is beneficial to our maritime interests, and consequently, our national security it is imperative that we provide the Coast Guard with the funding they need.

In the aftermath of September 11, 2001 the focus of many federal agencies shifted to include an increased emphasis on Homeland Security. Under the Homeland Security Act of 2002, a number of security missions were assigned to the Coast Guard. Without question the first mission of our Coast Guard has been to protect our ports, waterways and to focus on coastal security. They have completed this mission with honor for centuries.

Across the United States there are currently more than 350 major ports of which 23 are located in my home state of Texas.

I am honored to represent the 18th Congressional District which includes the Port of Houston, one of our nation's busiest ports.

More than 220 million tons of cargo moved through the Port of Houston in 2010 and it has been ranked as first in foreign waterborne tonnage for the 15th consecutive year.

The port links Houston with over 1,000 ports located in 203 countries, and provides 785,000 jobs throughout the state of Texas. Maritime ports are major centers of trade, commerce, and travel along our nation's coastline. All of these ports are protected by the Coast Guard.

As a Representative from Texas, a border state, I am extremely concerned with curtailing the flow of illegal drugs entering into the United States. The Coast Guard is the lead federal agency for maritime drug interdiction.

Houston has been classified by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) as a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, and in a 2009 report, the ONDCP expressed concern that "the sheer volume of maritime traffic and foreign cargo that passes through the port offers another avenue for drug smuggling."

The Coast Guard is responsible for and has coordinated with other federal, state, and local agencies and countries within the region to disrupt and deter the flow of illegal drugs into Houston and other ports. This coordinated effort has resulted in a decrease in the supply of illicit substances being transported all over the country.

The Coast Guard protects the interests of American citizens and American commerce abroad. Last year, 73.2 million tons of exports left the Port of Houston to be sold to countries around the world. These exports represented \$70.8 billion dollars, and countless American jobs.

The international counter—piracy efforts of the Coast Guard focus on preventing attacks of piracy that threaten American commercial vessels and cargo. The Coast Guard also performs vital counter terrorism measures in ports abroad to ensure the safety of Americans across the globe.

In addition, in Houston the Coast Guard routinely conducts integrated operations with city, county, state and Federal Law Enforcement partners. The joint agency Houston Area Maritime Operations Center is a prime example of the type of coordination efforts directed under a recent Maritime Operations Coordination Plan signed by the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The Port of Houston as one of the world's busiest ports is a tremendous responsibility which has been smoothly operated by the Coast Guard. In terms of maritime traffic and cargo, the Port of Houston ranks first in the nation for number of ship arrivals and second in total cargo tonnage. Houston handles over 50 percent of all containerized cargo arriving at Gulf of Mexico ports.

Houston is the Energy capitol of the United States for a reason, more than 50 percent of the gasoline used in the United States is refined in this area. With more than 100 petrochemical waterfront facilities, Houston has the second largest such complex in the world. Major corporations such as Exxon-Mobil, Shell, Saudi ARAMCO, Stolt Nielson, Odjfell USA Inc., Sea River and Kirby Marine have national or international headquarters in Houston.

These operations typically involve the Harris County Sheriff's Office and local city Police

Department marine divisions as well as CBP, ICE, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and other Federal partners. Efforts are underway with The Coast Guard's processes with neighboring sectors to align and streamline their operations across all jurisdictional boundaries. They need funding to continue to serve our country.

The Coast Guard relies on their port partners to act as both their eyes and ears on the water. With an average of 350 daily tow movements in the Houston Ship Channel and more than 100 waterfront facilities with a vigilant security presence, marine industry stakeholders are well positioned to recognize when things are out of the ordinary and serve as a valuable resource by diligently reporting breaches of security and suspicious activity. We also receive reports on fraudulent use of the Transportation Worker Identification Card, and work closely with our local enforcement and legal agencies such as the Harris County District Attorney to ensure these cases are prosecuted.

In recognition of the significance of Houston's shipping activity, the State of Texas formally established the Houston Ship Channel Security District (HSCSD) in 2010.

The HSCSD represents a unique public-private partnership formed to improve security and safety for facilities, employees and communities surrounding the Houston Ship Channel. The Coast Guard played an instrumental role in the formation of the HSCSD, and continues to work closely with the HSCSD to ensure alignment of priorities and unity of effort. As Sector Commander, I am a member of the HSCSD Advisory Council and Sector Port Security specialists attend HSCSD board meetings. The district provides oversight of comprehensive and cost-effective security solutions, leveraging more than \$30 million in Federal Port Security grants along with \$4 million in annual member assessments to install technology and security infrastructure and provide funds for specific security projects, maintenance and operational services.

The Port of Houston accommodates a large number of tankers carrying crude oil, refined products and chemical cargoes. With approximately 9,600 deep draft ship arrivals each year, the Coast Guard maintains a very extensive Port State Control program in the Houston-Galveston area. The Port State Control program ensures the safe carriage of hazardous materials in bulk. Because over 90 percent of cargo bound for the United States is carried by foreign-flagged ships, this national program prevents operation of substandard foreign ships in U.S. waters.

The Sector also makes excellent use of its robust Vessel Traffic Service (VTS). The VTS's primary role is facilitating safe vessel transits in the waterways and ports along the Houston Ship Channel. The VTS cameras, Automatic Identification System (AIS) feeds, remote radar observation capability, and radio communications, also provide an additional layer of security. In addition to the VTS resources in the Houston Ship Channel, Sector Houston-Galveston has access to feeds from three AIS receivers mounted on offshore oil platforms, which provide heightened awareness of activities in the maritime domain.

With a homeland security mission of this magnitude, it is essential that the Coast Guard be fully funded. This bill will authorize \$8.49

billion dollars in 2012, \$8.6 billion dollars in 2013, and \$8.7 billion in 2014. It is certainly the duty of this Congress and the Administration to ensure the brave men and women who serve in the Coast Guard have the resources necessary to perform the wide range of duties assigned to them.

This measure contains a private-sector mandate as defined in Unfunded Mandate Reform Act (UMRA). The bill would require operators to locate a standby vessel within 3 nautical miles of offshore oil and gas facilities when certain activities are being performed and within 12 nautical miles of facilities at all other times. The cost of that mandate would depend on several factors. The bill would allow operators to share one standby vessel among multiple facilities and to use standby vessels for other purposes.

For operators that can use those measures, the cost of the mandate would tend to be lower. At the same time, the bill would authorize the Coast Guard to require standby vessels to be located closer than 3 or 12 nautical miles to offshore facilities if necessary to address delays caused by weather or other conditions. Reducing the minimum distance from facilities would increase the number of vessels necessary for compliance and increase the cost of the mandate for some operators. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the aggregate cost of the mandate would probably exceed the annual threshold established in UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$142 million in 2011, adjusted annually for inflation).

However, I do have certain reservations about some of the provisions in this legislation. At the request of President Obama's Administration, Congress has appropriated funding to reactivate the USGC *Polar Star*, a heavy icebreaking vessel. The ship is to be reactivated by December 2012 for 7 to 10 years of service. The *Polar Star* is deployed to assist researchers throughout the Polar Regions, and is essential to United States icebreaking capabilities. Ice breaking vessels create pathways through which supply ships can travel, facilitating important research. In its current form, the bill decommissions the *Polar Star* within 3 years, creating a gap in the nation's icebreaking abilities.

As a senior Member on the Homeland Security Committee, I have a deep commitment to creating a stronger and more secure America. I have worked with my colleagues, on both sides of the aisle, to pass legislation that ensures that our nation is receiving the security that our citizens deserve. As the potential threats and vulnerabilities along our coast line may always exist. We rely upon Coast Guard and their active involvement with hundreds of partners who are directly involved with or impacted by the maritime industry in the Houston-Galveston area of responsibility, this Sector is committed to deterring incidents before they happen and is well-prepared to respond to them should they occur. The Coast Guard is vital to the protection of our national security.

Both sides of the aisle have a strong respect for the Coast Guard as well as for the men and women who work on manned stations off of our shores. I understand that Representative MICA has agreed to honor the purpose of an amendment offered by Representative OLSON that would have require the Com-mandant of the Coast Guard in consultation

with appropriate representatives of industry to conduct a feasibility study to determine the capability, cost, and benefits of requiring the owner or operator of a manned facility, installation, unit, or vessel to locate a standby vessel nearby. I would have supported this amendment because although a properly designed and equipped standby vessel in the immediate vicinity of manned outer continental shelf facilities may, in some cases, improve safety on the outer continental shelf.

In the event of a major casualty to an offshore installation, the immediate presence of a properly designed and equipped standby vessel, manned by a specially trained crew, might in some cases increase the chances of survival of the installation's crew members. We must not, however, forget the fact that historically the main cause of rig and platform abandonment has been due to severe weather. Unless these standby vessels are designed to withstand those severe conditions, requiring them to remain on scene could place the vessels and their crews in jeopardy. In addition, it is severely risky to board a standby vessel in severe weather conditions. For these reasons I would support a feasibility study to determine the effectiveness of using standby vessels for manned stations.

In addition, I support the amendment offered by Representative THOMPSON that would add a new section to the end of Title II in the bill to open admissions to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy to eligible candidates nominated by Congress.

