

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J.  
BOARMAN, 26TH PUBLIC PRINTER  
OF THE UNITED STATES

### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today I urge all Members to join in commending William J. "Bill" Boarman, who honorably and skillfully led the Government Printing Office, GPO, as the 26th Public Printer from January 3, 2011, to January 3, 2012.

Bill slashed agency spending dramatically by eliminating nonessential hires, cutting needless travel, restricting use of overtime and reducing the GPO's annual spending plan for 2011 by 15 percent. He held the line on salary increases consistently with the President's government-wide pay freeze. Bill created a specialized task force to collect funds owed to GPO and within months collected over a third of the money due, some outstanding for seven years.

To avoid potential lay-offs in the future, Bill authorized a buyout of up to 15 percent of his workforce, but excluding from eligibility employees in mission-critical positions. Together with his restrictions on new hires, the buyout plan achieved 94 percent of its goal and reduced the GPO's staffing to its lowest level in a century. This achievement will save GPO and taxpayers tens of millions of dollars in future years.

Bill also worked with the two appropriations committees to provide GPO with funding 15 percent below the prior year but which nonetheless assures GPO's ability to perform its essential functions. To address questions about the work GPO performs for Congress, Bill provided persuasive testimony on the value of the printing services that the GPO performs while at the same time ordering the first-ever survey of Congress's printing requirements. This precedent-setting work, which was commended by the House Appropriations Committee, resulted in the largest single-year percentage reduction in the number of printed CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS delivered to Congress since the GPO began to transition to online versions in 1994.

As a result of these and other efforts, Bill's annual report to Congress reported that the GPO ended the year with a net income of \$5.6 million, a positive result validated by an external auditor. Yet Bill's leadership at the GPO was about more than cutting costs and improving financial returns. He made customer service GPO's primary strategic goal, a direction that earned the agency applause in a government-wide agency survey. He put GPO on Facebook and ordered the development and release of the GPO's first mobile Web application. While continuing the development of GPO's online Federal Digital System and the GPO's plan for a new automated composition system, he emphasized efficiency and agency control over the GPO's digital systems rather

than ceding operations to contractors. He devised and won approval for a new annual investment and spending plan for the GPO that is 6 percent less than his previous year's plan, and which puts the GPO on a path finally to begin retiring several presses that are more than 30 years old.

In other areas of the GPO, Bill's achievements were equally impressive. For example, he pushed forward with aggressive plans to make more GPO space available for lease to other agencies, and at the end of the year the GPO was in active negotiations with several organizations. As a former proofreader at the GPO, his return to the agency restored confidence and bolstered employee morale. Under his watch the GPO observed its 150th anniversary, opening an exhibit of its history to the public and issuing a new book on its past, *Keeping America Informed*. Last month Bill made GPO history by appointing a highly qualified senior manager, Ms. Davita Vance-Cooks, as Deputy Public Printer, the first woman ever to hold that post, and with Bill's departure, she is today the first woman ever to head the agency.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Boarman's tenure as Public Printer set a new standard of achievement for his successors to emulate. In my judgment, the actions of a handful of Senators to block an up-or-down vote on the President's nomination of Bill Boarman deprived Congress, Federal agencies, and the American public of his faithful service during this time of difficult transition when most needed.

Regardless what may come next, Bill Boarman can leave the Government Printing Office confident that GPO is better than when he found it, and that he has left it in good and capable hands. Please join me in offering the thanks of a grateful Nation to a dedicated public servant. We wish Bill only the best.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 113, had I been present, I would have voted, "yea."

### HONORING KEVIN KOPP

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kevin Kopp. Kevin 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 1412, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kevin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kevin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 31 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Kevin served as his troop's Patrol Leader and Bugler. Kevin also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Kevin restored a walking trail around St. Luke's Northland Hospital in Smithville, Missouri.

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

IN MEMORY OF FREDERICK J.  
GIORGI

### HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to remember and honor the life of my good friend, Frederick J. Giorgi. Fred died on February 18, 2012, of natural causes at St. Joseph Medical Center in Reading, Pennsylvania.

Frederick Giorgi was born on December 3, 1930. He was the son of the late Pietro and Elvira Giorgi, natives of Ascoli Piceno, Italy. Fred was a proud 1948 graduate of Reading Central Catholic High School and received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1952 from Villanova University where he majored in Pre-Law/Accounting. He later received a Juris Doctor degree from Dickinson School of Law in 1955.

After earning his law degree, Fred served two years in the U.S. Navy before becoming a founding partner in the law firm of Austin, Boland, Connor, & Giorgi in Reading. During this time he worked part-time at the family business, Giorgio Foods Inc., and its related companies. In 1975, he left public practice to fully dedicate his time to the family business.

Until his passing, Fred was the chairman of F&P Holding Company with subsidiaries Giorgio Foods, Inc., Giorgi Mushroom, Co., Can Corporation of America, Maidencreak Plaza Co., and other companies in the U.S.A. and Can Pack S.A., with operations in Poland, the United Kingdom, Russia, Ukraine, India, UAE, Spain, France, Morocco, Romania, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Turkey, and Brazil.

Fred's many personal and professional accomplishments were recognized with a number of awards, including a Career Achievement Award from Dickinson School of Law, an Award of Merit from Penn State University Department of Mushroom Science, and a 2005 Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit by the President of the Republic of Poland for outstanding contribution to the development of the Polish economy. In 2008, he was presented with a 50-year Membership Award by the Berks County Bar Association.

• 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.

Fred's wisdom and energy instilled in his employees the desire and will to achieve well beyond expectations. He regarded his employees so highly that he never missed an opportunity to let them know they were his stars and rewarded them with company trips all around the world.

The charitable contributions Fred so quietly contributed to his local community, the international community, and his beloved church are too numerous to mention.

Fred will be greatly missed by his family, colleagues, friends, and all of the lives that he touched with his loyalty, compassion, generosity and humor.

Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues, please join me in remembering my dear friend, Fred Giorgi.

TRIBUTE TO CHAIRMAN LARRY  
HYLAND AND THE SENIOR CITI-  
ZENS LEAGUE BOARD OF TRUST-  
EES

**HON. MIKE MCINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I am here to congratulate Larry Hyland, the Chairman of The Senior Citizens League (TSCL) and its Board of Trustee members for their work in educating the public and Congress about issues of utmost importance to America's seniors. The Senior Citizens League represents over 1 million members nationwide and 3,844 in my Congressional district.

The Senior Citizens league is a non-profit, non-partisan organization headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, that strives to educate millions of seniors and Members of Congress through senior faxes, e-alerts, Public Service Announcements, newspapers ads, direct mail, and publications such as a monthly newsletter—The Advisor.

Five members of The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA) work tirelessly for The Senior Citizens League as non-paid volunteers to help our most elderly and low income seniors: TSCL Chairman Larry Hyland, Vice Chairman Thomas O'Connell, Treasurer Edward Cates, Secretary Charlie Flowers, and PAC Treasurer Michael Gales. In addition, TREA Liaison Arthur Cooper and Past TSCL Chairman Daniel O'Connell also serve on the Board of Trustees.

Chairman Larry Hyland retired from the U.S. Air Force as a senior master sergeant. During the Vietnam War era, Hyland was an aircraft crew chief flying on missions into and out of Vietnam and flew in the evacuations of 1975. After active duty, he launched a small business and later entered Federal civil service working for 16 years before retiring from the office of the Air Force Director of Operations, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans and Requirements, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington DC.

Vice Chairman Thomas O'Connell served in the U.S. Army including service as Division Logistics NCO. His experiences as a high school teacher, author, and librarian have facilitated his work on the TSCL Board of Trustees. He participates in many local community organizations in Westerly, RI.

Treasurer Edward Cates served in the U.S. Army National Guard, U.S. Air Force from

1965 to 1996. He serves as the principal financial officer for TSCL and also as the Treasurer of the TREA Memorial Foundation. Cates is 1st Vice President of TREA Chapter 1 in Colorado Springs, CO.

Secretary Charlie Flowers served in the U.S. Air Force for over 21 years. He has served as the National President of TREA. Also, he served on the TREA National Board as a Director and as National Parliamentarian. He resides in Denver, CO.

Michael Gales served in the U.S. military for 27 years and is a lifetime member of TREA since 1988. He is active in his community and he serves as President of the Patterson Avenue Improvement Association in Baltimore, MD.

TREA Liaison Arthur Cooper served in the U.S. Army for over 20 years, completing his last tour as a Department of Nursing Education NCOIC. He currently serves as the National President of TREA. Cooper resides in Gambrills, MD.

Immediate Past TSCL Chairman Daniel O'Connell served in the U.S. Air Force for 29 years, retiring as a chief master sergeant. His U.S. Air Force career included service as the Training NCO for the Queens College ROTC Program. O'Connell also worked in protocol at the Air Force Space Command in Colorado Springs where he retired as Director of Protocol.

The TSCL Board visits Capitol Hill in Washington several times a year to personally meet with Members of the U.S. House and Senate to consult with them about seniors' issues. TSCL is especially interested in Social Security remaining solvent and preserved for future generations.

Under the leadership of Chairman Larry Hyland, The Senior Citizens League has strictly adhered to its non-partisan status. Most notably, Chairman Hyland has guided TSCL in its movement toward a more broad-based and multi-issue organization. TSCL has become a leader on issues such as U.S.-Mexico Totalization (via FOIA documents), a Social Security COLA to be based on a Consumer Price Index for the Elderly, Social Security Guarantee, Social Security Trust Fund Lock-Box, and Social Security Notch Fairness.

Each of the Board members has rendered military service to their country, and each has worked tirelessly to speak in behalf of seniors and The Senior Citizens League. Several Members of Congress thanked them personally for showing up in their offices, saying: "we never see representatives of some other senior groups, but your organization always visits us."

Their determination to assist the most worthy and needy of our citizens is commendable.

HONORING TIMOTHY M.  
MATTHEWS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Timothy M. Matthews. Tim 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 28, and

earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tim has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tim 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, Tim contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Tim planned and constructed a flag pole for all veterans of the United States military and to honor their service and sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Timothy M. Matthews 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 HONOREES OF THE  
MID-MAINE CHAMBER OF COM-  
MERCE AWARDS

**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorees of the 2012 Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner. The Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce serves the people and business community of the greater Waterville area, working with the business community to strengthen economic opportunity throughout the region and the state.

