

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE HARRISBURG HIGH SCHOOL LADY BULLDOGS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Harrisburg High School Lady Bulldogs Basketball team for winning the Class 2 Missouri State Championship on March 17, 2012.

The young women and their coaches should be commended for all their hard work throughout the regular season and bringing home the state basketball championship to their school and community. In the final championship game against the New Haven Shamrocks, the Lady Bulldogs prevailed 43 to 32, making it their second state championship in three seasons.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Harrisburg Lady Bulldogs for a job well done!

RESTORING ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR AMERICAN WOMEN

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the report released earlier this month by The White House Council on Women and Girls which provided a sampling of the policies, programs, and legislative initiatives that have resulted from the Administration's efforts to create an economy built to last for American women. I cannot stress enough how critical women are to our nation's economic success and how there still exists an ever-present need for us to continue our efforts to end discriminatory practices in the workforce.

It is vital for us to work together to ensure women's economic security through all stages of life—from young women furthering their education and beginning their careers, to working women who create jobs and provide for their families, to seniors in retirement or getting ready for retirement. Many positive steps have been taken and much change has been effectuated, but there is much more that can be and should be done.

Today, more than ever, women's efforts in the workforce are essential to sustaining a strong economy, not to mention that more women now are the primary income earners in most American families. Yet women in our economy and our work force are still earning just 77 cents on every dollar paid to men. Couple the gender gap with statistics on race and it is even worse. African American women

earn a mere 64 cents on the dollar, while Hispanic women receive an appalling 56 cents on the dollar compared to men. How can this still be when women now make up nearly fifty percent of our workforce? Families are effectively losing part of their income every month due to this gender inequality.

We must put an end to discriminatory practices in the workforce once and for all. Expanding economic opportunities for women is critical to building an economy that restores security for middle class families. We must promote such an economy by encouraging the advancement of women in education and the workforce and by rewarding their efforts equally and accordingly. We must ensure that women who want to continue their education and attend college and graduate school can do so. We must ensure that when a woman seeks higher employment she is able to attain it without being discriminated based on her gender and more importantly where she will receive equal pay as her male counterpart. We must ensure that fulfillment of such goals for women are not an improbability, but a guarantee.

We no longer live in the 1950s where a sole income earner, historically a man, could support an entire family. We are living in an era where the want for a dual income is not a luxury, but a necessity to sustain a middle class family. I applaud President Obama's hard work to ensure that women are treated equally in the workforce and paid fairly for their work. From signing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, to creating the National Equal Pay Task Force, President Obama has fought for equality for women in the workforce, and there is no reason why this Congress should not work equally as hard to support and advance his efforts. There should be no second class citizens in our workplaces in the twenty-first century.

In a time where women's labor force participation has increased dramatically and where families are becoming increasingly reliant on women's incomes due to the rising cost of living, how does it make sense that pay disparities between men and women still persist? Why must women face greater risk for income insecurity than men? The reality is that over the course of her lifetime, these pay discrepancies can cost a woman and her family tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars in lost wages, reduced pensions, and reduced Social Security benefits. Why is it that the Republican majority is not concerned about these disparities?

The statistics on this issue are very clear; we cannot have a vibrant society if women are not doing well. The success of American women is critical for the success of American families and the American economy. Consequently, when women still face barriers to participation in the workplace and marketplace, it affects all Americans.

Unfortunately, rather than concentrating on eliminating such discrepancies and ensuring equality, the Republican majority has instead

been fixated on limiting women's rights and freedoms. For over a year now the Republican majority has taken aim at denying women access to health care and restricting women's choices in the area of reproductive health altogether. This is an incredibly ill-guided waste of time, and makes no economic sense. When women are denied access to health care or have to pay more for their health care than men, it hurts entire families and in turn the economy as a whole. In 31 states, all of the best-selling plans engage in gender rating. And in states that permit this practice, 92 percent of the best-selling plans charge 40-year-old women more than 40-year-old men for identical coverage. In the aggregate, women spend an estimated \$1 billion more than men for equivalent health coverage. We should be working together to eliminate these disparities, instead of fending off attacks by the Republican majority who have continuously brought forth anti-women's health legislation in the 112th Congress and attacked the Affordable Care Act which beginning in 2014 will prohibit insurance companies from charging women more for health insurance simply because of their gender.

The Republican majority has taken minor breaks from attacking women's rights in this Congress only to work on stripping senior benefits and ending Medicare as we know it. All seniors should be able to retire with dignity, and live out their final years with security and access to healthcare. This should not be a privilege enjoyed by the 1 percent. We must work to ensure that senior citizens receive the care they need when they are most vulnerable; but instead the Republicans want to hand them a voucher and have them fend for themselves with insurance companies. The coverage Medicare provides is particularly critical for women, because of their greater life expectancies and partially because of costs related to preventive services such as mammograms and bone density tests.

As a result of lower earnings during her time in the workforce, an elderly woman rarely has a significant income from her pension, as compared to the average elderly man. So it should not be surprising that elderly women rely on Social Security to a greater extent than men, and over half of America's more than 48 million Medicare beneficiaries are women. And this is where unequal pay throughout a woman's working lifetime comes full circle.

Mr. Speaker, let us in Congress work together to pass legislation that outlaws gender discrimination, allows for prosecution of pay discrimination against women, invests in child care, and supports the advancement of women as they provide for their families and save for the future. It is through our hard work to ensure equal treatment of all women in the workforce, marketplace, and society as a whole that we can resoundingly voice our commitment to support American women and families.

• 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.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
HOBART CLAY MARCHANT

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with both pride and sadness that I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of my father, Hobart Clay Marchant, who passed away on March 22nd at the age of 91. He leaves behind a great legacy seen in my mother, a woman he married 62 years ago, and in his family of five children, fifteen grandchildren, and six great grandchildren.

My father's life was dedicated to the service of those around him. This was seen at a young age when, after the attack on Pearl Harbor, he answered the call of duty and enlisted as a field radio operator for the U.S. Army. For three years, my father served in World War II on the hilltops of the Pacific Islands intercepting vital messages to protect his country and further the cause of freedom. His time overseas also included ground combat at Iwo Jima. It was just one year ago that my dad was reflecting on his time of service and told me how privileged and proud he was to live in the land of the free.

After returning home, my father married my mother, Frances Helen Jones, on August 18, 1950, in Grand Prairie, Texas. As the family grew, my parents moved us to the Carrollton-Farmers Branch area. There my father founded a barbershop he ran for 46 years. It was in that storefront where he taught me and my siblings the values of hard work and family as we polished shoes and greeted customers. My father went on to found a roofing and building development business he ran in partnership with my brothers and me until his retirement. That business, H.C. Marchant Custom Homes, still remains in our family today.

A devout Christian, my father was a charter member of the Carrollton Church of the Nazarene and an active member throughout his life. There he began decades of service caring for the community and his family. Psalm 112 says the righteous man is one who deals generously, who is marked with grace and mercy, and whose heart is firm in the Lord. This describes the life my father lived, and I rest fondly on the promise found in this same Psalm that the righteous man will be remembered forever.

Hobart Marchant was my lifelong hero and an inspiration for all his children. His service to his country is representative of his entire generation and the work ethic and patriotism they passed on to their children. My father always believed in America and her future, and was influential in my decision to enter public service. After every flight home from votes in Washington, he was always my first visit. I would not be the man I am today, nor had the success and grace of God throughout my life, had he not been a guiding force in my childhood, youth, and adulthood.

Mr. Speaker, my father was a great man in the community in which he lived and worked. His work ethic, values, and integrity have set an example for his entire family and those who knew him. I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating his life and honoring the many people whose lives are better for having known him.

A TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN INGRAM SEITZ, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2012

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year during the month of March, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our Nation's most distinguished women.

Today, I pay tribute to Carolyn Ingram Seitz of Altadena, California. A zoning and planning consultant who has worked on many projects in Altadena for the last two decades, Carolyn moved to Altadena in 2000.

Not long after she moved into Altadena, Ms. Seitz became involved in the community, advocating for community safety, and working with the Altadena Sheriff's Department and community members on neighborhood nuisance and other issues. She worked with her neighbors to form a neighborhood watch, and helped other neighborhoods prepare and be organized for cataclysmic events or natural disasters. Carolyn has also assisted with organizing Community Emergency Response Team, CERT, trainings, which offers drills, trainings and refreshers throughout the year. She is the Altadena Sheriff's Station CERT Coordinator, a member of the Regional CERT working group and sits on the Los Angeles County Operational Area Disaster Corps Volunteers Advisory Council. When the Station Fire occurred, Ms. Seitz worked tirelessly for many hours to ensure that the community had updated information on the fire, and the probable impacts caused by the rain that would result in flooding and mudflows.

Carolyn was appointed as the Chairwoman of the Altadena Sheriff's Community Advisory Committee in 2007. In 2010 she brought together the California Highway Patrol, American Red Cross, Pasadena Police Department and community members to a successful Neighborhood Watch Conference, which she organized at Loma Alta Park in Altadena. Along with her extensive volunteer work with the Altadena Sheriff's Department, Carolyn contributes many hours to organizations such as the Quality of Life Center, Inc., Mentoring and Partnership for Youth Development, the Altadena Chamber of Commerce and the Central Altadena Little League. Recognized for her work in improving sheriff-community relations, Ms. Seitz has also been honored with the Altadena Chamber of Commerce's Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award in 2010.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Carolyn Ingram Seitz.

TRANSPORTATION ORIENTED JOBS
INITIATIVE

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today, along with Representative LIPINSKI, I am introducing legis-

lation to stimulate the financing of passenger rail development from revenues generated from transportation oriented development.

The National High Performance Passenger Rail Transportation Oriented Development Act aims to capture some of the increasing value of commercial development around station areas, which in turn would help finance rail corridor infrastructure and operational expenses. Besides providing a funding stream for intercity and passenger operations, the initiative places emphasis on intermodal connectors to create vibrant communities along the corridor. The legislation aims to begin a major public-private partnership initiative that will revitalize America's rail infrastructure to create a true third passenger transportation option to highways and aviation while at the same time creating intermodal access communities.

Under the proposal, the U.S. Department of Transportation will retain a Planning Developer who will establish guidelines for transportation oriented development programs, including special assessment districts or similar mechanisms to capture revenues from increasing commercial value. Rail corridor development funds will be established at the regional level to capture increasing real estate values. A stream of those revenues will be directed to support rail passenger operations.

The proposal permits qualified projects to apply for federal incentives to finance construction and produce jobs. These incentives will include direct access to existing Federal Railroad Administration and Federal Transit Administration programs, including a high priority for federal transportation grant applications. The initiative will be staffed by existing employees and remain revenue neutral in that all program activities, including the work of the Planning Developer, will be repaid once the high performance rail service and commercial development is implemented and generating revenues.

I hope that this bill will open a discussion on the possibilities and potential promise of passenger rail development in the U.S.

75TH BIRTHDAY OF THE AIR
FORCE'S 3D WEATHER SQUAD-
RON AT FORT HOOD, TX

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the 75th Birthday of the Air Force's 3d Weather Squadron at Fort Hood, Texas and honor the squadron's first commander, Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient General Leon W. Johnson.

Mr. Speaker, I have the high honor of representing the brave men and women at Fort Hood, Texas, the largest military installation in the world. Every day that I have the opportunity to serve in Congress, I do so knowing that my number one responsibility is to give our men and women in uniform the support and resources they need to be successful. Each time I visit Fort Hood, I see America's finest, the Airmen and Soldiers who put it all on the line to allow us to live in the greatest country on Earth.