Specifically, the amendment would require the U.S. Coast Guard to ensure that, beginning in academic year 2014, half of the incoming class is composed of eligible candidates nominated by the Vice President or, if there is no Vice President, by the President pro tempore of the Senate; Senators; Representatives; and Delegates to the House of Representatives. This will help to ensure that the Coast Guard has an even more diverse pool of candidate from across the United States.

The Coast Guard is proud of that legacy and their role in our national strategy is vital to keep our homeland secure. The safety and security of our nations and its citizens must be our highest priority, despite difficult economic circumstances. We need to make sure the Coast Guard is fully funded, and have the resources they need.

THANKING KEITH OLSEN ON HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF THE NEBRASKA FARM BUREAU

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank Keith Olsen for the contributions he has made to both Nebraskan and American agriculture during his tenure with the Nebraska Farm Bureau.

Keith, born in Imperial, Nebraska, started his ag work back in high school—getting active with the Future Farmers of America. Now, decades later, he is well-known by his fellow ag producers for serving the Nebraskan ag community with a spirit and verve second to none, and his career shows this.

Since 1992, Keith has served on the Nebraska Farm Bureau Board of Directors. In

1997, he was elected as the first Vice President of the Nebraska Farm Bureau Board. Five years later, in 2002, he became the Board's President. In 2004, Keith was elected to the American Farm Bureau Federation Board of Directors.

Keith understands that Nebraska—in very many ways—is agriculture, and for decades now, he has worked tirelessly to advance Nebraska ag producers, protect them from burdensome regulations and to open new markets for their products. Keith's resolve and commitment to Nebraska and its ag industry are second to none.

Next month, Keith will retire from the Nebraska Farm Bureau. I wish him and Doris all the luck in the world with the next chapter of their lives. While his presence will be missed in the Nebraska ag community, it comforts me knowing that their love for agriculture and the Nebraska way of life will never fade.

HONORING PETE CIARROCCHI

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pete Ciarrocchi, the founder of a Philadelphia institution—Chickie's and Pete's.

In 1977, Peter and Henrietta Ciarrocchi bought the Robbins Avenue taproom in the Mayfair neighborhood of Philadelphia. Young Pete followed his parents' example and served the regulars with a smile. He was and still is a friend to all. Growing up Pete ran with both jocks and rockers. He could change minds, influence peers, and even reinvent taste. In 1987, Pete made sure his parents' legacy lived on. Pete became the face of Chickie's & Pete's with the help of his brother, Tom. His charisma, dynamic personality, and great food were enough to bring in the crowds on Sunday to celebrate, jeer, and be Philadelphia. Pete understood the pulse of the city: food, sports, and people.

In 1998, the Vet, the once home of the "Iggles" and the "Phightin' Phils" became Pete's new home and kingdom. Led by his proprietary Crabfries, the Mayfair family business became a fan favorite concession. Pete's infectious energy and impressive cuisine became his recipe for success. From Andy Reid's late night meetings, "taxi crabbing" Eagles players from airport to complex, to mixing it up with Oprah and Jon Bon Jovi, Pete Ciarrocchi's success has exploded. The Chickie's & Pete's hometown flavor has expanded to 8 locations across Philadelphia and New Jersey and was voted ESPN's #1 Sports Bar on the East Coast.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Pete Ciarrocchi today for the lasting impact he has made on Philadelphia, and I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring him.

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize America Recycles Day, an annual national awareness event, the mission of which is to promote the social, environmental, and economic benefits of recycling and buying recycled products.

Today, I would like to highlight the automotive recycling industry, which plays a large role in preserving our natural resources and reducing demand for scarce landfill space.

During the recycling process, over 80 percent of the entire vehicle by weight is reused, remanufactured or recycled. The recycling of these vehicles saves an estimated 85 million barrels of oil that would have been used in the manufacturing of new or replacement parts.

Automotive recycling businesses employ over 108,000 people around the country. The majority of these businesses are small, family owned and operated.

The Automotive Recyclers Association (ARA) is an international trade association which has represented an industry dedicated to the efficient removal and reuse of automotive parts, and the safe disposal of inoperable motor vehicles. Our Nation owes much to the 4,500 automotive recycling facilities represented by the ARA, that help to recycle over 11 million retired vehicles every year. ARA has instituted its own program that certifies that automotive recycling facilities meet specified business, environmental, safety, licensing and regulatory standards.

Mr. Speaker, please join me, on America Recycles Day, in commending the automotive recyclers for all they do to protect and promote our environment.

IN HONOR OF SISTER JUDITH ANN KARAM, CSA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor Sister (Sr.) Judith Ann Karam, who is being honored at Care Alliance Health Center's Thanksgiving Dinner on November 12, 2011.

A Cleveland native, Sr. Judith Ann joined the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine in 1964. She attended Duquesne University where she received a bachelor of science degree in Pharmacy. She later earned a master's of science in Hospital and Health Services Administration from The Ohio State University.

Sr. Judith Ann began her career in the healthcare industry in 1962 as a pharmacy technician. She also worked as a pharmacist and health care administrator. In 1998, Sr. Judith Ann served as Major Superior of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine. Today, she serves as the Chief Executive Officer and President of the Sisters of Charity Health System. Throughout her career, Sr. Judith Ann has developed a new joint venture hospital, formed health care partnerships, restructured partnerships, developed conversion founda-

tions, as well as a nursing home serving 22 Catholic religious congregations.

In addition to her career, Sr. Judith Ann is an involved member of the health care community. Having served on hospital boards since 1973, Sr. Judith Ann serves on the national board of the Ministering Together and the Governance Committee of the Catholic Health Association and is a fellow of Healthcare Executives in the American College.

In the community, Sr. Judith Ann is a board member of the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce, Midlands Business Council in Columbia, South Carolina and University Hospitals Health System in Cleveland, Ohio. She has also served as a Director of Walsh University in Canton, Ohio, Trustee for Columbia HCA Healthcare Corporation, the American Red Cross, Cleveland Chapter and the Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization. She is also a member of the Alumni Association of The Ohio State University Health Services Management and Policy Program.

Because of her dedication to the field of health care and her community, Sr. Judith Ann has been recognized countless times throughout the past several decades. She was inducted into the Rho Chi Honor Society in 1971, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from The Ohio State University Health Services Management and Policy program in 1998, the 2001 Women of Note Award from Crain's Cleveland Business, and in 2006, the Distinguished Service Medal from Walsh University. Additionally, in 2007, she received the Pro Ecclesia Et Pontifice from Pope Benedict the XVI.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Sister Judith Ann Karam as she is recognized by Care Alliance Health Center.

COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 4, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2838) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. MICA. Mr. Chair, attached are exchange of letters between the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committees on Judiciary and Homeland Security regarding provisions included in H.R. 2838 for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE,

Washington, DC, September 27, 2011.

Hon. PETER T. KING,
*Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
Ford House Office Building, Washington,
DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 2838, the "Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2011." I acknowledge that by forgoing a sequential referral on this legislation, your Committee is not diminishing or altering its jurisdiction.

I also concur with you that forgoing action on this bill does not in any way prejudice the

Committee on Homeland Security with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future, and I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will include our letters on H.R. 2838 in the Congressional Record during House floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation, and I look forward to working with the Committee on Homeland Security as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

JOHN L. MICA,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, September 14, 2011.

Hon. JOHN MICA,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MICA: I am writing regarding the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on Homeland Security over provisions in H.R. 2838, the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2011, which the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure ordered to be reported on September 8, 2011.

I understand the importance of advancing this legislation to the House floor in an expeditious manner. Therefore, the Committee on Homeland Security will not assert its jurisdictional claim over this bill by seeking a sequential referral. This action is conditional on our mutual understanding and agreement that doing so will in no way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on Homeland Security over the subject matter included in this or similar legislation. I request that you urge the Speaker to appoint members of this Committee to any conference committee for consideration of any provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Homeland Security in the House-Senate conference on this bill or similar legislation.

I also request that this letter and your response be included in the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee report to H.R. 2838 and in the Congressional Record during consideration of this measure on the House floor. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

PETER T. KING,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE,
Washington, DC, September 27, 2011.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 2838, the "Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2011." I acknowledge that by forgoing action on this legislation, your Committee is not diminishing or altering its jurisdiction.

I also concur with you that forgoing action on this bill does not in any way prejudice the Committee on the Judiciary with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future, and I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will include our letters on H.R. 2838 in the Congressional Record during House floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your

cooperation regarding this legislation, and I look forward to working with the Committee on the Judiciary as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

JOHN L. MICA,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, September 27, 2011.

Hon. JOHN MICA,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MICA: I am writing concerning H.R. 2838, the "Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2011," which was reported favorably by your committee on September 8. As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions in H.R. 2838 that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary, we are able to agree to forego action on this bill in order that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

The Judiciary Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 2838 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction. Our Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and requests your support for any such request.

I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 2838, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration.

Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, October 20, 2011.

Hon. JOHN MICA,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MICA: I am writing concerning H.R. 2839, the "Piracy Suppression Act of 2011," which was reported favorably by your committee on September 8, 2011. As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions in H.R. 2839 that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary, we are able to agree to forego a formal referral on this bill.

The Judiciary Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 2839 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction. Our Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and requests your support for any such request.

I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 2839, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be

included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration.

Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE,
Washington, DC, October 21, 2011.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 2839, the "Piracy Suppression Act of 2011." I acknowledge that by forgoing a formal referral request on this legislation, your Committee is not waiving any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation and that your Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward.