Each year, the Mid-Maine Chamber recognizes some of the outstanding businesses and individuals that make Maine "the way life should be" for all Mainers and Maine businesses. These individuals and businesses are committed to strengthening opportunity and prosperity in Maine.

This year's award recipients include Gil Pelletier, recipient of the Distinguished Community Service Award; Central Maine Disposal, Business of the Year; Pamela Kick of Pinnacle IT, Business Person of the Year; Dr. Barbara Covey of the MaineGeneral SAFE Program, Outstanding Professional of the Year; the Waterville Public Library, Community Service Project of the Year; Bruce Harrington of the Bank of Maine, "Rising Star" Award; and Darla Frost of Kennebec Federal Savings, the Customer Service Stardom Award.

These recipients are among the best that Maine has to offer. Through their leadership and incredible commitment to their communities and the region, Maine is a better place to live and do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce and these individuals on their outstanding service and achievement.

HONORING BAHER MICHEL

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on

my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share these with my House colleagues.

Baher Michel is a senior at Clements High School in Fort Bend County, Texas. His essay topic is: Select an important event that has occurred in the past 50 years and explain how that event has changed our country. Baher chose *Marbury v. Madison*.

The United States Supreme Court is often a spring of controversy. With *Marbury v. Madison* the Court has “judicial review”, power to deem any type of legislation as constitutional or unconstitutional, and thus, void. In other words, any government action or law can be challenged, brought in front of the Court, and whatever the Justices decide is final. The fact that it holds such enormous power in government but yet is comprised of a few unelected appointed Justices is perplexing. How can five, nine, or even ten individuals possibly reflect the American public opinion?

To claim that the Supreme Court is insular if not isolated of the real world would not be so outlandish of a claim. The fact that Justices are appointed and not elected by the general public is one indicator of a direct deviation from the public’s opinion. Another is the fact that Justices serve in the Supreme Court for life (unless they are convicted and impeached or they retire). Thus, while public society and opinion may and inevitably evolves, appointed Justices remain in power, succeeding to not reflect nor mirror the public’s changing opinion. Contenders might claim that such “insularity” is actually beneficial because the Supreme Court is not designed to reflect public opinion, but rather to merely interpret the Constitution. But then again, how can only nine people decide on what the Document meant as it relates to today’s cases?

While the Supreme Court does seem sovereign of public opinion, it is not completely secluded from it. A Justice appointee cannot make it to the Court unless voted on by the United States Senate, comprised of directly elected senators. So in essence, Justices should reflect public opinion not only because the elected President chooses them, but also because the Senate confirms them.

In conclusion, it may appear undemocratic and thus paradoxical that one of our most powerful branches in government is comprised of unelected officials. However, it must also be stated that such sovereignty actually shields Justices from faltering with the public’s ceaseless waves of ever-changing beliefs, emotions, and culture.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 116, had I been present, I would have voted “nay.”

A TRIBUTE TO THE McCLUER NORTH HIGH SCHOOL STARS, WINNERS OF THE MISSOURI CLASS 5 STATE TITLE FOR BASKETBALL AND STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Missouri’s own Class 5 State Basketball Champions, the McCluer North High School Stars.

McCluer North basketball and winning championships have become synonymous with one another, thanks to the tireless leadership of head coach Randy Reed and his group of determined and talented young men. High school students Alex Bluiett, Greg Brown, Galen Brown, Terrance Bush, Damon Clemons, Jacari Finley, Tremayne Garrett, Jordon Granger, Dorian Holland, Keith Jones, Mario McCoy, Bryon Ray, Zac Taylor, and Latron Thomas are now State champions.

The Stars’ run of excellence is unparalleled. In the past 6 years, McCluer North has won no fewer than 3 State championships and played for the State title 4 times, winning the State’s most daunting district tournament 6 of the past 7 years. This season alone, the Stars won 26 straight games, culminating in their heroic victory over their rivals, the Nixa Eagles. Their recent victory marks a fitting end to a season of hard work and perseverance. Their combination of athleticism, experience, depth, and talent proved to be more than their most challenging competitors could handle.

Mr. Speaker, Coach Reed and the men of the McCluer North Stars are true examples of sportsmanship and character, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring their remarkable achievement.

HONORING CONTRA COSTA COUNTY DISTRICT 2 SUPERVISOR GAYLE UILKEMA

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleague Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate Contra Costa County District 2 Supervisor Gayle Uilkema as she retires after 37 years of public service.

Supervisor Uilkema began her long career in 1975 as a Lafayette Parks and Recreation Commissioner, and was soon elected to the Lafayette City Council. She served five subsequent terms on the City Council, where she left a strong legacy, after which she proudly served four terms as Mayor of Lafayette.

As the longest serving member of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, Gayle Uilkema has worked tirelessly on behalf of her constituents. Her knowledge and experience was integral in developing Lafayette’s Veterans Memorial Building and the Lafayette Library and Learning Center, two projects which provided access to resources previously unavailable to many in the community. She

was also instrumental in establishing the Lafayette Redevelopment Agency, which helped pass the first Road and Drain Bond in the area.

Gayle has accumulated numerous awards in the course of her career, including recognition from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the American Association of University Women. Gayle was named Alumna of the Year by California State University—East Bay and was honored as Co-Citizen of the Year by the West County Business & Professional Association. Most recently she was recognized as the 2012 Lafayette Citizen of the Year Award for her outstanding dedication and contributions to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending Supervisor Gayle Uilkema for her committed and diligent service to Lafayette and Contra Costa County. I am pleased to join her family, colleagues, and friends in congratulating her on an outstanding career and wish her the very best as she begins a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING TODD MATTHEW CALTON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Todd Matthew Calton. Todd 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 397, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Todd has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Todd has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 53 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Todd is a member of the Order of the Arrow and earned the rank of Tom-Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Todd has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Todd built an outdoor volleyball court at Kearney Bible Church in Kearney, Missouri, a project that took Todd and his team of volunteers 340 hours to complete. Todd also plans on serve our country in the United States Marine Corps beginning in September 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Todd Matthew Calton 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. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I was unable to have my vote in the House recorded on H.R. 665 the Excess Federal Building and Property Disposal Act of 2011. If present, I would have voted “aye.”

Additionally, on final passage of H.R. 2087, legislation to remove restrictions from a parcel of land situated in the Atlantic District, Accomack County, Virginia, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING WALTER ALCORN, 2011  
FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZEN OF  
THE YEAR

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Walter Alcorn, an exceptional constituent, on his receipt of the 2011 Fairfax County Citizen of the Year. Walter will receive this distinguished honor at the organization's 62nd Annual Awards Banquet on March 25, 2012. Walter has exhibited outstanding civic service and selfless volunteerism, and this honor is rightfully awarded.

Walter's recognition by the Fairfax County Citizens Association offers only a glimpse into his committed service to the residents of Northern Virginia. Most recently, Walter's involvement in Tyson's Corner helped a great deal in solving many of the complex planning issues.

As the Chair of the Planning Commission's Tysons Corner Committee, Walter led work to translate the vision and recommendations of the Tysons Corner Task Force into language appropriate for the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan. For more than two years, Walter led the Committee and worked with all concerned stakeholders to develop consensus recommendations that were ultimately adopted by the Board of Supervisors in June 2010. In March of last year, the Board of Supervisors requested that the Planning Commission develop an all-encompassing method to address infrastructure financing, along with other Tysons-related implementation issues. Walter has diplomatically made sure that this has remained transparent throughout the entire process.

Walter's service goes back decades. He has served on the Fairfax County Planning Commission since 1997. He has chaired the Planning Commission's Tysons Corner Committee since 2008 and has served as its Vice Chairman since 1997. He was first by Board Chairman Kate Hanley, and reappointed 3 times on motions of Board Chairmen Gerry Connolly and Sharon Bulova. He also chaired the Planning Commission's Environment Committee from 1997 to 2006. Walter has been a Virginia Certified Planning Commissioner since December 1997.

Along with his service to the Fairfax County Planning Commission, he is an enthusiastic coach for Reston Little League, manager of the Reston Warriors 12U baseball team and serves on the steering committee of his Sunday School class at the United Christian Parish in Reston. When not volunteering, he is employed as the Vice President for Environmental Affairs and Industry Sustainability at the Consumer Electronics Association in Crystal City, where he commutes daily via the Fairfax Connector and Metro. Previously, he worked as an environmental consultant specializing in the development of a national system for recycling electronic equipment, co-

founded the 501(c)3 National Center for Electronics Recycling in 2005, and was a Deputy Division Manager in the Technology Research Group for Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). Prior to his private sector employment, Walter was a Policy Aide in the Providence District Supervisor's office.

Walter is a model of the best kind of civil servant. I'm proud to congratulate him on his well-deserved award, and give my sincere thanks for his unwavering service to Northern Virginia.

CONGRATULATING MILES  
SAFFRAN, RECIPIENT OF THE  
2012 PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF  
COMMUNITY AWARD

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Miles Saffran for exemplary volunteer service in his community. Miles, age 15, of Winter Park, has been named one of the top honorees in Florida by The 2012 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state and the District of Columbia.

Miles is a sophomore at Trinity Preparatory School and has helped raise more than \$60,000 to fund three medical trips to Mexico where he has served as the surgical youth coordinator for cleft lip and palate repair for Florida Hospital's mission trips. While in Mexico, Miles was responsible for assisting surgeons, organizing medicine, cleaning masks, and comforting patients and their families.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Award was created in 1995 by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals to encourage youth volunteers in their contributions to society, to emphasize the value of volunteerism, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. Over the past 17 years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, and has involved more than 100,000 young volunteers at the local, state and national level.

It is my pleasure to commend Miles for his energy and initiative in seeking to make his community and world a better place to live. His commitment and accomplishment is extraordinary in today's world and deserves recognition. His actions remind us that young Americans can play an important role in our communities.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to recognize Miles Saffran's selflessness and enthusiasm for serving others and for making a difference. The kind of altruism evident in Miles's efforts represents our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow. May his efforts inspire others to follow in his footsteps.

"STARS AND STRIPES: NO PROBLEMS WITH 'DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL' REPEAL"

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, whenever a legislative body deals with measures to prohibit or lessen discrimination against any group, opponents who do not wish to affirm that they are prejudiced against that group often assert that there will be negative consequences if the antidiscrimination measure is adopted. Most recently, we heard dire predictions from many supporters of the policy of discriminating against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender members of the military that allowing these patriotic Americans to serve their country openly would be terribly disruptive. Apparently, there were many who believed that young Americans who serve in the military shared their prejudice.

