

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TO EXTEND THE PAY LIMITATION FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3835 because of the negative cost it puts on the backs of our federal public servants. At a time when Congress must make tough budget choices, I fully support a freeze on the salary of Members of Congress. That is why I am a cosponsor of H.R. 3858, a clean bill that would freeze Congressional pay.

However, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are playing politics with the federal workforce. It is shameful that some of my colleagues want to blame the federal workforce for our country's problems and to make them pay the cost for climbing out of the recession. These hard working men and women provide vital operational support to our military members; ensure our senior citizens receive their Social Security checks; protect our borders; ensure the safety of our environment, food, and water; treat our wounded veterans; and research cures for cancer and other deadly diseases.

The Federal Government is our country's largest employer, providing jobs to about 2 million civilian employees. Roughly 85 percent of the federal workforce is located outside the metro Washington, DC area. These federal families are facing the same economic challenges as families across America. Federal workers already are subject to a two year pay freeze that will save more than \$60 billion over the next decade. An additional third year of pay freezes on federal employee salaries as proposed in today's legislation further undermines the federal government's ability to attract and retain the highest talent. It also threatens to close the pipeline of new talent moving up the federal civil service. A report from the Partnership for Public Service highlighted that employees with high-demand skills are those most likely to have alternative employment options.

Until we have the opportunity for a clean vote, I must urge a no vote on H.R. 3835, legislation that places too much cost on the federal workforce.

NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in February 2010, 23 year old Alissa Blanton was shot and killed by her stalker.

He began harassing her two years earlier when she worked as a waitress.

The situation became so severe that Alissa had to quit her job in order to get away from this customer who would not leave her alone.

Even after changing jobs, moving twice, and getting married, she was still followed and sent threatening emails and letters.

She was murdered in front of her husband two weeks after being denied a protective order.

Sadly, this story of constant harassment and stalking is not infrequent in our society.

One in six women is stalked in her lifetime.

If the perpetrator is not stopped, these situations can lead to murder.

January marked National Stalking Awareness Month.

We remember those affected and recognize the importance of becoming more aware of this crime in order to protect ourselves and those around us.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Onondaga Community College for 50 years of service to the Central New York community.

In 1961, Onondaga Community College board of trustees met to plan the college's upcoming first academic year. Though board members had originally planned to enroll 450 students in the first year, nearly 1,300 students enrolled, indicating the need for accessible higher education in Central New York.

During its first years, Onondaga Community College was located in downtown Syracuse at Midtown Plaza. By 1973, the college had moved to Onondaga Hill, where a newly constructed campus would house over 5,000 students.

Over the years, Onondaga Community College has increased its size, growing 65 percent from 2000 to 2010 alone. The college now hosts over 12,000 students, 1,700 faculty, and nearly 50 associate degree and certificate programs.

The Onondaga Hill campus has grown to include several academic buildings, residence halls, and a newly constructed arena that will host sporting and entertainment events for the college, as well as the Central New York community.

Today, under the leadership of President Debbie Sydow, Onondaga Community College has become one of the Nation's fastest-growing community colleges, providing affordable, high quality education to thousands of students.

I thank Onondaga Community College for its dedicated service to the community and I am

proud to honor the college upon the occasion of celebrating 50 years of excellence in higher education.

HONORING CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU 100TH ANNIVERSARY

REP. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 100th anniversary of an important community service organization in Champaign, Illinois.

The Champaign County Farm Bureau was founded in 1913 and has grown into a vital element of all Champaign County farmers. For the past 100 years, the Champaign County Farm Bureau, like farm bureaus everywhere, has brought together farmers across the county to discuss ways to band together to keep agriculture profitable. Not only are they teaching the importance of agriculture to the county but also the nation. I applaud the willingness of the Champaign County Farm Bureau for stepping forward and showing how modern agriculture is feeding the world today.

The Champaign County Farm Bureau provides critical information to its truly visionary farmers in the county and in the halls of government here in Washington and in our great State of Illinois. But their efforts don't stop there; they understand the importance of talking and discussing with consumers where their food comes from. They impress upon those they meet that United States' farmers produce the safest, most reliable, and most affordable food supply in the world!

I believe that the mission statement of the Champaign County Farm Bureau says it all: They will strive to assist families in agriculture by recognizing and responding to issues of concern while strengthening partnerships and improving farm family life for this and future generations.

I want to congratulate President Watson, Manager Uken and all the members of the Champaign County Farm Bureau, past and present, on celebrating their 100th anniversary. I want to join with the other Members of this House in wishing them continued success for another 100 years and beyond.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE KA'U COAST PRESERVATION ACT

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Ka'u Coast Preservation Act, a bill directing the National Park Service to assess the feasibility of designating coastal

● 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.

lands on the Ka'u Coast of the island of Hawaii between Kapao'o Point and Kahuku Point as a unit of the National Park System.

The National Park Service has issued a reconnaissance report that made a preliminary assessment of whether the Ka'u Coast would meet the National Park Service's demanding criteria as a resource of national significance.

The reconnaissance survey concluded that "based upon the significance of the resources in the study area, and the current integrity and intact condition of these resources, a preliminary finding of national significance and suitability can be concluded." The report goes on to recommend that Congress proceed with a full resource study of the area.

Although under significant development pressure, the coastline of Ka'u is still largely unspoiled. The study area contains significant natural, geological, and archeological features. The northern part of the study area is adjacent to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park and contains a number of noteworthy geological features, including an ancient lava tube known as the Great Crack, which the National Park Service has expressed interest in acquiring in the past.

The study area includes both black and green sand beaches as well as a significant number of endangered and threatened species, most notably the endangered hawksbill turtle (at least half of the Hawaiian population of this rare sea turtle nests within the study area), the threatened green sea turtle, the highly endangered Hawaiian monk seal, the endangered Hawaiian hawk, native bees, the endangered and very rare Hawaiian orange-black damselfly (the largest population in the state), and a number of native endemic birds. Humpback whales and spinner dolphins also frequent the area. The Ka'u Coast also boasts some of the best remaining examples of native coastal vegetation in Hawaii.

The archeological resources related to ancient Hawaiian settlements within the study area are also very impressive. These include dwelling complexes, heiau (religious shrines), walls, fishing and canoe houses or sheds, burial sites, petroglyphs, water and salt collection sites, caves, and trails. The Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail runs through the study area.

The Ka'u Coast is a truly remarkable area: its combination of natural, archeological, cultural, and recreational resources, as well as its spectacular viewscapes, are an important part of Hawaii's and our nation's natural and cultural heritage. I believe a full feasibility study, which was recommended in the reconnaissance survey, will confirm that the area meets the National Park Service's high standards as an area of national significance.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF GULF BREEZE POLICE CHIEF
PETER PAULDING

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Peter Paulding, Chief

of Police of the City of Gulf Breeze, upon his retirement after forty years of honorable and decorated law enforcement service. For the past ten years, Police Chief Paulding has admirably served the citizens and community of the City of Gulf Breeze, Florida.

Our community owes a large debt of gratitude to Police Chief Paulding for his many accomplishments. During his tenure as Chief of Police, the City of Gulf Breeze maintained one of the lowest crime rates in the State of Florida, helping to make it one of the top rated communities in the country. Under Chief Paulding's leadership, the Gulf Breeze Police Department implemented many inventive and highly successful initiatives. Chief Paulding was responsible for implementing the Volunteers in Policing, VIP, program, creating the Traffic Safety Task Force, and also implementing the first red light traffic enforcement system in the state of Florida, a system that has now been endorsed by the Florida State Legislature.

During Chief Paulding's ten-year tenure, the Gulf Breeze Police Department was awarded the Rocky Pomerance Excellence in Policing Award eight times by the Florida Police Chiefs Association. Also recognizing the Department's community policing initiatives, the Department received the International Association of Chiefs of Police Community Policing Award in 2003 and 2010.

Under Chief Paulding's leadership, the Gulf Breeze Police Department was the first law enforcement agency in the Northwest Florida Panhandle to receive accreditation by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. In 2011, the Gulf Breeze Police Department was a finalist for the Motorola Webber Seavey Award for Quality in Law Enforcement for implementing a coast-watch program as a community policing response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster. In 2008, as its Project Leader, Chief Paulding was responsible for the Gulf Breeze Police Department's recognition as a semi-finalist for the Webber Seavey Award for its Project Homecoming, and in 2006 the Gulf Breeze Police Department was yet again recognized as a semi-finalist for the Webber Seavey Award for its Volunteers on Patrol program.

In addition to his role as Chief of Police, Paulding served his community in numerous roles, including President of the Florida Police Chiefs Association in 2010–2011. He will continue to serve the City of Gulf Breeze by overseeing the automated red light traffic enforcement program that he initiated.

It is my honor to recognize Police Chief Peter Paulding upon his retirement as Chief of Police of the City of Gulf Breeze after a distinguished forty-year law enforcement career. I take this opportunity to commend Chief Paulding for making the Gulf Breeze community a safer and more enjoyable place to live, and I thank him for his valuable years of public service. My wife Vicki and I wish Chief Paulding, his wife Ruth, and their children and grandchildren all the best.

RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY AS
AMERICAN HEART MONTH

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize February as American Heart Month. This month is dedicated to raising awareness about heart disease and spreading knowledge in order to save lives. Heart disease is the gravest health risk for women in the United States and will take the lives of 420,000 women this year. During this month, I encourage all women to strive to be more proactive about our health and well-being.

Mr. Speaker, heart disease is a harsh reality in our nation and is the leading cause of death for women in the United States. Because information is the most powerful tool against fighting heart disease, let us advance women's heart health through advocacy and education. It is a fact that the chance of developing heart disease can be dramatically reduced by taking steps to prevent and control factors that put people at greater risk. Many, but not all, cases of heart diseases can be prevented. A healthy diet and lifestyle are the best weapons women have to fight heart disease. Women should be aware of risk factors that can lead to heart disease, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, tobacco use, and family history. By working together, we can help women live stronger and longer lives.

While heart disease affects women of every race and circumstance, African American women have a higher risk for cardiovascular disease than Caucasian women and are less aware of their cardiovascular risk factors. I urge all women in the United States to be more proactive about their heart health. It is never too early to take action to improve our heart health, and the Obama Administration is committed to helping Americans fight chronic illness such as cardiovascular disease.