Further, I would fully support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation.

I will include our letters on H.R. 2839 in the Congressional Record during House floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation, and I look forward to working with the Committee on the Judiciary as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

JOHN L. MICA,
Chairman.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAN FRANCISCO-OAKLAND BAY BRIDGE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. A historic work of modern engineering once believed to be impossible, the completion of the "Bay Bridge" opened up groundbreaking transit channels and changed the face of the Bay Area as we know it.

The Bay Bridge was not only significant for its innovative engineering. It also created a new chapter in transportation history and represented an unprecedented feat of political and public consensus in the early 20th Century. At the onset, the Chief Engineer for the Bay Bridge California Toll Bridge Authority, Charles H. Purcell, encountered several obstacles. He was faced with four-and-a-half miles of water in between the two metropolitan areas of the Port of Oakland and San Francisco shoreline. No one had ever contemplated a bridge so long, so expensive or with such deep piers.

The idea for a bridge had been popular since the days of the Gold Rush. However, with the increasing prevalence of the automobile, a reliance on railroads to bolster trade and an already crowded ferry system, the need for a bridge became so great that Bay Area leaders were able to persuade President Herbert Hoover and the former independent U.S. agency Reconstruction Finance Corporation to advance approximately \$62 million in federal funding for the ambitious project.

The California Toll Bridge Authority formed as a result of the California State Legislature's 1926 passage of a law calling for a policy-making body to bridge San Francisco and Alameda County. As early as 1930, formal plans for the Bay Bridge began to take shape among Purcell and his colleagues. First, in order to address the issue of length, it was decided that a suspension bridge and cantilever bridge would meet at Yerba Buena Island.

In order to design what is now one of the longest bridge spans in the world (23,000 feet), employing the world's deepest bridge pier (242 feet underwater) and the earth's largest diameter bore tunnel (76 feet wide by 56 feet high), Purcell turned to some of the most experienced bridge engineers in the country, including Ralph Modjeski, Leon Moisseiff and Daniel Moran. The low bidders for construction of the job included some of the giants of construction contracting, including the American Bridge Company, McClintic-Marshall for the steel work and the "Six Companies" contractors for the foundation work.

In total, over 8,000 workers from around the Bay Area and across the country produced the complicated and dangerous work, logging 214,870 "man-days," at what would now be considered an unthinkable speed. And although there were no mass incidents during the building, we also pay tribute today to the hundreds of workers who were injured on the job and the over two dozen men who lost their lives.

After three years of construction, the Bay Bridge opened for traffic and to huge public fanfare on November 12, 1936—six months ahead of schedule. Today, after several modifications to allow for the unexpected flood of increased traffic in the 30s and 40s, seismic retrofit after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake and continued improvements, the Bay Bridge carries over 270,000 vehicles per day on its two decks. It has repaid and reinvested its \$77 million price tag many times over in the last 75 years. Most importantly, it has allowed for the growth, progress and unification of the Bay Area's vital urban areas to the benefit of its residents.

Therefore, on behalf of the residents of California's 6th, 9th, 11th, and 13th Congressional Districts, we extend our congratulations on this important milestone. We express immense gratitude to the countless people who have contributed to the continued success of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, and wish you all the best in the coming years.

CELEBRATING AMERICA
RECYCLES DAY

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize America Recycles Day and those committed to the preservation of our environment. In 1997, America Recycles Day was created to inform, educate and bring awareness to the benefits of recycling. In particular, the automotive recycling industry has taken a strong stance against pollution, advocating instead for the preservation of our natural resources.

Small business owners who comprise the Automotive Recyclers Association represent

automotive recycling facilities throughout the country. Just in the past year alone, they have helped to recycle over 11 million retired vehicles—to keep waste out of our landfills. Local, state and national guidelines are strictly followed and enforced to ensure all facilities meet environmental, safety, licensing and regulatory standards. What many don't realize is the reusability of vehicle components. Nearly everything from the upholstery to the engines, transmissions, aluminum and steel can be recycled. Now the most recycled product in the world, automobile parts can produce almost 13 million new vehicles, along with numerous other consumer products, while saving 11 million gallons of oil in the manufacturing of new components.

Exemplary citizens such as those of the automotive recycling industry and other committed individuals around the nation should be appreciated and acknowledged. We need to preserve our resources and environment so they may be enjoyed by future generations. Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in honoring those making a true difference in keeping our nation clean and celebrating America Recycles Day.

A TRIBUTE TO EUGENE AND
CAROLINE BARGMAN

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of two special Nebraskans, Eugene Bargman and his late wife Caroline. This year, Eugene and Caroline will be honored with the Nebraska Farm Bureau's highest honor, the Silver Eagle Award. Eugene and Caroline are widely respected for their commitment to God, country, community and agriculture.

They were an effective team during their 60 years together. After marrying in January 1946, Eugene completed his service in the Air Force and taught "on the farm" night classes in agriculture to military veterans. The Bargmans were early adopters of conservation technology on their diversified farm near Pickrell, where they raised their five children. They were co-operators for on-farm studies with state and federal agencies and both were leaders in Gage County Farm Bureau. Eugene and Caroline testified numerous times before local governing boards and the Nebraska Legislature on land use and conservation issues.

Eugene served as president of the county fair board and the Federal Land Bank board of directors. He also served on agricultural advisory boards for numerous Nebraska governors, U.S. Senators and Members of Congress. Caroline was a member of the Nebraska Soybean and Grain Sorghum boards and the first U.S. Soybean Board.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Eugene and Caroline Bargman for their many great contributions to agriculture and the State of Nebraska. As recipients of the Silver Eagle Award, they will be forever appreciated and remembered.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. GEORGE
CONDON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I first met George Condon when I was a copyboy at the Plain Dealer. It was the mid-sixties and the newsroom was a combination of Ben Hecht and Salvadore Dali, where nervous news jockies whipped the keys of their typewriters, men against white space, racing against a looming deadline, frenzied calls of "boy, boy" echoing summoning the serfs to duty. Unpretentious and approachable, columnist George Condon would occasionally appear in the midst of the tumult gazing upon the chaos with an amused wisdom about the city room and the city, befriending even a lowly copyboy who confided in him his own dreams of one day being Mayor of Cleveland.

While the strong, quick pulse of the city could be felt in the news room, George Condon knew there was a deeper story upon which all news was built.

"There is no satisfactory way to describe a city or to convey its spirit in words," he wrote in Cleveland, the Best Kept Secret, "Facts and statistics, names and dates, prose and poesy all are well-intentioned bids to give flesh and breath to a chunk of real estate, but they hang lifelessly on the skeleton. If there is a way to give life to a city with words, those words must try to renew some of the lives that created the city.

In Shakespeare's Henry IV, Glendower proclaimed: I can call spirits from the vasty deep. Hotspur replied: Why, so can I, or so can any man. But will they come when you do call for them?"

Read Cleveland, the Best Kept Secret and George Condon's account of the clash over a hundred years ago between Mark Hanna and Tom Johnson and you will see that when George Condon called the spirits forth, they leaped onto his pages, their lives renewed vividly, dissolving the barriers between past, present . . . and future. For it was in November, 1976, after reading George Condon's account of the struggle between privileged interest and public interest that I made a decision to launch a full-scale campaign to save Johnson's Mundy Light from a takeover by the then Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company.

A year later, because of the primary impact of his writings on my own life, I asked George Condon to be the master of ceremonies at my inauguration as Mayor of Cleveland.

Anyone who read his works could not help but be moved by his ability to bring to life his beloved city and all the characters who populated it. What made George Condon's writings so unique was his power of observation, fused with love and tempered with a non-judgmental humor.

He was our Boswell. One of the debates that George Condon played out in his work was the efficacy of the promotional campaign which declared Cleveland to be the "Best Location in the Nation." He thought such a declaration could be off-putting to the visitor. After all, each city has its celebratory aspects. But upon further reflection, we can claim that title, not because we have the biggest buildings, or the grandest stadiums, or the most powerful

corporations, or the best freeway system, but because a humble wordsmith named George Condon picked words from heavens and brought a shower of stars upon this community year after year, ennobling us, making us lighter, making us wiser.

COAST GUARD AND MARITIME
TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 4, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2838) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, and for other purposes:

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chair, I would like the record to unequivocally show that I strongly support reauthorizing our Nation's Coast Guard but oppose final passage of H.R. 2838 due to the controversial ballast water discharge provisions that were included in the bill.

I represent a district in the Great Lakes region that contains over 60 miles of coastline on Lake Ontario, a body of water that sees its fair share of shipping. New York State is the entry point for commercial shipping into the rest of the Great Lakes from the Saint Lawrence Seaway and I have serious concerns about how and what international commercial shipping vessels discharge into New York waters on their way to the rest of the Great Lakes.

Each minute, 40,000 gallons of ballast water containing thousands of foreign bacteria, viruses, animals and plants, are discharged into U.S. waters. Globally, it is estimated that more than 10,000 marine species each day may be transported across the oceans in the ballast water of cargo ships. Ballast water has been identified as a common mechanism for the transfer of harmful invasive species that threaten the livelihood and recreation of the millions of residents who depend on them annually.