Despite their arguments, the repeal was voted by the Congress in 2010 and very efficiently put into place by Defense Secretary Panetta after full consultation with the Military Chiefs of Staff. It has now been about six months since the ban on honesty among gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender military personnel was dropped. And, as in many other cases—for example our laws protecting people with disabilities, or our laws banning discrimination against women—the predictions of social chaos from opponents of fairness have proven to be baseless.

Stars and Stripes, the widely regarded newspaper that serves our military, and has a long record of independence and integrity, summed it up in an article on March 19th as follows: "Six months after the military ended the controversial "don't ask, don't tell" law barring gays from serving openly, Pentagon officials and gay rights advocates say the policy change has largely been a non-issue, with few complaints and no major headaches resulting from the new rules."

It is true that there are some of those who were opposed to this end to a discriminatory policy who continue to argue that there would have been problems if the Pentagon had not somehow mysteriously suppressed it. The notion that there is any significant degree of dissatisfaction but there is no way that anyone has been able to voice it—even anonymously—is of course highly suspect. The fact is that it turns out that the young people in the military do not share the prejudices of some of their would-be defenders, and the notion that military effectiveness has in any way been damaged, or that we would see people leaving the military, have been shown to have no basis.

Mr. Speaker, because it is important to have this further example of the inaccuracy of the predictions that are made when we seek to ban discrimination against particular groups, and because this was such an important issue debated in this Congress, I ask that the article from Stars and Stripes be printed here.

[From the Stars and Stripes, Mar. 19, 2012]

(By Leo Shane III)

SIX MONTHS AFTER REPEAL, MILITARY SAYS  
DADT DIED QUIETLY

WASHINGTON.—Sgt. Pepe Johnson was surprised by the reaction he received when his fellow soldiers learned that he is gay.

"They've pretty much shrugged it off," said Johnson, who rejoined the Army last fall after nearly a decade away. "Most of them were wondering why I had a nine-year gap in service. When I told them it was because of 'don't ask, don't tell,' they shrugged it off.

"That was a pleasant surprise."

Six months after the military dropped the controversial "don't ask, don't tell" law barring gays from serving openly, Pentagon officials and gay rights advocates say the policy change has largely been a non-issue, with few complaints and no major headaches resulting from the new rules.

Pentagon spokeswoman Eileen Lainez said the repeal is "proceeding smoothly across the Department of Defense," which officials there credit to the "enforcement of standards by our military leaders" and "servicemembers' adherence to core values that include discipline and respect."

Officials at the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, a pro-repeal group which offers free legal assistance to troops on discrimination issues, said they've heard only a few minor complaints from military members about the implementation of the repeal.

"We had thought this would be largely a non-event, and that has been the case," said Aubrey Sarvis, executive director of the group. "I think the new regulations permitting gays and lesbians to serve are unambiguous, and the commands have all made it abundantly clear that this is the direction the force is going."

Military leaders have seen pushback from conservative groups on some high-profile post-repeal stories—such as a picture of a gay Marine kissing his boyfriend which circulated earlier this month—but haven't faced any lawsuits or mass resignations predicted by some opponents.

Last month's White House dinner honoring Iraq War veterans included several same-sex couples among the invitees, but in their remarks military leaders didn't even note that such a public display would have resulted in those troops' dismissal just a few months earlier.

Johnson was booted out of the Army in 2003 under "don't ask, don't tell." After he shared his secret with some friends, others in his unit started grilling them about his sexual orientation. Feeling pressure from both his friends and others, Johnson eventually came clean to his superiors.

As the political winds changed last year, Johnson said he was speaking with recruiters about returning even before the repeal went into effect last September.

"Their biggest issue was asking when I could start, not worrying about my personal life," he said. "There has been no backlash, nothing to worry about."

Repeal opponents remain skeptical. Elaine Donnelly, president of the conservative Center for Military Readiness, said plenty of troops remain opposed to serving with openly gay colleagues, but fear they'll lose their job if they object to the military's new pro-gay agenda.

"The entire administration . . . has imposed 'zero tolerance' policies against persons who are not enthusiastic supporters of LGBT law," she said. "This is what we predicted, but the effects will not be seen quickly, especially in an election year."

Much of the repeal fight has already shifted to the next rights battlefield, whether same-sex couples should receive the same housing and medical benefits as their straight peers.

Sarvis said the current benefits rules create two different classes of servicemembers. Opponents argue that the rights groups are trying to use the military to force radical social changes.

Meanwhile, Donnelly said that she has heard from a number of troops unhappy with the changes, who are simply waiting for their contracts to expire before leaving the service. That could cause major problems in coming months and years, she said.

Petty Officer 1st Class Jeremy Johnson, a member of active-duty gay-rights group OutServe, said he anticipates more problems in the future, although nothing to the extent of Donnelly's predictions. Many of the gay troops he knows have not yet talked about their personal lives with their work colleagues, somewhat delaying the cultural impact of the repeal.

"This was never about having people come flying out of the closet," he said. "It was about knowing you can't be fired for being found out. There's going to be a natural transition as more people become comfortable with the idea."

Johnson, who was forced from the military in 2007, became the first openly gay person to reenlist after the repeal was finalized. He said his commanders have warned him that he could be singled out for his public role, but so far it hasn't caused any real conflicts.

"I anticipate that this isn't over, but I don't anticipate major problems, either," he said.

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#### HONORING THE LIFE OF STATE SENATOR GARY W. KUBLY

#### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Senator Gary W. Kubly, public servant and Lutheran Pastor. Senator Kubly passed away earlier this month at the age of 68, after a hard-fought battle with Lou Gehrig's Disease. As our community mourns the loss of this beloved civic leader, we must pause to celebrate Gary's legacy and reflect upon his years of service.

Gary's lifelong career of service began when he joined the United States Air Force during the late 1960s. After leaving the military, Gary became a public school teacher prior to moving to Minnesota in 1970 to attend Luther Theological Seminary in Saint Paul. After graduating from Luther Seminary in 1974, Gary began his career as a Lutheran Pastor, serving two churches near Granite Falls, Minnesota prior to his election to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1996.

Throughout his 15 years in the Minnesota Legislature, Gary touched many lives, and his absence will be felt by all who had the privilege of knowing him. I was honored to serve with him for four years in the Minnesota House of Representatives prior to his election to the Minnesota Senate. He was a constant voice for the residents of the counties he served in southwestern Minnesota, making sure rural communities had an advocate at the Capitol.

Whether serving our country, his Church or his constituents, Gary's dedication to serving others was remarkable. His sense of duty and honor are irreplaceable, and his voice will be missed at the Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in this tribute to Senator Gary W. Kubly.

#### CAPTAIN THOMAS "BILL" DILLION AND THE FIREFIGHTER'S PRAYER

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Monday morning I attended the funeral of Captain Thomas "Bill" Dillion of the Houston Fire Department. Captain Dillion was rushing into a house fire on March 14 when he apparently died of a heart attack. Captain Dillion has three children, was 49 years of age, and had spent 23 years with the Houston Fire Department. Bill's crew at Station 69 spoke about his courage and how his contagious happy mood was so infectious. He was a firemen's firefighter.

Mr. Speaker, the firefighters have a prayer to the Great Almighty about their public service, saving lives and saving property. Here is how the prayer reads:

When I am called to duty, God  
Wherever flames may rage  
Give me strength to save a life  
Whatever be its age.

Let me embrace a little child  
Before it is too late  
Or save an older person from  
The horror of that fate.

Enable me to be alert  
And hear the weakest shout,  
And quickly and efficiently  
To put the fire out.

I want to fill my calling  
To give the best in me,  
To guard my friend and neighbor  
And protect their property.

And, if, according to Your will,  
I must answer death's call,  
Please bless, with Your protecting hand,  
My family one and all.

And that's just the way it is.

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#### HONORING MILAN DOSHI

#### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share these with my House colleagues.

Milan Doshi is a junior at Elkins High School in Fort Bend County, Texas. His essay topic is: In your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

Abraham Lincoln once said that this is a "government of the people, by the people, for the people." Government is an entity that plays just as much a role in our lives as we allow it to play. As the current election is just around the corner, many of the issues that have prevailed in the presidential debates include what role the government

should play in our economy, foreign policy, and our daily lives.

Many Americans believe that if the United States had learned from the past, they would have realized that the greater the country got involved in the economy, with countries around the world, and in our daily lives, the greater the magnitude of the problems in the status quo would become. Many Americans believe that our government has not learned from the past and continues to make the same mistakes that once made its population distraught. Even though our country's interaction with foreign policy and the economy may not directly impact us, the interaction somehow influences a majority of America's population in their daily lives. This impact on the status quo and on the population's mindset is indicative through stories in the news, through personal experiences, and through observations of our surroundings.

Overall, our government should understand that the role that they play in our lives should be in balance. Foreign policy has made our country one of the most powerful countries around the world. We have a prestigious navy, a strong air force, and, most importantly, the most dominating army that money can buy; however, in this case, America's dedication towards the development of its army has preoccupied them to a point where it has reallocated funds from other areas that desperately need them. This reallocation would allow the government to play a more conservative role in our lives. If the funds that were dedicated towards foreign policy were reevaluated, I'm sure there are places where cuts can be made and the money saved be reallocated to other sectors. This begs the question of which sector requires the money the most, based on its influence on our daily lives. The education sector consists of the building blocks of this country and preoccupies most teenagers' daily lives. If more money was invested in this sector, we would be able to hire more experienced teachers, give teachers more freedom to construct their courses, create more effective ways of assessment, as well as pay our teachers more. What this would inevitably lead to is lesser involvement in education, for kids my age, most of our daily lives, and more freedom for teachers to foster growth and meet the needs of individual students, as well as give students the freedom to express themselves without being restricted to the methods of the government. This is important in demonstrating the balance that is necessary of government in our daily lives. If the government allowed students to embrace education, the United States would be able to be competitive with the education systems of other countries around the world. With smarter future generations, America would not make the same mistakes it made in the past that led to economic collapses such as the one that occurred during the Great Depression. Individuals in the American government would finally realize that they ought to play a smaller role in the economy by allowing it to be the one that causes its own downfall and also its own rebuilding. Over the past few years, it has become evident that the greater the role that government plays in the economy, the further it goes into shambles and the more jobs that are lost. This is important because even though I have been fortunate enough to have a family that has not had to go through the stresses of job loss, the effects of thousands of jobs going away are being felt by families all across the United States, affecting their daily lives, in how they live and how they interact with the people around them. If the government did not play as large a role as it is playing right now, we would probably see the economy col-

lapse and then gradually begin to rebuild itself, creating more jobs, steadying the economy, and more importantly, bringing stability to families across the country.