Under the Affordable Care Act, all new individual and group health plans must now provide recommended preventative care and services without a copayment, coinsurance or deductible. These potentially lifesaving screenings include blood pressure, cholesterol tests as well as counseling on losing weight and eating well.

In addition, the Affordable Care Act has administered over \$100 million in funding for up to 75 Community Transformation Grants, which are aimed at helping communities implement projects proven to reduce chronic diseases, such as heart disease. These grants will help improve health, reduce health disparities, and lower health care costs.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize February as American Heart Month. This month let us rededicate ourselves to helping our sisters, mothers, daughters, friends and communities become more aware of the risks and symptoms of heart disease. February 3, 2012 is National Wear Red Day and I urge my friends, family and colleagues to wear red in support for the more than 42 million women are living with or are at risk for heart disease. Together, we can overcome this disease.

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY REQUIRING CATHOLIC HOSPITALS AND UNIVERSITIES TO PROVIDE CONTRACEPTION IN EMPLOYEE HEALTH PLANS

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my strong opposition to President Obama's administrative rule requiring religious institutions that provide health insurance policies to supply coverage for medicines and procedures that violate the tenets of their faith.

Freedom of religion is one of the foundations of our country. Famously, in the early days of the Republic, the Vatican requested permission of the Continental Congress to appoint a bishop. The Congress wisely declined the appointment, recognizing that there was no appropriate role for government in the regulation of church activities.

Now, over 200 years later, the Obama administration wants to roll back the clock and make decisions for religious institutions that should properly be left to those institutions. People freely associate themselves with churches and their affiliated organizations, such as hospitals and schools. In doing so, they accept that they will abide by the rules of those organizations. The Obama administration has uniformly usurped the autonomy of each institution to set those rules upon themselves.

This is a dangerous precedent. It is not difficult to see further encroachments by the "all powerful" federal government upon the rights and privileges of church communities. Will the Department of Education begin setting curriculum standards for private religious schools? Will the Department of Labor set standards of employment for Catholic health facilities? Will the Department of Health and Human Services begin requiring end of life counseling that violates the teachings of certain religions?

During the healthcare debate of 2010 and after, assurances were given to Members of Congress and to leaders of religious organizations that nothing in the bill would or could be used to violate the right of conscience of any faithful American. I voted against the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, in part, because I feared exactly this; it is being used as a lever to force values upon the American people that are contrary to their own beliefs.

Let us hope this and future Congresses will work to repeal President Obama's takeover of healthcare and, by extension, the conscience of individual. Further, let us implement true healthcare reform that improves our system, lower costs, and protects the rights of Americans to have healthcare coverage that conforms to their values.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recog-

nizing the achievements of African American women throughout our nation's history.

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History, ASALH, selected the achievements of African American women as its theme for 2012. ASALH has issued a statement, which I bring to the Floor.

"African American women have played a myriad of critical roles in the making of our nation. Their labor and leadership, their motherhood and patriotism, and their intellect and artistic expression have all enriched both the African American community and the Nation at large. In slavery and freedom, their struggles have been at the heart of the human experience, and their triumphs over racism and sexism are a testimonial to our common human spirit."

"Many know of the accomplishments of a few prominent historic figures: Phillis Wheatley, the unlikely American patriot during the Revolutionary War, Harriet Tubman, the leader of the Underground Railroad from slavery, Ida B. Wells, the unyielding opponent of lynching, Rosa Parks, the mother of the modern Civil Rights Movement. Black women have been notable for standing against oppression. From Gwendolyn Brooks to Toni Morrison to Rita Dove, they have distinguished themselves in American letters, and in recent years they have been recognized as actors and recording artists with Academy Awards and Grammys."

"The accomplishments of these exceptional women are the expressions of a vibrant culture in which African American women play a singular role. The labors, struggles, organization, and sacrifices of common women have made possible the prominence of heralded individuals. In churches, community groups, literary societies, sororities, and advocacy organizations, African American women have been the core of organized black life, but here their strivings have often escaped the gaze of the public, and hence their history is too little known."

"Their story is unique in the annals of American history. Black women were held as slaves and middle-class black women labored while their counterparts were housewives. Subjected to a long history of stereotypes about their sexuality, morality, spirituality, and intellect, African American women have never succumbed to victimhood and have pressed forward to uplift themselves, their families, and their community."

"To gain an understanding of the history of African American women is to broaden our understanding of a people and the American Nation. The Association for the Study of African American Life and History dedicates the 2012 Annual Black History Theme to exploring African American women's roles in and contributions to the making of America."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the work of African American women throughout our nation's history.

CONGRATULATING CAROL W. FLEISHER

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carol W. Fleisher, who

recently was awarded the Outstanding Public Service Award from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in appreciation for her great efforts in support of this Nation's veterans. The Outstanding Public Service Award is the second highest honor given by the Chairman to a public servant who "has rendered service or assistance to considerable personal sacrifice, motivated by patriotism, good citizenship and a sense of public responsibility."

Mrs. Fleisher is the daughter of a career United States Air Force pilot, as well as the great-granddaughter of Senator James E. Watson from Indiana and former Speaker of the House of Representatives.

She attended the University of Maryland and graduated with a bachelor's degree in international relations and political science and minors in sociology and history. She attends the University of Missouri, where she is working toward her master's degree in religion. Currently, Mrs. Fleisher is the Director of Missouri University Veterans Center.

As director, Mrs. Fleisher has helped to develop one of the Nation's premier on-campus veterans centers located at the University of Missouri, providing a "one-stop" resource center to those in need of assistance. The veterans center provides valuable assistance for our military men and women who served this country with honor and distinction. Not only do they deserve our gratitude, but they also deserve our assistance for the sacrifices they made in defense of our great Nation.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Carol W. Fleisher for this well-deserved award.

HONORING THE HEROIC ACTIONS OF OFFICERS LAUREN KEILITZ AND MICHAEL DIBLASI

HON. JON RUNYAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. RUNYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroic and selfless actions of Officer Lauren Keilitz and Officer Michael Diblasi of the Barnegat Township Police Department in New Jersey's Third Congressional District.

At 8:44 p.m. on January 30, 2012, the Barnegat Township Police Department was dispatched to a reported car fire on Biscayne Road. Officers Keilitz and Diblasi responded and arrived to find a single motor vehicle fully engulfed in flames.

Shortly after arriving on scene, Officers Keilitz and Diblasi determined that the driver of the vehicle, Mario Dischiavi, was incapacitated in the driver's seat. Dischiavi was discovered by Officer Keilitz who was able to open the rear passenger door of the vehicle and observe Dischiavi through the thick smoke in the passenger compartment.

Officer Diblasi attempted to open the driver's door and could not get the latch to release, at which time he ran to retrieve a window punch from his patrol car in order to break the window and gain access.

Officer Keilitz, despite overwhelming heat and flames, was able to get the driver's door open and pull Dischiavi from the vehicle and drag him out of harm's way.

If it were not for the brave actions of these officers, the successful outcome surely would

have been different. Their choice to go above and beyond the call of duty, subjecting themselves to harm, to help a citizen in distress is the exemplary action that deserves this chamber's praise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring the heroic and courageous actions of Officers Lauren Keilitz and Michael Diblasi in their extraordinary lifesaving efforts.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPHINE
ZAPPONE

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Josephine Zappone, on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Mrs. Zappone has been a devoted wife and loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother to her large family.

Born February 5, 1912 in Bronx, New York, to Pietro and Rosalie Nizzari, Mrs. Zappone née Nizzari was the fifth of six children in her family. In 1938, she married Frank Zappone, with whom she raised three children: Allen, June, and Francis.

Mrs. Zappone has become known for her beautiful knitting, a skill she learned from her mother as a child. During both World War I and World War II, young Josephine knitted caps, scarves, and gloves for soldiers fighting overseas. Now, instead of outfitting GIs, Mrs. Zappone knits to keep her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren warm.

Josephine and her late husband, Frank, made their home in the Bronx, where she has been an active member of Our Lady of Mount Cannel Church for 93 years. Since 1956, Josephine has summered in my hometown of Southampton, on the shores of Shinnecock Bay.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor and recognize Josephine Zappone, a woman who has seen enormous change and progress during her long life. I would like to send Mrs. Zappone and her family my warmest regards and best wishes for happy 100th birthday.

NATIONAL INFANTRY ASSOCIATION AWARDS LIEUTENANT COLONEL (RET.) DEWEY L. COLES THE ORDER OF ST. MAURICE

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Dewey L. Coles as a winner of the National Infantry Association's most prestigious award, the Order of St. Maurice.

Lieutenant Colonel Coles, at 21 years old, was one of the first soldiers to arrive on the ground in Korea during the summer of 1950. First serving as an artillery forward observer with the 24th Infantry Division and later as an aerial observer, Lieutenant Colonel Coles flew behind enemy lines to coordinate artillery attacks on Communist forces. For his tenure,

Lieutenant Colonel Coles earned two Bronze Stars for valor as well as two Air Medals for his courageous service.

The Order of St. Maurice is given to individuals who have demonstrated an exceptional degree of integrity, moral character, and professional competence during their service with the United States Army Infantry. I am so proud to announce this honor will be presented to Lieutenant Colonel Coles on February 9, 2012 by Brigadier General (Ret.) Robert J. LeBlanc in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana.

It is due to the character and sacrifice of individuals like Lieutenant Colonel Coles that we are able to enjoy the blessings of freedom and prosperity here in the United States of America. I thank Lieutenant Colonel Coles for his brave service to our country and congratulate him on this much deserved award from the National Infantry Association.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on February 3, 2012, I missed rollcall votes 31, 32, and 33 because of district business. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 31 and "no" on rollcall 32. I would also have voted "yes" on rollcall 33, because it is critical to support aviation jobs and safety in our skies. However, I am strongly opposed to the inclusion of anti-labor provisions that will increase from 35 percent to 50 percent the required number of employees who must show interest in forming a union before the National Mediation Board can allow election procedures to begin. These provisions will make it more difficult for American workers to organize for the protection of their rights, pay and safety. I encourage my colleagues to immediately begin consideration of legislation to reverse these misguided provisions.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. GLENN ELLIS,
SR.

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Glenn Ellis, Sr. Mr. Ellis is an internationally respected health educator, complementary medicine consultant and author.