The Coast Guard is in the process of finalizing its rulemaking process for a national Ballast Water Discharge Standard (BWDS) that would act as a floor for regulation on this issue, not a ceiling, and would allow states to impose stricter standards if they determine their waters are at risk. Title VII of H.R. 2838 would preempt this process by setting a weak national standard for the regulation of ballast water discharged into U.S. waters and would prevent states from implementing stronger than national standards when necessary. During consideration of H.R. 2838, I offered an amendment to strike Title VII or H.R. 2838. While, the amendment failed by a vote of 161 to 237, it received strong bipartisan support.

Unfortunately, while I strongly support the Coast Guard, I cannot support legislation that restricts the ability of States to protect against the threat of invasive species. The ballast water provisions in H.R. 2838 restrict these very protections.

HONORING CHRISTOPHER "KIT"
ST. JOHN ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Christopher "Kit" St. John, who recently retired from his post as the executive director of the Maine Center for Economic Policy (MECEP).

Kit is the founder of MECEP and has served as its executive director since 1994. This non-partisan organization utilizes detailed research and analysis to promote sustainable economic growth throughout the state. As the face of MECEP, Kit has helped lead the fight to raise awareness on a wide range of issues affecting everyday Mainers. In these tough economic times, MECEP's advocacy for Maine's poor and under privileged has never been more important.

In the many years I have known him, Kit has proven to be one of the most thoughtful, intelligent, and hardworking people with whom I have had the honor of working. As executive director of the Maine Center for Economic Policy, an advocate at Pine Tree Legal Assistance, and as an activist representing low-income groups in Augusta, Kit has contributed a remarkable career to serving the people of this great state. His unshakable belief in the people of Maine and his vision for all that we can achieve together continues to inspire me in the work that I do.

I am glad to hear that Kit will not be going far. I hope that his wisdom and insight will be available to both decision makers and the public for years to come. While my staff and I will miss working with Kit, I wish him all the best in his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in thanking Christopher "Kit" St. John for his tremendous contributions and service to the people of Maine.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on roll-call No. 837, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE AMITY CLUB ON
ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DELAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to rise today to pay tribute to a very special community group, the Amity Club, as the membership gathers to celebrate its 75th Anniversary—a remarkable milestone for this outstanding organization.

During the first part of the 20th century, New Haven, Connecticut was home to the

largest per capita population of Italians, constituting almost half the population of the entire city. At this time, Italian immigrants established strong roots in New Haven, working hard and raising large families. Most of these immigrants came to the United States with only a rudimentary primary school education, yet they had much higher dreams for their own children. They understood that education was the cornerstone of success and it was one of their central reasons for immigrating to the United States. It was from this same commitment to education and success that the Amity Club was established.

In the early 1930s, Frank Rubino, an architect who had become a leading building contractor and real estate developer in New Haven, was an active member of the Kiwanis Club yet he was one of few Italian members—as was the similar case in most of the City's service organizations. He was deeply proud of his American citizenry but he was as deeply loyal to his Italian heritage. Though there were a multitude of small Italian clubs throughout the city, they existed more for social purposes. Frank soon became convinced that the city needed a strong, service-oriented organization, with its membership made up of professional and business men of Italian background who shared his passion for their Italian heritage as well as his pride in being an American citizen. In fact the name AMITY was proposed not only for its dictionary meaning of "peace and friendship" but because it also combined the country they called home, AM for America, and the country of their strong ancestry, ITY for Italy.

Central among their work would be to provide scholarships to deserving students so that they could secure a college education. As one of their first acts following its official recognition as an association, the Amity Club members formed the Amity Trust Scholarship Trust Fund. Over the years, it has consistently grown and its funds have helped thousands of young students earn their college degrees and pursue their dreams. In addition to these scholarships, Amity Club members have been involved in innumerable service projects throughout the city, all aimed at improving the quality of life for all residents.

Our communities would not be the same without the efforts of volunteers and service organizations like the Amity Club, who, for generations, have made a difference in the lives of others and worked to make our towns and cities better places to live, learn, and grow. I am proud to stand today to recognize the extraordinary contributions of the Amity Club and to extend my sincere congratulations to them on their 75th Anniversary. In all that they have accomplished and continue to accomplish, the Amity Club has not only met the expectations founder Frank Rubino had for the organization, they have far exceeded them.

IN HONOR OF DR. JOHAN
GALTUNG

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Johan Galtung, who is being honored by the American Muslim Alliance

Foundation with the Abdul Ghaffar Khan International Peace-BUILDER Award.

In 1930, Dr. Galtung was born in the city of Oslo, Norway. He received his doctorates in mathematics in 1956 and in sociology the following year. In 1957, Dr. Galtung moved to New York and began teaching at Columbia University in the Sociology Department. He returned to Oslo in 1959 and founded the Peace Research Institute Oslo, where he would serve as director for the following decade. In 1969 he took a position as a professor of peace and conflict research at the University of Oslo. He has since taught at universities around the world and is currently teaching courses in the Human Science Department at Saybrook University.

In 1993, Dr. Johan Galtung established the TRANSCEND Network for Conflict Transformation. TRANSCEND encompasses Transcend Peace University, Transcend Media Service, Transcend University Press, Transcend Peace Service, Transcend Research Institute, International Peace Institute and the Journal of Peace Research. Their mission is to bring about a more peaceful world by using action, education and training, dissemination and research to transform conflicts non-violently, with empathy and creativity, for acceptable and sustainable outcomes.

Dr. Galtung's contributions to international peace have earned him the Right Livelihood Award, Bajaj International Award for Promoting Gandhian Values, First Morton Deutsch Conflict Resolution Award, Norwegian Literary Prize Brage, Augsburg Golden Book of Peace, Eric Bye Memorial Prize, Korean Demilitarized Zone Peace Prize and in 1987, the Alternative Nobel Peace Prize.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Dr. Johan Galtung as he receives the Abdul Ghaffar Khan International Peace-BUILDER Award from the American Muslim Alliance Foundation.

COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 4, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2838) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise regarding H.R. 2838, the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act.

H.R. 2838 reauthorizes the activities of the U.S. Coast Guard and authorizes funding for the resources necessary to support the men and women who put their lives at risk every day to promote the safety and livelihoods of the people who use our country's waterways. The bill provides these resources in a fiscally responsible manner that advances the mission of the Guard while improving administration and reducing costs.

Our nation's waterways are the recreational and commercial arteries of the country. The safe and reliable movement of goods and people on our lakes, rivers and along our coast-

lines, helped to build the United States into the country it is today. Since its creation, the Coast Guard has played a vital role in America's economic and national security. The investments authorized by this bill will help to ensure the continued availability of the critical resources necessary for the Coast Guard to continue serving and protecting the people of the United States.

Despite its benefits, the bill has a major flaw. While the underlying bill enjoys bipartisan support, I share the Administration's concern about the Majority's insistence on attaching controversial "ballast water" language to the measure, whose effect would be to undermine the Clean Water Act and hinder states' efforts to control invasive species. For that reason, I will support the Dingell-Slaughter and Bishop amendments addressing this issue and will oppose final passage if they are not adopted.

RECOGNITION OF THE STATE OF OHIO FOR DECEMBER 1ST AS ROSA PARKS DAY

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ohio as the first state to designate December 1 as Rosa Parks Day with legislation to honor her life and legacy as the Mother of the Modern Civil Rights Movement.

In 2005, then-State Representative Joyce Beatty wrote, advocated for and won unanimous support to pass Ohio's legislation in the 50th-anniversary year of Mrs. Parks' courageous act of refusing to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama bus to a white passenger. This act sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Modern Civil Rights Movement.

Ohio continues to honor Rosa Parks with an annual statewide tribute on December 1 entitled "The Power of One," which celebrates that historical day when she took a stand by staying seated. A partnership between the Central Ohio Transit Authority, The Ohio State University, the Ohio Historical Society and the Ohio Civil Rights Commission brings the tribute to life each year. It includes a Children's Assembly that welcomes 800 schoolchildren to learn and be inspired by her legacy. Ohio's leadership in honoring Rosa Parks ensures that young children will be reminded that she is a symbol for justice and civil rights, and that sometimes one person can change the world.

I am proud to recognize the great state of Ohio for commemorating Rosa Parks' legacy of inspiration and courage and our state's ongoing education of young people about civil rights.

(126th General Assembly)

(House Bill Number 421)

An act to enact section 5.2231 of the Revised Code to designate December 1 as "Rosa Parks Day."

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That section 5.2231 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 5.2231. *The first day of December is designated as "Rosa Parks Day," in honor of the woman who helped usher in the modern civil rights movement on that day in 1955 by refusing to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama.*

Jon A. Husted, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Bill Harris, President of the Senate.

Passed December 14, 2005.

Approved January 12, 2006.

Bob Taft, Governor.

The section numbering of law of a general and permanent nature is complete and in conformity with the Revised Code.

James W. Burley, Director, Legislative Service Commission.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio, on the 13th day of January, A.D. 2006.

J. Kenneth Blackwell, Secretary of State.

File No. 62

Effective Date 04/14/06.

(126th General Assembly)

(House Bill Number 421)

AN ACT

To enact section 5.2231 of the Revised Code to designate December 1 as "Rosa Parks Day."