Thus, the role that government ought to play in our lives should be one in balance and it ought to be the government's responsibility to make sure their actions are properly affecting their population. However, in situations where the government loses sight of the problems that lay ahead due to their actions, it becomes the peoples' responsibility to speak and make sure their voice is heard. Because, after all, as Abraham Lincoln once said, this is a "government of the people, by the people, for the people."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 114, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

#### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the second anniversary of the enactment of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. In the two years since its enactment, the Affordable Care Act has been good for seniors, good for women, good for small businesses, and good for all Americans.

As the Affordable Care Act is implemented, it will continue to expand access to affordable, quality health care for over 30 million Americans and will work to reign in the ever-escalating costs of health care. Passage of the Affordable Care Act was a major step toward fulfilling the promise all Americans were pledged: the promise of unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness which quality healthcare embodies.

For the people I represent in the 37th District of California, the Affordable Care Act will improve coverage for 299,000 residents who already have insurance. It will give tax credits and other assistance to up to 146,000 families and 15,100 small businesses to help them afford coverage. Health care reform will also improve Medicare for 63,000 beneficiaries in my district, including closing the prescription drug "donut hole" once and for all.

In 2010, the Affordable Care Act made it possible for 354,592 Medicare beneficiaries in California to receive a \$250 rebate to help cover the cost of their prescription drugs when they hit the donut hole. In 2011, 319,429 Medicare beneficiaries received a 50 percent discount—an average savings of \$538 per person—on brand-name prescription drugs when they hit the coverage gap. That's a total savings of over \$171 million for seniors in California alone! In my district, 3,200 seniors received prescription drug discounts worth \$1.5 million, an average discount of \$460 per senior.

The Affordable Care Act extends coverage to 92,500 uninsured residents of the 37th District and will guarantee that 17,500 residents with pre-existing conditions can obtain the health insurance they need. Since enactment, health care reform has extended insurance coverage to 5,599 Californians through the new Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan.

The Affordable Care Act protects 1,100 families from bankruptcy due to unaffordable health care costs and currently allows 59,000 young adults to obtain coverage on their parents' insurance plans. The new law provides millions of dollars in new funding for 11 community health centers in my district. And finally, it will reduce the cost of uncompensated care for hospitals and other health care providers by \$125 million annually.

Mr. Speaker, as we approach the two year anniversary of the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, an attack on women's access to affordable, quality, and necessary healthcare services is underway. From the comments made by Rush Limbaugh about Georgetown Law Student Sandra Fluke, to Republican attempts to roll back coverage and restrict access to birth control, the GOP's war on women stands in stark contrast to the Administration's goal of ensuring that women have access to the healthcare services they need to remain healthy.

As a female Member of Congress, I understand that women have unique health care needs, and are often the ones who make health care decisions for their families. I voted for and strongly support the Affordable Care Act because it provides important benefits for women and their families. The Affordable Care Act helps women by eliminating the discriminatory gender rating system, making sure that insurance companies do not consider pregnancy grounds for denying coverage, and doing away with all pre-existing conditions.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, all Americans joining new insurance plans have the freedom to choose from any primary care provider, OB-GYN, or pediatrician in their health plan's network, or emergency care outside of the plan's network, without a referral. Under the Affordable Care Act, women joining a new health care plan can receive recommended preventive services, like mammograms, new baby care and well-child visits, and an annual wellness visit with no out-of-pocket costs. In 2011, over 6 million people with private insurance coverage in California gained preventative service coverage with no cost sharing as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

Before enactment of the Affordable Care Act, women could be charged more for individual insurance policies simply because of their gender. A 22-year-old woman could be charged 150 percent the premium that a 22-year-old man paid. In 2014, insurers will not be able to charge women higher premiums than they charge men. The law takes strong action to control health care costs, including helping states crack down on excessive premium increases and making sure most of your premium dollars go toward your health care.

The Affordable Care Act also allows young adults under the age of 26 to stay on their parents' health insurance plan. This provision has expanded access to health insurance coverage for 2.5 million young people nationwide. In my district, 7,000 young adults have taken advantage of this provision and are now covered under their parents' plan.

This week, the House will consider a bill to repeal the Independent Payment Advisory Board established under the Affordable Care Act. Having previously garnered bipartisan support, the majority's decision to attach a medical liability provision to the underlying piece of legislation amounts to nothing short of a partisan ploy to score points with their base.

The language attached to the bill would place caps on medical malpractice awards for pain and suffering at \$250,000 and would override most state tort laws. Unfortunately, the majority's decision to include tort reform language on a completely unrelated measure demonstrates their refusal to work with Members across the aisle in order to further strengthen the Affordable Care Act.

Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Care Act provides American families with stability and peace of mind. Never again will they have to choose between their health and their livelihood. As a result of the Affordable Care Act, 23,000 children and 90,000 adults in my district now have health insurance that covers preventive services without paying any co-pays, coinsurance, or deductibles.

I am proud to be a part of this historic health care policy change, and to be part of the days ahead in which we will work to further strengthen it.

CONGRATULATING ELIZABETH  
TRAN, RECIPIENT OF THE 2012  
PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY  
AWARD

### HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Elizabeth Tran for exemplary volunteer service. Elizabeth, age 17, of Orlando, has been named one of the top honorees in Florida by the 2012 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each State and the District of Columbia.

Elizabeth is a junior at Cypress Creek High School and has raised more than \$20,000 to support the Children's Miracle Network in the first two years of the "Miss Miracle" charity pageant, an annual event that she created. The "Miss Miracle" pageant is conducted in cooperation with Teens Go Green, an organization co-founded by Elizabeth and dedicated to raising public awareness for protecting the environment. All "Miss Miracle" contestants raise money to support the organization, and those contestants who raise the most are crowned "Miss Miracle."

The Prudential Spirit of Community Award was created in 1995 by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals to encourage youth volunteers in their contributions to society, to emphasize the value of volunteerism, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. Over the past 17 years, the program has become the Nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, and has involved more than 100,000 young volunteers at the local, State, and national level.

It is my pleasure to commend Elizabeth for her energy and initiative in seeking to make

her community and world a better place to live by supporting organizations such as the Children's Miracle Network. Her commitment and accomplishment is extraordinary in today's world and deserves recognition. Her actions remind us that young Americans can play an important role in our communities.

On behalf of the citizens of central Florida, I am pleased to recognize Elizabeth Tran's selflessness and enthusiasm for serving others and for making a difference. The kind of altruism evident in Elizabeth's efforts represents our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow. May her efforts inspire others to follow in her footsteps.

### A TRIBUTE TO MONICA PEARSON

### HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Monica Pearson is a familiar face to metro Atlanta's residents, though most know her by her former name—Monica Kaufman. For the past 37 years, Monica has anchored WSB-TV's Channel 2 Action News. The character and amount of trust she has built as Channel 2's nightly newscaster is laudable, but perhaps more important are the barriers she broke as she developed that reputation. Born and brought up in the Civil Rights era, Monica became not only the first African-American, but also the first woman to anchor a daily evening newscast on WSB in 1975.

Throughout her long career, Monica has accumulated an even longer list of awards and achievements. All in all, she has won thirty Local and Southern Regional Emmy awards. When she saw injustice or a story that needed to be heard, she was there reporting on it—first at the 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. segments, and later at 4 p.m. Her hard-hitting investigative journalism cuts at all different issues. In 1992 she spoke out on behalf of women and girls in Georgia when she found out that the Georgia High School Association's all-male executive committee did not have a state-wide competition for girls' soccer or cheerleading. She was awarded the Women's Sports Journalism Award for Local Television Reporting from the Women's Sports Foundation and Miller Lite for her report.

Monica has been honored for bringing attention to a wide range of issues—from the "HOT FLASH! The Truth about Menopause" documentary that won local and national awards in 1994 to the "Prejudice and Hate: Georgians and the Holocaust" documentary that led her to win the Georgia Commission on the Holocaust's Humanitarian Award in 1977. Her sense of civic duty, compassion and curiosity has distinguished her from her peers, winning an Emmy Award for Best Feature Program—"Monica Kaufman Closeups," the National Foundation for Women Legislators' "Media Excellence Award" and the Georgia Commission of Women's "2004 Georgia Woman of the Year."

While devoting her life to journalism, she has also deeply involved herself in the community. She remains a passionate supporter of the Metropolitan United Way, the organization that helped her move beyond her poor background to become an award-winning news-

caster. Since then, she has served as Chair of Atlanta's United Way board, the first African-American and only the second woman. Her dedication to the organization might be due in no small part to the fact that her daughter was adopted through a United Way agency. In her own words, "United Way literally unites people."

United Way is not the only organization that has touched Monica's heart. For many years, Monica ran in the Susan G. Komen's Race for the Cure. She continued to run in the race and volunteer for the organization until the year she herself was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her reaction to this cancer is a story that truly touched my heart. A very religious woman, Monica did not let fear cripple her—instead she left everything to God. She prayed, "Thy will be done, O Lord, not mine." "If you are really strong in your faith, then you don't worry about the outcome," she said. The outcome is obvious—Monica remains to this day a strong, dedicated woman. She is both an inspiration and a role model. Monica will be retiring in July, but I know her character, personality and spirit will not let her keep still. I wish her the very best in her future endeavors, and may we continue to hear of her excellent work for her community. God Bless.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR  
OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE  
SCOUT

### HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Joshua Beard for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Joshua has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
SENATOR BARBARA MIKULSKI

### HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an accomplished and distinguished member of the United States Senate who is achieving a milestone worthy of recognition in this body.

Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI is the longest-serving woman in congressional history. Before being sworn into the Senate in 1986, Senator MIKULSKI served in this chamber for five terms. She has now served the people of Maryland for more than 35 years.

Senator MIKULSKI is the daughter of Polish American small-business owners, who taught her the meaning of hard work. She attended Mount Saint Agnes College and the University

of Maryland, where she earned a degree in Social Work. The inequities she observed during those years are what drove her to become a voice for her community. An activist, she organized community members to stand up against a local plan to build a 16-lane highway through neighborhoods in Baltimore, indeed she was successful.

Her career as a government leader began in 1971, when she was elected a member of Baltimore's City Council. Prior to becoming the first Democratic woman sworn into the Senate in 1986, she served ten years as a Representative of Maryland's 3rd Congressional District.