A native of Birmingham, Alabama, Mr. Ellis attended the University of Pennsylvania more than three decades ago. It was just the first step in his lifelong commitment to ensuring the health and well-being of others. Mr. Ellis continued his studies at the International College of Bio-Dynamics and the Atlantic Academy of Classical Homeopathy.

He maintains a busy lecture schedule in the U.S. and abroad, where he highlights health disparities and medical ethics. Mr. Ellis speaks at churches and community centers and is a popular and well sought-after university guest lecturer. He has made scientific presentations in Belgium, Germany, Cuba, and The Netherlands.

For years, health-conscious Philadelphians have tuned into his weekly radio broadcasts and commentary, where Mr. Ellis can be relied upon to dispense practical medical information. Mr. Ellis' unique broadcasts are now heard in 53 U.S. markets and 53 countries around the world.

Mr. Ellis serves on the Institutional Review Board and the Ethics Committee of Mercy Health Systems in Philadelphia. In 2005, he became a member of the Institutional Review Board of Thomas Jefferson Health Systems. He was a part of the Black Media Delegation at the 2010 International AIDS Conference in Vienna, Austria, and presented recently presented on Inclusion and Retention of African Americans in Clinical Trials in Havana.

In addition to serving on the Board of Universal Charter Schools and Communities in Schools Philadelphia, he was recently appointed to serve on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Youth Violence by the Mayor and School superintendent of Philadelphia.

Mr. Ellis was a Borough Councilman in Yeadon, Pennsylvania until 2001, serving as Chair of the Public Health and Safety Committee. Currently he is President of Strategies for Well-Being, LLC, a health education and consulting company headquartered in Philadelphia, where he consults with national corporate clients on promoting and providing health education for consumers and providers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you, and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing Mr. Glenn Ellis, Sr. for his accomplishments and service.

TO EXTEND THE PAY LIMITATION
FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

SPEECH OF

HON. PEDRO R. PIERLUISI

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Mr. PIERLUISI. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3835, which would extend an existing pay freeze on federal employees for a third straight year, through December 2013.

Federal employees often forego private sector employment to serve our nation. They perform essential services, ensuring that our mail is delivered, that our Social Security checks are issued, and that our drinking water remains clean. Federal employees also investigate drug smuggling, issue patents, and provide health services and other benefits to our Island's veterans. These are only a few of the many functions that federal employees perform every day in their work for the American people.

Federal employees are willing to do their share to reduce the deficit. However, it is unfair to place the burden of reducing the deficit entirely on their backs. Federal employees have already contributed \$60 billion toward deficit reduction by accepting a two-year pay freeze. We should not ask this one particular group to make additional sacrifices when we are not asking other Americans to make similar sacrifices.

I urge my colleagues to reject this bill and to treat federal employees with the respect they deserve.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. CLEVELAND DONALD, JR., CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST AND EDUCATOR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Cleveland Donald, Jr., a civil rights advocate, community activist and pioneering educator. Dr. Donald will be largely remembered as the second African-American student to graduate from the University of Mississippi, but he was also a reflection of all that we hope and expect our community leaders to be.

Born April 10, 1946, in Newton, Mississippi, Cleveland Donald, Jr. was the oldest of five children born to Rosia and Cleveland Donald, Sr. As a student at Brinkley High School, he excelled academically and enrolled in Tougaloo College when he was 17. After attending Tougaloo for one year, he enrolled at the University of Mississippi in 1964, and graduated in 1966 with a history degree. He would become the second African-American there to graduate and the last to enter under Federal Protection.

Dr. Donald was that rare individual who dedicated his entire life's work to education. He obtained multiple academic degrees from prestigious universities such as Ole Miss, Harvard, and Cornell; where he obtained his doctorate. As a college professor, he taught in universities across the country and worked in the private sector on projects related to higher education. He was an excellent role model for young adults, a leader to fellow faculty members and a shining example of perseverance in order to achieve your dreams and goals.

A man of deep conviction, Dr. Donald became involved in the civil rights movement while attending Tougaloo and was arrested multiple times for protesting the racial injustices of the era. He helped establish a black studies program at the University of Mississippi in addition to working with former Governor William Winter on programs at the University of Mississippi for racial reconciliation.

Dr. Donald's legacy will be carried on through his son, Cleveland Donald III, and his daughters Krista Donald and Toyetta Donald. He has four brothers; Judge John Donald, Major General James Donald, Reverend Larry Donald, and Master Sergeant Howard Donald.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Cleveland Donald, Jr., an educator and civil rights advocate who found his lifework in the work that he loved.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. KEVIN GUERIN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Kevin Guerin of Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey. Mr. Guerin will be honored as the 2012 Irishman of the Year by the Ancient Order of Hibernians Volunteer Patrick

Torphy Division 2 of Monmouth County. Mr. Guerin is an outstanding leader and member of the community whose contributions have continued to promote, preserve and uphold Irish heritage, as well as embodying the AOH motto of friendship, unity, and Christian charity. His actions and dedication are undoubtedly worthy of this body's recognition.

Mr. Kevin Guerin was born in Miltown Malbay in County Clare, Ireland, a region commonly known for its traditional Irish music. As the second youngest child of 11 siblings, Mr. Guerin attended St. Joseph's Vocational School in Miltown Malbay and received his certification in carpentry. In addition to his professional career, Mr. Guerin is an accomplished musician and earned the title of All Ireland Tin Whistle Champion. After immigrating to the United States in 1973, he continued to pursue his passion for music. Mr. Guerin began playing with several Irish bands throughout New York and New Jersey, ultimately starting his own band, "The Biddy Earlys," which was later named "Round The House."

Mr. Guerin has admirably served on numerous boards for various organizations throughout Monmouth County, New Jersey. He is a valued member of the Knights of Columbus Bayshore Council #2858 and continues to dedicate countless hours to the Irish Federation of Monmouth County and the Frank McGovern Association of Newark. Mr. Guerin is a hardworking member of the John F. Cryan Association of South Orange, the Irish American Society of Union and is committed to upholding the mission of the Joseph Nugent Association of Elizabeth and the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of the Jersey Shore. Kevin is the founding member of the famous Hoboken St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Jersey Shore Irish Festival of which he served as Chairman in 1999. As a result of his impressive actions, Mr. Guerin was recognized by the Irish American Fenian Society in 1987, Jersey Shore INA in 1996, the Order of St. Brendan in 1999 and is the highly deserving recipient of the Patrick Torphy Award in 2008. Kevin and his wife Kathleen are the proud parents of Fiona, Delia, Mike and the late Siobhan. They are also grandparents to Quinn Morgan.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Mr. Kevin Guerin upon receiving the 2012 Irishman of the Year award and also for his leadership and service to the Irish American community.

HONORING LEANNA COSSMAN FOR HER DEDICATION TO CIVIC SERVICE

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Leanna Cossman of Urbana, Illinois. In February she will be making her sixth trip to assist people in Haiti, which has recently been devastated by natural disasters and disease.

Mrs. Cossman's first journey to Haiti occurred shortly after the terrible earthquake in 2010. She returned to the country for a second time not long after to continue providing

care for the hundreds of thousands still struggling. When Cholera began to spread among the refugees, Mrs. Cossman made another trip to help the sick and dying. She made two more trips in 2011, assisting relief workers with the nursing skills that she has practiced as a certified nurse for schools in Urbana.

I would be remiss if I did not thank Jewish Healthcare International for sponsoring Mrs. Cossman's upcoming trip, as well as many others. Their organization and the people who volunteer for them have made an incredible impact in the lives of thousands of people.

Mrs. Cossman's selflessness and dedication to providing help and care for others serves as an incredible example for people across our great nation, and I am truly honored to serve as a representative for such a caring individual. I want to personally thank Mrs. Cossman and her family, and let them know that her story is an inspiration not only to myself, but to all the members of Congress.

U.S. POLICY TOWARD POST ELECTION DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights, which I chair, examined U.S. policy options for dealing with the ongoing crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, one of the priority countries in the United States' Africa policy as identified by the Administration and as confirmed by Congressional legislation and oversight over the past several years. This country is two-thirds the size of Western Europe and borders nine African countries. Its problems extend well beyond its borders.

Prior to yesterday, the Subcommittee last examined the situation in the DRC in a hearing in March of last year, when the storm clouds were gathering in advance of the November elections. The DRC is now struggling with the aftermath of those elections. Opposition political parties and civil society, especially the Catholic Church, appear unwilling to accept the results of the presidential and legislative elections. Opposition leader Étienne Tshisekedi received 32 percent of the votes, but he believes he was cheated out of votes that would have made him the winner in the elections. He has staged a presidential swearing-in ceremony and announced that he will form a government. He also has called on supporters to march with him to government headquarters. However, government armed forces have surrounded his home since the presidential results were announced on December 9, and even his aides have been prevented from meeting with him.

Suspicion persists that this election was manipulated in favor of incumbent President Joseph Kabila. The Carter Center, which observed the vote, as well as the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) and most of DRC's civil society, all cast serious doubt on the announced outcome of the election. According to the Carter Center, ballots were missing in some areas, while results for Kabila in other areas were

deemed “unrealistic.” Calls for new elections not only continue, but appear to be growing in intensity.

Perhaps government intimidation has minimized any uprising by a discontented population, or perhaps the Congolese have accepted that Kabila will do whatever it takes to ensure his victory. It could be that poverty and a lack of information among the population has restrained the widespread resort to protest. Still, there is significant instability throughout the country.

This calls into question the long-term stability of a country that is critical to U.S. interests, which includes the continued flow of strategic minerals. Congolese have reason to be skeptical that they will ever have a stable government that functions on their behalf. There has been one crisis after another since independence in 1960, caused by the selfish actions of predatory leadership. An estimated four million Congolese lost their lives in two wars from which they are still recovering.

Most Congolese remain poor, hungry and in danger of violence. Their government cannot provide the most basic necessities for their families. Public administration is virtually nonexistent, with civil servants demanding payment from the public for even the most routine services. MONUSCO is handling security, and the World Health Organization is dealing with the country's public health issues. The challenge for the international community is to help build the capacity and political will of Congolese officials to assume the responsibility for caring for and protecting their citizens.