Introduced by

Representatives Beatty, Reidelbach, Allen, Redfern, Ujvagi, Cassell, Harwood, Brown, Healy, Oelslager, Lana, McGregor, J., Miller, Gilb, Boccieri, Perry, Skindell, Evans, C., Carano, Chandler, Barrett, Hughes, Combs, Driehaus, Aslanides, Flowers, DeGeeter, Hoops, Hood, Strahorn, Peterson, Mitchell, Bulp, Smith, S., McGregor, R., Otterman, Stewart, D., Raussen, Book, Yuko, Patton, S., Fende, Hartnett, Mason, Wolpert, Woodard, Wagoner, Schaffer, Fessler, Calvert, Carmichael, Core, Raga, Schlichter, Smith, G., Koziura, Setzer, Blasdel Speaker Husted Representatives Blessing, Buehrer, Coley, Daniels, DeBose, DeWine, Dolan, Domenick, Evans, D., Faber, Garrison, Hagan, Key, Kilbane, Law, Martin, Patton, T., Sayre, Schneider, Seaver, Stewart, J., Sykes, Taylor, Trakas, Uecker, Walcher, Webster, White, Widener, Willamowski, Williams, Yates Senators Miller, Amstutz, Armbruster, Austria, Carey, Cates, Clancy, Coughlin, Dann, Fedor, Fingerhut, Gardner, Goodman, Grendell, Hagan, Harris, Hottinger, Jacobson, Jordan, Kearney, Malloy, Mumper, Niehaus, Padgett, Prentiss, Roberts, Schuler, Schuring, Spada, Stivers, Wachtmann, Wilson, Zurz

Passed by the House of Representatives, December 13, 2005.

Passed by the Senate, December 14, 2005.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio, on the 13th day of January, A.D. 2006.

J. Kenneth Blackwell, Secretary of State.

THE ACHIEVING A BETTER LIFE EXPERIENCE ACT

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the bipartisan, bicameral Achieving a Better Life Experience Act of 2011. The ABLE Act is a much needed, long overdue, savings tool for individuals with disabilities.

I would like to thank my colleagues in the Senate, Senator CASEY and Senator BURR for their tireless efforts to introduce a companion bill in the U.S. Senate. I would also like to thank Representative MCMORRIS RODGERS for her pivotal role in crafting this meaningful legislation.

The federal government gives American families a helping hand in saving for the future. Accounts with special tax advantages

help people save for college, retirement, healthcare and other life events—but people with disabilities have different challenges for the future, some face decades of expenses that most of us cannot even imagine. Yet, they do not have access to the same advantages that our tax code provides others.

The average cost of raising a child with a significant medical disability is more than \$1 million over the course of the child's lifetime. Continuing education, transportation, housing and medical care make up some of the predictable costs on that staggering bill. ABLE accounts would relieve some of that burden by allowing parents with disabled children or family members of disabled individuals to invest through a tax-deferred 529 account that could be drawn from for these future expenses. No longer would parents have to stand aside and watch as others use IRS-sanctioned tools to lay the groundwork for a brighter future. They would be able to do so for their children as well.

The ABLE Act amends Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the establishment of ABLE accounts for the care of family members with disabilities through tax-free savings accounts.

Mr. Speaker, this bipartisan, bicameral legislation tackles the unfairness in our tax code head-on by creating tax free savings accounts for individuals with disabilities. ABLE accounts will make long-term health, greater independence, and a fuller quality of life a possibility. No longer would individuals with disabilities have to stand on the sidelines and watch others use IRS-sanctioned tools to lay the groundwork for a brighter future.

The cost to reform the U.S. Tax Code to offer ABLE accounts would be minimal, but the positive impact for individuals with disabilities, their families and others who are struggling to cope with an uncertain future would be sizable.

We must move beyond the policies of the past that force individuals with disabilities to live in poverty. The ABLE Act allows individuals with disabilities to save, work, and earn just like any other American. As citizens of this great and prosperous country, we must speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves. Helping disabled Americans "achieve a better life experience" is a step forward toward equality with every other American—and it's a step worth taking.

IN HONOR OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee as they recognize Korean Veterans on November 11, 2011, Veterans Day.

The Korean War began on June 25, 1950 when the North Korean People's Army invaded the Republic of Korea. The Korean War was the first "hot" conflict of the Cold War and included historic battles and offensives as well as important technological and medical advances. On July 27, 1953, the United States,

North Korea and China signed an armistice. A total of 33,651 U.S. service members died in battle during the Korean War; 27,709 U.S. Army; 4,269 U.S. Marines; 1,198 U.S. Air Force; and 475 U.S. Navy. Seven thousand, one-hundred and forty Service Members became prisoners of war.

The Korean War Commemoration Committee's mission is to honor the service and sacrifice of Korean War Veterans, American service members, and their allies who fought heroically to preserve Freedom; to commemorate the key events of the Korean War; and educate the American people about the significance of the Korean War.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee as they pay special tribute to the more than 6.8 million servicemen and women who bravely fought in the Korean War.

COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 4, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2838) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. MICA. Mr. Chair, H.R. 2838, the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act 2011, authorizes Coast Guard funding for Fiscal Years 2012, 2013 and 2014. The authorized levels were approved in the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Budget Views and Estimates, and reflect the levels set in the House-passed Budget Resolution.

Following up on the Committee's Sitting on Our Assets Report, H.R. 2838 decommissions two aging icebreakers, neither of which currently operates. The bill also restricts the purchases of future National Security Cutters (NSCs) until current NSCs meet long-promised mission performance capabilities.

In addition to authorizing the Coast Guard and making improvements to the service's programs and capabilities, the bill also improves the administration of maritime transportation, including—clarifying the circumstances under which a foreign seaman injured outside the United States can sue in United States courts.

The bill incorporates H.R. 2840, the Commercial Vessel Discharges Reform Act of 2011. H.R. 2840 establishes a uniform national standard for ballast water discharges. This provision is strongly supported by the U.S. and international maritime industry. It protects the environment and makes maritime transportation more efficient.

H.R. 2838 also incorporates an amended version of H.R. 2839, the Piracy Suppression Act of 2011, which authorizes additional actions to suppress piracy. It also improves the tracking of ransom payments to pirates to assure these payments do not fund terrorism.

This bill promotes maritime safety and security and makes maritime commerce more efficient. I urge my colleagues to vote "aye" on H.R. 2838.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,977,884,880,834.39.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$4,339,459,134,540.59 since then. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF CHIEF APOSTLE WILLIAM L. BONNER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the 90th birthday of dear beloved spiritual leader, Chief Apostle William L. Bonner at the National Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ (COOLJC) Day at the Greater Refuge Temple in Harlem. Let me also note that on Saturday, November 5, 2011, the Greater Refuge Temple, which is the "Mother Church" of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, paid special tribute to Bishop Bonner's 50 years of service and pastoral leadership to the greater COOLJC church family and community throughout our great Nation.

Founded by the late apostle Bishop Robert C. Lawson, D.D., LL.D., The Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ had its inception in the year 1919. Bishop Lawson, then Elder Lawson was invited to a prayer meeting, which was in progress in a basement in the 40th Street area of New York City. So energetic was his service to the Lord that his fame spread abroad and reached the ears of Mr. and Mrs. James Burleigh and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Anderson. These two blessed couples opened their homes to Elder Lawson and their home today is affectionately thought of as the "Cradle of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ".

Within a short period, the congregation outgrew its place of worship, having approximately 200 members, and larger quarters had to be sought. Bishop Lawson purchased the sight at 52–54–56 West 133 Street and relocated his thriving church. It was there that his vision was enlarged and the Lord lay upon his heart to conduct a tent revival and great numbers were added to the church.

Under the thriving ministry of Apostle Lawson, many preachers, missionaries, and teachers were sent into the field establishing numerous works. To the far-flung isles of the sea, to the continent of Africa and to the Caribbean, these Christian heralds went carrying the apostolic message. It was in the year 1932, that Bishop Lawson initiated the radio broadcast over the stations WGBS. He broadcasted successfully over WHOM and WINS. The broadcast is presently continuing over station WBNX every Sunday evening.

In August of 1945, as the church outgrew its quarters on 133rd Street, Bishop Lawson

relocated the church and congregation to 124th Street and 7th Avenue. This building is known as the "Mother Church" of the Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In two short years, the indebtedness of the church was lifted and on Christmas day in 1947, the mortgage was burned.

It was in 1944 that Bishop Lawson sent Bishop Bonner to Detroit to pastor the First Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It was a storefront. Today, it is a 2,500-seat edifice known as Solomon's Temple. Bishop William Lee Bonner was born on November 12, 1921 in Bolden County Georgia, to Emmett and Janie Bonner. Bishop Bonner was married to the late Ethel Mae Smith Bonner. He is the father of two children, Ethel Mae Bonner Archer and William Lee Bonner, Jr.

Bishop Bonner's ministry began in the 1940s under the tutelage of the late Bishop Robert C. Lawson, (1883–1961), founder of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith. His first pastorate was the Green Avenue Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Brooklyn, New York. In 1961, upon the death of Bishop Lawson, Bishop Bonner became the pastor of the 3,000-member mother church, the Greater Refuge Temple in Harlem, New York City.

Apostle Bonner currently pastors churches in Detroit, Michigan, New York City, Washington, D.C., Jackson, Mississippi, and Columbia, South Carolina. He is the Chief Apostle and Senior Prelate of the General Assembly of the Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc. This is an international body of churches. Under his administration, the assembly has grown from 155 churches in 1961 to over 500 churches and missions throughout the world.

