

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on March 5, 2012, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall vote 95. Had I been present for rollcall 95, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3637, a measure to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 401 Old Dixie Highway in Jupiter, Florida, as the "Roy Schallern Rood Post Office Building," I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE OF COLONEL MICHAEL G. NAYLOR ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the military service of Colonel Michael G. Naylor on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Marine Corps. I commend Colonel Naylor's career and offer my sincerest thanks for his 30 years of dedicated service in protecting our nation.

Beginning his military career in 1982, Colonel Naylor entered Officer Candidate School where he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and designated a Naval Aviator in September 1983. This was just the start to a long and commendable career in the United States Marine Corps.

Colonel Naylor retires from his post as the Deputy Commander of Marine Corps Installations West (MCIWEST), located at Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton. As Deputy Commander, Colonel Naylor helped oversee seven bases with stations occupying over 160,000 acres throughout California, Nevada, and Arizona. Colonel Naylor's hard work and dedication aided Corps in providing continuous, uninterrupted service support, in a time of war, to Marines and Sailors of the First Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF).

As a Naval Aviator he has accumulated over 4900 total flight hours in various rotary wing, tilt-rotor, and fixed wing aircraft to include the first two operational tests of the V-22. He was also tasked with flying the President, Vice President, and dignitaries while assigned to Marine One (HMX-1). Colonel Naylor commanded the Marine Medium Helicopter Training Squadron 164 (HMMT-164) where his leadership and commitment provided well trained, organized, and combat ready expeditionary aviation forces capable of short notice world wide deployment to Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF), fleet and unified commanders.

His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit

with Gold Star, Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Presidential Service badge as well as numerous campaign medals and unit awards.

These recognitions are a testament of Colonel Naylor's strong leadership and unwavering commitment to our country.

I offer Colonel Naylor my congratulations and hope that he enjoys rewarding retirement knowing that his years of service will not be forgotten by those he led.

HONORING EDITH PITTENGER ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Edith Pittenger on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Edith was born in Pendleton, Indiana, on February 24, 1912. She went on to attend Ball State University in 1929, and later earned her masters degree in 1961. Edith enjoyed a long and satisfying career in teaching, having held positions in both Pendleton and Muncie.

Edith is blessed with excellent health and is still able to drive. She is also a long-time member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church. She was married for 45 years and her loving family includes three children and a stepson, 10 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren and another on the way.

As the Good Book says, "The elders [. . .] are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching." And so today I honor Edith Pittenger for her lifetime of service and wish her the best in the years to come.

REPRESENTATIVE FARENTHOLD PRESENTS TECHNICAL SERGEANT ARTHUR NOWAKOWSKI WITH SILVER STAR COMMENDATION

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I had the tremendous honor of awarding Sergeant Arthur Nowakowski his Silver Star Commendation in his hometown of San Benito, Texas. This moment was over 60 years in the making, as Sergeant Nowakowski was originally awarded the Silver Star for his gallantry in action on July 5th, 1944 in France.

A WWII veteran, Sergeant Nowakowski voluntarily enlisted in the United States Army when he was eighteen years old, joining the 90th Infantry Division.

One month after landing on France's Utah Beach on D-Day, a platoon carrying urgently needed supplies and ammunition to front line troops was pinned down by heavy fire. Sergeant Nowakowski quickly assumed command and, at risk of his own life, subjected himself to intense fire, reorganized the platoon, led it forward and delivered the supplies and ammunition to the troops. He then sent his men to the battalion command post, returned to the wounded Soldiers and, despite the unrelenting fire, administered first aid to them and remained with them until they were evacuated.

His heroics saved the lives of three men. He risked his life to save his fellow soldiers and fight for the freedoms we all hold dear today. Presenting him with his commendation is only a small thank you to a man who has sacrificed so much for our Nation.

CONGRATULATING THE BELLINGHAM KIWANIS CLUB ON ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Kiwanis Club of Bellingham on its 90th anniversary.

The members of the Kiwanis Club of Bellingham are continuing in the club's long service to Whatcom County by supporting the community's children.

Kiwanis have long served children around the world by raising money, collecting food and clothes, and by working with children one-on-one. In Bellingham, Kiwanis support local children in dozens of ways that have a true and meaningful impact in our community.

You can find Kiwanis working with students in classrooms across the county, raising money to help kids get computers and sports equipment, and working to beautify the community.

The Kiwanis' work to support kids diagnosed with cancer is especially inspiring. As a father of two sons, I know how important community support is to developing happy and healthy kids.

The Kiwanis' work helps families today and will pay dividends to our community for many generations to come. Their service projects strengthen the community one kid at a time by giving children healthy food and opportunities to succeed in school and sports. Bellingham and Whatcom County are better today for the 90 years of great service the Kiwanis have given.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the Kiwanis Club of Bellingham on its 90th anniversary and in recognizing their significant service to children and families in Whatcom County.

• 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.

HONORING THE GADSDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT MARCHING BAND, THE PRIDE OF SAN LUIS

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Gadsden Elementary School District #32 Marching Band for their accomplishments as a student band and as representatives of the city of San Luis.