Since November, violence attributed to the Congolese military, the Rwandan rebel group the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) and local militia has caused more than 100,000 Congolese to become internally displaced persons or refugees. Local vigilante groups have clashed with the Rwandan rebels in North Kivu province and displaced about 75,000 from 30 villages in North Kivu province. Similar clashes in Ituri and northern Katanga have had a serious impact in those areas as well. This raises serious concerns for a potential humanitarian crisis.

Women continue to be targeted for abuse in DRC. A study that recently appeared in the American Journal of Public Health concluded that an average of 48 women and girls are raped every hour in this country. So before this hearing has ended, more than 100 females in DRC will have been raped.

However, there remains hope for DRC despite the current crisis. Even during the worst stages of the global financial crisis, the World Bank was predicting that DRC's economy would grow by seven percent annually over the next several years, making it one of the world's fastest growing economies. At the local level, Congolese reportedly have developed coping methods for an absent government. Women have developed rotating credit systems to compensate for an inaccessible banking system, and farmers have banded together to rent trucks to jointly take their produce to market.

According to the latest election results, the ruling party in DRC has lost 45 seats they previously held to opposition parties, with 17 other elections yet to be rerun after being annulled. This may help in establishing grounds for political reconciliation.

Since the early days of Congolese independence, the United States has been in-

involved in the DRC and continues to play a significant role there. In FY2011, Economic Support Funds were targeted to support the Government of Congo's stabilization and recovery program through support to community recovery and reconciliation, conflict mitigation and resolution, and the extension of authority. International Military Education and Training funds focus on training Congolese officers on military justice, human rights and joint operations. The United States also provides significant humanitarian assistance to the DRC. The United States provided bilateral aid to DRC of more than \$205 million in FY2008, \$296 million in FY2009, \$282 million in FY2010, and \$215 million in FY2011. The Obama Administration requested more than \$262 million for FY2012.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF REVEREND
DWIGHT C. GRAVES

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I stand before you today to recognize the passing of an inspirational leader. Reverend Dwight C. Graves was a compassionate, charismatic and considerate soul, who devoted his life to service. Born and raised in Freeman, West Virginia, the good Reverend served in the United States Air Force for over thirty years, worked as a postal worker and union steward, and acted as a friend to both delinquents and school children.

Reverend Graves felt a calling to the church and devoted much of his life to spreading the Lord's word. Before settling in Georgia, Rev. Graves pastored a church in Belgium and Illinois. He was an Associate Minister of Zion Baptist Church in Marietta and the Pastor of the Emmanuel Tabernacle Christian Church until his death.

The Reverend was a leader among leaders. He co-founded the Georgia State Unit of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, served on the National SCLC board and was President of the Cobb County SCLC.

As I look back on Reverend Graves' life, I find myself honored to have known him. It is my sincerest hope that those of us whose lives he has touched will go on and pass on his influence to others in need. Reverend Dwight C. Graves was a strong man. He is survived by his wife, Rev. Dr. Cheryl D. Graves and their daughter, Diana Lynette. Mr. Speaker, my fellow colleagues, I hope you will join me today in extending my condolences to them during this difficult time.

TO EXTEND THE PAY LIMITATION
FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3835, a bill to extend the pay limitation for Members of Congress and

Federal employees. There is an attack on the idea that government has a role in the proper functioning of society. That battle has resulted in the privatization of government services, which leads to inefficiencies and higher bills for taxpayers. Across the country we are also seeing an attack on government workers who frequently work long hours in support of our great nation.

Federal employees have already sacrificed because of our shrinking budget. These men and women are members of the middle class, and they are already subject to an unwarranted two-year pay freeze in the form of a \$5 billion cut to their wages and benefits by the end of 2012. They also face the possibility of layoffs and furloughs in coming years as automatic spending reductions mandated by the Budget Control Act of 2011 reduce agency budgets for salaries.

Federal employees are public servants who do work that is essential to this country every day: they guard our borders, care for our wounded veterans, deliver our mail, ensure the safety of our food supply, and provide many other sometimes invisible, but important services.

This bill inappropriately groups the pay and benefits of Members of Congress with the men and women of our federal civil service. In so doing, it attempts to turn Federal employee pay into a political issue. I am not opposed to extending the pay freeze for Members of Congress. However, I stand with the workers. The merits of pay increases for Federal employees should be debated separately from our consideration of pay for Members of Congress.

I stand with the workers; that is why I voted against this bill.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES OVER
THE DEATH OF RAUF DENKTAS

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Turkey and Turkish Americans to speak on the recent death of Rauf Denktas, former leader of the Turkish Cypriots.

Mr. Denktas spent a great deal of his life advocating for a resolution to the separation between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. Throughout his lifetime, Mr. Denktas witnessed the independence and divide of Cyprus, and went on to lead bilateral negotiations for a resolution to the Cyprus problem. For the Turkish and Greek people of Cyprus that have faced decades of turbulence, it is essential that a peaceful, unifying solution be found to this matter.

I send my sincere condolences to Mr. Denktas' family, friends, and the Turkish Cypriot community, and I am hopeful that the international community will move forward toward a lasting settlement in Cyprus that will be agreeable for both the Greek and Turkish communities, reflective of the longtime efforts of Rauf Denktas.

MILITARY ACADEMY
NOMINATIONS FOR 2012

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, every year, more high school seniors from the 11th Congressional District trade in varsity jackets for navy pea coats, Air Force flight suits, and Army brass buckles than most other districts in the country. But this is nothing new—our area has repeatedly sent an above average portion of its sons and daughters to the nation's military academies for decades.

This fact should not come as a surprise. The educational excellence of area schools is well known and has long been a magnet for families looking for the best environment in which to raise their children. Our graduates are skilled not only in mathematics, science, and social studies, but also have solid backgrounds in sports, debate teams, and other extracurricular activities. This diverse upbringing makes military academy recruiters sit up and take note—indeed, many recruiters know our towns and schools by name.

Since the 1830's, Members of Congress have enjoyed meeting, talking with, and nominating these superb young people to our military academies. But how did this process evolve? In 1843, when West Point was the sole academy, Congress ratified the nominating process and became directly involved in the makeup of our military's leadership. This was not an act of an imperial Congress bent on controlling every aspect of Government. Rather, the procedure still used today was, and is, a further check and balance in our democracy. It was originally designed to weaken and divide political coloration in the officer corps, provide geographical balance to our armed services, and to make the officer corps more resilient to unfettered nepotism and handicapped European armies.

In 1854, Representative Gerritt Smith of New York added a new component to the academy nomination process—the academy review board. This was the first time a Member of Congress appointed prominent citizens from his district to screen applicants and assist with the serious duty of nominating candidates for academy admission. Today, I am honored to continue this wise tradition in my service to the 11th Congressional District.

The Academy Review Board is composed of six local citizens who have shown exemplary service to New Jersey, to their communities, and to the continued excellence of education in our area. Many are veterans. Though from diverse backgrounds and professions, they all share a common dedication that the best qualified and motivated graduates attend our academies. And, as true for most volunteer panels, their service goes largely unnoticed.

I would like to take a moment to recognize these men and women and thank them publicly for participating in this important panel. Being on the board requires hard work and an objective mind. Members have the responsibility of interviewing upwards of 50 outstanding high school seniors every year in the academy review process.

The nomination process follows a general timetable. High school seniors mail personal information directly to the Military Academy,

the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy once they become interested in attending. Information includes academic achievement, college entry test scores, and other activities. At this time, they also inform my office of their desire to be nominated.

The academies then assess the applicants, rank them based on the data supplied, and return files to my office with their notations. In late November, our Academy Review Board interviews all of the applicants over the course of 2 days. They assess a student's qualifications and analyze character, desire to serve, and other talents that may be hidden on paper.

This year the board interviewed over 50 applicants. Nominations included 9 to the Naval Academy, 10 to the Military Academy, 5 to the Merchant Marine Academy and 8 to the Air Force Academy—the Coast Guard Academy does not use the Congressional nomination process. The recommendations are then forwarded to the academies by January 31, where recruiters reviewed files and notified applicants and my office of their final decision on admission.

As these highly motivated and talented young men and women go through the academy nominating process, never let us forget the sacrifice they are preparing to make: to defend our country and protect our citizens. This holds especially true at a time when our nation is fighting the war against terrorism. Whether it is in Afghanistan or other hot spots around the world, no doubt we are constantly reminded that wars are fought by the young. And, while our military missions are both important and dangerous, it is reassuring to know that we continue to put America's best and brightest in command.

ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 2012, 11TH DISTRICT
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Page Femia, Kinnelon, Villa Walsh Academy

Christian Longhi, Succasunna, Seton Hall Prep

Mathieu Gacydos, Randolph, Randolph H.S.
Brian Mascioni, Mendham, Gill St. Bernard's School

Ryan Swift, Whippany, Morristown H.S.

Brandon Sharp, Whippany, Seton Hall Prep
MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

Alexander Rodgers, Lake Hopatcong, Jefferson H.S.

Bansi Patel, Livingston, Livingston H.S.

MILITARY ACADEMY

Gregory Horne, Denville, Morris Knolls H.S.

Michael Lami, Madison, Madison H.S./MAPS

Amos Lee, Bridgewater-Raritan, Bridgewater-Raritan H.S.

Timothy Lynch, Mendham, Pope John XIII H.S.

Jared Love, Florham Park, Episcopal H.S./MAPS

James Morsch, Morristown, West Morris Mendham H.S.

Thomas Rapp, Mendham, West Morris Mendham H.S.

Jonathan Richards, Mountain Lakes, Mountain Lakes H.S.

Ryan Richards, Basking Ridge, Ridge H.S.
Joshua Thomlinson, Flanders, Pope John XIII H.S.

NAVAL ACADEMY

Gianluca Borrelli, Dover, Dover H.S.

James Burke III, Chatham, Chatham H.S.

Roger Castle, Bridgewater, Bridgewater-Raritan H.S.

Matthew Dilonno, Mountain Lakes, Mountain Lakes H.S.

Troy Dundas, Sparta, Norwich University/Blair Academy

Shane Gregoire, Kinnelon, Kinnelon H.S.
Aaron Hanko, Montville, Trinity Christian School

Chad Heal, Hackettstown, Delbarton School

Caitlyn Hughes, Randolph, Randolph HS/Stevens Institute

Gregory Keiser, East Hanover, Delbarton School

Joshua King, Short Hills, Pingry School
Kevin Lenahan, Flanders, Pope John XIII H.S.

Anthony Malatesta, Chatham, Chatham H.S.