He has faithfully kept the charge of the founder Bishop Lawson, to "Add Thou to It". Bishop Bonner received his religious education and the Doctor of Divinity through the Church of Christ Bible Institute in New York City. Listed in "Who's Who in Religion" In 1985, Bishop Bonner's ministry is based on prayer and faith in God. His message is one of hope and deliverance. He believes that those who pray can expect a miracle.

On December 12, 1989, Bishop William L. Bonner founded The Refuge Temple of Washington, DC. The first services were held at Days Inn, at 12th and K Streets, NW. The next year, Kelly Miller Junior High School became the church's final temporary home. On June 1, 1991, the first service was held at the new edifice for Refuge Temple Church.

On July 20, 1993, Bishop Bonner established The Refuge Temple of Columbia, South Carolina. It was organized with only 22 members and grew to 700 in 3 months. The church is located on 12½ acres in the Eau Claire section of Columbia. Pastor Bonner's ministry in Columbia also consists of the Family Life Center, Retirement Community and the W. L. Bonner Bible College.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in bestowing this special congressional honor to Chief Apostle William L. Bonner's on "National COOLJC Day" at the Greater Refuge Temple Church in Harlem, NY.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP WILLIAM L.
BONNER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable man who has dedicated his life to serving the Creator and building an international fellowship of true disciples. Bishop William Lee Bonner will be honored on the occasion of his 90th birthday on Saturday, November 19, 2011 in Columbia, South Carolina.

William Lee Bonner was born on November 12, 1921 in Bolden County, Georgia to Emmett and Janie Bonner. He received his religious training and the Doctor of Divinity through the Church of Christ Bible Institute in New York.

As a young man in the 1940s, Bishop Bonner answered the call into the ministry. He was a protégé of the late Bishop Robert C. Lawson, founder of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith. His first pastorate was the Green Avenue Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In 1944, Bishop Bonner was sent to Detroit to lead the First Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ. When he arrived, the congregation was worshipping in a store front. Today, the current sanctuary holds 2,500 parishioners in an edifice known as Solomon's Temple.

When Bishop Lawson passed away in 1961, Bishop Bonner was called to lead the 3,000-member mother church, the Greater Refuge Temple, in Harlem, New York. As the church's new titular head, Bishop Bonner created a Board of Apostles to govern the churches. He also formed two other groups, the Board of Bishops and the Board of Presbyters, both of which are accountable to the Board of Apostles. Under this new structure, Bishop Bonner serves as the Chief Apostle and Senior Prelate of the General Assembly of the Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.

During his leadership, the church grew tremendously. In 1989, Bishop Bonner founded the Refuge Temple of Washington, D.C. In the beginning services were held in a Days Inn hotel, but moved shortly afterwards to Kelly Miller Junior High School. Less than a year afterwards the church broke ground on a permanent home. On June 1, 1991, the first service was held in the Refuge Temple Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and they continue to this day at the 56th Street location.

The ground breaking for the Refuge Temple of Columbia, South Carolina took place on July 20, 1993. At that time, the congregation was comprised of 22 members. Within three years, they grew to 700 members. The ministry has expanded to include a Family Life Center, a retirement community and the W.L. Bonner Bible College. The church's services are aired on Sunday mornings at 6:00 am on WIS-TV in Columbia. Previously recorded services can also be heard nightly on Columbia radio station WMFV.

Under Bishop Bonner's leadership, the assembly has grown from 155 churches in 1961 to over 500 churches and missions throughout the world. He currently pastors churches in Detroit; New York; Washington, D.C.; Jackson, Mississippi; and Columbia, South Carolina. He

has faithfully kept the charge of the founder Bishop Lawson to, "Add Thou To It."

Bishop Bonner and the late Ethel Mae Smith Bonner were parents to Ethel Mae Bonner Archer and William Lee Bonner, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in congratulating Bishop Bonner as he celebrates his 90th birthday. He has been a Christian luminary and has served his faith and its congregants with tremendous dedication. Bishop Bonner has touched many people through his great ministries, and is very deserving of this recognition.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF MRS.
FRANZISKA HOLZER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Mrs. Franziska Holzer, a long time and active member of the German-American community in the Greater Cleveland area.

Mrs. Holzer was born on April 15, 1927. After World War II, she met her future husband Josef, in Deggendorf, Bavaria. The two were married in 1949 and had a daughter, Ilse. In 1952, the Holzer family immigrated to Cleveland, Ohio. The couple would eventually settle in North Royalton, Ohio, where they enjoyed the rest of their 62 year marriage.

Upon settling in the Cleveland area, the Holzers became extremely active in the German-American community. Mr. Holzer would eventually become the Regional President of the National Donauschwaben Organization and led the building of the Donauschwaben Society of Cleveland's German-American Cultural Center at Lenau Park. Much of his success is credited to the support offered by his loving wife, Franziska.

I offer my most sincere condolences to her husband, Josef; daughter, Ilse; grandchildren, Lisa, Brian and David; and great-grandchildren, Peter and Alexandra.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mrs. Franziska Holzer, her devotion to her family and Cleveland's German-American community will be sorely missed and thoughtfully remembered for years to come.

HONORING CAPTAIN JACK WILSON
FOR HIS LIFETIME OF SERVICE
TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Captain Jack Wilson of Willow Springs, Illinois, a 100 year-old veteran who landed at Omaha Beach during World War II, who I am helping to honor at a veterans' dinner in Bridgeview, IL on November 13.

Captain Wilson began his military career serving in the Army National Guard from 1931 to 1940. There, he served in the distinguished 202nd Coast Artillery, anti-aircraft division. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, his unit was

activated and sent on the converted Queen Mary to England. A few days after D-Day, he was deployed on a landing craft to Omaha Beach in Normandy. This allied offensive would change the tide of the war.

Following his courageous service, Captain Wilson was discharged from active duty in 1946. He continued in the Army Reserves until his retirement in 1971 when he retired as a Captain at the age of 60.

For over fifty years, Captain Wilson has continued to support the men and women of our armed services through his leadership in the American Legion, serving as the Commander for the William R. Edmondson branch as well as its adjutant. He is currently an honorary member. He has also served the nearby Lemont Veterans of Foreign Wars Post. In both of these positions, he illustrates his dedication to his fellow armed services members and his country. Following his active military service, Captain Wilson was employed as a driver for the Chicago Transit Authority until 1975.

Honesty, integrity, hard work, responsibility, and patriotism are the core principles by which Captain Wilson lives and these are the same principles he has bestowed upon his children, Nancy and Judith. He also was a loving husband to his wife Helen, who passed away in 1978. He is a man who defended our country at a time of tremendous adversity, and who continues to serve his fellow men and women in the armed services. Please join me in honoring his lifetime of service, his bravery, and his dedication to family and neighbor.

HONORING FORMER PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE PAUL J. ELDRIDGE

HON. NAN A.S. HAYWORTH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paul J. Eldridge for his service as County Executive for Putnam County.

Mr. Eldridge was appointed by the Putnam County Legislature in November 2010 to serve until a special election could be held to fill the position. Mr. Eldridge confirmed the wisdom of his selection, serving with honor and distinction during a difficult period. His service as County Executive was the culmination of 33 years as a public servant for Putnam County, during which Mr. Eldridge has received numerous awards and honors for his work.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the Honorable Paul J. Eldridge. New York's Nineteenth Congressional District, and the entire Hudson Valley, is fortunate to have benefited from his service.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. WALTER BEEBE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Walter Beebe, who is being honored at the New York Open Center's 2011

Gala Celebration for his extraordinary vision and service to the New York Open Center and progressive philanthropy.

After obtaining a bachelor of arts from Harvard University in 1962, Mr. Beebe earned his bachelor of laws degree in 1965 from Stanford University. Almost immediately after finishing his education, Mr. Beebe began his career with Partner, Jacobs Persinger & Parker in 1966. He was a corporate attorney with the New York law firm until his retirement in 2006.

Mr. Beebe is the founder, Board Chair and President of the New York Open Center. He has been a leader in the holistic movement through the work of the Center for nearly 30 years. The Center is a nonprofit holistic learning center that seeks to integrate the intellectual, emotional, physical, and spiritual elements of life.

In addition to his work with as an attorney and with the New York Open Center, Mr. Beebe has been an active philanthropist. He has served on the Board of Directors of several organizations and companies including Westar Institute, Interfaith Center of New York, New Jersey Steel Corporation, Von Roll of America, Inc. and subsidiaries, Bank Street College of Education, Sunbridge College, Near East Foundation and Greyston Foundation. Mr. Beebe was also the co-host for the White House Commission on Alternative Medicine.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues please join me in congratulating Mr. Walter Beebe as he is honored by the New York Open Center at their 2011 Gala Celebration on November 10, 2011.

GUS STAVROS HONORED FOR SELFLESS SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to Gus A. Stavros of St. Petersburg, Florida, a decorated war hero, a hugely successful small businessman, and a philanthropist who has devoted his life to educating our youth. Most importantly to me, Gus Stavros is my friend.

Gus received a Certificate of Basic Engineering at the University of Florida in 1944 in preparation for his service to our nation and the Army during World War II. He served with great distinction in General George Patton's Third Army, earning three campaign ribbons for Northern France, Ardennes and Rhineland, and the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He was severely injured on January 19, 1945, and required eight months of hospital care.

Always placing the highest priority on the value of education, Gus returned from the war a hero and enrolled at Columbia University in New York, where he graduated in 1948 and went on to New York University, where he received his MBA in 1951.