Representing Fort Hood, Texas also comes with the sober reminder of the sacrifice that

our young men and women in the military and their families make to the cause of freedom. For 75 years, the Airmen of the 3d Weather Squadron have exemplified this sacrifice as they stood alongside their Army brethren in support of a long list of military operations. In just the past 20 years, the 3d Weather Squadron has deployed for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Operation Allied Force, Operation Unified Response, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operations Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn.

When activated on 1 July 1937, the 3d Weather Squadron was a part of the U.S. Army, as the Air Force had not yet been established. Today the squadron continues a proud history of faithfully providing Battlefield Weather support to the Army, both in garrison and in combat. The stated mission of 3d Weather Squadron is to “deliver superior weather capability when called upon to support any worldwide land component tasking.” True to this mission, the Airmen of the 3d Weather Squadron have sustained a continual, unbroken deployed presence in Southwest Asia dating back to 2003 alongside numerous Army units including III Corps, 1st Armored Division, 1st Infantry Division, 1st Cavalry Division, and 4th Infantry Division. On any given day, approximately 25 percent of the squadron is deployed with the Army.

Mr. Speaker, the 75th Birthday of 3d Weather Squadron also affords us the opportunity to celebrate the extraordinary life of the squadron’s first commander and a singularly heroic warrior, General Leon W. Johnson. Leon W. Johnson was born in Columbia, MO, in 1904. He spent his boyhood in Columbia and Moline, KS. He later graduated from the U.S. Military Academy and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in June 1926. Lieutenant Johnson decided he’d “have to know something about weather if he intended to be a leader in the Air Force,” so he enrolled at the California Institute of Technology and earned a Master’s Degree in Meteorology in 1936. The next year he became one of the Army Air Corps Weather Service’s first 22 weather officers and assumed command of the 3d Weather Squadron when it was activated on 1 July 1937. General Johnson subsequently took command of the 44th Bomb Group during World War II and earned the Medal of Honor for his role in the strategically crucial raid on the Ploesti oil fields in Rumania. General Johnson served in a wide variety of critical positions with both the Army and the Air Force throughout his 34 years of service.

Mr. Speaker, I will close by asking my colleagues to join me in recognizing the heroic Airmen of the 3d Weather Squadron as they mark the 3d Weather Squadron’s 75th birthday and that we also honor an American patriot and hero, Medal of Honor Recipient General Leon W. Johnson.

HONORING MIKE JONES

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Mike Jones’ years of dedicated service to the Economic Council of Palm Beach County. Mike leaves behind a strong

legacy of working with business and community leaders to create progress in our community.

Founded 35 years ago, the Economic Council of Palm Beach County is a non-profit advocacy organization that works to help foster an environment where businesses can grow and thrive. As president of this vital organization, Mike has worked for over a decade in order to achieve that goal. He understood that pragmatic solutions come from bringing more people to the table. That is why he led a forum of 30 business groups to help discuss the development of a strategic plan for the county, and worked to create a regulatory climate more conducive to business practices.

Mike’s impact in South Florida extends beyond the business world. During his tenure, he worked with the entire community to help advocate for better schools and educational opportunities, and prioritized ethics reform by pushing the county to create an Office of the Inspector General and an Ethics Commission.

I congratulate Mike Jones, his wife Dee, and their son, as they celebrate Mike’s retirement. Mike’s dedicated leadership has made a positive impact on the South Florida community, and it is an honor to represent him here in Washington.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HEROICS OF FOUR GREAT OAKS STUDENTS

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of four Great Oaks Vocational School students: layie Viassy, Wade Aills, Brandon North, and Austin Salisbury. I am proud to recognize these four young men for their brave heroics in helping 53 Miami Trace elementary school children off an overturned bus on March 12, 2012.

At 4:16 p.m. on March 12, a school bus transporting children home from school veered off the road and rolled onto its right side into a ditch. With the passenger door pinned against the ground, Wade Aills made the decision to kick open the emergency rear door. The four boys then proceeded to aid the elementary children in exiting the bus and keeping everyone calm until emergency personnel could arrive. When EMS units arrived on the scene, all of the children had been evacuated safely, with only a few children that suffered minor injuries.

Recently, these young men were honored and recognized by the Fayette County Sheriff’s Office and the Miami Trace elementary school for their actions.

Thus, today I ask my colleagues to join me and the constituents of Ohio’s Seventh Congressional District in recognizing four true heroes: layie Viassy, Wade Aills, Brandon North, and Austin Salisbury.

LARRY DECKER TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Larry Decker of Pueblo, Colorado.

After earning his education and serving in the U.S. Navy Mr. Decker moved to Pueblo. Always a strong leader in the community, Mr. Decker was frequently involved in Veterans activities and organizations. He was a proud member of American Legion Post 207 and served a leadership role among his peers. As the senior vice commander of Post 207, Mr. Decker was highly respected not only in the American Legion but also in the Pueblo community.

As enthusiastic as he was with helping others in the community, his real passion was his family. He leaves behind his wife Joan who has been by his side since 1964. Together they raised a loving family that includes two daughters and three grandchildren. On April 5th, the city of Pueblo and the State of Colorado lost a great man.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Larry Decker. I rise today to thank him for his work on behalf of the citizens of Pueblo, and for his service to our nation. May he rest in peace.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY WILDCATS MEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2012 NCAA DIVISION I MEN’S CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to rise today to commend and congratulate the University of Kentucky Wildcats men’s basketball team on winning the 2012 NCAA Men’s Division I Basketball Championship.

By now, any basketball fan is familiar with the legacy of the Wildcats. The “Greatest Tradition in College Basketball,” Kentucky is the winningest program of all-time, both in total wins and total win percentage, and the first team to break the 2,000 win threshold. Kentucky has fifteen Final Four appearances, and now eight national championships, second only to UCLA.

Even measured against this pedigree and the impossibly high expectations of the Big Blue Nation, this batch of ‘Cats was something special. “The Undeniables,” as they are known, were ranked number one in the nation for most of the year, losing only two games on their way to setting the NCAA record of thirty-eight wins in a single season. During their remarkable NCAA tournament run they won each game by an astonishing average of ten points, never trailing in a second half. While the title was the ultimate goal, the Final Four victory over instate rival the University of Louisville may have been even sweeter, as the highest stakes game ever played in the historic rivalry and the most important single sporting event in the history of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

This team achieved greatness against extraordinary competition because of the players’ love and respect for one another. It is telling that a team led by three freshmen and two sophomores all forecast to be first round NBA draft picks, and all used to scoring 25 points a night in high school, were known first and foremost for their defense. Their willingness to

support each other on the defensive end translated into selflessness in their offensive attack, with a different player leading all scorers on any given night. The senior anchor to these young 'Cats was Darius Miller, one of Kentucky's favorite sons and a high school Mr. Basketball from Mason County. During his freshman season, Kentucky failed to make the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 18 years. After that disappointment, Miller has been a mainstay of teams under Coach John Calipari that have gone undefeated at home for three seasons, earning two Final Fours, an Elite Eight appearance, and a National Championship. Over his career, Darius played in more games than any Kentucky player in history and was one block and thirteen rebounds from having a career stats sheet with some 1,200 points, 500 rebounds, 250 assists, 100 blocks, and 100 steals.

That Miller was the sixth man on this Kentucky squad demonstrates the explosive athleticism of Big Blue's younger stars. Leading the way was Anthony Davis who, with 186 blocks bested most entire teams in that statistic, cleaned up nearly every individual award for which he was eligible, including Freshman of the Year, SEC Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year, and the Naismith and Wooden National Player of the Year awards. Though ending the season with a 62% field goal percentage, he was scoreless in the first half of the National Championship Game and yet was Most Outstanding Player for his defensive abilities and capacity to ignite the UK offense. Davis along with fellow freshman point guard Marcus Teague started in a record forty games for UK and were the distributors for an extremely quick and highly efficient offense that was a perpetual threat in transition. Leading that attack were sophomore and freshman forwards Terrence Jones and Michael Kidd-Gilchrist, dangerous whether around the rim or breaking free for an open jump shot, combining for an average 24 points a game. Sophomore Doron Lamb was the team's often unsung hero and clutch shooter, averaging 37% from the three point line during his career and killing the momentum behind several opponents' would-be comebacks. I could go on-and-on celebrating these leaders and the other players who made this team championship caliber. "The Undeniables" will be regarded as one of the greatest all-around teams in college basketball history and that eighth NCAA Championship banner now hanging in Rupp Arena will forever stand as testament to their place in the hearts of the Big Blue Nation. I wish all of these players the best as they continue their careers, whether at Kentucky or at the professional level.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the boundless energy and enthusiasm of Head Coach John Calipari, who forged a timeless team out of young freshmen and sophomores. Before Coach Cal's arrival, UK basketball was lost in the woods. In a single season he made the Wildcats into a perennial championship contender once again. But more importantly, he has worked selflessly to promote the University nationally and internationally, even more closely involved the community in the basketball program, and pursued philanthropic goals both through the University as well as with his private charity. This winning environment in Lexington is a result of the seamless teamwork and support of the coaching and training staff, Athletic Director

Mitch Barnhart, and University of Kentucky President Eli Capiluto who, in his first year as president, is now one-for-one in national basketball championships.

In closing I would like to once again join the Big Blue Nation in congratulating the team, everyone affiliated with the University and UK fans around the world on a terrific season and our eighth national championship. What a banner year it has been!

RECOGNIZING PROFESSIONAL GOLF ASSOCIATION TOUR PROFESSIONAL BUBBA WATSON AS THE WINNER OF THE 2012 MASTERS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Northwest Florida's Gerry Lester "Bubba" Watson, Jr. as the winner of the 2012 Masters Tournament on Sunday, April 8, 2012 at Augusta National Golf Club.

Winning a Masters Tournament, professional golf's most prestigious event, is the dream of every tour professional and aspiring amateur. This win—his fourth on the PGA tour—elevated him to the number four position in the world golf rankings, and to number two in the FedEx Cup rankings.

Bubba's humble, small-town upbringing in Bagdad, Florida included no formal golf lessons, save one provided by his father at an early age. He taught himself to play golf by hitting wiffle balls around his house with a cut-off club his father gave him.

Not an inexperienced winner, Bubba won the Divot Derby—a longstanding junior golf tournament in Pensacola, Florida—an astounding 10 years in a row. He continued golfing during his years at Milton High School, where he also excelled as pitcher on the school's baseball team. Despite his significant baseball talents, golf remained his passion. At Faulkner State Community College, he was named First Team Junior College All American. Later, after transferring to the University of Georgia, he led the Bulldogs to an SEC Championship title in 2000. He turned professional when he joined the Nationwide Tour in 2001, and later joined the PGA tour in 2006. Known for his aggressive shot-making abilities and his exceptionally long tee shots, he has quickly established himself as a favorite among golf spectators.

Bubba is not shy about sharing his Christian faith, and he possesses an unwavering commitment to family—most recently demonstrated when he and his wife, Angie, adopted a baby boy just two weeks before his win at Augusta. In addition to his commitment to family, Bubba is actively involved in a number of philanthropic activities, serving as an honorary board member and generous sponsor of The First Tee of Northwest Florida and making significant contributions to the Ronald McDonald House in Pensacola. He has also hosted free golf clinics for children, provided scholarships for Milton High School golfers, and committed to funding the Divot Derby for the next five years, ensuring that children do not need to pay the registration fee to participate in the event.