Gadsden Elementary School is in the San Luis, a city located in the Southwest corner of the State of Arizona on the border of San Luis Rio Colorado, Mexico. The school's marching band, the Pride of San Luis, is composed of 180 talented students and 15 dancers in grades 4–8. Director J Martin Peralta, Jr. and Music Coordinator Martin Peralta, Sr. have led this group of young men and women to countless victories, including first place awards in the Lake Havasu, Parada Del Sol Parade in Scottsdale, Arizona, the APS Phoenix Light Parade, as well as in the local Somerton Founder's Day Parade and the Yuma Lights Parade and most recently have been invited to the London Days Bridge Parade. Luis Marquez, Board President, said that "Listening to the marching band is like listening to an amazing group of professionals: they have the enthusiasm, character, and talent they need to keep making a great job everywhere they go."

The Pride of San Luis is comprised of more than just talented musicians; they are exemplary scholars. Raymond V. Aguilera, Superintendent of Schools, said that "[m]any of the band members go on to receive college credit during High School, take the ACT test and qualify for the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth Program. The band's alumni have attended or will attend university programs throughout the country". This group of hard working young people brings hope and pride to local residents. As William and Ellen Kiley stated: "For those who worry about the future of our country, you have only to look at these young people to feel reassured that all will be well".

The parents, teachers, and citizens of San Luis cannot be more proud of their hometown marching band. Juan Carlos Escamilla, Mayor of the City of San Luis, declared: "It is truly an honor. I'm so very proud of every single one of our kids. I'm so proud as a parent. I know they have a very strong goal. If any organization could do it—it's this group. They will make it happen." Music Coordinator Martin Peralta Sr. articulated it best: "Esta generación de estudiantes van a hacer historia y la experiencia que van a hacer historia ya que moverá al mundo con su música donde cada uno de los ciudadanos del país se van a sentir orgullosos de ellos".

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring these bright young student musicians and the adults that empower them to succeed.

HONORING MATTHEW R. COOK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew R. Cook. Matthew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Matthew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Matthew has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew R. Cook for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO EMORY CAMPBELL

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable man who has distinguished himself as a great South Carolinian and an outstanding scholar and advocate of the Gullah/Geechee culture. He has dedicated his life to preserving the culture and the community he loves, and has just ended his tenure as the first Chairman of the Gullah-Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission. I commend him for his outstanding work and thank him for his long-time friendship. We could not have had a better person to get this Commission off on the right foot.

Emory Shaw Campbell was born on October 11, 1941, on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, which was at the time was an isolated Sea Island inhabited by the descendants of former slaves, not the high-end resort it has become today. He was the sixth of 12 children born to Sarah and Reginald Campbell.

While he attended elementary school on Hilton Head Island, he had to travel by boat to attend high school at Michael C. Riley High School in the mainland town of Bluffton. He graduated as valedictorian of his class in 1960. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree in biology from Savannah State College, and a master's in environmental engineering from Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts.

Following his academic training, Dr. Campbell returned home to his beloved Sea Islands. He served for ten years as the Director of Community Service Education at the Beaufort-Jasper Comprehensive Health Services in Ridgeland, South Carolina. This community health center provided quality, affordable health care to the underserved populations of the Sea Islands in the southernmost corner of the State. He also worked to protect Gullah communities that were threatened by the encroachment of resort development in the area.

In 1980, he became the Director of the Penn Community Center on St. Helena Island. This historic facility began as a school in the 1800s to educate freed slaves. It became a meeting place during the civil rights movement of the 1960s. As a student organizer at South Carolina State College, I attended meetings at Penn Center and subsequently served as a member of its Board of Trustees. Dr. Martin Luther King retreated there to plan protest strategies. Today, the center serves to protect and preserve the heritage of the island and its Gullah culture. Dr. Campbell was synonymous with these efforts, and he became a sought after expert on all things Gullah.

Most notably during his 22 years at the helm of Penn Center, Dr. Campbell led an effort to reconnect the Gullah community to its family roots in Sierra Leone, West Africa. This initiative resulted in Sierra Leone's President Joseph Momoh visiting Penn Center in 1988, and the following year Dr. Campbell was given the title of Honorary Paramount Chief when he took a group from the Gullah community to Sierra Leone for a reunion with their ancestral families. In 1990, South Carolina Educational Television produced a documentary Family Across the Sea, which chronicles these events.

Dr. Campbell has sought to preserve the heritage of his native culture through his book Gullah Cultural Legacies that includes Gullah traditions, beliefs, art and language. He also helped in the effort to translate the New Testament of the Bible into Gullah, which I used when I was sworn in as House Majority Whip in 2007. When Dr. Campbell retired from Penn Center in 2002, he began Gullah Heritage Consulting Services to continue his lifelong work and he manages the Gullah Heritage Trail Tours on Hilton Head Island.

In 2005, Dr. Campbell received the Carter F. Woodson Memorial Award from the National Education Association for his efforts to preserve the Gullah heritage and communities and to improve the quality of life for the Gullah people.

In 2008, I succeeded in getting the Gullah-Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor enacted into law. The legislation included the establishment of a Commission to manage the corridor, and Dr. Campbell was fittingly chosen to Chair the inaugural Commission.

Dr. Campbell lives on Hilton Head Island with his wife, Emma. They have two adult children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in thanking Dr. Emory Campbell for his dedication to preserving, protecting and promoting the Gullah culture that is unique to the Sea Islands of the American South. He has made remarkable contributions throughout his career to bring recognition and support to Gullah communities, and he is one of their most distinguished members. His work has helped to save an entire culture that was rapidly disappearing due to encroachment and assimilation, and that is a tremendous legacy for any one individual.

HONORING KYLE A. DETERS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle A. Deters.