Thomas Mahala, Far Hills, Seton Hall Prep/Seton Hall University

Keegan McCoy, Basking Ridge, Ridge H.S.
James McManus, Mendham, West Morris Mendham H.S.

Thomas Morreale, Short Hills, Millburn H.S.

Steven Reidel, Boonton, Mountain Lakes H.S.

Conrad Womelsdorf, Caldwell, James Caldwell H.S.

Jinghong Yuan, Parsippany, Parsippany H.S.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF KAYA
TUNCER

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask Congress to pay tribute to a committed community advocate, Kaya Tuncer. Kaya, an experienced Turkish-American entrepreneur and philanthropist from California, passed away on January 7, 2012, at the age of seventy-four.

Kaya was born and raised in Turkey, moving to the United States at age 19 with only 80 dollars in his pocket. He put himself through college, first at Santa Ana College, then gaining a degree in civil engineering from University of California Berkeley and an MBA from University of Southern California. Kaya's strong determination to succeed in the United States paid off. Kaya continued to live in the Los Angeles area for 49 years.

Kaya began his successful business career as founder and chairman of the ESBAS Company, which was responsible for developing and operating the largest industrial park in Turkey, called the Aegean Free Zone. Kaya was a strong supporter of Turkish-American relations and devoted his life to creating a cultural understanding between peoples from both nations.

His success as a businessman propelled him to give back to his home country of Turkey by inaugurating Space Camp Turkey in June of 2000. Kaya also created a foundation called Global Friendship through Space Education. Kaya's generosity allowed 150 students and teachers to attend National Space Camp Week each year. Since Kaya began the foundation, over 5,300 students from 27 countries have been awarded scholarships. Kaya's foundation shows his dedication to improving the lives young adults by expanding their experience and understanding of science.

Today, the Global Friendship through Education foundation has developed a yearlong

educational program to connect students and teachers in America with their counterparts in Turkey. This program has helped to create friendships as well as foster cultural understanding. Due to his tireless philanthropic efforts, Kaya was awarded the "Advancement of Education in Turkey Award" in 2002 by the Turkish-American Scientists in Washington DC as well as the "Turkish-American of the Year" in 2003.

Kaya is survived by his wife, Mary Mills Tuncer, his two daughters; Deniz and Ayshe; as well as two granddaughters. He leaves with cherished memories of a loving family. My thoughts and prayers, along with those of my wife, Barbara, and my children, Councilman Joe Baca Jr., Jeremy, Natalie, and Jennifer are with Kaya's family at this time. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring a beloved community member and tireless advocate, Kaya Tuncer.

IN HONOR OF HARRY J. BURY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Harry J. Bury, a long time proponent for peace who will be honored by the Government of Vietnam for his anti-war activities during the Vietnam War.

Harry Bury was born on January 26th, 1930 and grew up in St. Paul, Minnesota. Mr. Bury currently resides in Berea, Ohio. He is an Adjunct Professor of Systems Management at the Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea. In 1990, Mr. Bury won the Strosacker Award at Baldwin-Wallace for his excellence in teaching. He is also the Chair of the Doctorate Program in Business Administration at Burapha University in Bangkok, Thailand, and has taught Organizational Behavior at Assumption University in Bangkok. Mr. Bury received his Ph.D. in Organizational Behavior from Case Western Reserve University. He completed the Gestalt Institution of Cleveland's Post-graduate program in 1975.

During the Vietnam War, Mr. Bury chained himself to the gates of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon to protest the military actions in Vietnam. He is now being honored by the Government of Vietnam, as well as receiving an honorary citizenship.

In addition to his activism in Vietnam, Mr. Bury traveled to the Gaza Strip on a peace mission in 2005. He was abducted by a Palestinian gunman, but was later released unharmed.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the many accomplishments of Mr. Harry J. Bury, as well as his lifelong commitment to promoting peace.

AMERICA'S FRIEND, DR. SHIKAL AFRIDI IS IN JAIL IN PAKISTAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the day Osama bin Laden met his maker was a great day for America.

But like most good things, this did not come easy.

Pakistani Dr. Shikal Afridi worked with our CIA under the guise of running a hepatitis B vaccination program.

His hope was to get DNA evidence to confirm that bin Laden was hiding in Abbottabad before our Navy Seals went in for the kill.

He never got those samples, but according to Secretary Panetta, he was "very helpful" in the operation to find Osama bin Laden.

But Dr. Afridi is now sitting in a jail cell in Pakistan, being held for treason for helping the U.S.

That's right. Pakistan is now holding in custody a doctor that helped us get the number 1 terrorist in the world.

The man should be treated like a hero. Instead he's locked up and called a traitor. This ought not to be.

Pakistan is no friend of ours. The sooner we realize that the better off we'll be.

Until Pakistan becomes an ally—Americans should give no money to Pakistan.

And that's just the way it is.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO GRANT AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP TO DR. SHAKEEL AFRIDI

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced legislation to grant American citizenship to Dr. Shakeel Afridi, the Pakistan medical doctor who risked his life to identify Osama Bin Laden and help U.S. military forces bring him to justice. Pakistan's Inquiry Commission on the Abbottabad Operation, the U.S. mission which killed Bin Laden, has recommended that Dr. Afridi be tried for treason for helping the United States. If convicted, Dr. Afridi could be executed. My bill would grant him U.S. citizenship and send a direct and powerful message to those in the Pakistani government and military who protected the mastermind of 9/11 for all those years and who are now seeking retribution on those who helped to execute Bin Laden.

Before the May 2, 2011 raid which resulted in Bin Laden's death, Dr. Afridi used the cover of conducting a polio vaccination program in Abbottabad in an attempt to gain access to Bin Laden's compound and identify who was living there. Pakistan subsequently arrested Dr. Afridi at his home on May 22, 2011. He has been jailed for the past eight months and media reports state that his wife, an American citizen of Pakistani origin is currently missing and her whereabouts are unknown.

Recently, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta said that Dr. Afridi "was an individual who in fact helped provide intelligence that was very helpful" to the operation which killed Bin Laden. Secretary Panetta is "very concerned" about his fate. This bill shows the world that America does not abandon its friends.

I have introduced this bill with the endorsement of Representatives BRAD SHERMAN, LOUIE GOHMERT, JIM MORAN, DAN LUNGREN, COLLIN PETERSON, DUNCAN HUNTER, JOE PITTS, JEFF DUNCAN, JOE WILSON, BILL POSEY, TED POE, ROSCOE BARTLETT, DOUG LAMBORN,

PATRICK MCHENRY, SAM JOHNSON, MIKE COFFMAN, ADAM KINZINGER, TOM COLE, JEFF DENHAM, DAVID RIVERA, and JEAN SCHMIDT.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HENRY (HANK) SHAFT FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Hank Shaft on his retirement from the Saginaw County Commission on Aging Board.

Hank began his work career in 1951 at the General Motors Parts Plant in Saginaw, Michigan. During his 33 year career he was active in his union, UAW Local 522, serving as committee man, union president, and bargaining committee chairman. Hank also had the distinction of being the last worker to close and lock the doors at the Saginaw General Motors Parts Plant when the plant was shut down.

After retirement from General Motors, he continued his advocacy role by participating in, and holding officer positions in: the Local 522 Retiree Chapter, UAW Area 5 Saginaw Retirees Council, Michigan Council of Senior Citizens, and UAW Region 1-D Retirees.

He has served on the Area Agency on Aging's Advisory Council since 1995, as well as a Board Member of the Saginaw County Commission on Aging Board. Mr. Shaft served as Board Chair for the past four years and was a delegate to the Michigan Senior Advocacy Council. He was also president of the Tri-County Area Senior Citizens Council.

In 1997 Hank earned the Saginaw County Senior of the Year award, and later that year, the Governor recognized him as Michigan's Senior Citizen of the Year. He was also honored in 2005 for his volunteering services and dedication to Michigan's older adults when he received the State's Claude Pepper Award. Hank dedicated his life to supporting labor, retirees, and our senior citizens and the community is a better place because of his work.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Hank Shaft on his retirement. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated public servant in the Saginaw County Commission on Aging Board and I wish him well in his future endeavors.

HONORING ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL UPON RECEIVING MAGNET REDESIGNATION

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Mary's Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin for attaining their third Magnet recognition from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, ANCC.

Since 1912, St. Mary's Hospital has provided exceptional health care for the people of our great community. With a wide array of health and wellness services, St. Mary's Hospital plays an essential role in providing quality

health care and even offers free services and programs to individuals who cannot otherwise afford care. Over the past century, St. Mary's has provided \$47.5 million in free or reduced health care programs and has received countless awards and recognitions for their efforts.

Magnet recognition is the gold standard for nursing. Each year, the ANCC bestows the designation upon hospitals that provide excellence in nursing. St. Mary's was first recognized as a Magnet hospital in 2002 and was redesignated in 2008 and again earlier this year. Magnet recognition not only acknowledges the high quality of care provided at St. Mary's, but also the excellence of the hospital's overall organization and leadership. The ANCC recognized the hospital as exemplary in five areas: transformation of leadership; structural empowerment; exemplary professional practice; new knowledge, innovations and improvements; and empirical outcomes. In addition, the ANCC praised St. Mary's for sustaining high patient satisfaction scores, empowering nursing staff, and building and maintaining strong community partnerships.

St. Mary's has truly distinguished itself by attaining its third Magnet recognition. The rigorous application and redesignation processes, complete with extensive written documentation and on-site visits, make it difficult to attain Magnet recognition just once, let alone three times. Only about 7% of hospitals nationwide attain Magnet recognition and less than 1% have ever achieved Magnet redesignation twice.

With a philosophy focused on providing personalized care for patients and their families, showing respect and compassion for all persons who come in contact with the hospital, and fostering internal and external community understanding and support, St. Mary's Hospital is yet another reason I am so proud to represent the Second Congressional District of Wisconsin. For the third time, I am honored to offer hearty congratulations to the nurses, doctors, staff, and volunteers that work to make St. Mary's Hospital a prestigious Magnet hospital.