Bubba's strong character, athletic prowess, and commitment to family and community make it all the more enjoyable to call him "Masters Champion." His nail-biting win after two playoff holes on Sunday afternoon may be his first in a major tournament, but it will likely not be his last.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the citizens of Northwest Florida, I congratulate Bubba for his extraordinary victory. My wife Vicki joins me in offering our best wishes to Bubba; his wife, Angie; and their son, Caleb, for their continued success.

HONORING THE ROCK BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL LADY BRUINS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Rock Bridge High School Lady Bruins Basketball team for winning the Class 5 Missouri State Championship on March 10, 2012.

The young women and their coaches should be commended for all their hard work throughout their stunning season. In the championship game against Blue Springs, the Lady Bruins prevailed 52 to 41, marking the team's first title since 2008. The Lady Bruins had come to win starting with a 14 to 0 lead and then never letting their opponent come closer than five points.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Rock Bridge High School Lady Bruins for a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF MIKE WALLACE

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to Mike Wallace, a man whose determination and tenacity shaped investigative reporting as we know it today.

Mr. Wallace died on April 7, 2012, surrounded by family in New Caanan, Connecticut. He was 93.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Wallace was one of the original correspondents for the news program, 60 Minutes, and his reporting helped to cement the show's reputation for hard-hitting but fair journalism. He interviewed world leaders and celebrities, never shying away from difficult and often confrontational lines of questioning. Nevertheless, his impeccable research and balanced approach made him as respected as he was feared.

The list of persons interviewed by Mike Wallace over the past half century reads like a Who's Who of the leading figures of the twentieth century: reverend and activist Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; famed surrealist painter Salvador Dali; former Palestinian leader and Nobel Prize Laureate Yasser Arafat; former Iranian leader Ayotollah Khomeini; civil rights

advocate Malcolm X; first lady Eleanor Roosevelt; president Ronald Reagan; former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger; then-Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Despite his steely demeanor, Mike Wallace struggled with personal hardships, including the death of a son and bouts with depression. At a time when such vulnerabilities were often hidden from public view, Mike Wallace shared these challenges with American audiences. His bravery and openness helped to dissolve the social stigma around depression and made a tremendous impact on the lives of many Americans.

Mike Wallace was honored with 21 Emmy Awards, five Peabody Awards, and the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award. He was also inducted into the Television Academy Hall of Fame in 1991. His legacy continues through the Knight-Wallace Fellowship program at the University of Michigan, which gives mid-career journalists the opportunity to explore new subjects of interest.

Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on the life and legacy of Mike Wallace, one can be certain that his memory will be an inspiration for a new generation of journalists as well as for every American who values such a strong commitment to integrity and truth.

PAUL ALLEN AND THE ALLEN
INSTITUTE FOR BRAIN SCIENCE

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a philanthropist and forward-looking individual who made a remarkable announcement a few weeks ago. Paul Allen, the founder of the Allen Institute for Brain Science, yesterday announced that he is giving \$300 million toward the invaluable research at the Allen Institute for Brain Science, which he started with \$100 million of his own money.

Mr. Speaker, the researchers at The Allen Institute employ an extraordinary team approach to brain research and all strive, every single day, toward the same goal: mapping the human brain with the goal of finding the causes and cures of vexing diseases—Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, dementia, autism, depression and many more.

Perhaps most impressively, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Allen's team at the Institute share what is learned as it happens. Each month, tens of thousands of scientists from around the world access the vast data stores and web-based tools available via the Institute's brain map website to learn and advance their own research. The investment Mr. Allen and the brilliant team of researchers make are intriguing and hopeful.

I'm proud to say, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Allen and his team are doing the bulk of their work in the Pacific Northwest providing hope for the future—and opportunities for the present. I salute Mr. Allen, his team of researchers, and our talented and motivated medical professionals around this Nation. The dollars and time being invested should never be forgotten in this House, nor by humanity.

CLINTON RIVER WATERSHED
COUNCIL CELEBRATES FORTY
YEARS

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Clinton River Watershed Council as it celebrates 40 years of making a positive difference to the Clinton River and its watershed.

Forty years ago, the Clinton River was a very different waterway than it is today. Decades of uncontrolled dumping of industrial wastewater and raw sewage had taken a huge environmental toll on water quality in the river. There were no fish to speak of in the river, and certainly none that you would care to eat. Far from being an asset to the communities along its banks, the Clinton River was slowly dying.

That might have been the end of the story except for two key developments in 1972. The first was the passage of the Clean Water Act which spelled out ambitious programs for water quality improvement. The second key development was the formation of the Clinton River Watershed Council. Both of these had a profound impact on water quality in the Clinton River.

Passage of the Clean Water Act 40 years ago was one of the most important environmental milestones in our nation's history. It marked a fundamental change in how our nation views and manages water in this country. After decades of polluting the Great Lakes and their tributaries—including the Clinton River—we finally recognized that healthy rivers and lakes are vital to the health of our communities, and we required that steps be taken to restore them.

The formation of the Clinton River Watershed Council marked another important turning point. It takes time and resources to undo decades of pollution and neglect, and still more time for an ecosystem to heal. Restoring an urban waterway like the Clinton River is especially complicated. I am convinced that the effort to heal the Clinton River has gone much faster because it had advocates to coordinate action and focus attention and resources. Thanks to the work of the Clinton River Watershed Council and its members and member units of government, real progress is being made on water quality, and once again the Clinton River is being used for fishing, canoeing, and hiking. The Council's efforts in the areas of watershed management, stewardship and education have also had a tangible, positive impact.

There was a time when we turned our backs to our rivers and lakes. Today, we know better. As the hard-won progress in the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair shows, waterfront development is a real generator of economic activity and a one-of-a-kind asset to communities.

We need to build on the progress that has been made in the Clinton River Watershed as well as Lake St. Clair. This absolutely requires a partnership of effort by Federal, State, and local governments, as well as local stakeholders and advocacy groups. It also means a continued commitment of resources from the Federal Government, especially when it

comes to funding the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Now is not the time to cut funding for this vital initiative. Congress and the Obama Administration must also work to clarify and restore long-standing Clean Water Act protections for U.S. streams, wetlands, and other waters.

But the real work of completing the restoration of the Clinton River will continue to be done by groups like the Clinton River Watershed Council and the many volunteers and sponsors that support their efforts. The Watershed Council's work underscores the value that a healthy Clinton River holds for our citizens and communities. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Clinton River Watershed Council as it begins its fifth decade of work to protect, enhance and celebrate the Clinton River and its watershed.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT OF
SENIOR AIRMAN ALEXANDER W.
BLENCH, UNITED STATES AIR
FORCE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievement of Senior Airman Alexander W. Blench, who recently received the 2011 Lieutenant General Leo Marquez Award as the Air Force's Outstanding Aircraft Maintenance Airman.

Originally hailing from Escondido, California, SrA Blench joined the United States Air Force as an F-15 Avionics Technician in 2008. He served at RAF Lakenheath, England and in Afghanistan before reporting to Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, in 2010. A self-described tinkerer who developed a love of mechanics as a child working in his father's machine shop, SrA Blench now specializes in repairing electronic warfare and countermeasure systems in F-15C and F-15E aircraft. He also works on aircraft wiring, flight controls, environmental systems, munitions guidance systems and video lines. At only 24 years old, SrA Blench has already compiled an impressive list of contributions to our nation's Air Force. His sharp eye and keen understanding of avionics allowed him to identify and quickly rectify countermeasure and flight control failures, faulty telemetry data, a radar elevation discrepancy and crucial systems malfunctions. His personal efforts led to five modifications of three separate types of aircraft and contributed directly to 1,700 sorties and over 2,600 flying hours resulting in the success of several critical test missions.

SrA Blench's dedication to excellence, however, goes beyond his professional duties. In addition to his significant professional achievements, SrA Blench also completed a Community College of the Air Force degree in Avionics Systems Technology. He is also pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree with a 3.95 GPA, he volunteered his off-duty time to clean and paint a local middle school, and he participated in a local Northwest Florida beach conservation effort by assisting with planting 1,400 trees along the shoreline. Not only has SrA Blench proven himself to be a good Airman, he has also shown himself to be a good

neighbor and an outstanding representative of the United States Air Force in the Northwest Florida community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize SrA Alexander W. Blench. His dedication to duty, his technical competence, and his contributions to the local community all bear testament to his personal embodiment of the Air Force's core values—"Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do." My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating SrA Blench, and we wish him all the best for continued success.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
HOLLIDAYSBURG AREA YMCA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to recognize the Hollidaysburg Area YMCA upon the 100th anniversary of their continued service to our community. I, along with close to 6,000 of my constituents, am proud to call Hollidaysburg home and am pleased to have the opportunity to call attention to such a respected mainstay in our community.

The Hollidaysburg Area YMCA, founded in 1912, currently boasts roughly 4,000 members. These members are provided training, education, the use of the grounds and facility, and access to multiple wellness events throughout the course of the year. In 2011, they proudly bore the title of the largest wellness program available in Blair County, teaching and advocating youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. This feat is made all the more impressive by the fact that they serve as a completely non-profit community center with no subsidy from tax revenues. Beside their own regular members, an estimated 25,000 individuals come through their doors each month to receive the same high quality care and instruction that YMCAs all across the United States provide on a daily basis.

In addition to general safety and instruction, the Hollidaysburg Area YMCA also operates one of the largest childcare centers in the area, providing a resource for American families in surrounding areas, encouraging and supporting the hard work and diligence that makes America great. This, combined with their welcoming community center, their extensive aquatic programs, and the financial assistance provided to nearly 600 individuals annually, has endeared this establishment to its people and community.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the YMCA of the Hollidaysburg Area for 100 years of history, growth and success. This organization continually lives out their mission by putting "Christian-Judeo principles into practice through programs and services that build healthy spirits, minds, and bodies for all." Hollidaysburg is honored to boast such a vital and interactive part of our community and I invite the American people to help celebrate this anniversary by exploring the opportunities and advantages that the YMCAs of America provide their communities.

HONORING ERIKA GARZA

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 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.

Erika Garza is a senior at Pasadena Memorial High School in Harris County, Texas. Her essay topic is: In your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

The role of the government is to represent, help, and speak out for its people. Specifically, when dealing with the government of the United States, it is basically supposed to be ruled by the people, for the people. The public, although not everybody does it, participates in the government by voting. We vote representatives into office, with the thought that they have the intention to make a difference in our country, dealing with specific issues that we believe need to be changed. The government has many different levels to it, yet it is composed of people who come from similar backgrounds and wanted to be the voice for their fellow people. This is not an easy task, as it takes a lot of hard work and time to be elected into office. Once a person is elected into office, their job becomes even more difficult. They then have to try and do what is best for the people but also have to deal with other representatives as well who have the complete opposite opinions. Not all the elected think alike, nor do they have the same goals, which makes making laws or setting standards difficult. Yet, their main focus is to represent the people who have chosen them to do what others in the past have failed to do. That is basically the role of the government and how people participate it in daily.

HONORING THE MOUNT HERALD
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of the community, the Mount Herald Missionary Baptist Church. Mt. Herald M. B. Church served as a catalyst during the civil rights movement in Sharkey County, Mississippi.

The Church was organized in 1908, under the leadership of the late Rev. B. S. Scott. Over the years physical structure was built under the leadership of Rev. B. C. Cook and the new foundation was laid by Rev. G. P. Phillips in 1924.

During the Civil Rights era, the Mt. Herald M. B. Church was used as one of the many

safe houses for the brave men and women who stood up for the rights of African Americans in the segregated South, including the Mississippi Delta. These brave warriors gave their lives for the rights that we now have as African Americans.

Before the states were ordered to end all segregated school systems the Mount Herald M. B. Church was used as the first high school for African American students in the Rolling Fork, Mississippi community.