Kyle is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Kyle has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle A. Deters for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OREO COOKIE

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Oreo. In 1912—the same year the South Pole was discovered, and the Titanic sank—the Oreo was first introduced. Growing up, there were many days where I would enjoy dunking an Oreo in my milk and that tradition continues today with children and adults all over the globe. There is no doubt Oreos bring joy to many people throughout the world.

Kraft Foods, headquartered in my district, is the proud custodian of Oreo, and Oreo is one of the company's 12 "billion-dollar" brands. Enjoyed in more than 100 countries, today the Oreo brand is the world's top selling cookie. Here is to another 100 years of Oreo being the world's number one cookie.

HONORING CONNOR S. THOMAS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Connor S. Thomas. Connor is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Connor has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Connor has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Connor has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Connor S. Thomas for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE MODESTO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON 100 YEARS OF BUSINESS LEADERSHIP

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the rich heritage of the Modesto Chamber of Commerce as they celebrate 100 years of business leadership in the Central Valley.

Anniversaries such as this provide an opportunity for us to reflect upon the significant impact our local businesses, both large and small, have on job creation and economic growth. It is critical that we continue to increase opportunities for business owners and entrepreneurs to take risks and succeed, so that they are able to grow, innovate, and create jobs. Throughout the years, the Chamber has stayed true to its mission statement, which is "to promote the region's economic strengths and vitality; identify and promote services that are valuable to our members; advocate for public policy that is advantageous to the business community; and fully participate and partner in activities to improve quality of life."

Also celebrating 100 years is the iconic Modesto Arch. The Arch was erected by the founders of the Modesto Chamber of Commerce as a symbol to promote the city, and remains as a welcome when you enter downtown Modesto with the ever present slogan "Water, Wealth, Contentment, Health."

I would also like to recognize the following six businesses for their continuous membership in the Modesto Chamber of Commerce for the past 100 years: Foster Farms, Bank of America, Pacific Bell/ATT, Chicago Title Company, Pacific Gas & Electric, and J.S. West. They should all be commended for the community support and dedication to the city of Modesto.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating with the Modesto Chamber of Commerce on a day where we recognize not only where we have been, but the tremendous opportunities we have ahead in our efforts to fulfill our vision for the future. Congratulations on the past 100 years, and I wish you the best success in the years to come.

HONORING EVAN JONATHAN LINARD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Evan Jonathan Linard. Evan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Evan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the

many years Evan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Evan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Evan Jonathan Linard for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FOX-WISCONSIN HERITAGE PARKWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA ACT OF 2012

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join my colleagues . . . in introducing the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway National Heritage Area Act of 2012, legislation which would designate the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway as a National Heritage Area. I am also pleased that Senator KOHL is introducing companion legislation in the Senate.

The National Park Service defines National Heritage Areas as:

. . . places where natural, cultural, historic and scenic resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally important landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography. These patterns make National Heritage Areas representatives of the American experience through the physical features that remain and the traditions that have evolved in them. These regions are acknowledged by Congress for their capacity to tell important stories about our nation. Continued use of National Heritage Areas by people whose traditions helped to shape the landscape enhances their significance.

The Fox Wisconsin Heritage Parkway, which runs through parts of 15 counties throughout Wisconsin, marks the route taken in 1673 by explorers Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet as they traveled from the Great Lakes to the Mississippi River. This journey is an integral part of Wisconsin's and our nation's development. We should do all that we can to preserve it so that future generations have an appreciation for our country's unique history, culture and heritage.

Establishing the Fox Wisconsin Heritage Parkway as a National Heritage Area will accomplish that preservation goal in a cost-effective manner. By utilizing public-private partnerships, the National Heritage Area designation can serve as a structure to coordinate the activities of businesses, non-profits and residents so they can highlight their region's unique contributions to America's national story.

Again, I am very pleased to support this region's designation as a National Heritage Area, and I ask for my colleagues' support in this effort.

HONORING STEPHEN DEAN
NOLTING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Stephen Dean Nolting. Stephen is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Stephen has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Stephen has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Stephen has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Stephen Dean Nolting for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on March 5, 2012, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 95. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 95: "Yes"—Roy Schallern Rood Post Office Building.

HONORING JEFFREY JOSEPH
DUER, JUNIOR

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeffrey Joseph Duer, Junior. Jeffrey is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jeffrey has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jeffrey has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jeffrey has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jeffrey Joseph Duer, Junior for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING THE 76TH ANNUAL
WESTERN NEW YORK SAFETY
CONFERENCE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 76th annual Western New York Safety Conference, which will be held in my Western New York community March 12th-March 15th, 2012.

What began as a small group of safety-minded individuals in 1935, has evolved into a conference attended by over 500 delegates each year, and the largest gathering of safety-oriented and interested people on the East Coast.

The Western New York Safety Conference is recognized by both employers and employees alike as an outstanding organization. This annual exchange of safety, health and environmental information has contributed greatly to the advancement of safety for the worker, and the general public. I applaud their dedication to the conservation of human life and the safety and health of the individual through the prevention of accidents and occupational diseases.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate those who have led the effort to host this important conference, and am sure that they will continue to service the Western New York community to reduce injuries and illness.

SUPPORT OF THE CONFERENCE
REPORT TO H.R. 3630

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Conference Report to H.R. 3630, Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012. The bill extends unemployment for those currently out of work through 2013. It continues the payroll tax break for the middle class through 2013. It prevents the scheduled cuts in Medicare reimbursement to doctors. It extends the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. It protects current federal public servants by protecting their pensions and by dropping language that would have perpetuated an unjust and unnecessary payroll freeze. As a Member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I offered an amendment in Committee last week to protect the pensions of future federal public servants as well.