Without a doubt, Senator MIKULSKI's admirable leadership trajectory is reflected through the varied roles she has held in Congress. She has advanced initiatives involving women's reproductive rights and women's health issues. She is currently a senior member of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee and Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Children and Families. She is also a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Chairwoman of the Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittee. In my work as the House CJS Subcommittee's leading Democrat, I have been grateful for the partnership of my companion in the other chamber.

Senator MIKULSKI is a pioneer who has paved the way for many women. Throughout her career she has served as a mentor for women in congressional leadership and continues to create partnerships to focus the spotlight on women.

Her contributions go beyond the walls of Congress and she continues to be an integral part of her community, greeting constituents and lending a hand to empower and help make a difference. She continues to fight to give Maryland the resources necessary to compete in a global economy.

I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring this notable woman who is making history and extend our gratitude for her service and wish the senior Senator from the State of Maryland good health and good times.

STEPHANIE GLANCE NAMED MVC  
COACH OF THE YEAR

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stephanie Glance, Illinois State University's women's basketball coach, for being named the 2012 Coach of the Year in the Missouri Valley Conference. Glance guided ISU to an 18–12 record in advance of their appearance in the Women's National Invitation Tournament on March 15th. She is in her second year as head coach of the Redbirds, after 15 seasons as an assistant at North Carolina State and one at Tennessee.

The ISU women's team finished second in the regular season this year after returning just one of its top six scorers and landing sixth in the MVC preseason poll. Glance was named Maggie Dixon Division I Rookie Coach of the Year in 2011.

Glance credited her players for being eager to learn and improve. "They respond so positively to anything you talk to them about," she

said. "It's really a special group." She also pointed to assistant coaches Sheila Roux, Danielle Santos, and Ryan Bragdon for their contributions. "My staff works really hard. They are very driven," said Glance. "They are people who want to be their best. This is not some kind of individual award. It's about the whole program."

I would like to congratulate Stephanie Glance on a great year at the helm of the Redbirds. The players and their families, as well as Redbird fans and the entire Illinois State University community are extremely proud of her accomplishments and contributions.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING  
PUBLIC SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF LONGTIME JOHNSTOWN, PA  
ADMINISTRATOR JIM WHITE

**HON. MARK S. CRITZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jim White, a true champion of the people and small businesses of Johnstown, PA. Next month, Jim will retire from his post as Johnstown's Director of Community and Economic Development. In this capacity, he manages millions of dollars in federal subsidies supporting homeowner assistance, street paving and annual demolitions, and oversees the city's planning, zoning, code enforcement and economic development efforts.

Jim became Johnstown's Economic Development Coordinator in March of 1998. Since then, he has helped to revitalize the city's downtown storefronts and improve the city's infrastructure by stimulating investment in neighborhood businesses and cultivating strong relationships with local entrepreneurs. Thanks to Jim's outstanding leadership, the American promise of opportunity is alive and well for all those who live and work in Johnstown.

Jim is the sort of visionary leader our cities need more of. No matter how much he has accomplished for the city of Johnstown, he has never stopped seeing it for what it could be, rather than for what it is. In 2009, Jim played a key role in formulating a master plan for the future of the city. Not even three years later, officials have already begun to implement several of the projects this document proposed, including a plan to comprehensively improve access to Main Street, one of the city's main thoroughfares.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful community, I want to wish Jim the best of luck as he prepares to begin a new chapter in his life. Having worked with him for over a decade, I know that his strong leadership skills and eternal optimism will serve him well in whatever he chooses to do next.

TRIBUTE TO THE "WELCOME  
HOME" VIETNAM VETERANS  
CELEBRATION

**HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the valiant service of Vietnam War and Vietnam-Era Veterans who are being honored at the "Welcome Home" Vietnam Veterans Celebration in San Antonio, Texas.

This celebration is an important opportunity to thank the veterans of the Vietnam War and provide them with the welcoming that many did not receive at the completion of their noble service to our country. It is important and fitting that our nation recognizes the brave service men and women who made profound sacrifices in the Vietnam War including the more than 58,000 Americans who lost their lives and the more than 300,000 who were wounded during the Vietnam War.

The celebration is to be held on March 30, 2012 commemorating the historic withdrawal of United States troops from Vietnam on March 30, 1973. The celebration will recognize veterans in attendance with a presentation of the colors and full military honors.

Throughout American history, our brave men and women have answered the call to protect and defend our democracy. And while our nation may be divided on other issues, we must always stand together in honoring the service and valor of our veterans. I would again ask you to join me in recognizing this celebration for those who honorably served and sacrificed for our country.

HONORING EDWARD "DUANE"  
CANTRELL AND HIS DAUGHTERS  
ISABELLA AND NATALIA

**HON. MIKE MCINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor, at the laying to rest of Special Forces Edward "Duane" Cantrell and his two lovely daughters Isabella and Natalia, who were 6 and 4 years old, respectively, at Arlington National Cemetery. Duane was, and will always be an American Hero, serving 7 tours in Iraq and Afghanistan before perishing with his two daughters in a house fire in North Carolina. He was a wonderful father and husband. Our hearts wave heavy for him and his family, and especially for his wife Louise who has lost the three greatest loves of her life and his son Kenny from his first marriage. Our prayers lie with this great American family on this day. Fortunately, Duane got a chance to come on a wounded warrior tour a few months before his death, and raved to his family and had planned to come back with the rest of his family. He got to see this great Temple of Freedom that him and his brothers had fought and died for. I ask that this poem penned in their honor by Albert Caswell be placed in the RECORD.

Our Faith This Day

Our . . .

Our Faith This Day . . .

Somehow!



Some way!  
 Must show us all the way!  
 And as we lay your fine bodies down to sleep!  
 So very deep . . .  
 So down to rest, we pray to our Lord God to  
 all of these to bless . . .  
 Let now our courage somehow crest . . .  
 Give us the strength, to but so take just one  
 more step!  
 All in our faith this day . . .  
 All in our gravest of all pain, so very deep!  
 For one of America's very best, and his most  
 beloved daughters oh so very sweet!  
 As upon all of our faces our most swollen  
 tears, we now so weep!  
 Our faith this day . . .  
 Must somehow, show us all the way!  
 From such heartache, and such death!  
 The way to hope and faith, so to our hearts  
 to bless!  
 The same kind of faith that which so led,  
 as his loved ones at home cried and prayed!  
 Who so left his greatest loves of all,  
 to go off to war, to so answer that most  
 noble of all calls!  
 That call to faith and honor, and so death,  
 that which so stands above all else, no less!  
 Armed, but with only his fine faith . . .  
 which so let him march off to war, him so  
 led!  
 As he walked through that valley of death,  
 as his loved ones at home cried and prayed!  
 As a most magnificent member of The Special  
 Forces yet . . .  
 7 tours no less!  
 As Freedom Fighter, was but his most heroic  
 course so stepped!  
 And came back home to such a wonderful  
 family . . .  
 a wife and two beautiful little daughters, to  
 be so blessed!  
 Oh it's not fair, please Lord God but hear our  
 prayers!  
 How much more pain, can but one family so  
 bear?  
 Let somehow this pain give way from  
 here . . .  
 But, some answers to some questions can  
 only be found but in our faith!  
 So listen closely on the wind . . .  
 Can you but not so hear our Lord from up  
 above so then . . .  
 As when there comes a gentle rain,  
 all in your heartache, all in his love to so  
 ease your pain . . .  
 And you his lovely wife, must somehow let  
 your soul burn bright . . .  
 And for you and them somehow so carry on  
 this night!  
 And sometime into the future start a new  
 life!  
 And you his son, as thy will be done!  
 Will grow up to be, such a fine man as he . . .  
 For you have his heart you indeed!  
 In you, him we will always see!  
 For this you must believe!  
 For a child not to live its full life!  
 Is but the greatest of all curses, that which  
 does not seem right!  
 But, take comfort on this night!  
 For these children lie in our Lord's arms,  
 with smiles so very bright!  
 For Heaven, don't we all pray for such the  
 sight?  
 So hush little babies, and don't you cry . . .  
 For you are up with our Lord on high!  
 And your Father is right there, all by your  
 side . . .  
 In The Army of our Lord, this very night!  
 And one day too,  
 your Mother and your Grandparents . . .  
 My children, will so rise all to meet you!  
 As they wipe those tears from their eyes . . .  
 All because of their faith this day, so very  
 deep down inside . . .  
 Our faith this day!  
 Is but the only way . . .  
 To Heaven we shall all so rise!

And now as we lay them down to sleep!  
 Daddy, and his little girls all in our souls we  
 will so keep!  
 As all in our hearts of love, now so buried so  
 very deep!  
 As on this day, because of all of this heart-  
 ache we now so weep!  
 And for them, and us . . . Our Faith This  
 Day, we all shall keep! Amen!  
 In loving memory of CW2 Edward "Duane"  
 Cantrell, Isabella, and Natalia  
 —by *Albert Caswell*

FOURTH ANNUAL NATIONAL ASSO-  
 CIATION OF CHAIN DRUG  
 STORES RxIMPACT DAY ON CAP-  
 ITOL HILL

**HON. LEE TERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, this week is the Fourth Annual National Association of Chain Drug Stores RxIMPACT Day on Capitol Hill, where we recognize the pharmacy's contribution to the health care system. Hundreds of representatives from the pharmacy community—including practicing pharmacists, pharmacy school faculty and students, state pharmacy leaders, and pharmacy company executives—will visit Capitol Hill to share their views about the importance of supporting legislation that protects access to neighborhood pharmacies and utilizes pharmacists to improve the quality of care and reduce the cost of health care.

Pharmacists are the nation's most accessible healthcare providers, and are important providers in communities across America. Pharmacists serve an important role in our health care system as they help improve quality and lower health care costs. For over a century, they have made a difference in the lives of my fellow citizens in Nebraska, as well as Americans throughout the nation.

Pharmacists received specialized educational training that allows them to play a major role in our health care system. These important services include medication therapy management, disease state management, immunizations, and healthcare screenings. Pharmacists are also uniquely qualified to educate and help patients manage their medications, which is extremely important to helping keep our population healthy and control costs.

On this day, I hope you will join me in celebrating the value of pharmacy and support efforts to protect access to neighborhood pharmacies.