On April 4, 2003, the Mt. Herald M. B. Church family purchased the property located at 140 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Street, in Rolling Fork, Mississippi so they could accommodate the growth of the church family and continue their mission for the good of all mankind. The Mount Herald Church is truly a church full with members who are truly making a difference in the community. The Mount Herald Missionary Baptist Church is currently under the leadership of Pastor Gregory D. Young.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that our colleagues join me on this 9th anniversary of acquisition of the Mt. Herald Missionary Baptist Church to honor its exemplary service and dedication to the state of Mississippi.

MARKING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SINKING OF THE TITANIC WITH THE STORY OF THE KELLY FAMILY OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, April 14th will mark the 100th Anniversary of the Titanic tragedy and for one family, the Kellys of New Haven, Connecticut, it will mark the anniversary of the loss of a very special member of their family, James Kelly. The Titanic Kellys, as they have been known since the days of this tragedy, will gather for a reunion and a celebration of the strength and resiliency of this wonderful family.

In the early part of the 20th century, life in Leixlip, Ireland was difficult to say the least and James Kelly determined that it was time for his family to seek a new life in America. In order to obtain the necessary money to move the family, the eldest daughter, Margaret left her home and family and immigrated to New Haven, Connecticut where she would work until she had earned enough for her father to join her. The plan was for Margaret and James to then work to bring the rest of the family to New Haven.

Margaret worked at the garment company Strause-Adler and soon had enough wages saved to send to her father. It is not fully known exactly how James Kelly obtained passage on the Titanic, but what is known is that he boarded at Queenstown, Ireland and his ticket number was 330911. This third class passage ticket was purchased for approximately \$40.00 and being third class, James was segregated from the other passengers and, while his movement was limited, some of the accommodations were actually better than what he saw at his two room house in Leixlip. It is not hard to imagine the hope that was in his heart—the dreams of a better life for his family. Unfortunately, fate had different plans.

James Kelly did not survive the sinking of the Titanic. His body was discovered by the Mackay-Bennett, which was one of the ships chartered by White Star Lines to recover bodies. Each body discovered was given a number and entered into a ledger—James Kelly was number 70. The ledger indicates he was buried at sea on April 21, 1912 wearing a dark suit, vest, trousers, white socks, black boots and a set of rosary beads.

Even in the face of this tragedy and the loss of their patriarch, the Kelly family did not waiver. James' widow, Catherine, and their other children left Ireland and arrived in New Haven in June of 1912. While life in America was not without its challenges, they took it upon themselves to fight through the hardship and build a better life for their respective families. There are now more than 100 proud descendants of James Kelly living in our great country. The Kelly motto, "God is My Tower of Strength," perfectly reflects the will power and vigor of the Titanic Kelly's and I am proud to join them as they celebrate their remarkable history.

HONORING MR. EUGENE CHIN YU,
24TH PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION OF KOREAN ASSOCIATIONS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Eugene Chin Yu, the 24th president of the Federation of Korean Associations. Mr. Yu has dedicated his time and energy to representing Korean Americans on the local, regional, and national level for his entire adult life.

Starting as a young man, Mr. Yu has steadily risen in prominence as he championed the causes of his fellow Korean Americans. As president of the Federation of Korean Associations, Mr. Yu continues his diligent work ensuring the success of Korean culture in America.

Mr. Yu also serves the greater community as a leader and a role model. Having served in the United States Army, Mr. Yu embodies the virtue of defending the freedom of our great nation. As a former Georgia State Trooper, Mr. Yu was committed to protecting the safety of his community. And as a successful business owner, Mr. Yu shows us that with hard work and dedication, anything is achievable in America.

Mr. Speaker, Eugene Chin Yu's legacy as a community leader is well recognized and deserving of our honor. I join the Korean American community of Southern New Jersey in honoring Mr. Yu and his many great accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE J.M. TATE HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL TEAM AS THE 22ND FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize J.M. Tate High School and

to congratulate Asia Cravens, Sarah Barlow, Tanner Newman, Hannah Malone, Matthew Bailey, Chance Sturup, Tatiana Teate, Amy Sapp, Brianna Riddell, Andrew Belt, and Ryan Colburn as the 22nd Florida High School Mock Trial State Champions. This award is evidence of their tireless work and steadfast dedication to excellence.

On the road to state championship, Tate's Mock Trial Team was tasked with defeating teams from eighteen judicial circuits across the state. Following four rounds of intense competition, Tate High School defeated the Community School of Naples in the final round and prevailed as Florida State Champions.

No single component by itself renders a champion, but rather to be a champion requires a combination of discipline, desire, focus, and determination. The Tate High School Mock Trial Team bounded together by their passion for justice and dedication to the rule of law found the perfect blend of these elements and made Northwest Florida proud.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the Tate High School Mock Trial Team and their coaches, Angie Sapp and Travis Johnson, on their leadership and accomplishments. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating them, and we wish them all of the best for their continued success.

HONORING CAPTAIN ROBERT C. GRANT

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Captain Robert C. Grant, on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Coast Guard Reserve. For over 30 years, Captain Grant has dedicated his life to serving our nation and protecting South Florida, and it is truly an honor to represent him here in Washington.

Captain Grant is an exceptional public servant. As Deputy Chief of Staff of the seventh Coast Guard District, he served as a senior advisor to eight admirals, and provided support to Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield. And as Congressional Liaison for Florida's 19th district, Captain Grant assisted Congress in passing legislation that has proved instrumental in addressing new maritime smuggling tactics.

But Captain Grant's work also extends to the realm of community outreach. He helped strengthen the relationship between the Coast Guard and the Cuban and Haitian communities in South Florida through a dedicated public outreach initiative. Furthermore, he was able to assist with relief efforts in the wake of the devastating 2010 earthquake in Haiti, and has received numerous awards and accolades for his exemplary service.

Captain Robert C. Grant's service in the United States Coast Guard has made an extraordinary local, national, and international impact, and has made South Florida a safe place where families can grow and thrive. It is my hope that his example will inspire others to serve their communities for generations to come.

TO THE 10TH POWER, A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN DAVID WOODARD, FOURTH BRIGADE TENTH MOUNTAIN, UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker I rise today in honor of Captain David Woodard: a strong son of the south, one of Georgia's finest, and member of the 4th Brigade 10th Mountain of the United States Army. April 28th marks the three year anniversary of an IED explosion in Sadr City, Iraq that almost took Captain Woodard's life. Although Captain Woodard lost his leg in the attack, he has not missed a beat. His recovery and "can-do" attitude has helped sustain him and inspire us all. With the help of his lovely wife Danielle and their beautiful son David, who is a carbon-copy of his dad, Captain Woodard is past the road to recovery and is preparing to embark on the next phase of his heroic life.

TO THE 10TH POWER

How high can a heart so climb?
To what heights may we so reach in time?
But, to the very top to teach us we find!
To the 10th Power!
Throughout our nation's history . . .
Have come such fine men of faith and courage, so indeed . . .
Strong Georgia Men, who are but our Nation's best friends . . .
Who've worn the title of, 10th Mountain Men . . .
Who go off to war, and but for all of us . . .
so much endure . . . and depends!
Who but only with their Beliefs, so gallantly fight for our peace!
Who above all others so tower, as up to new heights they reach!
Like the Tenth Mountain Men, whose courage upon us showers . . .
Showers, us with great courage and heroic faith!
Men of the hour, who will not fade . . .
Who in the moment of truth, their fine hearts rise, to the 10th Power . . .
Men, who upon battlefields of honor, death, and glory . . .
While, lying gravely wounded . . . close to death, they tell their story . . .
Who give up their fine arms and legs . . .
And come back home to write another great chapter . . .
Another chapter, all in their life's most heroic page!
As they must somehow start all over again!
Men like David, these most heroic to 10th Mountain Men . . .
Whose, great hearts much somehow grow even greater than!
Men who teach us!
Who so beseech us!
All in how they so reach us!
As they start their lives all over again . . .
Just like his brother Bob Dole, Captain Woodard too has such a fine soul!
As both are cut from the same mold!
In life, how high can a heart so rise?
As to what heights will it so climb?
When it all depends on . . . what is so found deep down inside!
As to the 10th power, your heart so begins to rise!
Bringing tears even to the angel's eyes . . .
As David, yours has so!
And if I ever have a son!
David, I but hope and pray he could be like you . . . this one!

By Albert Carey Caswell . . . Bless You All, as you have blessed so many Heroes and our Nation!

HONORING THE ROCK BRIDGE
HIGH SCHOOL LADY BRUINS
SWIMMING AND DIVING 400-YARD
FREESTYLE RELAY TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Rock Bridge High School Lady Bruins Swimming and Diving 400-Yard Freestyle Relay team on its Missouri State Championship.

Madeline Simon, Libby Walker, Kortney Betz and Chelsea Tatlow gave a tremendous showing in the 400-yard freestyle relay with a time of 3:33:37, allowing them to pull ahead by less than two-tenths of a second of the runner-up. These young ladies and their coaches should be commended for all their hard work throughout the regular season and helping bring home their school's first overall team state championship.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Rock Bridge High School Lady Bruins for a job well done!

RECOGNIZING THE ANNIVERSARY
OF THE VIRGINIA TECH SHOOTING

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today, April 16, 2012, marks the fifth year anniversary of the Virginia Tech shooting in which 32 innocent lives were lost. Today I rise to observe the anniversary and I urge all Americans to join me in keeping all those who were injured, and the families of those who lost their lives in this tragedy in their thoughts and prayers.

More than 30 members of the Virginia Tech family perished that day. Among them were future lawyers, doctors, teachers, engineers, soldiers, business men and women, mothers, fathers, and leaders. The loss of life at Virginia Tech is a tragedy that all Americans mourn.

On this day, I salute the strength and resilience of the Virginia Tech community. Those belonging to "Hokie Nation" include nearly 30,000 students, 1,300 faculty members and 200,000 living alumni who take pride in their school and in their accomplishments as an institution.

Days after the shooting, Nikki Giovanni wrote a moving poem about the events and her words still ring true today.

We are Virginia Tech.

We are sad today, and we will be sad for quite a while. We are not moving on, we are embracing our mourning.

We are Virginia Tech.

We are strong enough to stand tall tearlessly, we are brave enough to bend to cry, and we are sad enough to know that we must laugh again.

We are Virginia Tech.

We do not understand this tragedy. We know we did nothing to deserve it, but neither does a child in Africa dying of AIDS, neither do the invisible children walking the night away to avoid being captured by the rogue army, neither does the baby elephant watching his community being devastated for ivory, neither does the Mexican child looking for fresh water, neither does the Appalachian infant killed in the middle of the night in his crib in the home his father built with his own hands being run over by a boulder because the land was destabilized. No one deserves a tragedy.

We are Virginia Tech.

The Hokie Nation embraces our own and reaches out with open heart and hands to those who offer their hearts and minds. We are strong, and brave, and innocent, and unafraid. We are better than we think and not quite what we want to be. We are alive to the imaginations and the possibilities. We will continue to invent the future through our blood and tears and through all our sadness.

We are the Hokies.

We will prevail.

We will prevail.

We will prevail.

We are Virginia Tech.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the horrible tragedy that occurred five years ago today and as we remember the events of that dreadful day, let us not forget those who lost their lives. I extend my deepest condolences again to the families of all the victims. On this five year anniversary of the horrible tragedy at Virginia Tech, let us extend our thoughts and prayers to all those who were injured or have suffered as a result of this senseless act of violence.

Today, we are all members of the Hokie Nation. We are Virginia Tech.