However, while providing needed relief, this bill is very flawed. It reduces benefits for new federal public servants, cuts assistance to hospitals and cuts long term unemployment benefits. It is wrong to limit any crucial safety net.

Still, extending the payroll tax means that middle class families in Ohio will have about \$1000 more in their pockets at a time when speculation has pushed gas and basic food prices up. The needs of my district are urgent and immediate. This legislation will deliver relief. I stand with the workers and those trying to find work and I pledge to continue to fight

for the middle class. When Congress returns we must ensure that our communities are protected and that hospitals and workers are taken care of. I will work with my colleagues to remedy the shortcomings of this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 2012 NOMINEES
FOR THE PRINCE WILLIAM
COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR/
AGNES MEYER OUTSTANDING
TEACHER AWARD

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the nominees for the Prince William County Teacher of the Year/Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award.

The Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award program was established by "The Washington Post" to "recognize excellence in teaching, to encourage creative and quality instruction, and to contribute in a substantive way to the improvement of education in the Washington metropolitan area."

The annual recipients are comprised of one representative from each of the 19 metropolitan public school systems and a single representative from the area private schools. The winner selected from the Prince William Public School Division is also named the Prince William County Teacher of the Year. Teachers who meet the criteria for the award are those who instill in students a desire to learn and achieve, understand the individual needs of students, and demonstrate a thorough knowledge of subject matter and have the ability to share it effectively with students.

I extend my personal congratulations to the 2012 Prince William County nominees for the Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award:

Mrs. Anita Al-Haj—Osborn Park High School; Ms. LaTicia Anderson—Coles Elementary School; Mrs. Jenny Bates—Henderson Elementary School; Ms. Spring Byard—New Directions Alternative Education Center; Lt. Col. Ronald Cartee—Battlefield High School; Ms. Sharon Christner—Hylton High School; Mrs. Jessica English—Hylton High School; Mr. Aaron Finney—Victory Elementary School; Mrs. Kelly Haynes—Ashland Elementary School; Mr. Philip Keirstead—Marsteller Middle School

Ms. Hess Moore—Beville Middle School; Ms. Rebecca Patonetz—McAuliffe Elementary School; Mrs. Ingrid Perry—Gar-Field High School; Mrs. Ramona Richardson—Coles Elementary School; Mr. Richard Scavongelli—Brentsville District High School; Ms. Lydia Stewart—Osborn Park High School; Mrs. Patricia Swanson—Ashland Elementary School; Ms. Kendra Yount—Battlefield High School; Mrs. Ruthann Zalewski—Loch Lomond Elementary School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the nominees for the Prince William County Teacher of the Year/Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award and in thanking them for their dedication to our children. Their continued service will ensure that Prince William County students are provided with a world class education in a more vibrant learning community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHIPACC BILL CHILDREN'S PROGRAM OF ALL-INCLUSIVE, COORDINATED CARE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an issue of concern to all families, and everyone who has ever known a sick child.

The Children's Program of All-inclusive, Coordinated Care, ChiPACC, program serves the needs of Medicaid-eligible children who suffer from potentially terminal illnesses or conditions. The legislation I am introducing will make ChiPACC a state option under Medicaid.

Medicaid-eligible children—like all children who suffer from potentially terminal illnesses or conditions—need comprehensive, coordinated care. Currently, nearly 30 percent of the children in the United States who have life-threatening conditions qualify for Medicaid. These children are forced into a system that will only treat them on an emergency basis, sending them home to wait until their next health emergency.

Based on the highly effective, collaborative model of care developed by Children's Hospice International, CHI, the Children's Program of All-inclusive, Coordinated Care provides each enrolled child an individualized treatment plan that includes and manages services from providers across the health care spectrum. ChiPACC's services will improve upon the often inconsistent care that is currently available to seriously ill children under Medicaid, doing so at a savings to taxpayers.

With appropriate comprehensive and coordinated services under ChiPACC, many emergency episodes can be avoided or anticipated and managed, such that children receive appropriate care in their homes instead of in hospitals, and so that even when they require critical care they can enter the hospital through the front door instead of the emergency room, significantly reducing health care costs.

Under the former Medicaid model, individuals could receive only "hospice" services and only after their doctors give them a prognosis of six months to live. Children, however, are much more likely than adults to go in and out of terminal phases multiple times. No family should be forced to give up curative care for their child in order to receive services that are predicated on accepting that their child has no more than 6 months to live. I am very pleased that the Affordable Care Act amended this policy to allow curative care for Medicaid eligible children in hospice. But ChiPACC goes beyond curative care and combines medical and support services currently available in Medicaid with counseling, respite, and other care that have previously only been available as hospice services.

Please join me in sponsoring this very important legislation.

TO RECOGNIZE THE FAIRFAX COUNTY YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE AND THE 2012 FAIRFAX COUNTY FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME HONOREES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fairfax County Youth Football League and to congratulate the 2012 Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame honorees.

The importance of youth sports cannot be overstated. Participation in organized sports instills in our youth many values that will serve them well throughout life. These values include sportsmanship, teamwork, honesty, a sense of belonging, and maybe most important, the work ethic developed by striving for success and working to achieve a common goal. Organized youth sports also contribute to our society. Studies have shown a correlation between participation in sporting activities and increased academic performance. Some studies indicate that a reduction in gang activity can be partially attributed to refocusing at-risk children into organized, supervised activities such as youth sports.