IN OPPOSITION OF H.R. 3606—THE  
 JUMPSTART OUR BUSINESS  
 STARTUPS ACT

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, on March 8, I voted against H.R. 3606, the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act. H.R. 3606 has the admirable goal of increasing access to capital for small businesses, a goal that I strongly support. Unfortunately, I cannot

support the legislation because, at the same time that it seeks to help small businesses, it takes away critical protections for investors.

In the wake of the Enron scandal, Congress acted to improve corporate transparency and give potential investors—particularly small investors—access to the information they need to make sound financial decisions. H.R. 3606 eliminates many of those provisions and, by doing so, leaves unsophisticated investors vulnerable. We can and should promote the interests of American entrepreneurs and small business owners without taking away recently passed rights for small investors. It is the wrong medicine for American small business growth.

The bill would give new companies up to five years to raise money from the public, eliminating the current requirements that an assessment of the soundness of the company's internal controls be included as part of the financial statement audit and made available to investors. That allows companies to raise money from unsophisticated investors without reasonable oversight of a company's operations.

It would enable crowd-funding, mass solicitations to investors who will now lack basic information about a company's financial soundness, a practice that is not currently allowed.

H.R. 3606 would increase the amount of capital that companies can raise from the public without triggering the full reporting and other obligations that are required under current law. That reporting includes compensation—including golden parachute compensation—of executives, making it incredibly difficult for even sophisticated shareholders to understand the status of their investment. In addition, it eliminates the Dodd-Frank requirement that shareholders approve compensation packages for emerging growth companies.

The JOBS Act would promote uncertainty, undermine capital markets, and therefore increase the cost of capital for the same small businesses it is meant to help. It would put us on a return course toward laissez-faire economics that previously led to the collapse of enormous companies to the economic ruin of their employees and investors. It is for these reasons that H.R. 3606 is opposed by the Council of Institutional Investors, the Consumer Federation of America, AARP, Americans for Financial Reform, the North American Security Administrators Association, and other consumer and investor organizations.

I urge my colleagues in the Senate to consider the ramifications of this legislation if it comes up for consideration.

HONORING REV. DR. CARL QUE  
 HICKERSON

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank our guest chaplain, Rev. Dr. Carl Que Hickerson for dedicating his life to the faith and to his community.

Rev. Hickerson has been preaching the word of God his entire life and has made it his goal to share his passion with others.

Rev. Hickerson grew up in a religious household where he received guidance from

his father, Rev. Dr. Willis M. Hickerson and was called to become a preacher at a young age.

Through his ministry, he has many accomplishments. The Reverend helped revitalize the youth ministry of his home church in Pennsylvania, significantly increased church membership wherever he has served, established various mission ministries and invigorated the commitment to God in every community he has served.

Chaplain Hickerson is a proud husband of Mrs. Hickerson, where they live a happy life raising their daughter, Octavia Belle. He has learned, served, preached and taught nationally and internationally and is currently the seventh pastor of the historic Springfield Baptist Church of Washington, DC.

On behalf of Washington's Eighth Congressional District, it is my pleasure to introduce our Guest Chaplain for today, Rev. Dr. Carl Que Hickerson.

#### RECOGNIZING THE VICTIMS AND TRAGEDY CAUSED BY RECENT STORMS

### HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solemn recognition of a tragedy that took place in my home State of Illinois and throughout the Midwest last week. On February 29th, storms ravaged homes and businesses leaving 39 people dead due to the severe weather that swept through the middle of the country.

I offer my condolences to the families who have lost loved ones in this tragedy. I know that my words offer little in the way of comfort, but I must offer them, for the families that have been affected are in my thoughts and prayers. The lives taken in these recent events are truly a misfortune to behold. I mourn the lives lost and feel heartfelt sorrow for the families that have been denied future time with their loved ones. I ask my countrymen for their assistance to help alleviate the anguish of the victims of this disaster, either through volunteering or by being there for your neighbor in their time of need.

While it is difficult to find positives amidst such a catastrophe, upon further examination, admiration and honor should be recognized. As we can see across the country, there are stories of courage, generosity, selflessness, and kindness. These acts deserve our praise. At this moment, there are people volunteering to help rebuild communities that have been damaged and destroyed. Such communities are a representation of a cause greater than one's self. By helping to rebuild a neighborhood people are demonstrating their belief in an altruistic form of living. I offer my admiration to the volunteers' courage and sacrifices made in the face of extreme adversity. I thank the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, Team Rubicon, and other organizations for their efforts during this crisis. Their support has proven to me that these storms may destroy homes, level businesses, and take valuable lives in the process, but they cannot destroy the human spirit. One person's willpower is stronger than wooden buildings, brick founda-

tions, and steel structures. During times of great hardship, Americans have routinely made a determined effort to move forward. So, to all those that have been affected by this tragedy: victims, rescuers, and volunteers alike, may God bless you all.

#### ON THE RETIREMENT OF C-SPAN FOUNDER AND CEO BRIAN LAMB

### HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Brian Lamb, the founder and CEO of C-SPAN, who recently announced his decision to retire.

Mr. Lamb founded the non-profit educational network 34 years ago and since then has worked tirelessly to bring live coverage of government and politics to the American people. Before Mr. Lamb created C-SPAN, most Americans had to rely exclusively on news reports about what their representatives said and did in Washington. Because of his vision, millions of Americans everyday can see and hear government in action for themselves. I have had the privilege of working with Mr. Lamb over the years and I am a proud supporter of his efforts to make government transparent and accessible.

I commend Mr. Lamb for his vision, humility and his commitment to educating Americans about history and the government. I wish him all the best in his future career endeavors. I commend the following article to my colleagues.

#### C-SPAN FOUNDER LAMB STEPS DOWN AFTER 34 YEARS

(By Paul Farhi)

Want to know just how purposefully unglamorous and resolutely non-partisan is C-SPAN, the pioneering public-affairs TV network founded by Brian Lamb in 1978?

Consider this: In countless appearances spanning thousands of hours of interviews and call-in programs, Lamb has never once uttered his own name on the air. Too showy. Too much like regular TV, which is what Lamb, a stolid Hoosier, has always sought to avoid.

"No one does that here," he protested on Monday. "We just don't do it. It's always been part of our mission not to make us the center of attention . . . We're the antithesis of everything you see on commercial television."

So Lamb, typically, also wasn't making a big deal about the news C-SPAN buried in the second paragraph of a news announcement it issued in the dead of Sunday evening: that after 34 years as C-SPAN chief executive, he's stepping down from running the Washington-based operation he conceived and built.

Lamb, 70, isn't fading away entirely. He'll continue as executive chairman of the non-profit organization and as host of "Q & A," his Sunday interview program. He also plans to continue teaching, primarily at Purdue University, his alma mater.

But he's handing over day-to-day operations to two successors-in-waiting: current co-presidents Rob Kennedy, 55, and Susan Swain, 57, both longtime C-SPAN hands.

"This has been something I've wanted to do for a while," Lamb said. "I wanted an orderly transition when everyone was ambulatory and standing up, with some thought behind it."

Lamb was a young naval officer in the 1960s who used to slip over to the Capitol from the Washington Navy Yard to watch floor debates in the House and Senate. He later served as a telecommunications staffer in the Johnson and Nixon administrations and as a press secretary for Colorado Sen. Peter Dominick (R).

As the Washington bureau chief of the cable TV trade magazine Cablevision in the 1970s, Lamb cooked up the idea for a network that would cover, with utter dispassion, the congressional debates that he'd witnessed during his Navy days. Lamb rustled up the money from some public relations-conscious cable barons and set about convincing the House to let TV cameras onto the floor.

C-SPAN, which stands for Cable Satellite Public Affairs Network, was among the first nationally distributed cable channels, following after the debut of HBO, Showtime, Pat Robertson's CBN Network, and WTBS, Ted Turner's "super station." It is now composed of three networks, plus a Washington radio station (WCSP, 90.1 FM), and a massive and historically rich video archive of congressional sessions, hearings, speeches, campaign rallies, think-tank conferences, author interviews and what-have-yous from C-SPAN over the years.

Lamb holds the distinction of being the only one of those early network founders not to become a billionaire from his creation. On the other hand, he says, "I never wanted to be rich. I wasn't the slightest bit interested in that."

He had to settle instead for helping to revolutionize the political culture of Washington. What MTV did for popular music—that is, helped make it theatrical and visual—C-SPAN did for Congress and the wonks who follow it.

C-SPAN's gavel-to-gavel coverage of the House changed the spontaneous, free-wheeling debates on the floor into more scripted and polished speeches played for the TV cameras, said Charles Johnson, a former House parliamentarian. Members became conscious that their words weren't just going into the Congressional Record; they now had an audience at home, leading to charts and props and camera-friendly displays that hadn't existed before.

It also led to an increase in grandstanding. In 1984, the fiery, after-hours speeches of a young Republican backbencher named Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) so angered House Speaker Tip O'Neill (D-Mass.) that he ordered the House cameras (then as now under House control) to pan the empty chamber in an effort to embarrass Gingrich.

Nevertheless, after disdaining to follow the House for more than six years, the Senate finally relented and let C-SPAN carry its proceedings live in 1986.

Having the cameras on hand "changed the quality of the oratory," said Johnson, avoiding direct judgment on whether it did so in a good or bad way.

Lamb says he doesn't care either way: "If there's a public meeting, there ought to be cameras there," he says. "Those meetings are paid for by we, the taxpayers. People should be able to see what [the elected officials] look like, what the buildings look like, what language they're using."

Through all those decades, Lamb has been the continuous thread: unflashy, unemotional, "a video Buddha, television's most stationary being," in the words of one magazine writer. In 23 years of hosting "Booknotes," his author-interview show, for example, he notes that he never missed a single Sunday night, for 52 weeks every year. In total, he's logged more hours on national TV than perhaps any person in America.

He's not bragging about that, of course. Or much else.

"I never thought the person on top here mattered all that much, except to keep the rhythm of the place going," he said. "We've established a good transition. I don't think my departure will be more than a blip on the radar screen."

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HONORING ROHAIL DADWANI

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great Nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share these with my House colleagues.