RECOGNIZING FRANK BECKWITH
AS THE 2012 HURLBURT AFA
CHAPTER 398 MIDDLE SCHOOL
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Frank Beckwith, the 2012 Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398 Middle School Teacher of the Year.

A graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and a veteran of Desert Storm, Mr. Beckwith continued his service and leadership in a different capacity—this time as a teacher. He began teaching in 1993 in North Carolina, and in 2001, he moved to Santa Rosa County to teach at Avalon Middle School in Milton, Florida.

Mr. Beckwith has engaged his students through his passion for science and its use as a tool for problem solving. To enhance their learning, he procured data processing equipment for the classroom and has motivated students to excel in science, technology, engineering, and math education through innovative programs. He founded the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Activity, and Math) program, where students are af-

forded the opportunity to spend the day on Blackwater River, competing in various categories, including measuring water chemistry, mapping river depth, and racing to haul one person's daily water consumption from the river to a tank. He is also the sponsor and coach for the school's BEST (Boosting Engineering, Science, and Technology) Robotics team.

Aside from teaching at Avalon Middle School, Mr. Beckwith also serves as a faculty associate at the University of West Florida and is President of the Santa Rosa County Science Teacher's Association.

Frank Beckwith's desire to teach is rooted in his family, through his father and grandfather, and was also inspired by his high school science teachers. Their guidance, enhanced by his experience and understanding of the importance and power of education, help built the strong foundation from which Mr. Beckwith teaches and empowers his students to strive for excellence. His greatness lies well beyond his title as Hurlburt AFA Chapter 398 Middle School Teacher of the Year—it lies in the hearts and minds of those who have been deeply impacted by his dedication to the teaching profession and service to our great nation.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Mr. Frank Beckwith for his great achievements and honorable service. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing him all of the best.

64TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize the 64th anniversary of the establishment of the modern State of Israel.

On May 14, 1948, the British Mandate for Palestine expired, and the Jewish People's Council approved the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel. That document encapsulates centuries of hopes, hardships, dreams, persecutions, tenacity, and faith. And it signifies the fulfillment of the prayer of the Jewish people: To return once again to their homeland and build a nation based on the principles of freedom, justice, and peace.

It is fitting that on that same day, President Harry Truman signed his name to the announcement recognizing the provisional government of the new Jewish state as the de facto authority of the State of Israel, thus making the United States the first nation to recognize Israel as a nation.

In that moment 64 years ago, and in every moment since, the Jewish people have persevered in the face of adversity, thriving as a nation and as a people, and contributing globally to advancements in areas ranging from academia, economics, and business to arts, culture, and politics. And all the while, the Jewish people have continued to live as a people who, as the Declaration states, love peace but know how to defend themselves.

In the decades that have passed since that momentous event, Israel has remained the United States strongest ally in the Middle East, and the United States has stood steadfastly with Israel. Today, and in the days that

lie ahead, we must continue to stand unwaveringly with Israel. As the modern State of Israel celebrates 64 years, I join with countless others to extend my congratulations to the Jewish people—in Israel, in the United States, and around the world. And I offer my heartfelt prayers for the safety, peace, and prosperity of the State of Israel.

EMANCIPATION DAY IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, on Emancipation Day in the District of Columbia, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the 150th anniversary of President Lincoln's signing of the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act, which freed 3,100 slaves of African descent in the nation's capital. I have introduced a resolution today in honor of this historic day. The record should also reflect that the District of Columbia Council passed the following resolution in honor of the anniversary:

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION
19-207

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MARCH 6, 2012

To recognize and preserve the cultural history and heritage of the District of Columbia; to formally recognize the 150th anniversary of District of Columbia Emancipation Day on April 16, 2012, as an important day in the history of the District of Columbia and the United States in that, on April 16, 1862, 9 months before President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863 to begin to end institutionalized slavery in America, President Lincoln signed the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act to release the 3,100 enslaved persons of African descent held in the nation's capital, making them the "first freed" by the federal government, at a cost of nearly \$1 million, in 1862 funds, paid to the people who enslaved them; to recognize that, after the Civil War, formerly enslaved people and others commemorated the signing of the 1862 act by parading down Pennsylvania Avenue in festive attire, with music and marching bands, proclaiming and celebrating freedom in the District of Columbia Emancipation Day Parade, which was received by every sitting President of the United States from 1866 to 1901; and to recognize that, on March 7, 2000, the Council of the District of Columbia voted unanimously to establish April 16th as a legal private holiday, the Emancipation Day Parade resumed in the nation's capital in 2002, and, on April 5, 2005, District of Columbia Emancipation Day was made a legal public holiday, recognized annually on April 16th.

Whereas, on April 16, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act ("Emancipation Act") during the Civil War;

Whereas, the Emancipation Act provided for immediate emancipation of 3,100 enslaved men, women, and children of African descent held in bondage in the District of Columbia;

Whereas, the Emancipation Act authorized compensation of up to \$300 for each of the 3,100 enslaved men, women, and children held in bondage by those loyal to the Union, voluntary colonization of the formerly enslaved to colonies outside of America, and pay-

ments of up to \$100 to each formerly enslaved person who agreed to leave America;

Whereas, the Emancipation Act authorized the federal government to pay approximately \$1 million, in 1862 funds, for the freedom of 3,100 enslaved men, women, and children of African descent in the District of Columbia;

Whereas, the Emancipation Act ended the bondage of 3,100 enslaved men, women, and children of African descent in the District of Columbia, and made them the "first freed" by the federal government during the Civil War;

Whereas, nine months after the signing of the Emancipation Act, on January 1, 1863, President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863, to begin to end institutionalized enslavement of people of African descent in Confederate states;

Whereas, on April 9, 1865, the Confederacy surrendered, marking the beginning of the end of the Civil War, and on August 20, 1866, President Andrew Johnson signed a Proclamation Declaring that Peace, Order, Tranquility and Civil Authority Now Exists in and Throughout the Whole of the United States of America;

Whereas, in December 1865, the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified establishing that "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction";

Whereas, in April 1866, to commemorate the signing of the Emancipation Act, the formerly enslaved people and others, in festive attire, with music and marching bands, started an annual tradition of parading down Pennsylvania Avenue, proclaiming and celebrating the anniversary of their freedom;

Whereas, the District of Columbia Emancipation Day Parade was received by every sitting President of the United States from 1866 to 1901;

Whereas, on March 7, 2000, at the Twenty Seventh Legislative Session of the Council of the District of Columbia, Councilmember Vincent B. Orange, Sr. (D-Ward 5) authored and introduced, with Carol Schwartz (R-At Large), the historic District of Columbia Emancipation Day Amendment Act of 2000, effective April 3, 2001 (D.C. Law 13-237; D.C. Official Code 1-612.02a, 32-1201), and on that same date moved an emergency version of the legislation that established April 16th as a legal private holiday;

Whereas, the District of Columbia Emancipation Day Emergency Amendment Act of 2000, which established April 16th as a legal private holiday, was passed unanimously by the Council on March 7, 2000, and signed into law on March 22, 2000 by Mayor Anthony A. Williams;

Whereas, on April 16, 2000, to properly preserve the historical and cultural significance of the District of Columbia Emancipation Day, Councilmember Orange hosted a celebration program in the historic 15th Street Presbyterian Church, founded in 1841 as the First Colored Presbyterian Church;

Whereas, on April 16, 2002, after a 100-year absence, the District of Columbia, spearheaded by Councilmember Orange with the support of Mayor Anthony Williams, returned the Emancipation Day Parade to Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., along with public activities on Freedom Plaza and evening fireworks (D.C. Official Code 1-182);

Whereas, the District of Columbia Emancipation Day Parade and Fund Act of 2004, effective March 17, 2005 (D.C. Law 15-240; D.C. Official Code 1-181 et seq.), established the Emancipation Day Fund to receive and disburse monies for the Emancipation Day Parade and activities associated with the cele-

bration and commemoration of the District of Columbia Emancipation Day;

Whereas, the District of Columbia Emancipation Day Amendment Act of 2004, effective April 5, 2005 (D.C. Law 15-288; D.C. Official Code 1-612.02(a)(11)), established April 16th as a legal public holiday;

Whereas, on April 16, 2005, District of Columbia Emancipation Day was observed for the first time as a legal public holiday, for the purpose of pay and leave of employees scheduled to work on that day (D.C. Official Code 1-612.02(c)(2));

Whereas, April 16, 2012, is the 150th anniversary of District of Columbia Emancipation Day, which symbolizes the triumph of people of African descent over the cruelty of institutionalized slavery and the goodwill of people opposed to the injustice of slavery in a democracy;

Whereas, the Council of the District of Columbia remembers and pays homage to the millions of people of African descent enslaved for more than 2 centuries in America for their courage and determination;

Whereas, the Council of the District of Columbia remembers and pays homage to President Abraham Lincoln for his courage and determination to begin to end the inhumanity and injustice of institutionalized slavery by signing the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act on April 16, 1862;

Whereas, the alignment of the (1) election of the first African-American President of the United States, Barack H. Obama; (2) dedication of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial; (3) groundbreaking for the National Museum of African American History and Culture; (4) 150th anniversary of the District of Columbia Emancipation Day; and (5) 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 2013, are historically important for the District of Columbia and for the United States; and

Whereas, the 150th anniversary of District of Columbia Emancipation Day is a singularly important occasion that links the historic Presidency of Abraham Lincoln with the equally historic Presidency of Barack H. Obama, as the first President of the United States of African descent.

Resolved, by the Council of the District of Columbia, That this resolution may be cited as the "District of Columbia Emancipation Day—150th Anniversary Recognition Resolution of 2012".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia finds the 150th anniversary of District of Columbia Emancipation Day is an important, historic occasion for the District of Columbia and the nation and serves as an appropriate time to reflect on how far the District of Columbia and the United States have progressed since institutionalized enslavement of people of African descent. Most importantly, the 150th anniversary reminds us to reaffirm our commitment to forge a more just and united country that truly reflects the ideals of its founders and instills in its people a broad sense of duty to be responsible and conscientious stewards of freedom and democracy.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President

Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$15,615,726,037,322.66. We've added \$4,988,848,988,409.58 to our debt in 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING DREW LISCUM

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 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.

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

People as a whole seem to receive adequate information about what the government actually does in a very unique way. The reason being is that the government, in about every country, controls what is seen and what is not seen. They control key aspects to people's lives. I believe in the truth . . . whether it hurts me or not.

For instance, why is it said nationwide and even worldwide, that politicians are "liars." Well maybe it's because they are simply talented at hiding the blunt truth. When a friend asks for an opinion about their hair or if they look good, it's ok to throw in a white lie to not hurt their feelings. But when you lie to your country, it's different on so many levels. I'm not saying that our government lies, but I'm not saying that they tell the truth either. People refer to government as a system for the way it works. If you're in the government, your punishments are much less crucial than that of an average citizen. For example, a man named Michael Lund was arrested on October 28th, 2011 for driving while intoxicated. He was trying to cut through a blocked off accident scene a little after eleven-thirty. Michael Lund is the captain of the Sugar Land Police Department. The men that arrested him were Stafford Policemen. The same types of charges were also given to a dear friend of mine. His charges were not withheld or cut back. The point is that the government should be equal in every aspect. Whether it's a case or the truth being put forward, everyone should know the same and be treated the same.