It was our good fortune that upon his graduation Gus moved to Florida to start a business forms manufacturing company in Pinellas County, Florida. As the owner and CEO, he grew the company from 3 to 550 employees making it the largest business of its kind anywhere in the Southeastern United States. Having achieved success as a businessman, he

sold the company in 1989 and pursued his first love of education, cultural endeavors, and the tireless support of numerous charitable organizations.

Wednesday evening, the Pinellas County Education Foundation will celebrate Gus Stavros' 25 years of service to the students, parents, and teachers of our community through the Foundation he established with then Assistant Superintendent of Schools Howard Hinesley. Unique at the time, the Foundation's first project was the establishment of Enterprise Village in 1989, a hands on program that teaches 10,000 fifth-graders a year important life lessons of business and economics. Every one of these fifth-graders spends a day at Enterprise Village running a business. For most, with the classroom lessons that prepare them for their special day of running their own business, they have their first introduction to free enterprise. Today the most appropriately named Gus A. Stavros Institute administers not only Enterprise Village, but with a \$4 million expansion now teaches fiscal responsibility to 8,000 eighth-graders annually at its Finance Park.

Local, state, national and even international leaders of education and business have paid visits to Enterprise Village to learn how they can inspire students in the areas of business and finance just as Gus Stavros has this past quarter century.

Gus and his lovely wife of 63 years Frances have been honored many times over for the selfless work in behalf of numerous charitable organizations throughout our community. And our state's Governors and leaders of higher education have called on Gus repeatedly to serve on the board of trustees for many of our colleges and universities.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when our nation searches for solutions to reenergize our economy and create jobs, we need to look to great Americans like Gus Stavros for answers and inspiration. There are few people I know that are half of Gus' 86 years that have as much energy and as many good ideas.

Gus Stavros has served our nation in war time and in peace time. He has used his success in business to create jobs for others and to provide unique educational opportunities for hundreds of thousands of youth. Most importantly, he symbolizes the American spirit of selfless service to do what he can to improve the lives of others.

It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in saying thank you to Gus Stavros for a lifetime of achievement and in paying tribute to him for a job well done.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM THOMPSON

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend William Thompson of his service to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement.

Mr. Thompson began his career in 1971 with the U.S. Marine Corps after his service with the Marine Corps in 1975. He returned to college and became a co-op student with the

Social Security Administration in 1977 and stayed until 1980. He worked for the State of West Virginia for 18 months before going to work for the U.S. Defense Investigative Service in 1982 and subsequently became what is known today as U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Mr. Thompson's role has been Special Agent in charge of conducting Federal Security Clearance Investigations.

For his dedication of 37 years, I offer Mr. Thompson my most sincere congratulations and best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR WORKER RETRAINING SERVICES, AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE OPENING OF A WORKSOURCE FACILITY IN MONROE, WASHINGTON

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to acknowledge the importance of worker retraining efforts in my state led by the workforce development councils that are helping Washingtonians get back to work. I would also like to recognize the opening of a new facility in Monroe, Washington that will help more of our neighbors who have been hit hard by this economic downturn get the training they need to successfully re-enter the job market.

Often, employers lack a workforce with appropriate skills and displaced workers lack the means to acquire these skills. That is why worker retraining programs are so important. Reversing the effects of the economic downturn is not an individual mission, but a community challenge, and an important partner helping in this effort are the Washington workforce development councils. Our workforce development councils operate 64 WorkSource centers statewide, where low-income youth and adults, displaced workers, and returning servicemembers access job training, employment counseling, and other services that help put people back to work and provide our employers with the skilled workforce they need to thrive.

Last year alone, more than 364,000 Washington residents sought help through the State's WorkSource centers. The Workforce Development Council of Snohomish County provided 39,156 people with a total of 528,005 services in 2010. Currently, the main access points for these services are the WorkSource Centers in Everett and Lynnwood, Washington. However, thanks to the generosity of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul—who offered to rent out space in their facility for only one dollar per year—on Tuesday, November 15th a new WorkSource center will open in Monroe, Washington.

This expansion of services to Monroe is important because, currently, displaced workers in the cities and towns to the east of Everett and Lynnwood face yet another barrier to employment: travelling to a WorkSource Center. Now, yet another hard-hit community can begin to rebuild and move forward because the community will now have a headquarters for worker retraining and job market resources.

That's why I am proud to stand up here today and recognize the significance of the WorkSource opening in Monroe, Washington today. I wish all the best to the dedicated staff at the Snohomish County Workforce Development Council, the kind people at St. Vincent de Paul, and the Washingtonians who are persevering through this downturn and now have a strong partner to help them get back on their feet.

TO SUCH NEW FRONTIERS, THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL CEREMONY, NOVEMBER 16TH 2011, AT THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL, IN HONOR OF ASTRONAUTS BUZZ ALDRIN, NEIL ARMSTRONG, MICHAEL COLLINS, AND JOHN GLENN

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the recipients of the New Frontier Congressional Gold Medal. I submit the following poem written in honor of these recipients:

TO SUCH NEW FRONTIERS
(By Albert Carey Caswell)

To . . .
To Such
New Frontiers . . .
As have all of you've gone so here!
Gone, so boldly forth, all out on your course
. . .
as America's most courageous pioneers!
All all out upon your most heroic ways . . .
All at speed, all in what your fine lives have
so conveyed!
As so boldly forth,
as you would not so heed . . .
All without fear,
to so sow exploration's most brilliant seeds!
All but for our Country Tis of Thee . . .
All of your fine lives,
you were so ready to concede!
All so ready to so pledge indeed!
As The Right Stuff,
came so streaking upon the scene!
As so courageously onward you all so sped
. . .
all at speed!
All out there on that very edge . . .
that edge of death!
All in what your most magnificent lives,
have so said!
As You So Reached For The Stars,
so courageously without fear . . .
so led!
Up to new worlds and dreams,
all in what your fine lives have so deemed
. . .
All in your stead!
All to so reach those most monumental of all
themes!
To Learn,
What Must So Be Learned!
To Touch . . .
What Must So Be Touched!
To See,
What Must So Be Seen!
To Hear,
What Must So Be Heard!
To Feel,
What Must So Be Felt!
To Speak,
What Must So Be Spoken!
To Dream,
What Must So Be Dreamed!

To Stretch . . .
To Ever Expand . . .
To Go So Ever So Forth . . .
To So Glean!
Right To The Very Edge,
of Exploration's Golden Sheen!
To Inspire Us All So Higher!
All So To Dare To Dream!
To Discovery,
and Beyond!
As you've so pushed that envelope,
out past its most outer limits!
As so ever forth,
as you so stayed the course . . .
moving onward and upward,
all up above the clouds!
As you were gone!
While,
streaking across the heavens all through
time so now!
As to all our souls so wed!
Speaking to our hearts and souls,
all in such awe!
To So Save Woman and Mankind,
as so surely we so saw!
As out into the future,
you've so cast your most historic shrouds!
As you so gleamed,
shining so magnificently so all throughout!
To so find the answers,
that which must now so be found!
For only up to such great new heights so
now,
can such hearts of courage full so sound!
Beating long,
and loud!
As to new worlds,
you've all so soared to now!
To places,
where only such hearts of faith so pound!
Whether, the first to walk upon the moon
. . .
or the first American to orbit in space!
As your time upon this earth,
could not so keep up with your explorer's
pace!
As all of your journeys,
have all so been filled with such amazing
grace!
To discovery and beyond,
as all of those most precious seconds past
you so raced!
As it was there . . .
you all so went so boldly forth all in place!
All out upon that path,
where only hearts can roam of faith!
Whether, upon primitive machines of man-
kind . . .
Or to the Moon and back,
while living all out on that thin line!
Riding on that very edge of death so fine!
As all of your most precious gifts of space
exploration . . .
Have so blessed our world and this our na-
tion . . .
As upon Mankind's futures past,
have so all been etched . . .
All in your explorer's quest!
As we so cry too,
all at those most precious lives so lost . . .
Of all of your Brothers and Sisters,
who so paid the price of exploration's cost!
The ones who like you so took those most
heroic paths,
to climb upward to the stars!
Ever steadfast!
To answer that most noble cause of explo-
ration as asked!
All with your journeys so unfurled . . .
The names Aldrin, Armstrong, Collins, and
Glenn . . .
will out into the future forever last!
"One step for man,
one giant leap for mankind" . . .
that which on your watch so came to pass!
As new Stars were so formed,
all by your hearts of exploration so very
warm!

To such magnificent places,
 all of us you have taken . . .
 With your life's trajectories . . .
 your life's paths,
 as up to the heavens like a comet's tail so
 streaking past!
 To all of those new frontiers,
 that which you have so opened up so up here!
 That which now so lies before us all so very
 clear!
 As the possibilities seem so endless now,
 so here!
 For as long as we have such fine sons,
 of such courage and faith as all of these ones!
 Americans,
 who in the name of exploration so shine like
 the sun!
 Who,
 against all odds . . .
 almost like God's, will so courageously soar
 . . .
 To distant worlds, and shores . . .
 To find the answers to so explore . . .
 Then, the sky has no limit anymore . . .
 to such new frontiers as you soar . . .
 So on this day as we place!
 These gold medals,
 around each one of your most courageous
 face!
 History for you now so holds your place . . .
 As something that time,
 nor so distance . . .
 can now so erase . . .
 For as long as we have such bold woman and
 men . . .
 Who so dare to dream, so then!
 And go out towards Exploration's most far-
 thest ends . . .
 Then, we shall all go so forth Godspeed to
 command!
 To Such New Frontiers, my friend.