HONORING UNITED STATES RESERVE
LIEUTENANT COLONEL
BRENNAN P. MAHONEY

HON. NAN A.S. HAYWORTH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brennan P. Mahoney of Carmel, New York for service to his nation as an engineer in the United States Army Reserve and for dedication to his role as a Veterans Service Officer for the New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. Mahoney, who holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture and a Master of Science degree in Education and Training, joined the U.S. Army Reserve in 1982. The record of Mr. Mahoney's 29 years of service describes a distinguished career that begins with an assignment to West Germany as a Bridge Specialist in 1982, followed by mobilization for a 15 month tour in Iraq beginning in 2006. In addition, he distinguished himself as a New York State Veterans Service Officer earning him the respect and gratitude of those

he assisted. Mr. Mahoney has received numerous awards and honors for dedication.

Lieutenant Colonel Mahoney is currently holding orders for his third active-duty deployment. He is expected to leave his home and family later this month to serve in harm's way once again, this time in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Brennan P. Mahoney. We are fortunate to have benefited from his dedication and service.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
WISLAWA SZYMBORSKA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Ms. Wislawa Szymborska, a Nobel Prize winning Polish poet.

Ms. Szymborska was born on July 2, 1923 in Brin, Poland. At the age of eight, in 1931, her family moved to Krakow, where she spent the rest of her life. During World War II, in order to avoid deportation to Germany, Ms. Szymborska worked as a railway clerk. Following the War, she attended Jagellonian University where she studied Polish literature and sociology. She began working for the literary magazine, "Zycie Literackie" in 1953. She served as a columnist and poetry editor until 1981.

In 1945, Ms. Szymborska published her first poem, "Szukam slowa" (I am Looking for a Word) in the Dziennik Polski newspaper. She published her first book of poetry, "Dlatego zyjemy" in 1952 and her last will be published posthumously. Ultimately, Ms. Szymborska will be credited with more than 21 volumes of poetry published, many in several languages.

Ms. Szymborska was recognized and honored numerous times throughout her illustrious career. She has been coined the "Mozart of Poetry" and the "Greta Garbo of World Poetry." Ms. Szymborska has been awarded the Geotze Prize, Herder Prize, Polish PEN Club prize and in 1996, and she was the recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature. She also received an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree from Poznan University. In 2011 she was honored by Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski with The Order of the White Eagle for her cultural contribution to Poland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Ms. Wislawa Szymborska. Her work and her memory will live on with all who were blessed by knowing of her.

COMMEMORATING BLACK HISTORY
MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, throughout February we recognize the lives and events of black pioneers who have made our country a truer Nation of equality for all. Born in the midst of the Harlem Renaissance I am hon-

ored to come from and represent a congressional district that has such a rich black heritage. Through civic participation and urban culture Harlem has forever shaped our Nation's history. It has been home to intellectual luminaries such as Langston Hughes, W. E. B. DuBois, Booker T. Washington, and classic musical performers like Harry Belafonte, Billie Holiday, Marian Anderson, Lena Horne and Ella Fitzgerald. On the stage of the Apollo Theatre, legendary musicians like Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington played their way into history. Spirited veterans like Tuskegee Airmen Lee Archer, Dabney Montgomery and Roscoe C. Brown, pilots during World War II, flew military aircraft with distinction.

This year we especially honor black women who have been trailblazers and leaders in the fight for racial equality and women's rights. Their leadership, patriotism, and artistic expression have enhanced and inspired countless lives. From leader of the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman, to American poet and Revolutionary War patriot, Phillis Wheatley, journalist Ida B. Wells, the great educator and presidential advisor, Mary McLeod Bethune, and mother of the modern Civil Rights Movement, Rosa Parks—black women through protest and perseverance have stood as a symbol of strength and pride in the face of injustice.

I must also acknowledge women like Dr. Muriel Petioni and Dr. Barbara Ann Tier, visionaries known for their service and unwavering commitment to the health of our community.

I am a proud sponsor of the Shirley Chisholm Congressional Gold Medal Act to honor the life and legacy of my dear colleague and first black woman elected to Congress in 1969. I am also a sponsor of resolutions in Congress honoring notable figures such as Madam CJ Walker, Ron Brown, Constance Baker Motley, Percy Sutton and Ray Charles.

Black history month is a time to learn about the achievements and contributions of blacks in our great Nation's history. During February, many community organizations are combining their efforts to host several events and exhibits. I encourage all to participate. Let's show our gratitude for the great contributions that blacks have provided to create the freedoms and opportunities we have today in America.

H.R. 3582 AND H.R. 3578

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I want to register my opposition to H.R. 3582, the so-called "Pro-Growth Budgeting Act of 2011," and H.R. 3578, the "Baseline Reform Act of 2011."

Once again we, Mr. Speaker, spend time on another set of partisan process bills that do nothing to help us reduce the deficit and pay down our national debt. Instead, they do quite the opposite—they make it more difficult.

Mr. Speaker, in the 1990s, Congress balanced the budget. Moreover, we had a budget surplus. It did not require a balanced budget amendment or an overhaul of our budgeting process. It required some sensible decisions by Members of Congress and the President to match our taxes and our expenditures. The

rules aren't broken, Mr. Speaker—Congress has simply failed to follow the rules that we have. In his testimony before the Budget Committee, Former Budget Committee Chairman Jim Nussle, a Republican, said just that. "It may not be that the budget process is broken," he said. "It may not be . . . that tools are broken, but it may be the fact that the tools are not even being used."

Any plan for deficit reduction must be comprised of spending cuts and revenue increases, yet H.R. 3582 attempts to hide that fact. It is designed to obscure the impact of tax cuts on the deficit. The majority simply wants to help its case for passing large tax cuts while disguising the actual costs of those cuts. Despite the rhetoric that has been thrown around this body, tax cuts do not pay for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3578 is just as unnecessary and, frankly, misleading. The majority wants to change the calculation of the discretionary baseline. It wants to include the Bush tax cuts for the wealthiest in the permanent baseline for all federal budgeting. This also eliminates the budgetary tools currently in place which account for increased costs in future years, thus resulting in an effective cut of 20 percent from all programs, including military pay, without any thought about need or funding priorities.

Mr. Speaker, these bills constitute solutions for problems that do not exist, and will only serve to make things worse. They will not solve our debt and deficit problems and they will not create a single job. Moreover, the current system works—it has worked for us in the past, and it can work for us again now if we stop the political gamesmanship and come together to find commonsense solutions to get our fiscal house in order.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALLEN
WHITLEY MELVILLE

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Mrs. Allen Whitley Melville. Sadly, Allen passed away on the first of this year in Bloomfield, Connecticut.

Born in 1927 in Evanston, Illinois, Allen spent most of her childhood growing up in Grand Rapids, Michigan, before attending Sarah Lawrence College in New York. In 1947 Allen met a young Navy Corpsman named Frank Melville, who recently returned from serving in World War II. Allen and Frank would go on to marry, forming a life-long bond that would take them from New York to Connecticut and would see them raise four sons. Along the way, Allen and Frank would become pioneers and leaders in two great social causes of their time—treating mental illness and ending homelessness.

After Allen moved with her family from New Canaan to Norfolk, Connecticut, in 1980, she became deeply involved in working to bring equal opportunity and fair treatment to the state's mentally handicapped, eventually serving on the Board of the State Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities. While there, she worked to raise aware-

ness on the unfair abuse and neglect that is all too often experienced by those living with mental illness.

In her backyard of northwest Connecticut, Allen helped found one of the nation's leading "club houses" for people with mental illness, Prime Time House in Torrington; which has the mission to assist those suffering with mental illness to live independent and productive lives. Many Connecticut residents with mental illnesses have found their way to independence and success thanks to the education and employment opportunities afforded by the care of the organization of which Allen helped establish.

Allen also was an integral part—and board member—of the Melville Charitable Trust, which works to find and fight the causes of homelessness and was chaired by her husband for many years. Allen made sure that mental illness was a priority of the work of the Trust.

In fact, it was the unyielding advocacy of Allen, Frank, and the Melville Charitable Trust, that led me to introduce the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act, which was signed into law in January 2011. The law triples the number of supportive housing units built across the country with federal dollars. The legacy of both Allen and her beloved husband, Frank, who unfortunately passed away in 2007, will be honored every day by this act and by the great works to come in the future by those who have been inspired by the advocacy of the Melvilles.

In reflection of the unfortunate loss of a life-long champion for those most in need and all the work she has done for the community of Torrington and the State of Connecticut, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and honoring the life of Allen Whitley Melville and the contributions she has made in bettering the lives of all those she touched.

2012 AL RADKA AWARD: JOHN AND
DIANE CARBRAY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge John and Diane Carbray for their dedication to the community of Fresno. John and Diane are the recipients of the 2012 Al Radka Award. The award is bestowed upon individuals who have made contributions to the Fresno community through the game of baseball. The Carbrays have been instrumental in bringing big time baseball back to Fresno and worked tirelessly to help build one of Fresno's crown jewels, Chukchansi Ballpark. As distinguished members of the Fresno community and devoted leaders, John and Diane are certainly deserving of this award.

It was John and Diane's love for sports that brought them together. They first met while working with the San Jose Earthquakes. In 1983, they founded Projects West Entertainment, a company that would go on to put on more than 400 concerts over 20 years throughout the country in different athletic venues.

The Carbrays were first introduced to Fresno by Mr. Bob Freitas, who at the time was working as a Minor League Baseball execu-

tive. He contacted them to see if they were interested in buying bleachers that were left from the departing Fresno Giants/Suns Baseball Team who moved to Salinas in 1988. Both John and Diane had no idea that this initial introduction to Fresno would eventually lead them down a road to bringing baseball back to Fresno.

It was 1991 when the Carbrays began working to bring a team back to Fresno. In seven years, after working on community support and building partnerships, John and Diane were able to introduce the Grizzlies to Fresno. Together with William Connolly, Jack Emerian, Dave Cates, and Tim Cullen they created the Fresno Diamond Group. They all invested their time, expertise and ultimately themselves into making what once was a dream a reality.

The 2012 season will be the Fresno Grizzlies 15th anniversary and their 11th playing downtown.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud John and Diane for their many years of work to help make Fresno a better community and congratulate them on this well-deserved recognition. I invite my colleagues to join me in applauding and expressing appreciation for John and Diane Carbray and their many contributions to California's San Joaquin Valley.