I commend the Fairfax County Youth Football League for providing opportunities for our children to succeed and be a part of a team. I also congratulate the following students, coaches and community leaders who are being recognized at the 22nd Annual Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame:

Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame 2012 Inductees—Owen Schmitt (NFL Philadelphia Eagles, West Virginia University, Fairfax High School), Tom Verbanic (Fairfax High School and Westfield High School), and Angela Hay and Adam Wiles (Founder, Prince William County Clubs in FCYFL).

Football Official of the Year—Youth Sports—Kanyon MacRae (Fairfax County Football Officials Association).

Karl Davey Community Achievement Award—Jasmine Faubert (Volunteer, Herndon Optimist Club, FCYFL).

Tom Davis Meritorious Service Award—Taylor Dixon (Community Outreach Specialist, Neighborhood and Community Use).

Gene Nelson Commissioner of the Year Award—Derrick Spearman (Fort Hunt Youth Football and Cheerleading).

FCFHF \$1,500 Scholarship Recipients: Dymond Cooper (Edison HS), Matthew Pisarcik (Westfield HS), Evan Jacquez (Madison HS), Michael Tobias (West Springfield HS).

High School Players of the Year: Stephen Trivieri (Stone Bridge HS), Hayden Knudson (Hayfield HS), Devin Vandyke (South County HS), Ken Ekanem (Centreville HS), Erich "Hunter" Windmuller (Flint Hill School), John Byrd (Manassas Park HS).

High School Coaches of the Year: Gerry Pannoni (South County HS), Chris Haddock (Centreville HS).

Youth Sports Players of the Year: Aaron Lahah (Gainesville/Haymarket Football), Clark Thomas (VYI), Kenny Dodson (MYFL), Wiley Counts (VYI), Brandon Burdick (CYA), Hagan Biddison (SCAA), Brandon Hilton (Fort Belvoir Youth Sports), Hunter Baldwin (FHYAA), Wil-

liam Cusic (FHYAA), Zach Burdick (CYA), Nathanael Lomboy (APYFL), Benjamin Garcia (LFFL), Kyle Richbourg (SYA), Bryce Simpson (Alexandria Rec), Andrew Fall (BRYC), Tyler Scanlon (SYA).

Youth Sports Coaches of the Year: Thomas Digges (MYF), John Hetzer (MYF), Jim McGrath (VYI), Steve Ross (LFFL).

Youth Sports Cheerleaders of the Year: Lakyn Fearson (APYFL), Agnis Alessandrino (Herndon Optimists), Samantha Culin (SYI), Graciela Perez (SYA), Keenan Patricia Parker (VYI).

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Fairfax County Youth Football League as well as those students, coaches and community leaders who are being honored at this 2012 Hall of Fame celebration.

MORE DEMOCRATIC SETBACKS IN UKRAINE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week, former Ukrainian Interior Minister Yuriy Lutsenko was sentenced to four years imprisonment in yet another politically motivated trial. This comes after the imprisonment—also the result of an unfair trial on specious charges—of his ally, former Prime Minister Yuliya Tymoshenko, who continues to languish in prison in ill health.

The sentencing of Mr. Lutsenko is a further confirmation that the regime of President Viktor Yanukovich is not taking its OSCE human rights and democracy obligations seriously. The imprisonment of opposition leaders Tymoshenko and Lutsenko prohibits their participation in October's parliamentary elections, raising serious questions about whether Ukraine will meet OSCE election standards. This could be especially troubling given Ukraine's assumption of the OSCE Chairmanship in January, 2013, two months after these elections. As Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, it is also of concern to me and my colleagues, who have long advocated an independent, democratic, and free Ukraine.

Mr. Lutsenko's conviction is disconcerting in that it starkly illustrates the deterioration of human rights, democracy and the rule of law under the presidency of Viktor Yanukovich, who has pressed the pause button on Ukraine's once-promising advance towards democracy—and increasingly it seems he is switching to the reverse button. Instead, what we now see is something increasingly reminiscent of the kind of authoritarianism that exists in Russia, Belarus and elsewhere in the post-Soviet space.

Ukraine's democratic backsliding is harming relations with the EU and the United States, and both have repeatedly made clear that for relations to improve, respect for human rights and the democratic process must improve. Most importantly, this now two-year deterioration negatively affects the Ukrainian people, who, following the Orange Revolution, had tasted the fruits of freedom, and are now increasingly experiencing the burden of its undoing.

It is time for President Yanukovich to show respect for the dignity of his own people by

putting an end to political prosecutions and other reprisals against those who oppose him and allow their full participation in political life. In order to find credibility with both the Ukrainian people and the international community, he must end restrictions on freedom of speech and association and reverse the debilitating corruption and judicial subservience to the executive which has so eroded the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, the time has come for the Ukrainian authorities to stop their slide to authoritarianism and resulting isolation which will only harm Ukrainians who for so long—and at such great cost—have struggled for freedom, dignity and justice.

RECOGNIZING FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS TEACHERS FOR
PARTICIPATING IN THE SALLY
RIDE SCIENCE ACADEMY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a select group of math and science teachers from Fairfax County Public Schools. They recently participated in the Sally Ride 2011 Science Academy in San Diego.

The Academy is an intense one-week professional development program in which elementary and middle school teachers learn new skills for introducing students to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) and educating their students about the diverse education and career opportunities in those fields. The Academy uses a train-the-trainer model, in which participants return to their school districts to train other teachers during the school year. Sally Ride Science, founded by the first American woman in space, operates the Academy in partnership with ExxonMobil, which has one of its corporate headquarters in Fairfax County.