**EDEN PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL
 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL WINS STATE
 CHAMPIONSHIP**

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Eden Prairie Eagles for winning their first ever Minnesota AAA High School Girls Volleyball Championship on Saturday.

The Eden Prairie Eagles came out strong and played with all their hearts from the very first serve of the match in a hard fought and thrilling five-game series.

The Eagles ultimately surged ahead to take the final game 22-20 and win the Championship.

The Eden Prairie Eagles have shown what it truly means to be student-athletes. Having exuded remarkable dedication and a strong work ethic that our entire community can be proud of, it is my pleasure to congratulate them all on an inspiring season and victory.
 Go Eagles!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ERNEST
 LOVATO**

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ernest Lovato, a resident of Kewa Pueblo, formerly Santo Domingo Pueblo, New

Mexico for being awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from Bacone College on May 7, 2011.

Mr. Lovato was nominated by Dr. Robert J. Duncan, Jr., President and Professor of Religion, as a 1957 Bacone Alum, 1982–1984 Bacone Trustee and for his services as former Governor of Kewa Pueblo. Ernest has been outstandingly active in his community and served as Governor of Kewa Pueblo in 1989, 1990, and 2002.

Bacone College is a private four-year liberal arts college in Muskogee, Oklahoma and was founded in 1880 as an Indian University by Professor Almon C. Bacone, a missionary teacher. With the help of the American Baptist Home Mission Society in the Cherokee Baptist Mission at the Tahlequah, Indian Territory, Bacone College was established.

Bacone College has strong historic ties to various tribal nations including the Cherokee Nation and the Muscogee Creek Nation. When the College started Professor Bacone enrolled three students and was the sole faculty member. By the end of the first semester he had twelve students, and by the end of the first year the student population was fifty-six and the faculty numbered three.

Bacone College continued to grow, relocated to its present location in 1885 and now serves over nine hundred students.

I want to extend congratulations and recognition to Mr. Ernest Lovato, an outstanding New Mexican, on being awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from Bacone College.

**TRIBUTE TO THE NATIVITY OF
 OUR LORD CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School in Warminster, Pennsylvania for receiving the 2011 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award. In 1982, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program was launched by the U.S. Department of Education in an effort to identify the best school leadership and teaching practices in America. Today, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes both public and non-public schools where students and faculty excel. As one of only fourteen schools in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to receive this award, it is certainly a testament to the quality of education that the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School provides.

An educated workforce is the backbone of a strong economy and a prosperous society. Therefore, it is essential that we equip our students with the tools they need to become successful employers and employees in the future. The Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School is a model of the type of excellence that all schools should aspire to. It is an institution that prepares our children to be future leaders and scholars, and I am proud to honor it today.

I am extremely grateful of the hard work and dedication of the administrators, faculty, students, and parents who are involved with the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School. A few in-

dividuals that I would like to personally recognize are Father Angelo R. Citino, Principal Roselee Maddaloni, and Vice Principal Laura Clark, for their continued efforts in providing an environment for excellence.

Congratulations once again to the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School for winning the National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award. Thank you for all that you do for the Bucks County community, it is an honor to be your representative in the United States Congress.

**EDEN PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS
 SOCCER WINS STATE CHAMPION-
 SHIP**

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize this year's Minnesota AA High School Boys Soccer Champions, the Eden Prairie Eagles. Aside from having one of the best academic programs in Minnesota, the Eden Prairie School District is now home to boys state soccer champions for the second time since 2002.

Despite going up against an undefeated team, the Eagles struck early, scoring their first goal in the fourth minute of the championship game. The Eden Prairie Eagles kept up the pressure, and were relentless on offense, putting up 14 shots on goal and winning the game 3-1.

Congratulations to the whole team on an incredible season. I'm sure you will all look back proudly on your accomplishments in the years to come. Congratulations also to coach Vince Thomas for his leadership on and off the field.
 Go Eagles!

**HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF
 THE CLOSE-UP FOUNDATION**

HON. JAMES LANKFORD

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the Close-Up Foundation on their 40th Anniversary. Since 1971, Close Up has educated over 750,000 students and teachers in the democratic process through their Washington-based civic education programs and classroom publications.

Close-Up provides students and teachers from diverse backgrounds all over the country with the opportunity to use the institutions and historical sites of our nation's capital as a backdrop for their lectures, small group discussions, and interactions with key policy experts. The programs are designed to enrich students' knowledge of the basic concepts and institutions of American constitutional government and develop a practical understanding of the processes of the democratic political system and the role of its citizens. They leave each student with a better understanding of the complex policy issues that surround our country every day.

As a 10th grader on my first trip to Washington, D.C. with the Close-Up Foundation, I

had an opportunity to experience the benefits of the program firsthand. The inner workings of democracy and the legislative process fascinated me. The information and education I received during my visit as a student provided me with the foundation to be an active member of my community and engage in the civics process.

I rise today in appreciation of the Close-Up foundation on their 40th Anniversary and thank them for the opportunity they have provided to hundreds of thousands of students from across our great nation. I look forward to meeting with the many more students that will visit our nation's capitol in the future.

HONORING MARRAKECH, INC. ON
ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand today to join the many who have gathered to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Marrakech, Inc., a wonderful organization dedicated to providing an array of services to persons with disabilities. This is a remarkable milestone for this very special organization.

Marrakech was founded in 1971 with the establishment of the first halfway house in Connecticut for women with mental retardation. What began as a pilot program has grown into a respected organization and recognized leader in the development of innovative programs and services for people with challenging behaviors, families with complex needs, youth who are at risk, and people without disabilities who are unemployed and underemployed.

Marrakech, Inc. began as a crusade to prove a point, the brainchild of two young Yale undergraduates, Susan Waisbren and Francie Brody. It was all because of a young woman named Valerie Chain who Susan had met through Yale Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Susan and Francie came to know Valerie's friends as well. They soon realized how capable these young New Haven women with mild mental retardation were, and how they would thrive in a halfway house. Thus began their mission of creating an environment which would highlight the talents of these women and promoted their ability to self direct their lives. Marrakech House opened as a summer pilot program and

eight young women, including Valerie, spent the summer in a sublet, supervised apartment on Crown Street. Forty years later, Marrakech, Inc. subscribes to a practice that assures that each person who is referred for services has a highly individualized service plan.

One of Marrakech, Inc.'s goals has always been normalization, achieving a level of independence that would allow all people to become more a part of the community. Susan once said, "Normalization does not mean merely adjusting to society's norms. It means educating the community to expand its definition of 'normal.'" Yet, after the first summer of Marrakech, she added, "We never really wanted normalization. We wanted something better. Too often, normalcy in our society means conformity and compromise. We strove for consciousness, tolerance, and imagination."

In its forty year history, Marrakech has transformed the lives of thousands. For all of the good work that they are doing in our community and in the lives of their clients, I am proud to rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to Marrakech, Inc. on their 40th anniversary. I have no doubt that this extraordinary organization will only continue to enjoy great success in all of their endeavors on behalf of our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JEANNE
M. FOX

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. Pallone. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Jeanne M. Fox, Commissioner at New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. Ms. Fox is the recipient of The Arthur E. Armitage, Sr. Distinguished Alumni Award, presented by the Rutgers School of Law-Camden Alumni Association. The award will be presented at the Distinguished Alumni Awards Celebration. Her continuous outpouring of service and dedication to the residents of New Jersey is undoubtedly worth of this body's recognition.

Jeanne Fox was first appointed to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) on January 15, 2002, and was later reconfirmed for a second term on March 16, 2009. She currently holds the prestigious title of Commissioner and has previously served as NJBPU

President. NJBPU has regulatory jurisdiction over telephone, electric, gas, water, wastewater and cable television companies. Through her role at NJBPU, Ms. Fox has worked to ensure that consumers have access to safe and reliable services at reasonable rates. Under Commissioner Fox's leadership, the NJBPU became a leader among states in developing clean energy policies and promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency. Prior to her appointment to NJBPU, Ms. Fox served as a Regional Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy. She also remains an active member with various organizations, including the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) as a member of the Board of Directors, Chair of the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment and member of the electric Power Research Institute's Public Advisory Council on Smart Grid.

Jeanne Fox graduated cum laude from Douglass College, Rutgers University, and received a Juris Doctor from the Rutgers University School of Law-Camden, where she was a classmate and a close personal friend of mine. Since graduation, Ms. Fox has remained an engaged member of the Rutgers University Alumni Federation, the Associate alumnae of Douglass College and a Rutgers University alumni Trustee for two terms. She currently serves on the boards of the Girl Scouts of Central and Southern New Jersey and has served as President of the National Women's Political Caucus. Ms. Fox remains a valued member of the Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey Executive Board, providing valuable experience as its past President. The organization remains dedicated to increasing women's participating in the political process and increasing the number of progressive women in elected and appointed office. Jeanne's exceptional record of service and leadership continues to resonate with constituents throughout New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Jeanne Fox upon receiving The Arthur E. Armitage, Sr. Distinguished Alumni Award presented by the Rutgers School of Law-Camden Alumni Association. Her unyielding leadership and contributions has proven beneficial to residents of my district and throughout New Jersey.