HONORING ATTORNEY JOCK
MICHAEL SMITH

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I rose to recognize and pay tribute to one of our Nation's most distinguished trial lawyers, an avid sports collector, historian, author, and family man, Attorney Jock Michael Smith. I wish to add this statement as an extension to my remarks. Attorney Smith was a well-respected member of the Alabama bar and he was known nationally throughout the legal community for his exceptional legal abilities, legendary courtroom skills, civic activism and passion for equal justice. Sadly, he passed away at his home in Montgomery, Alabama on January 8th at the age of 63.

The story of Jock Michael Smith is not just one of a notable and accomplished attorney, social justice advocate, author, and sports collector. His story is one of hope, beating the odds, and the fearless pursuit of one's dreams. The life and legacy of Jock Smith is an inspiration to us all.

Despite losing his father tragically at a young age, despite being told in high school that he should be a sanitation worker, he did not let others determine his future. This young boy, son of a widowed single mother of two, was determined to chart his own course.

Attorney Jock Smith was born in New York City and graduated from Andrew Jackson High School. Later that year, he enrolled in the historic Tuskegee Institute where he majored in History. Jock was a member of the baseball and track teams, served as Vice President of Student Government, and was the recipient of the Tuskegee Institute Department of History Citation for achieving the major's highest grade point average. He was also the first student from Tuskegee Institute to be listed in the National Student Register.

Inspired by the memory of his father, Jock developed his oratorical and academic gifts. He graduated with honors from Tuskegee University and then matriculated to the University of Notre Dame School of Law on an academic scholarship. As a first year law student, Jock founded the Black American Law Students' Association (BALSA) chapter at Notre Dame. Jock went on to earn his law degree from Notre Dame in 1973.

Jock Smith began his career as a legal advisor for the NAACP in Broome County, New York and was a Professor of Afro American Studies at New York State University. He then served as an assistant attorney general for the state of Alabama and served as a political science professor at Tuskegee University. Later, he opened his own law office in Tuskegee and thereafter became a city municipal judge in Camp Hill, Alabama. Jock Smith then went on to serve as County Attorney for Macon County, Alabama, a position he held for 15 years.

In 1996, Attorney Jock Smith co-founded a partnership with the late renowned attorney Johnnie Cochran and attorneys Keith Givens and Samuel Cherry. The law firm of Cochran, Cherry, Givens and Smith has 22 offices across this country and continues to be one of the most well-known criminal defense and civil plaintiff law firms in this nation.

Attorney Jock Smith's remarkable legal career was filled with record-setting verdicts and settlements on behalf of his clients, including a landmark \$1.6 billion verdict against Southwestern Life insurance, which was the largest in America in 2004. According to the National Journal and Lawyers Weekly, the verdict remains the largest civil verdict obtained by an African American lawyer in the nation's history. He also successfully won landmark cases against Orkin Pest Control, Monsanto and others. He represented the legacy estates of both Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr. and he represented the Negro League Players, and civil rights leader Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth.

Attorney Smith also had a passion for sports memorabilia. Jock Smith has the distinction of owning one of the nation's largest collections of game-worn, sports memorabilia. He used his national sports collection as an instrumental tool to motivate teens and young adults to overcome challenges.

During his illustrious legal career, Attorney Smith's hard work and leadership was acknowledged by numerous awards. He was recognized by the Alabama Trial Lawyers Association for his tireless dedication and unwavering commitments. He received the inaugural Johnnie L. Cochran Jr. Journey to Justice Award in 2005 at the National Bar Association Convention. And most recently, he was honored in the inaugural edition of Who's Who in Black Alabama and named a member of the Board of Trustees at Tuskegee University in 2011.

As an author, Jock Smith shared his amazing life journey in an autobiography entitled "Climbing Jacob's Ladder: A Trial Lawyer's Journey on Behalf of 'the Least of These'."

Media personality and author Tavis Smiley provided an insightful view of Jock's writing debut that accurately surmises his life's journey:

"Jock Smith's story is part history lesson and part sermon and one hundred percent fascinating. He and lawyers like his partner Johnnie Cochran are modern-day knights,

using their skills to protect both the poor and defenseless. On a personal level, Climbing Jacob's Ladder shows how faith and hard work can bring great success."

Jock Smith was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated and he was the first African American to serve on the board for the President's Advisory Council of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF). Attorney Smith also served as a member of the National Finance Committee and served on the President's Advisory Council for the Democratic National Convention (DNC).

Jock Smith is survived by his wife of 45 years, Yvette Smiley-Smith and his daughter, Janay Marriel Smith.

Our nation is eternally grateful for Attorney Jock Smith's contributions to the legal community and to this nation. His commitment to advocacy to fight for the rights of the disenfranchised is a great example for us all to follow. He left an indelible mark in Alabama and across this nation and his legacy will be remembered for generations to come.

On a personal note, I was so honored to know Attorney Jock Smith. I admired his great oratorical skill and legal brilliance. I was inspired by his tenacious spirit and passion for service to others. I know that he forged the path upon which I now walk, and for that I am eternally grateful.

Jock Smith lived out the meaning of his favorite quote: "Service is the price we pay for the space that we occupy."

It is with tremendous pride and a great privilege to honor on this day, February 2, 2012, the life and contributions of Attorney Jock Michael Smith with this tribute on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. On behalf of the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Attorney Jock Smith by paying our fair share for the space that we occupy.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE VIETNAMESE NEW YEAR: TET, 2012—YEAR OF THE DRAGON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Vietnamese New Year: Tet, 2012—Year of the Dragon. As the Vietnamese community in Greater Cleveland gathers to celebrate, I join them in honoring their rich history and culture.

Tet is the time of the year to pay homage to ancestors, reconnect with friends and family and celebrate every hope and possibility rising with the new year. This year's gathering will once again honor community volunteers and leaders, showcasing many Vietnamese cultural treasures including Vietnamese culinary cuisine, music and dance.

This year also marks thirty-seven years of service to the community by the Vietnamese Community in Greater Cleveland, Inc. This organization has been an invaluable resource for hundreds of Clevelanders of Vietnamese descent, linking them to needed resources and preserving the rich heritage of the Vietnamese people.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize Le Nguyen, President of the Viet-

namese Community in Greater Cleveland, Inc., and every member, past and present, for their dedication to Vietnamese-Americans of Northeast Ohio.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebration of the Vietnamese New Year: Tet, 2012—Year of the Dragon. May every American of Vietnamese heritage hold their cultural legacy forever in their hearts, and find peace and happiness within every new day of the rising new year.

A TRIBUTE TO JACK O'DONNELL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of West Des Moines Police Chief Jack O'Donnell, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment in his years of service in law enforcement.

Mr. O'Donnell's entire life has been one of service. During the Vietnam War, Jack served our country in the Army before returning home in 1969 to begin his law enforcement career. For the last 43 years, Jack has contributed his time and his talents to the betterment of communities both in Iowa and neighboring Nebraska.

For the last 13 years, Mr. O'Donnell has served West Des Moines honorably as Chief of Police. Under his leadership, the West Des Moines Police Department transitioned from a reactive department to a proactive one. Jack made it a point to get to know his residents and despite a boom in population over his tenure, West Des Moines crime rates have remained low under his watch.

Throughout his illustrious and lengthy career, Jack has never wavered in his commitment to justice and security. Mr. O'Donnell is a testament to the high quality character instilled in Iowans, and the city of West Des Moines owes him a great debt of gratitude for his service. While Jack's leadership will be missed, he leaves behind a more secure community that will continue to benefit from his service for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent the people of West Des Moines in the United States Congress, and I wish Jack and his wife Marilyn a long, happy and healthy retirement. Thank you.

A TRIBUTE TO MARVIN NEALS, CELEBRATED COACH, MENTOR, AND EDUCATION ADVOCATE

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable coach, principal, and mentor to the young men and women in Missouri, Mr. Marvin Neals.

Marvin Neals has thirty years of coaching experience. In 1974 Marvin Neals started his epic career at Soldan High School, in St. Louis, Missouri, where he won a Class 4A state title. After 16 years, Marvin Neals left coaching to pursue a career in education administration. The Hall of Fame coach could not

be kept away from his passion for long, and returned to coach at Cardinal Ritter College Prep High School in 2000. Marvin Neals has already recorded three Class 3 championships with Cardinal Ritter.

On January 25, 2012, Marvin Neals reached a coaching milestone winning his 600th game. Marvin Neals was praised by his current and former players after the momentous win. The players spoke of his great influence and impact he has had on their lives. Marvin Neals wants to keep coaching the game he loves as long as possible, with no thoughts of slowing down in the future.

Mr. Speaker, Marvin Neals has dedicated his life to bettering the lives of the young men and women of St. Louis. His commitment can be recognized by the admiration of his colleagues, present and former players and students, and the remarkable feat of 600 career wins. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his remarkable service to the United States, the State of Missouri, and the St. Louis community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 26, 1995, when the last attempt at a balanced budget amendment passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 300–132, the national debt was \$4,801,405,175,294.28.

Today, it is \$15,351,406,294,640.49. We've added \$10,550,001,119,346.21 to our debt in 16 years. This is \$10 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER ROCHESTER AREA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE ELDERLY

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the Greater Rochester Area Partnership for the Elderly (GRAPE).

GRAPE works to provide networking, education, and advocacy on behalf of the elderly population and has been very successful. Today, GRAPE has 300 members from over 200 agencies and organizations throughout the greater Rochester area.

GRAPE is a non-profit organization that consists of professionals, students, and volunteers; citizens who are dedicated to caring for our elderly population. The group has not only personally assisted those in need, but has also produced a landmark health care publication: the Professionals Guide to Elder Services. This guide is the most current, accurate, and up-to-date listing of elder services in the greater Rochester area and has been of great assistance to healthcare professionals throughout upstate New York.

I thank everyone involved with the Greater Rochester Area Partnership of the Elderly for their committed service to the elderly community. GRAPE's success is due to their efforts and I applaud their dedication.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE NORTH MAUI COASTAL PRESERVATION ACT OF 2012

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the North Maui Coastal Preservation Act of 2012, a bill directing the National Park Service to study the suitability and feasibility of designating certain lands along the northern coast of Maui, between Sprecklesville and Paia, as a unit of the National Park System. I have previously introduced this bill in the 110th and 111th Congresses.

The citizens of Maui strongly support preservation of this coast, which provides important open space and public beach areas.

The beautiful coastline of North Maui is under significant development pressure. Its closeness to major population centers in Maui and its popularity with both visitors and residents makes protecting access a major priority.