With only 29% of American 4th graders and 33% of 8th graders performing at proficient levels in science, we need to redouble our efforts in the STEM fields, particularly to recruit more girls and minorities. In today's economy, 8 of the 10 fastest growing jobs require proficiency in math and science, yet American universities rank 27th among developed nations with respect to the number of students graduating with science or engineering degrees.

Thanks to the work of the Sally Ride Science Academy, these and other teachers now have additional training and skills to assist them in encouraging more of our young people to become excited about science and math. I am pleased to recognize the following Fairfax County Public Schools teachers for participating in the Academy: Heather McCarthy, Lynnette Harris, Luann Hoyseth, Lauren Bello, Jodi Hepner, Danielle Heffron, Alane Peragallo, Shannon Waite, and Holly Eelman.

To date, the Sally Ride Science Academy has successfully trained more than 650 educators spanning 16 States, and they have returned to their perspective districts to train an additional 4,400 teachers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these remarkable teachers for their efforts to change the way math and

science are taught in our classrooms and for improving the quality of education for youngsters in our community.

CONGRATULATING MEME OMOGBAI
FOR BEING NAMED CHAIR OF
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
MUSEUMS

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Meme Omogbai, Chief Operating Officer of The Newark Museum, on being named Chair of the American Association of Museums. This is an unprecedented honor for The Newark Museum in Newark, New Jersey. Prior to her election, Omogbai served the AAM in many capacities including as co-author of its ground-breaking strategic plan.

Ms. Omogbai was born in Nigeria and moved to the United States as a child. She obtained both a Bachelor of Science degree in accountancy and an M.B.A. in finance and management consultancy from Rutgers University. She has a keen interest in public service and pursued opportunities in New Jersey state government. During her 10-year tenure with the state she became the youngest deputy assistant chancellor of the NJ Department of Higher Education.

Ms. Omogbai was part of the team that developed the widely acclaimed NJ College Loan to Assist State Students Program while overseeing \$6.5 billion in assets and crafting legislation as a policy adviser in the state treasurer's office. She also worked with the Casino Control Commission.

Ms. Omogbai is a community leader with important, active roles on the boards of such organizations as the New Jersey Historic Trust, the American Association of Museums, the Advisory Board of Montclair State University, St. Vincent Academy and the Newark Regional Business Partnership.

I congratulate Meme Omogbai on being named Chair of the American Association of Museums.

RECOGNIZING THE 51ST ANNIVERSARY
OF THE PEACE CORPS AND
11TH DISTRICT VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to rise today and recognize the Peace Corps on the 51st Anniversary of its inception. Since President John F. Kennedy's inspirational call to service in the 1960s, the Peace Corps has played an integral role in the journey toward world peace and understanding.

The Peace Corps is vital to our strategies for diplomacy and development assistance. This year alone, approximately 9,000 Peace Corps Volunteers have made significant contributions in more than 75 countries. Volunteers learn more than 175 languages and dialects with placements in Asia, Africa, Europe,

Central and South America, the Pacific Islands, the Caribbean, and the Middle East.

The effects of service ripple across a wide variety of communities. The Peace Corps not only provides invaluable assistance to the developing world, but also returns effective cross-cultural leaders to the American workforce. Through their service, volunteers develop steadfast creativity and determination that permeates through everything they do.

It is with great pleasure that I recognize the 28 residents of the 11th District of Virginia who have met this extraordinary call to service: Daniel Beale, Michael Burke, Megan Bush, Michelle Carr, Jennifer Cook, Kevin Dansereau, Emily Forsyth Queen, Carolyn Glidden, Kendall Gordon, Salwan Hager, Molly Jacobson, Brittany Kennell, Shantonu Kundu, Catherine Leitch, Laura Lloyd-Braff, Douglas Mann, Patricia Marks, Ryan MCGibony, Laura Olsen, Kristin Powers, Eric Reeder, Kristopher Reinertson, Ashley Studholme, Anh-Minh Tran, Anastasia Tucker, Emily Vallowe, Peter Weems, and Priscilla Yu.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Peace Corps for 51 years of invaluable service to our Nation and our world. Through its diplomatic and development service, the Peace Corps has established valuable cross-cultural understanding. Virginia's 11th District is especially proud to recognize the service of our 28 residents abroad.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on March 5, 2012, I was unable to vote on rollcall vote 95. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 95, on passage of H.R. 3637.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House Floor during yesterday's roll call vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 3637.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2012 DALE CITY CIVIC ASSO-
CIATION COMMUNITY AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2012 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards.

The Dale City Civic Association was founded in 1967. Citizens formed the organization to give a voice to community initiatives and

collective action in Dale City. Today, the organization's purpose is to represent the interests of the residents of Dale City in a manner that benefits the entire community. Members do this with robust beautification efforts, land use advocacy and volunteer responses to community needs.