In the documentary, "Dear Zachary," a man, Andrew Bagby, was killed in 2001 after breaking up with his girlfriend. After she denied murdering him to several cops and people, she moved to Canada. Bagby's family still pressed charges against her, but now it was a little more difficult. Shortly after living in Canada, she announced herself to be Pregnant. Andrews parents now became a bigger part of the picture. They wanted to gain custody of Zachary. On August 18th, Shirley Turner takes her son, Zacahary, far out into the middle of the ocean and drowns

the both of them. On December 15th, 2010, Governor General David Johnston gave Royal Assent to Bill C-464: An Act To Amend the Criminal Code, making it law in Canada. The bill has added an amendment to Canada's criminal code giving courts the right to refuse bail to someone charged with a serious crime who is deemed a potential danger to children under the age of 18.

The argument on what role the government should play in our lives will go on forever. The problem is that they need to be there for us when we need them, and also know when to step down and let us live our own lives. People such as Shirley Turner should be taken care of here in America while she is extremely dangerous and all evidence is pointing towards her. The government needs to understand to play their own role before they decide to play it in ours.

HONORING MR. HEZEKIAH WATKINS FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary civil rights activist, Mr. Hezekiah Watkins. Mr. Watkins is a lifelong resident of Jackson, Mississippi. He graduated from Lanier High School and continued his education at Utica Junior College, Southern Illinois University and East Tennessee State University.

Mr. Watkins became a lifelong proponent of justice after his involvement in the Civil Rights Movement. In 1961, the "Freedom Fighters" banned together in Jackson, Mississippi to demonstrate against state segregation laws, and for doing so, 328 people were arrested with the charge "breach of peace." At the age of 13, Mr. Watkins was the youngest to be arrested and sent to Parchman Prison during the Freedom Riders movement. He continued his involvement in Mississippi's fight for civil rights, and as a result was arrested over 100 times more in years to follow. These experiences caused him to commit to improving the quality of life and opportunities for young African American youth and all of mankind.

Mr. Watkins began his career as a young entrepreneur and took on full time employment with Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center and Hinds County Human Recourses Agency.

He is currently employed with the Jackson Medical Mall and owner of the Corner Food Market and Deli in Jackson, Mississippi. Mr. Watkins continues his activism for justice as a community leader who promotes community and civic involvement in Mississippi's African American youth.

Mr. Watkins has been married for the past 23 years to the former Chris Tanner. Together, they delight in the joys of three children, Marvin, Quentin, and Kristi. They also have four grandchildren, Quentin II, Brandon, Corey and Mason.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Hezekiah Watkins for his dedication and service as a Civil Rights advocate and pioneer during the 1960s Civil Rights Movement.

HONORING THE SOCIETY OF SANTA MARIA MADDALENA SOCIETY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me the greatest pleasure to rise today to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to the Society of Santa Maria Maddalena of New Haven—the oldest American fraternal organization in Connecticut—for their many invaluable contributions to our community.

Located in Wooster Square, the neighborhood in New Haven where I grew up, the Society of Maria Maddalena has played an important role in forging the strong bonds of our community. Founded in 1898 by immigrants from the town of Atrani in the Salerno Province, south of Naples, Italy, the Society of Maria Maddalena has been a resource for neighborhood families for generations. Named for the patron saint of Atrani, the Society of Maria Maddalena was originally established to assist fellow Atrani immigrants with housing, employment, English translating, and legal matters. It was a place where families faced with the many challenges of starting a new life in a new country could turn for support, comfort, and friendship. Over the years, the Society's purpose has become more community oriented, helping any worthwhile cause or individual regardless of ethnic background. It has donated tens of thousands of dollars to numerous charities and organizations in New Haven and across the State. St. Michael's Church in New Haven, the Salvation Army, Columbus House, Connecticut Hospice, and two Jima Survivors are just a few of those organizations who have benefitted from their generosity. The Society has also provided scholarships to inner city youths.

The Santa Maria Maddalena Society preserves the traditions, heritage and culture of its members' ancestors, and also maintains ties to Atrani by providing assistance to the Santa Maria Maddalena Church in Italy and the society's Italian sister organization for its annual Festa to Santa Maria Maddalena which coincides with the feast day in Connecticut. During the week of July 22, a replica of the original statue of the saint, which was brought to the United States in 1914, is carried through the streets of Wooster Square. The saint is adorned with jewelry provided by the original members of the society. The feast procession culminates at St. Michael's Catholic Church where a high mass is celebrated. The feast celebration extends for four days with Italian music and food, and on Saturday evening, Neapolitan music is featured. The holiday is a time for reuniting with friends and providing younger generations with opportunities to learn about their culture.

People across the country struggle to create a sense of community—a sense of belonging. Over the course of its one hundred-fourteen-year history, the Society of Maria Maddalena has helped the families of Wooster Square do just that. For their many invaluable contributions as well as their continued support and friendship, I am proud to stand today to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the members, past and present, of the Society of Maria Maddalena. The bonds of community

that the Society has helped to shape will continue to impact generations to come.

IN HONOR OF COMMANDER ROB SELKO, UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Commander Rob Selko for his service to our great nation.

For much of his life, Commander Selko proudly, faithfully and honorably served this country. Born and raised near Philadelphia, Commander Selko attended The Pennsylvania State University on the Navy Reserve Officer Training, NROTC, scholarship. After graduating with a degree in Chemical Engineering Commander Selko was commissioned as an Ensign and ordered to NAS Pensacola to commence training as a Naval Flight Officer, NFO.

Following his NFO training he was ordered to VF-101 for Fleet F-14A Tomcat Radar Intercept Officer training at NAS Oceana. Commander Selko was then assigned to VF-33 where he completed a North Atlantic and a Mediterranean Sea deployment on board USS *America* (CV-66), amassing over 750 hours and 200 arrested landings in the F-14A Tomcat.

In 1994, Commander Selko joined the Navy Reserve and was re-designated as an Aerospace Engineering Duty Officer. In February 2006, he was assigned to NAS Lakehurst, New Jersey as Officer in Charge and tasked with leading the Navy's first unit involved in airships in over forty years. His unit deployed to NAS Key West, FL for joint operations with the U.S. Coast Guard, marking the first airship operations involving the U.S. Navy since 1962. Unfortunately, late in 2010, Commander Selko was diagnosed with leukemia. He spent most of 2011 in treatment and recovering from his illness.

Commander Selko currently resides at 5 Glen Burnie Court, Sicklerville, New Jersey and after 28 years of faithful and honorable service will be retiring on June 23, 2012. He is married to Christine Selko of Pennsauken, and they have raised four children together in New Jersey.

It is important that we take the time on this day to remember and reflect on Commander Selko's deep commitment to inspiring and touching the lives of those around him in his service to this country. May he be remembered as such, and may we continue to carry on his legacy in our hearts as we walk through life.

CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF HILLEL HONOREES STANLEY AND PEARL GOODMAN

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Stanley Goodman and Mrs. Pearl

Goodman for their years of exemplary service to the South Florida Jewish community. Their accomplishments are truly a cause for celebration, and it is a privilege to represent them in the United States Congress.

Since becoming members of the South Florida community in 1961, The Goodmans have been tireless advocates for Israel, and have joined countless organizations like The Hillel of Broward and Pam Beach to promote the welfare of Jewish people across the globe. During their 58 years of marriage, the couple has instituted mentoring programs, as well as networks through universities in Broward and Palm Beach that allow young students to engage with the larger Jewish community. In addition, Both Dr. and Mrs. Goodman have served on the Board of the Jewish Family Services of Broward County and are actively involved in the award-winning David Posnak Jewish Day School where Dr. Goodman is an Honorary Vice-President.

But the Goodman family's service extends beyond the scope of creating a more inclusive, informed Jewish community, and includes a commitment to fostering artistic enrichment in South Florida. Dr. Goodman has served as Secretary for the Executive Committee at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts Foundation, and Mrs. Goodman is an avid supporter of the Broward Center for the Performing Arts Foundation.

The South Florida Jewish community has undoubtedly been strengthened by the Goodmans exceptional work. They are truly a source of inspiration for all those who have dedicated themselves to promoting Jewish causes, and I look forward to their continued good work.

Congratulations to Stanley and Pearl Goodman, and well as their children and grandchildren, as they celebrate this well deserved honor.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT CHRISTOPHER L. BROWN

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. AUSTIN. Mr. Speaker, while we can never fully express the depth of our appreciation for those who give their lives to protect our freedoms, I rise today on behalf of the constituents of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District to recognize and honor the life of Army SSG Christopher L. Brown.

A 2003 Hamilton Township High School graduate and Army Service member, Staff Sergeant Brown, 26, was killed in an attack with an improvised explosive device on April 3, 2012 in Kunar Province, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He showed exceptional courage and bravery, and gave his life while defending the United States.

Staff Sergeant Brown was assigned to A Company, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colorado. He was on his second deployment to Afghanistan and had also served nearly a year in Iraq.

He served with distinction and his awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, a Purple Heart and an Army Commendation Medal.

Brown is survived by his wife, Ariell, their daughters Charlie and Dylan, their unborn child, as well as his parents and three sisters. His devotion to his family, friends, and fellow Service members and to this nation is honorable. As a dedicated and loyal patriot, he selflessly served this country with bravery and valor.

Thus, today I ask my colleagues to join me and the constituents of the Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in honoring the life and memory of SSG Christopher L. Brown, a true hero.

RECOGNIZING LAURA PINK AS THE 2012 HURLBURT AFA CHAPTER 398 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ms. Laura Pink, the 2012 Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398 Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Pink has spent her entire career "paying it forward" to her students, their parents, and her colleagues. Her dedication to helping educate others started long before she stepped into the classroom as a teacher. As a junior in high school, Ms. Pink began teaching as a reading tutor. She went on to earn a double major in Elementary and Special Education in college and received an endorsement in Gifted Education for all grades. Ms. Pink attributes her success as an educator to her own teachers, who instilled in her the self-confidence for success and a passion for scholarship. She has forever impacted the lives of her students, and she is truly deserving of this honor.

In the classroom, Ms. Pink uses the wonders of science, technology, engineering, and math to challenge and empower her students. Outside of the classroom, she is involved with the Air Force Association, Hurlburt Chapter's Teacher Workshop, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the Civil Air Patrol, and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Ms. Pink has been able to combine her classroom activities with her extracurricular activities so that she can better serve her students and secure grants for hands-on classroom experiments. Additionally, Ms. Pink has been able to introduce the Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Connections in Education program at her school, which uses aviation to foster her students' interest in science and math.

The importance of teachers such as Ms. Pink is unquantifiable, and I commend her dedication to our nation's future. To be selected as Teacher of the Year is a reflection of Ms. Pink's exemplary work ethic and steadfast dedication to the students of Northwest Florida.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Ms. Laura Pink for her great achievements and laudable service. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing her all of the best.

HONORING CHELSEA TATLOW

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Rock Bridge High School Lady Bruins Swimming and Diving team member Chelsea Tatlow on her state victory in the 100-yard backstroke.

Ms. Tatlow played an integral part in the school's success at the state championship. Winning this event in her sophomore year is indeed a considerable feat, and I am sure that we will continue to see her name in swimming headlines. Ms. Tatlow and her coaches should be commended for all their hard work throughout the regular season and in the state championship.

I ask that you join me in recognizing Rock Bridge High School Lady Bruins' Chelsea Tatlow for a job well done.

IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL
AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Coalition for Autism Research and Education, I rise today to recognize April as National Autism Awareness Month. Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in America, with 1 to 1.5 million Americans living with it each day. Every April since the 1970s we celebrate National Autism Awareness Month, which provides an opportunity to educate the public on autism and the issues affecting those people afflicted with the disorder.

This disorder is universal, affecting children from all ethnic, racial and socioeconomic backgrounds. The latest statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention state that 1 in 88 children born in the United States will develop autism.