Supporters of this park have asked that it be named after Congresswoman Patsy Takemoto Mink, a native of Maui who grew up in the Hamakua Poko/Paia area. While this bill, which authorizes a study, does not direct what the prospective national park would be named, I would certainly support naming it after Patsy Mink, whose commitment to the people of the island and state was without question.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

RECOGNIZING GREG STRADER FOR RECEIVING THE CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE AWARD

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I rise today to recognize Greg Strader, founder of Be Ready Alliance Coordinating for Emergencies (BRACE).

We have been reminded frequently that the threat of natural disasters is always imminent, and vigilance is crucial. Greg Strader has devoted his career to natural disaster emergency preparedness. In serving with the American Red Cross for more than 32 years, he has responded to natural disasters in various capacities; whether it is hurricanes, tornados, floods, fires, or plane crashes, Mr. Strader has always been willing to give of himself to assist others.

Following the devastation to the Gulf Coast caused by Hurricanes Ivan and Dennis, Mr. Strader saw a need for improved disaster response. His experience led him to found BRACE, whose mission is to minimize loss of life, injury, property damage, environmental impact, and economic damage caused by nat-

ural disasters. BRACE's response to the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill cleanup is an excellent example of the organization's invaluable contribution. In less than 36 hours, Mr. Strader assembled more than 1,900 volunteers who contributed over ten thousand volunteer hours in efforts to minimize the disaster's adverse impact.

I commend Greg Strader and BRACE for their efforts in making the northwest Florida community safer, stronger, and better prepared to expeditiously address the devastation of natural disasters and congratulate them on receiving the Presidential "Champions of Change Award." My wife Vicki and I wish Mr. Strader, the staff of BRACE, and their families all the best for continued success.

CONGRATULATING DR. MILDRED GARCIA ON HER RECENT APPOINTMENT AS PRESIDENT OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Mildred Garcia, President of California State University, Dominguez Hills, who was recently named the new president of California State University, Fullerton by the California State University Board of Trustees.

California State University, Dominguez Hills—located in my congressional district—has benefitted greatly from Dr. Garcia's leadership. Dr. Garcia is the first Latina to ever hold the title of president at a university in the CSU system, and her track record of success at CSU Dominguez Hills offers a shining example to university presidents across the nation. Her hard work and commitment to public education has helped to raise the status of the university in our community and across the state of California.

Dr. Garcia, the daughter of Puerto Rican immigrants, grew up of humble means in Brooklyn, New York. The second youngest of seven children, Dr. Garcia worked as a secretary to put herself through college and understood that the key to opportunity and success is a good education. After receiving two masters degrees from NYU and Columbia, Dr. Garcia went on to obtain her Ed.D. from Columbia University, Teachers College.

Before coming to CSU Dominguez Hills, Dr. Garcia taught at Arizona State University and spent ten years as the president of Berkeley College in New York. Over the past four and a half years, Dr. Garcia has worked diligently to elevate the status of CSU Dominguez Hills. When she began her tenure at Dominguez Hills, the university was struggling to meet enrollment targets and had an incoming freshman class with an average high school GPA below 3.0.

Dr. Garcia has been able to raise enrollment levels to a record high of 15,000 students. In 2010–11 CSU Dominguez Hills received 27,036 student applications, an increase of 62 percent compared to 2006–07. CSU Dominguez Hills is also enjoying higher retention and graduation rates, and is becoming a more popular option for students just graduating from high school. Dr. Garcia has also

been successful at increasing alumni donor participation by 400 percent, and securing the university's first-ever endowed professorship.

During Dr. Garcia's tenure as President of CSU Dominguez Hills, her leadership and commitment helped to make the university a hub for higher education in the South Bay and greater Los Angeles. In 2008 CSU Dominguez Hills was awarded the highest possible evaluation from Western Association of Schools and Colleges, receiving a rare 10-year re-accreditation.

Upon Dr. Garcia's arrival, CSU Dominguez Hills faced a \$2.8 million structural deficit, with the state appropriation of \$71,489,966. Under her leadership, the university successfully eliminated its structural deficit in spite of the continued decrease in state appropriation, which today is \$59,766,882 (a 16 percent decrease).

Under Dr. Garcia's leadership, CSU Dominguez Hills has won federal grants to help expand online education access to students, improve the quality of teaching in high-need schools by creating model teacher preparation and teaching residency programs, and provide students the support they need to complete their studies and graduate. All of these initiatives have helped to make CSU Dominguez Hills graduates active players in our economic recovery by improving community spirit, inspiring local business growth and lowering the local unemployment rate.

Last summer, Dr. Garcia was chosen by President Barack Obama to serve on the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. As a member of this commission, Dr. Garcia has been tasked with advising the President and Education Secretary Duncan on ways to improve the success rates of Hispanic students across the country.

At the conclusion of this academic year, Dr. Garcia will take her talent for leadership to California State University, Fullerton, one of California's largest universities. Although CSU Dominguez Hills is sad to see Dr. Garcia leave its campus, the legacy of her work and her impact on the community will continue to have an influence the university for years to come.

I am proud to have worked closely with Dr. Garcia to help make CSU Dominguez Hills a model urban public university, and I am sure she will bring the same enthusiasm for success to CSU Fullerton. Although she will no longer be working in my district, I am positive that Dr. Garcia and I will continue our work together to ensure that every student in California has access to a quality and affordable college education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Mildred Garcia for her appointment to become the next president of CSU Fullerton.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN BACHMAN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of WHO-TV news anchor John Bachman, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment in his years of service to the people of Iowa.

John traveled a long and winding road before becoming a nightly guest in thousands of homes across Iowa. He was born in Texas, raised in New York, attended college in Minnesota, and worked in Chicago and Cedar Rapids before appearing on Des Moines WHO-TV's airwaves in 1987. John aspired to be an anchor in a place where he could raise his family and be a part of welcoming community, and it seems John and I agree that there is no better place than the state of Iowa.

For the last 25 years, Iowans have heard some of the biggest news stories through Mr. Bachman. From the Persian Gulf War, to the attacks of September 11, 2001, to the recent 2012 Iowa Caucuses, John has narrated and helped us come to grips with events in our rapidly changing world.

Throughout his memorable career, John has never wavered in his commitment to the truth and journalistic integrity, and in doing so, has rightfully earned his viewers' trust. While John's evening broadcasts are sure to be missed across the state, his commitment to Iowa and its people continues as strong as ever. I wish John and his wife Barb a long, happy and healthy retirement. Thank you.

RECOGNIZING WOODLAND CEMETERY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the historic Woodland Cemetery located in our nation's capital, one of the only remaining 19th century African American burial sites.

Woodland Cemetery was established as the successor to Graceland Cemetery, which decided to relocate due to the imminent expansion of the District of Columbia. Woodland cemetery initially interred the more than 6,000 African Americans who were buried at Graceland, but as time went on, the location became more desirable for prominent figures in the D.C. African American community. The cemetery is the final resting place for such notable individuals as, Blanche K. Bruce, the first African American U.S. Senator; Mercer Langston, the first African American President of Virginia State University and the first dean of Howard University Law School and also the first African American Member of Congress from the state of Virginia; and John Willis Menard, the first African American elected to Congress. There are also many other distinguished people, who made our country what it is today, buried on this hallowed site.

Woodland Cemetery remained a highly desired location for African Americans to be interred until the 1970s. In the early 1990s Woodland earned the distinct honor of being placed on both the District of Columbia's Inventory of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places. Today, the daily operations of the cemetery are entrusted to the Woodlawn Cemetery Perpetual Care Association, which is comprised of mostly volunteers who have loved ones buried there. The main focus of the association is to preserve the cemetery and to raise funds to renovate and restore prominence to this sacred site.

I ask the House to join me as we recognize the historic value of this hallowed place not only in the month of February but year round.

NATIONAL SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, January marked National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

As a former judge and prosecutor in Texas and as co-chair of the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus this issue is significant to me.

Many believe that slavery is an issue of the past, but sadly it is not.

Throughout the world humans are forced into human trafficking, modern-day slavery, whether this is sex trafficking, labor trafficking, domestic servitude or some other form of slavery.

This is not just a problem other countries face, but one that is alive in the United States.

Houston, Texas, my hometown, is a hub for this awful crime.

Fortunately, Houston and the state of Texas have taken the bull by the horns and are working hard to prosecute traffickers and protect victims.

On the federal level, I am working with Members on both sides of the aisle to ensure traffickers are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and victims are treated as victims and given the support they need.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING SGT. DANIEL E. SEWELL

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sgt. Daniel E. Sewell, who recently was awarded the Outstanding Public Service Award from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in appreciation for his great efforts in support of this nation's veterans. The Outstanding Public Service Award is the second highest honor given by the Chairman to a public servant who "has rendered service or assistance to considerable personal sacrifice, motivated by patriotism, good citizenship and a sense of public responsibility."

Sgt. Sewell enlisted in the United States Air Force on January 23, 2003, and was assigned to Spangdahlem Airbase, Germany, as a Munitions Systems Inspector. During his service, he was deployed to Afghanistan with the 52nd Fighter Wing in support of the unit's A-10, which assisted in the first elections held in Afghanistan. He completed his military service in August of 2007 with the 509th Bomb Wing at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. Currently, Mr. Sewell is a Staff Sergeant with the Missouri Air National Guard with the 131st Bomb Wing in Whiteman Air Force Base.

Sgt. Sewell received a bachelor's degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Missouri. He's currently working toward the completion of his master's degree in

Business Administration from the University of Missouri. Mr. Sewell was the president of the student veteran's group at the University of Missouri, and he led the organization in efforts to establish the first on-campus Veteran's Center in the country. The Veteran's Center provides a "one-stop" resource center for our veterans on campus, which assists the veteran with all student veteran needs. He con-

tinues to find ways to assist veterans by teaching a class called "Learning and Transition Strategies for Veterans." The goal is for veterans to have a successful transition from military life back to academic life.

Sgt. Sewell continues to find ways to help veterans by being an advocate. He was the advocate for the review of military transfer credits. This led to hundreds of veterans re-

ceiving academic credit for their applicable military education and training. He manages and coordinates with the Student Veteran Volunteer network, which helps veterans working toward their higher education on a national level.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Sgt. Daniel E. Sewell for this well-deserved recognition.