The Association hosts an annual awards banquet to honor individuals and organizations that show an exceptional devotion to their community and public service. It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of the recipients of the 2012 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards:

High School Teacher of the Year: Ingrid Hoffman Pery;

Middle School Teacher of the Year: Mary Lynn Thurman;

Elementary School Teacher of the Year: Margie Norman;

John D. Jenkins Youth Citizen of the Year: Donald E. Jones, Jr.;

Dale City Youth Environmental and Conservation Award: Ann Nguyen;

Kathie Feeney Nurse of the Year: Rosey Espiritu;

Prince William County Police Department, Police Officer of the Year: Officer David C. McKeown;

Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Officer of the Year: Lieutenant Christopher Gardner, Jr.;

Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Emergency Medical Service Provider of the Year: Technician Danielle Miller;

Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Firefighter of the Year: Technician Tinashe Banda;

Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, "Second to None" Volunteer Community Servant Award: Irene Dell;

Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, Firefighter of the Year: Captain Steve Barr;

Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, Emergency Medical Service Provider of the Year: Lieutenant Leif Ericson;

Deputy Sheriff of the Year: Deputy Jack Richards;

Catherine Spellane Citizen of the Year: Ellen Carleton;

Kathleen K. Seefeldt Community Service Award: Jo-Ellen Benson;

Ernestine S. Jenkins Lifetime Volunteer Award: Janice Carr; and

Business of the Year: Amici's Restaurante.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the winners of the 2012 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards for their dedication to building and maintaining a healthy community. Each recipient has made a tangible imprint on Dale City, and, with these awards, we hope to show them that their contributions have not gone unnoticed.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$15,491,983,252,196.46. We've added \$4,865,106,203,283.33 to our debt in 3 years. This is debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE 2012 OFFICERS OF THE OCCOQUAN WOODBRIDGE LORTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2012 Officers of the Occoquan Woodbridge Lorton Volunteer Fire Department.

The 2012 officers and members of the board of directors are taking leadership roles in one of Northern Virginia's longest standing volunteer fire departments. The O.W.L. Volunteer Fire Department was created to address the need for organized fire response capabilities in the growing suburbs of Northern Virginia. In 1938, the Department officially formed to become the only fire department between Fredericksburg and Alexandria. In the subsequent decades O.W.L. has expanded to staff three stations and provide emergency medical services.

The members of O.W.L. are dedicated community volunteers, and the 2012 officers and directors will be diligent stewards of this tradition of service. The 250 active O.W.L. members answer 14,000 calls and serve 60,000 people each year. Their job is demanding and the hours are long, but these brave men and women are driven by their dedication to public safety and the communities that they serve. We would all do well to follow their example.

I congratulate and commend the following 2012 incoming officers:

Department Chief: James F. McAllister;

Fire Assistant Chiefs: Karl F. Fippinger,

Wayne A. Haight, David S. Halman, John M.

McGovern III, and Richard C. Slusher;

EMS Assistant Chief: Edward A. Craig;

Fire Captains: Kurt E. Bolland, Steven R.

Godin, Michael Nazionale, and Brian J. Smith,

David P. Williams, and Justin W. Witt;

EMS Captain: Richard T. Ruggieri;

Fire Lieutenants: Jonathan W. Baldwin,

Robert L. Brown, Mark A. Chandler, Jon R.

Colpitts, Joshua Culp, Ernie M. Firkin Jr., Har-

old F. Griffith, Jamieson H. Jewett, Alexander

R. Moody, Richard P. Moore, Derick N. Ondra,

and John M. Roberts;

EMS Lieutenants: Tara S. Gallant, Tammy

L. Hill, James M. McCue, Scott A. Schneider,

Kelly Shaw, and Cynthia M. Young;

Executive Vice President: Ronald D. Miller;

Admin Vice Presidents: William L. Carter,

Michael W. Clark, Henry J. Neyhouse, and

George W. Smith;

Membership Secretary: Melissa L. Payne;

Treasurer: George J. Nazionale, Jr.;

Election Officer: Valoree A. Brown;

Sergeant at Arms: Timothy S. VanDeusen;

Board of Directors: Jonathan D. Karnbach,

Thomas S. Sullivan, and Lenny G. Peters Jr.;

New Life Members: James F. McAllister, Joseph

J. Zarkauskas Jr., Derek D. Dove, and Phillip

L. Hughes Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating these remarkable volun-

teers on their new positions and in thanking all members of the Occoquan Woodbridge Lorton Volunteer Fire Department for the vital service they provide to the Prince William community. Stay safe.

HONORING PATRICIA SMITH OF LEBANON ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE FARM SERVICE AGENCY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my heartiest congratulations and thanks to Patricia Smith of Lebanon for her more than three decades of service to farmers in eastern Connecticut. This past December, Pat retired after 31 years of working for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency's Connecticut office.

After graduating from Norwich Free Academy, Pat began working at the Groton Sub Base. She later worked in Boston at the Naval Shipyards, a rural letter carrier in Lebanon, Connecticut and also at the Social Security office in Willimantic, Connecticut. Always a dedicated public servant, Pat worked hard to serve the people of eastern Connecticut in her various capacities. In 1980, Pat was hired by current Connecticut Farm Service Agency Executive Director Marsha Jette to serve as a Program Technician assisting farmers in eastern Connecticut.

Pat's experience as a herdsman on her brother Nathan R. Cushman's farm gave her the hands-on experience she needed to provide dedicated and timely service to her fellow farmers. At the time she began working for USDA in 1980, Pat also milked 16-20 Brown Swiss cows that she kept at her residence that belonged to her and her daughter Julie who was actively involved in the 4-H program.

Pat's dedication to her work never wavered despite the challenging times dairy farmers and others in Connecticut faced during her three decades at USDA. While Pat's retirement has left a void that will not easily be filled at the Farm Service Agency office, she continues her service through volunteer efforts at the New London County Farm Service Agency office. Always the dedicated public servant, Pat Smith's experience and care for her fellow farmers will be sorely missed as she moves from full time work to volunteering for farmers in Connecticut. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Pat on her retirement and wish her well in her continued efforts.