Mr. Speaker, this increase is a clear call that more needs to be done in terms of research and education. Congress must call for more resources to be given to early screening and diagnosis programs. This can lead to improved educational and social outcomes and increases the chances of employment and independent living for those suffering from autism.

My own State of California has seen a huge increase in autism diagnoses. In 1990, 6 out of every 10,000 children born in the State were diagnosed with the disease by the age of five. Only 11 years later that number had risen to 42.5 in every 10,000 children. Since then the numbers have only risen.

Children diagnosed with this disorder will struggle with significant social, behavioral and communication challenges. For example, an activity as simple as going to the movies is impossible for many families with autistic children. However, autism is treatable. There is no permanent cure for the disorder, but studies show that early detection and intervention can lead to significantly improved outcomes.

Mr. Speaker, the occurrence of autism is on the rise in our nation. This is why it is more important than ever that we continue to fund programs like the National Database for Autism Research, whose overall goal is accelerating scientific discovery in autism spectrum disorder through data and research sharing among ASD investigators.

That is why it was so important that Congress passed H.R. 2005, the Combating Autism Reauthorization Act of 2011. I am proud to have been an original co-sponsor of this legislation, which authorizes more than \$200 million in continued funding for the Centers for Disease Control's surveillance and epidemiological research programs for autism and other developmental disabilities and for the National Institutes of Health's respect to research program on autism spectrum disorders and possible environmental causes of autism. The bill also authorizes a robust autism education, early detection, and intervention program at the Health Resources and Services Administration, HRSA.

Mr. Speaker, nowhere is autism's impact felt more than in underserved communities, where diagnosis is delayed on average two years. Given that early identification and intervention are paramount to the developing brain of children with autism, this two-year delay is especially devastating, as it denies thousands of vulnerable children the benefits of early diagnosis and intervention. This can mean the difference between a child who may someday live independently, and a child destined for a life of institutionalized care.

The alarming delay in diagnosis becomes even more detrimental when compounded by issues of poverty, such as a lack of housing, employment, and transportation. This is the reality faced by families in underserved communities who are affected by autism and other developmental disabilities.

That is why I also want to recognize, commend, and encourage organizations like the Special Needs Network, Inc., which serve the greater Los Angeles community for the great work and service they provide to families and individuals affected by the autism in underserved communities.

This month, let us recommit ourselves to raising awareness about autism. We have a responsibility to continue to broaden our efforts to research this disorder, and increase awareness about the importance of early detection.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognition of National Autism Awareness Month, and ask all Americans to take time this month to find out what you can do to help the growing population of those afflicted with, or affected by, autism.

BANKRUPTCY EQUITY FOR
HOMEOWNERS ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, on February 16, 2012, I spoke on the House floor about the intrinsic unfairness of certain bankruptcy laws. In my statement, I inappropriately characterized the actions of the Mortgage Bankers Association. The following is my amended statement:

This week, we watched the settlement unfold between the Department of Justice, the State attorneys general, and the major banks. Twenty-six billion dollars sounds like a lot of money, but given that almost one in four homeowners owe more on their mortgages than the values of their homes—overall losing some \$700 billion in value. This is a step in the right direction that will help some people but is not really a major correction. There are still far too few real pressures to get the market right.

There is a simple answer that won't cost the taxpayers a dime and which will stabilize the housing depression within a year. It would help reestablish home values and encourage banks to work with their customers whose mortgages are "under water".

The recent decision of American Airlines to pursue bankruptcy is illustrative. This corporate giant could actually pay its bills. It had some \$4 billion in cash and was still taking in revenue, but it made a strategic judgment to use the bankruptcy laws to reposition itself to win market rate loan terms, to modify its union contracts and the pension obligations to its employees because, under the law, a bankruptcy judge can adjust these business relationships to reflect current market conditions—for a business, that is. Curiously, homeowners are treated differently.

A business speculator could buy 10 units in a condominium in south Florida when the housing bubble bursts and could get bankruptcy relief on all 10 units—but not Sally Six-Pack, who bought an identical unit to live in.

What is it about homeowners that make them less worthy of relief of the fresh start of bankruptcy than the speculator or American Airlines? The answer is right here on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Congress has decided to look out for business, not the homeowner. The daisy chain of profit we saw collapsing under the weight of colossal greed and bad judgment was protected at the expense of the homeowner, who was trapped, with limited options to renegotiate, with no leverage, who simply faced foreclosure, a short sale, or what is described as jingle mail: send the keys back and walk away.

It's interesting that homeowners have been urged that it's their moral duty, their obligation to pay, even as the Mortgage Bankers Association, itself, reneged on the mortgage on its headquarters and cut a side deal with its financial partners to get out of its underwater mortgage. Not long before this happened, John Courson, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Mortgage Bankers Association, was quoted in the press as asking defaulting homeowners, "What about the message they will send to their family and their kids and their friends?" What message did the Mortgage Bankers Association send? The answer is clearly that they have one set of rules, while American families have another. This blatant hypocrisy enrages ordinary families and runs counter to democratic values of fairness and equal opportunity. Homeowners are expected to do the right thing, even if we're seeing a cavalcade of financial misdeeds, shortcuts, and, in some cases, outright fraud.

I've been unable to find any good reason that homeowners should be discriminated against in bankruptcy. If it's good enough for business, it should be good enough for the homeowners.

There are lots of reasons to change that policy. First, it's simple equity, the same treatment. In addition, making bankruptcy relief available to homeowners will make the system respond to reasonable requests for renegotiations, which would be cheaper, faster, and easier than the foreclosure process for everybody. The simple act will stem the flood of foreclosures and uncertainty, which will help stabilize home values currently in free fall, and it will make it harder for another speculative bubble to be created. Knowing that homeowners will be treated the same as business in bankruptcy will make people think twice about aggregating vast numbers of dicey mortgages, simply taking a profit, and passing the package on to others.

I am introducing the Bankruptcy Equity Act to provide bankruptcy judges the power to align the homeowner's mortgage to its current value and terms and put ordinary homeowners on the same playing field as speculators and businesses. It makes sure private and federally insured mortgages are eligible for modification, allowing FHA, VA, and the Department of Agriculture to pay out claims on insured mortgages modified in bankruptcy.

For an immediate solution to the foreclosure crisis, allowing families to stay in their homes, to be treated equitably, and prevent the next bubble from forming, I strongly urge my colleagues to examine the Bankruptcy Equity for Homeowners Act and join me in treating homeowners as fairly as we treat speculators and investors.

RECOGNIZING PHILIP AMERIS AND CAROL COULTAS FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING WORK ON BEHALF OF THE WORKING MEN AND WOMEN OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize two dedicated champions of the American worker for receiving an award for outstanding labor leadership. Each year, the Allegheny County Labor Council confers its Labor's Man of the Year and Labor's Woman of the Year Awards on one male and one female who have worked passionately and effectively to advance the cause of organized labor in western Pennsylvania. This year's Labor's Man of the Year is Philip Ameris, President and Business Manager of the Laborers' District Council of Western Pennsylvania. Labor's Woman of the Year for 2012 is Carol Coultas, a longtime servant of western Pennsylvania's labor movement, who most recently served as Executive Vice President of Communication Workers of America (CWA) Local 13500. The enthusiasm with which these two individuals have worked to advance the material wellbeing and workplace safety of hardworking Americans over the years is a tribute to their integrity and selflessness.

In 1994, Philip Ameris was appointed a Field Representative for Laborers International Union of North America Local 1058. Since then, he has risen through the ranks on account of his outstanding managerial and organizational skills. In his current post, he over-

sees the Labor District Council of Western Pennsylvania's efforts to provide fair working conditions and wages to the hardworking men and women who build and maintain western Pennsylvania's physical infrastructure.

Mr. Ameris also holds leadership positions on several prominent labor boards. He serves as Chairman of the Western Pennsylvania Laborers' Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, Chairman of the Western Pennsylvania Laborers' Education and Training Trust Fund, Chairman of the Laborers' Combined Funds of Western Pennsylvania Pension and Welfare Funds and Chairman of the Western Pennsylvania Laborers' Political Action Fund.

An 8th degree black belt, Mr. Ameris is the founder of several martial arts instruction programs for young children. He has served as a martial arts instructor to the children within his own programs for the last 30 years.

Mr. Ameris has been married to his wife Jeanne for the last 30 years. He and Jeanne have two sons—Philip, Jr. and Jimmy—who are both proud members of the Laborers' International Union of America.

Carol Coultas is a 30-year veteran of the Communications Workers of America. In addition to having served as Executive Vice President of CWA Local 13500, she has been the President of the CWA Local 13051 Retired Members Council and Executive Vice President Emeritus of the CWA Local 13500. Ms. Coultas has also served as a board member of the Pennsylvania Alliance for Retired Americans, a trustee and delegate to the Allegheny County Labor Council and a member of Jobs for Justice.

Ms. Coultas began her career as a Long Distance Telephone Operator for the Bell Telephone Company in 1944. She first became a member of CWA when she went to work in Bell's Special Accounts Business Office. From that moment on, she has worked with the utmost passion to protect the rights and the livelihoods of working families and seniors.

In addition to being a dedicated advocate for active and retired American workers, Ms. Coultas is also a devoted wife to her husband Ronald—a Vietnam veteran and retired National Guardsman—loving mother to her daughter Bernadette and proud grandmother to her grandchildren David and Emily.

Mr. Speaker, all of us should strive to replicate the passion for serving others that Phil Ameris and Carol Coultas have exhibited throughout their distinguished careers as labor leaders. I want to congratulate them on receiving such a well-deserved honor.

HONORING MAYOR HAL BALDWIN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the commitment of the late Mayor Hal Baldwin of Schertz, Texas. Mr. Baldwin, one of the longest continuously serving council members in the state of Texas served on the Schertz City Council for twenty-nine years and as the city's Mayor of another eighteen years. Mayor Baldwin's nearly forty years of service to the community will echo even in his passing.

Mr. Baldwin, the Wichita, Kansas native moved to Schertz, Texas in 1967 as he was finishing a 20-year enlisted career in the Air Force with the rank of Senior Master Sergeant. While on active duty, Baldwin served with the 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing, Naha Air Force Base, Okinawa, during the latter months of the Korean War. He also served at Headquarters, 7th Air Force, Tan Son Nhut Air Base during the Vietnam War. He finished his military career at Randolph Air Force Base, where he served as the noncommissioned officer in charge of the Command Graphics Branch, Presentations Division, Headquarters, Air Training Command.

By the early 1970s, Baldwin's first interaction with city government was with the Citizens Advisory Committee that advised City Council on matters. Later, he partook in a program called "Project Transition" which was an Air Force program that sought to let retiring members work half a day in a civilian job for a period of time until they retired and could work full time in that job. As a tax-assessor collector for the City of Schertz as his half day civilian job, he learned about city government and issues. After six years, he took a job as a business manager for the school district and served in this position until his retirement in 1998.

After serving his country and learning the ropes of city government, his political career began. He was appointed as a City Council member and in 1994 he ran for Mayor of Schertz, won and served in that position until 2012. His landmark services as Mayor include the formation of the Schertz-Seguin Local Government Corporation and more recently raising awareness of historical places in the area, such as a number of century old homes in the city. I had the honor of working collaboratively with Baldwin since 2006 on projects for the City of Schertz, including bringing a new Post office to the area.

The mayor and Mrs. Barbara Baldwin were married for 55 years, they have five children, eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, all of whom reside in the Schertz area. Mayor Hal Baldwin's love for the Schertz community can be measured by one simple fact—he has spent half his life in public service to that community.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the opportunity to recognize the late Mayor Hal Baldwin. His hard work and valor have truly impacted many lives and our community.