Rohail Dadwani is a senior at Clements High School in Fort Bend County, Texas. His essay topic is: In your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

Government is crucial in our lives. Without government, we would all be barbarically fighting for the limited amount of resources we have available. Government helps our society function the way it is, but just like anything else, too much of a good thing can be bad. Therefore, government intervention should be limited on our lives. Too much government control can lead to dictatorships or the government playing a "Big Brother" kind of role. This "Big Brother" type of role would be bad in the long run because the people would lose faith in the government, so the citizens would try to find any way they can to overthrow the government. Government's role should be to help society but within its boundaries set by society. Crossing these boundaries can lead to too much government intervention in our society. I think the boundary that the government should never cross would be the boundary of the government tracking your every move and everything you do. The government's main role should be to lay down the expectations, make laws that people should follow, help society when needed, but don't interfere in society so much that it makes the people dependent on the government to run effectively. The government's role is important to how this society functions. Therefore, the government needs to let society work in a way so that it isn't making the society completely dependent on them. Every individual should be able to speak their mind, without control, to promote new ideas that better society. That can only happen with a limited government role, to make society work on its own. The government should do nothing except give a little push to society every now and then to keep it running. With this, the government isn't running our everyday lives but just helping us to be able to run it ourselves. We should all follow the government's laws but, at the same time, be able to have a mind of our own. To conclude, the government shouldn't play a huge role in our every day lives, rather a limited one, so we can be more effective on our own and be able to think for ourselves.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 115, had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

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OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, when George W. Bush was inaugurated, the national debt was \$5,727,776,738,304.64. When Barack Obama was inaugurated, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08. This was a \$4,899,100,310,608.44 increase in 8 years. Today, the debt is \$15,583,383,846,149.34, which means that President Obama has raised the debt more in just over 3 years than President Bush did in 8 years.

This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

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HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF TAN HOLDINGS CORPORATION

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, forty years ago—on July 24, 1972—Tan Siu Lin, arrived in Guam from Hong Kong with a young family, one cargo ship, and plenty of ambition. He began buying surplus materials from the military in Guam and shipping those goods around the Western Pacific while distributing American movies, an especially prized commodity, to the islands.

Over the years, Doctor Tan, along with his wife Lam Pek Kim, and their children, Henry, Willie, Lilly, Raymond, Jerry, and Sunny, nurtured their small, homegrown enterprise into the 40,000-employee, international powerhouse of affiliated companies that it is today. From tourism, to insurance, logistics, information, and entertainment, Tan Holdings is vital to the economies and communities of the island Pacific.

The Tan family has not only brought employment and economic opportunity to our islands, they have brought our islands to the world. Tan Holdings is our region's premier exporter of tourism and importer of tourists. Starting with Century Travel Agency in 1992, then with the addition of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, the Fiesta Resort and Spa Guam, and the Saipan Grand Hotel, the Tans have contributed significantly to the islands' economic mainstay of tourism. Even when times have been difficult, Tan Holdings President

Jerry Tan has declared, as he did this past January keynoting the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's annual gala, his company's campaign to "Believe in CNMI," and backed up that declaration by confirming that Tan Holdings would soon be launching a new airline. Saipan Air will initially bring tourists from Japan and China to the Mariana Islands, but no doubt with Tan Holding's business acumen, the airline will soon be a force throughout the Asia-Pacific Region. Tan Holdings is no stranger to the airline industry. In 1991, the company established POI Aviation to provide ground-handling services for Northwest Airlines, Asiana Airlines, United Airlines, Korean Air, and other private airlines. And in 1999, the company began operating Asia Pacific Airlines, which provides air cargo services to the region's tuna fishing industry.

Nor is Tan Holdings limited to tourists and airplanes. Through its subsidiary Century Insurance Groups the company is the number one property and casualty underwriter in the Marianas. Tan Holding's Realty Management Services owns and operates approximately 150 residential apartment units on the island of Saipan. And Tan Holdings developed one of the preeminent buildings in our islands: TSL Plaza, which is a flagship for their commercial real estate holdings in Micronesia.

The Tan portfolio includes Cosmos Distributing and Dickerson & Quinn International Distributors, bringing some of the world's best-known consumer brands to island businesses and residents, names such as Procter & Gamble, Campbell's, Gillette, Nabisco, Cadbury, and General Mills. In Guam the public benefits from the company's investment in Tango Theaters, which provide world-class movie viewing at seventeen screens in the Micronesia Mall and Agana Shopping Center. And in Saipan the community gets its daily news from the Saipan Tribune, which has been a trusted outlet of information since 1993.

One of the greatest contributions of the Tan family and Tan Holdings to our community, however, has been the establishment of the Tan Siu Lin Foundation. Although the Tan family has been generous to the island community throughout all of Tan Holdings' 40 years, the formal establishment of the Tan Siu Lin Foundation in 2009, heralded a new beginning in regional philanthropy. The TSL Foundation has donated millions of dollars to deserving, nonprofit, educational, athletic, and community ventures in our islands. Guided by its motto of "iServe. iGive back." the Foundation has not only donated from its corporate proceeds, but has also encouraged philanthropy at the grass-roots level—through its employees. The social responsibility practiced and taught by the TSL Foundation will be as enduring in our islands as any of the Tan Holdings businesses.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Tan Siu Lin, and his family, for their 40 years of contribution to the commerce, economy, and livability of the Northern Mariana Islands and all of Micronesia.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall vote 112–117. Had I

been present, I would have voted “no” on #112, “no” on #113, “yes” on #114, “yes” on #115, “yes” on #116 and “no” on #117.

HONORING THE LIFE OF VIRGIL  
WIKOFF

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Virgil Wikoff.

The Champaign-Urbana community grieves at the loss of Virgil Wikoff. This former Champaign mayor and State Representative was a rock of strength and stability through some of the most tumultuous times in local history. Virgil Wikoff saw us through those times with courage and a steadfast temperament.

His passing follows in far too short an order the passing of former Champaign Mayor Bill Bland, and former Urbana Mayors Jeff Markland and Hiram Paley. I served with Mayors Markland and Paley on the Urbana City Council, and with Mayor Wikoff in the General Assembly. The loss of these men hits close to home. One is always reminded of one's own mortality with the loss of friends and colleagues.

But the losses of these individuals, each of them exceptional, is even more profound. They represented the best of our two cities, selfless in their public service and passionate in executing the duties of their offices.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF JUDGE ISIAH COURTNEY SMITH

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of an outstanding human being. Isiah Courtney Smith, a former judge, pioneer and, personal friend of mine, passed away on February 29, 2012 at the age of 89.

Judge Smith, also known to many as “I.C.” was born on September 15, 1922 in Lake Helen, Florida. In 1940, after graduating from Euclid High School in Deland, he went on to enroll at Florida A&M College, where I also attended law school. Judge Smith's education at Florida A&M was interrupted by World War II, when he volunteered and was assigned to an intake facility near Raiford. It was at this facility where Judge Smith demonstrated his first acts of courage by marching through a segregated camp to inform the white officers of his resignation. A year later, Judge Smith was officially drafted. After his service, Judge Smith returned to his studies and graduated with a degree in history. At this point, he had also met and fallen in love with Henrietta Mays and together they moved to New York while Judge Smith attended Brooklyn Law School. They were married on January 1, 1949.

In 1954, Judge Smith received his law degree and started a practice with his college friend William Holland. This partnership would be the catalyst for the civil rights movement in

Palm Beach County. Judge Smith lived in a time where there were many barriers to social mobility for those of color. Institutionalized discrimination prevented many African Americans in this country from reaching their potential, but my dear friend Judge Smith possessed skills and abilities that could not be suppressed and that he used to fight for the civil rights of others.

As the third African American lawyer in Palm Beach County, Judge Smith was well aware of the injustices occurring in his community. He became a champion of civil rights and was a voice for those who were treated as second class citizens based on the color of their skin. Judge Smith and his partner William Holland orchestrated the movement to desegregate Palm Beach County's public schools after the Supreme Court's ruling of “separate but equal” being unconstitutional was largely ignored throughout the county. In his own words, Judge Smith wisely stated that: “Nothing separate can ever be equal”—a sentiment that I strongly agree with. In addition to his quest for equal access to public education, Judge Smith and Mr. Holland fought together to integrate the West Palm Beach municipal golf course and to eliminate separate eating and bathroom facilities on Florida's turnpike. It is hard to fathom the amount of courage required to combat bigotry and hatred, but Judge Smith faced these challenges head-on and spent his life taking a stand against those who sought to keep the status quo.

After spending many years in a successful private practice with Mr. Holland, he was appointed as a Palm Beach County Court judge in 1986 by Governor Bob Graham. During his time on the bench, Judge Smith was known for his professionalism. After serving in this capacity for six years, he retired at the age of 70.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to offer my sincere condolences to all those who have been impacted by the loss of such a great man. My thoughts are with Judge Smith's wife Dr. Henrietta Smith, their two children Robin Smith and Reverend Cynthia Smith Jackson, and all of their family and friends during this most difficult time. I was truly honored to have known Judge Smith. He was a tremendous individual whose commitment to bettering South Florida, and working selflessly to ensure equal rights for all Americans will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO BEVERLY D.  
CLYBURN

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a tremendous public servant, a passionate educator, and a dear friend and relative. Beverly Clyburn is being honored on March 23, 2012 for her service on Aiken City Council. She retired in November 2011 after 22 years of dedicated service to the City of Aiken.

Beverly LaVerne Dozier was born in Georgetown, South Carolina to Maggie and William Dozier. She was the fifth of eight children and one of seven girls. From an early age, Beverly loved to learn and she graduated

in 1961 as Salutatorian of Howard High School.

She went on to attend Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina, and graduated with honors in 1965, with a degree in Chemistry and Mathematics. It was there that she met her husband, and my cousin, William “Bill” Clyburn. In 1978, Beverly earned a Masters Degree in Secondary Guidance from the University of South Carolina.

Beverly's first love is education, and she spent 42 years as an educator in both Aiken and Allendale counties. She served as a guidance counselor at Midland Valley High School and guidance director at South Aiken High School, a position she retired from in 1999. Following retirement she was drawn back into education to help improve the Allendale County schools after a State take-over. Today she continues to work in education at the Aiken Performing Arts Academy as a part-time assistant director and guidance counselor.

In 1988, Beverly was urged by members of the community to run for Aiken City Council. She took on the challenge, and won the District 1 seat. She is known for her thoroughness on council, diligently studying every issue and visiting the sites that would be impacted before she cast her vote.

During her tenure on council, she has participated in numerous development projects including the 10-year renewal plan for Aiken's Northside, the Crosland Park redevelopment project, the Center for African American History, Art and Culture, and the Aiken Visitors Center and Train Museum. She served as Mayor Pro Tem from 2002–2004, and has been honored for her work in chairing the first four NLC Diversity Breakfasts. She has also served as the chair of the Aiken County DSS Board.