RECOGNIZING PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TEACHERS WHO HAVE ACHIEVED NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 21 Prince William County

Public Schools teachers who recently received certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The National Board is an independent nonprofit organization governed by classroom teachers, school administrators, school board leaders, governors and state legislators, higher education officials, teacher union leaders, and business and community leaders.

These teachers have met the standards established by the National Board and have undergone a rigorous application process that required they demonstrate the knowledge, skills and accomplishments that comprise teaching excellence. A Board Certified teacher supports a vision of teaching based on the following five core principles:

1. Teachers are committed to students and their learning;
2. Teachers know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students;
3. Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning;
4. Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience; and
5. Teachers are members of learning communities.

I extend my personal congratulations to the recent class of National Board Certified Teachers:

Ms. Laura Deering—Battlefield High School;
 Ms. Susan Dommer—Stonewall Middle School;
 Ms. Michelle Esmacher—Lake Ridge Middle School;
 Ms. Amanda Esteban—Battlefield High School;
 Ms. Crystal Figueroa—Triangle Elementary School;
 Mr. Jason Fox—Hylton High School;
 Mr. Mark Groom—Swans Creek Elementary School;
 Ms. Erica Ippoliti—Rosa Parks Elementary School;
 Ms. Michelle Marrero—Freedom High School;
 Ms. Megan Martin—Henderson Elementary School;
 Ms. Kristin McKittrick-Rojas—Benton Middle School;
 Ms. Catherine Naujoks—Coles Elementary School;
 Ms. Diana Pool—Battlefield High School;
 Ms. Kelly Pratte—Rosa Parks Elementary School;
 Ms. Ann Reighard—Rosa Parks Elementary School;
 Mr. Mark Rendell—T. Clay Wood Elementary School;
 Ms. Ramona Richardson—Coles Elementary School;
 Ms. Karen Roth—Antietam Elementary School;
 Ms. Amanda Shaw—Signal Hill Elementary School;
 Ms. Amanda Taylor—Gainesville Middle School; and
 Ms. Jacquelynn Zanghi—Ellis Elementary School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending these teachers for their commitment to education and professional development. Prince William County Public Schools delivers a world class education due to the tireless efforts of teachers who make excellence the standard.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH McCANTS
 RAVENELL

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an everyday hero, whose abiding faith led her to a remarkable life of Christian service. Deaconess Elizabeth McCants Ravenell passed from this life on February 12, 2012, but her legacy lives on in everyone she touched.

Elizabeth McCants Ravenell was born on November 25, 1922 in Moncks Corner, South Carolina. She attended the public schools of Charleston County, but her calling was a Christian education. She earned certificates from the House of God Academy and Bible College and a degree from the Moody Bible Institute.

Mrs. Ravenell was a devout Christian, and devoted her life to her family and her faith. She first joined the Mt. Olive Baptist Church in North Charleston in 1943. Two years later, she and her husband joined the House of God—Keith Dominion, when their oldest child, Mary Elizabeth was just one year old.

As a member of the House of God, Mrs. Ravenell served in many capacities. She was a part of the National Complex committee, Deacons Union, Chief Overseer's Anniversary Committee, and the International Missionary Outreach Society.

She sailed the Mediterranean Sea, ministering in Madrid, Spain as a guest of a community church her daughter, Margaret Catherine, organized. She represented the Piedmont Diocese of South Carolina in Mississippi. Mrs. Ravenell also took many visitors to the church's General Assembly in Nashville, Tennessee, and provided food, clothes and shelter for many of them.

She met her husband, James L. Ravenell in Charleston, South Carolina. The couple had six children, and numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren. Mrs. Ravenell was also "mother" to all of the children of the church. Children gave her the greatest joy in life, and she doted on all of them. I met Ms. Ravenell soon after marrying into the McCants family over 50 years ago. We became fast friends and remained so until her death.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in celebrating an abundant life well lived. Elizabeth Ravenell was a dear

friend of the family and light to all who knew her. She radiated her Christian faith and spent her life doing good works. While her presence will be missed, she has left the world a better place because of her devotion and service to others.

RECOGNIZING THE 22ND ANNUAL
 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
 YOUTH ORATORICAL COMPETITION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 22nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Oratorical Competition hosted by the Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and its Education Foundation.

The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. left an indelible mark on our nation in his pursuit of civil rights through civil dialogue. Despite the violence perpetrated against Dr. King and other leaders of the Civil Rights Movement, Dr. King responded with reverent oratory and nonviolent resistance to condemn the injustice of social inequality. His legacy is one of tolerance and steadfast commitment to principled and peaceful communication.

Contestants in the MLK Youth Oratorical Contest pay tribute to Dr. King's legacy with their ability to exercise the strength of the spoken word. This skill will serve them well as they seize future leadership opportunities and forge the personal relationships necessary for effective community engagement and organizing.

I congratulate and applaud the following contestants of the 22nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Competition:

Middle School Contestants

Jonathan Adrien—Porter School;
 Jacob Gonzalez—Parkside Middle School;

Nicolas Smith—Benton Middle School.

High School Contestants

Sadiyah Faruk—Gar-Field High School;
 Ebonee Johnson—Manassas Park High School;

Seth Opoku-Yeboah—Osborn Park High School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for recognizing the benefit that Dr. King's teachings bring to the development of our youth. We lay the foundations of a more tolerant society when we nurture the ability to engage and communicate with one another in a way that respects our common humanity.