In 2001, the South Carolina General Assembly honored Beverly for her work in Aiken and Allendale counties and the State of South Carolina. The Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce named her the 2009 Woman of the Year for her commitment to the Aiken area. She has also earned the honor of Woman of Distinction from her church, Cumberland African Methodist Episcopal.

Beverly and Bill have been married for 47 years, and are the parents of three adult children—William, Jr., Wilson, and Courtney. They also served as foster parents to daughter, Carmen. Today they have three grandchildren, and spending more time with her beloved family was the impetus for her retirement from Aiken City Council.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in congratulating Beverly Dozier Clyburn on a job well done. She has spent her entire career in public service whether as an educator or an elected official. Her efforts have made Aiken County a better place, and she has been a positive influence on countless lives along the way. I wish her all the best in this new chapter in her life, and knowing Beverly as I do, look forward to her continued work on behalf of others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT T. SCHILLING**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, March 19, 2012, due to an unexpected flight

delay in Chicago, Illinois that prevented my travel, I was unable to cast my vote for roll Number 111.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on H.R. 3992 which passed by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 371–0. I believe by allowing our allies, such as Israel, to invest in businesses in the United States, we are encouraging job creation and bringing more innovative ideas that will benefit all Americans.

Currently, citizens in 75 countries are eligible to apply for E–2 visas which are non-immigrant visas valid for up to two years and allow visa holders to oversee businesses in which they have considerable capital invested. Prior to 2003, countries could become eligible if specified in trade agreements but now separate legislation is required to add countries to the program.

Countries eligible for E–2 visas span from Albania to Pakistan to the United Kingdom and in Fiscal Year 2010, more than 25,000 E–2 visas were granted. Israel has a reciprocal program allowing United States investors the same ability. E–2 visas invest in our economy and foster working relationships with other countries. Adding Israel to this list will only continue these efforts.

Again, had my flight from Chicago to Washington, DC had not been delayed, I would have voted in support of H.R. 3992.

HONORING SAYDI WOLLNEY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share these with my House colleagues.

Saydi Wollney is a senior at Pearland High School in Brazoria County, Texas. Her essay topic is: In your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

Although the United States government provides services such as roadways, protection from harm—both foreign and domestic—and regulation of food and drugs, I believe the government has, at times, stepped over their boundaries and infringed upon the rights of the people.

The recent SOPA (Stop Online Piracy Act) and the Protect IP Act wanted to shut down websites which illegally provided services such as making music, videos, and movies available for free download. In doing this, the government also restricted and suppressed websites which were informational and helpful to the public. In this way, the government inadvertently infringed upon the rights of citizens of the United States. After the incident of SOPA closing down Wikipedia for a short while, I noticed it was a popular conversation being held around school. My peers were unhappy and disliked the fact that the government seemed to have

overstepped their boundaries. I realize that the government was doing what they think was best for United States citizens at this point in time, but I believe their actions could have been delivered in a more friendly and informative way.

The issues with Medicaid and Medicare have citizens of the United States disagreeing with one another. Some people believe that Medicaid is a system that simply takes the money that citizens pay in taxes and utilizes it to care for people with a lower level of income. On the other hand, the other people believe that Medicaid is a good cause and is beneficial to those who are in need. The recent health care reform laws have been viewed by many as the government slowly taking control of the health care system. However, other people believe that the health care reform is beneficial and helpful to the American people, including those who could not previously afford health care.

Recently, there have been many debated issues over whether or not the government of the United States is overstepping its own boundaries and regulations of the country. I believe that most of the actions that I have discussed have been beneficial for the United States citizens, with exception of the SOPA and PIPA acts.

A TRIBUTE TO THE SOLDAN HIGH SCHOOL TIGERS, WINNERS OF THE MISSOURI CLASS 4 STATE TITLE FOR BASKETBALL AND STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Missouri's own Class 4 State Basketball Champions, the Soldan High School Tigers.

Soldan High School's convincing 55–42 victory over Springfield Hillcrest at the Mizzou Arena in Columbia was the culmination of three years hard work and dedication, resulting in the Tiger's first state championship in basketball in 31 years. Under the leadership of Head Coach Justin Tatum, the Tigers defeated some of the best teams in the nation, outscoring their playoff opponents by an unbelievable average of 24 points a game.

The men of the Soldan High School Tigers are more than merely teammates, they are a band of brothers. Many of the Tigers have played on the same teams since grade school, their recent victory a fitting reward for years of dedication to both each other and the sport of basketball. Especially for Soldan's nine-man senior class of Devin Booker, Aaron Diamini, Kawan Griffin, Randy Holmes, Paul McRoberts, Jibreel Muhammad, Partice Sanders, Elva Shelton, and Rashad Simmons, the season, and their high school careers, ended exactly how they hoped they would.

Mr. Speaker, Coach Tatum and the men of the Soldan High School Tigers are true examples of character and sportsmanship, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring their remarkable achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 117, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING LARRY SLY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize and congratulate Larry Sly, Executive Director for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, as he retires after 35 years of public service.

A graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, Larry began his career as an Executive Director with the Food Bank of Contra Costa in 1976. Starting with just two employees, Larry brought the organization a truck and trailer, where he stored bread that he picked up from a local grocery store. Soon, people in the area from local churches began distributing this bread to underprivileged people of the community.

In Larry's first year as Executive Director of the Food Bank of Contra Costa, the organization distributed approximately 36,000 pounds of food to people in need of assistance in the local area. Eventually, the Food Bank would merge with a struggling Solano County Food Bank and develop a greater outreach program within the region. Every year, with Larry's leadership, the Food Bank steadily increases the number of families who received food donations and groceries; last year they distributed over 14 million pounds of food.

During his time with the Food Bank, Larry has developed successful programs to help locals and agencies distribute food in a cheaper, more efficient manner. One such program, the Senior Food Program, provides low income senior citizens the opportunity to receive free groceries each month. Another, the Farm to Kid Program, provides five pounds of food every week for low income families as well as three to five pounds of fresh produce for every child in after school programs at low-income schools.

Throughout his career in public service, Larry has served at a number of statewide and national organizations. He served as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of Feeding America and the National Food Bank Network, as well as on the Board of Directors at the California Association of Food Banks and the Emergency Food and Shelter Board in Contra Costa County. In 2009, Larry also served as Interim Executive Director for Feeding America San Diego, where he helped improve and manage the organization.

Mr. Speaker, I invite this chamber to join me in recognizing Larry Sly for his commitment

and significant service to the people of Contra Costa and Solano Counties. I applaud Larry's contributions on behalf of the underprivileged, and his efforts to increase awareness of hunger and food security issues throughout California and the Nation. Larry's leadership throughout his career provides a positive example for those planning to serve their communities. I am pleased to join his family, colleagues, and friends in congratulating him as he retires from the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 22, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED  
MARCH 27

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Strategic Command and U.S. Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session. SD-106

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Green Jobs and the New Economy Subcommittee

Oversight Subcommittee

To hold a joint oversight hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) work with other Federal entities to reduce pollution and improve environmental performance. SD-406

Judiciary

Immigration, Refugees and Border Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the economic imperative for promoting international travel to the United States. SD-226

Appropriations

Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Defense and the Department of the Army. SD-124

10:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Housing, Transportation and Community Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the choice neighborhoods initiative, focusing on a new community development model. SD-538

2 p.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine monetary policy going forward, focusing on why a sound dollar boosts growth and employment. SH-216

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. Res. 356, expressing support for the people of

Tibet, S. Res. 395, expressing the sense of the Senate in support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the NATO summit to be held in Chicago, Illinois from May 20 through 21, 2012, S. Res. 397, promoting peace and stability in Sudan, S. Res. 80, condemning the Government of Iran for its state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights, S. Res. 391, condemning violence by the Government of Syria against journalists, and expressing the sense of the Senate on freedom of the press in Syria, S. Res. 344, supporting the democratic aspirations of the Nicaraguan people and calling attention to the deterioration of constitutional order in Nicaragua, the nominations of Julissa Reynoso, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, and Gina K. Abercrombie-Winstanley, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Malta, both of the Department of State, and lists in the Foreign Service. S-116, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services

Airland Subcommittee

To hold a hearing to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program. SR-222

Armed Services

Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense's role in implementation of the National Strategy for Counterterrorism and the National Strategy to Combat Transnational Organized Crime in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program. SR-232A

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219

2:45 p.m.

Finance

Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine renewable energy tax incentives, focusing on how have the recent and pending expirations of key incentives affected the renewable energy industry in the United States. SD-215

MARCH 28

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

To receive a closed briefing on the Ohio-class Replacement Program in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program. SVC-217

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Department of Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense health programs. SD-192

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine United States policy on Iran. SD-419

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-342

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Special Counsel's report on the prosecution of Senator Ted Stevens. SD-226

Appropriations

Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the National Institutes of Health. SD-124

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Margaret Bartley, of Maryland, and Coral Wong Pietsch, of Hawaii, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. SR-418

10:30 a.m.

Inaugural Ceremonies—2012

Organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures for committee operations and committee's rules and procedure for the 112th Congress. S-216, Capitol

2 p.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. SD-124

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the science and standards of forensics. SR-253

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Economic Policy Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine retirement, focusing on examining the retirement savings deficit. SD-538

Appropriations

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation. SD-192

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine assessing efforts to combat waste and fraud in Federal programs. SD-342

Appropriations

Financial Service and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine enhancing economic growth, focusing on the Department of the Treasury's responses to the foreclosure crisis and mounting student loan debt. SD-138

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine certain nominations. SD-226

MARCH 29

9:30 a.m.

## Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Frank Kendall III, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, James N. Miller, Jr., of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Policy, Erin C. Conaton, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Jessica Lynn Wright, of Pennsylvania, and Katharina G. McFarland, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Secretary, and Heidi Shyu, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, all of the Department of Defense.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

## Contracting Oversight Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine contractors, focusing on how much they are costing the government.

SD-342

## Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine Food and Drug Administration (FDA) user fee agreements, focusing on strengthening FDA and the medical products industry for the benefit of patients.

SH-216

## Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Small Business Administration.

SR-428A

2:30 p.m.

## Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

APRIL 18

2:30 p.m.

## Armed Services

## Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine financial management and business transformation at the Department of Defense.

SD-G50

APRIL 25

2 p.m.

## Armed Services

## Personnel Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine the Active, Guard, Reserve, and civilian personnel programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-106