HONORING GORDON TSAI

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 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.

Gordon Tsai is a junior at Clements High School in Fort Bend County, Texas. His essay topic is: In your opinion, why is it important to be involved in the political process?

The United States is a relatively young and unique country. It was only about two hundred years ago we entered the throes of revolution and asserted our independence. As a country, we tend to forget the principles that were fought for and won on that fateful day. This American Revolution was fought for freedom, especially the freedom to vote and/or run for public office.

The value of independence and freedom has almost been lost upon our current people. Ironically, we have a large population of people who don't necessarily even pay attention to or understand politics and current affairs. They live in their small bubble of influence within work, friends, and maybe a community church. This kind of American citizen is definitely not the right one. It is our duty as citizens to vote and uphold the practice of choosing our leaders that was fought for back then two hundred years ago. This country's citizens have almost come to take freedom for granted. In modern day, the average man is protected on many levels by various forms of legislation that ensures their basic human rights. Some would even argue that the United States grants too much freedom as in the controversial case of the gun law. We have become an ungrateful country. Even recently, we can see in the Arab Spring that the value of freedom and independence are worth dying. In the countries of Egypt, Tunisia, Libya and currently Syria, people are and have been willing to die for the slight possibility of a free independent process for choosing their leaders. And around the world, other elections are plagued by bribery and corruption with country leaders serving multiple terms that exceed the limit set upon by their constitution. When observed realistically, the American election process and atmosphere is almost a dream. So why won't the citizens of the United States fulfill their responsibilities as a nation and assert the privilege that is voting? It is clear that around the world many people are willing to die for this chance to play their tiny part in the direction and leadership of their country.

It is apparent that many people in the United States don't ever vote. Even my mom waives this right that I would jump at a chance to have. This decision, however small it is individually, on the next leader of the United States is not one to be taken lightly. We are playing our small part in deciding the direction and future of the most influential country in the world. In this light, voting should be unprecedented honor, not an annoyance which the average citizen should fulfill.

HONORING DR. GEORGE ALVIN
"G.A." JOHNSON FOR HIS PUBLIC
SERVICE AND ADVOCACY TO THE
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable civil rights advocate and public servant, Dr. George Alvin "G.A." Johnson. Dr. Johnson earned his Doctorate of Divinity in 1979 from the Trinity Church Association in Shreveport, Louisiana.

He was born in Massies Mill, Virginia to the parents of Samuel and Virginia Johnson on

January 29, 1944. In 1963, after moving from Massies Mill to Washington, D.C. he stood on the grounds of the Lincoln Memorial to hear Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. deliver his "I Have a Dream" speech. As a young nineteen year old with an impressionable mind, Dr. King's speech became a defining moment in Dr. Johnson's life.

In 1970, seven years after Dr. King's infamous "I Have a Dream" speech, Johnson moved to Rolling Fork, Mississippi to take an active part in the civil rights movement. His first active role was in a position that was both admired and feared as becoming President of the Voter's League in Rolling Fork, Mississippi. As President, Dr. Johnson began to experience the indoctrination practices of the "traditions of the south."

After leaving his position as the President of the Voter's League in Rolling Fork, he took a position as manager of "Freedom Village." "Freedom Village" was one of the many strike cities that began emerging throughout Mississippi, as African Americans walked off plantations in protest of Jim Crow laws and unfair sharecropping practices. Dr. Johnson was also manager of one of the first self-help housing projects in the Mississippi Delta.

In 1971 Dr. Johnson moved to Greenville, Mississippi and became active in Delta Ministries sponsored by the Council of Churches of New York, New York. In 1976, he extended his ministry to television airing on WABG Channel 6 in Greenwood for 27 years. In 1988, Dr. Johnson founded GAIN, INC. (Goals, Aims, Intention Network) which stemmed from his prison ministry at the Mississippi State Penitentiary, known as Parchman Farm located in Sunflower County, Mississippi. He now resides in Charleson, Mississippi where he continues to be an advocate for children, the poor, the disadvantaged, and the displaced.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. George Alvin Johnson for his dedication and service as a civil rights advocate and pioneer during the 1960s civil rights movement in the great state of Mississippi.

CONGRATULATING THE NEW
HAVEN LIONS CLUB ON THE
CELEBRATION OF THEIR 90TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to extend my very best wishes to the members of the New Haven Lions Club as they gather to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of this extraordinary community organization. Over the course of its history, the New Haven Lions Club has enabled its members to contribute to our community in a positive and meaningful way. Indeed, in the last century, members of the New Haven Lions Club have helped to shape the very character of our community.

Founded in February of 1922, the New Haven Lions Club was only the second such club started in New England. From the very beginning, member's work in the community concentrated on assistance to local blind per-

sons and underprivileged children. In its earliest years, Lions would repair radios for the blind and transport them to and from local meetings as well as donate dinners and presents to needy families during the holidays. Over time, the Lions club has expanded both its membership and its activities on behalf of those in need.

Today, the New Haven Lions Club can be very proud of the two very special Service Projects it supports on an on-going basis. The first is Camp Cedarcrest, a forty-two acre facility located in Orange, Connecticut that began its operations in 1928. The New Haven Lions have partnered with four other service organizations—the Kiwanis, Probus, Quota and Rotary Clubs—who own the grounds and buildings, set policy, and provide capital improvements. In partnership with the New Haven Department of Parks and Recreation which provides a resident Ranger as well as organizes and supervises day camping and other activities, Camp Cedarcrest is available for recreation to thousands of young people and adults each summer season. In addition to the substantial financial support provided by the Club, over the years, New Haven Lions have contributed hundreds of hours of voluntary labor to ensure the upkeep of the grounds. The second service project to which the New Haven Lions have dedicated themselves is the One-To-One Program. This project, which is organized as a hands-on personal involvement of one Lion and one blind person, was first established in 1975 and has been a great success ever since.

In addition to these two service projects, the Lions also give back to the community by supporting Leo Clubs in local schools, volunteering their time and energies to other local service organizations like the Salvation Army and the Special Olympics, and providing scholarships to young people beginning their collegiate studies. In fact, as of their annual report last year, the New Haven Lions Club had spent in excess of \$750,000 to assist the less fortunate—all of which was raised by members.

The New Haven Lions have had an extraordinary impact on our community and we cannot thank them enough for all of their good work. As they celebrate their 90th anniversary, I am proud to stand to congratulate them on this remarkable milestone and to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to members past and present for their outstanding efforts on behalf of our community. I have no doubt that they will continue to do so for many more years to come.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 33RD
ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN
RELATIONS ACT

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 33rd anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act.

Since the end of World War II, the United States and Taiwan have fostered a close relationship that has been of enormous strategic and economic benefit to both countries. When the United States shifted diplomatic relations

from Taiwan to the People's Republic of China in January 1979, Congress moved quickly to pass the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) to ensure that the United States would continue its robust engagement with Taiwan in the areas of commerce, culture, and security cooperation. With President Carter's signature on April 10, 1979, this important and lasting piece of legislation became the Law of the Land and served as the statutory basis for U.S.-Taiwan relations going forward.

After 33 years, the TRA still stands as a model of congressional leadership in the history of our foreign relation, and, together with the 1982 "Six Assurances," it remains the cornerstone of a very mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and Taiwan. Through three decades marked by momentous social, economic, and political transformations, Taiwan has remained a trusted ally of the United States that now shares with us the ideals of freedom, democracy and self-determination. The foresight of the TRA's drafters in providing that "the United States will make available to Taiwan such defense articles and defense services . . . to enable Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability," and affirming "the preservation and enhancement of the human rights of all the people on Taiwan" as explicit objectives of the United States, has contributed in large measure to make Taiwan what it is today—a vibrant, open society governed by democratic institutions.

Though the people of Taiwan now enjoy fundamental human rights and civil liberties, they continue to live day after day under the ominous shadow cast by over 1400 short and medium-range ballistic missiles that the People's Republic of China (PRC) has aimed at them. The PRC persists in claiming Taiwan as a 'renegade province,' refusing to renounce the use of force to prevent formal de jure independence, even codifying its right to military action via passage of the so-called "Anti-Secession Law" on March 14, 2005. The United States Congress strongly condemned the "Anti-Secession Law" in House Concurrent Resolution 98, passed on March 16, 2005.

The TRA affirmed that the United States' decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China was based on the expectation that the future of Taiwan would be determined by peaceful means. Furthermore, it stipulates that it is the policy of the United States "to consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means . . . a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States." The unambiguous and principled stance contained in these provisions has been instrumental to the maintenance of peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait for more than thirty years, in spite of the growing military threat posed by the PRC.

I therefore invite my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 33rd anniversary of the TRA, to further underline our unwavering commitment to the TRA and our support for the strong and deepening relationship between the U.S. and Taiwan.

CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HILLEL HONOREE FREDERICK LIPPMAN

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Frederick Lippman, whose more than two decades as a pharmacist and community leader have had a monumental impact on students, medical professionals, academics, and the underserved in South Florida. I applaud his long career of service, and I am honored to represent him in Washington.

Frederick Lippman has served the people of South Florida as a pharmacist for over 20 years, but his contributions to our community reach far beyond the scope of daily patient care. Dr. Lippman served in the Florida House of Representatives for two decades, during which time he was a strong advocate for increasing educational opportunities and expanding health care access, particularly for children. His numerous awards and accolades include being named "Outstanding Health Services Person of South Florida" in 1995 by the University's Institute of Health Policy and Administration, "Child Advocate of the Year" in 1996 by the Florida Pediatric Society, and "Outstanding Advocate" in 1997 by the Institute of Holocaust Documentation at Florida International University for his leadership in adopting Holocaust educational curricula in the state of Florida.

In 1985, Dr. Lippman was instrumental in helping to create the State of Florida's Area Health Education Center Program (AHEC), which improved the supply and distribution of primary health providers in rural and urban areas by creating partnerships with academic health centers. And as the current Chancellor of the Health Professions Division of Nova Southeastern University, Dr. Lippman has helped the university develop a strong research infrastructure, which has led to an increase in funding, and broader opportunities for undergraduate researchers.

Dr. Lippman's work has undoubtedly made South Florida a place where families can grow and thrive. It is an honor to represent him the United States Congress, and I look forward to his continued good work for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF TYLER'S LIGHT FOR ITS CONTINUED DRUG AWARENESS EFFORTS

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Tyler's Light. I am honored to recognize Tyler's Light for its continued drug awareness efforts throughout Pickerington and Fairfield County, Ohio.

Tyler's Light was formed after the tragic and untimely passing of Tyler Campbell. Tyler was known for the way his blue eyes and infectious smile lit up a room. Tyler was very athletic and loved being outdoors where he would ride bikes, fish, and play various other sports. In just 23 years for life, Tyler managed to fulfill

many of his lifelong dreams such as playing Division 1 High School Football at Pickerington North and college football at the University of Akron.

Pickerington and all of Fairfield County need to be aware of the current drug epidemic and are in need of education about how drug addiction is breaking families apart. Thus, the objective of Tyler's Light is to educate students, families, and communities about the dangers and consequences of drug usage. Tyler's Light has been very effective and in just months has gained the attention of Fairfield County residents and others that are concerned about the increasing drug abuse issues facing our communities.

Thus, with great pride, I recognize Tyler's Light for the positive impact it is making in the community and I would like to extend best wishes for the future.

HONORING THE ROCK BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL LADY BRUINS SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Rock Bridge High School Lady Bruins Swimming and Diving team on its Missouri State Championship.

The young women and their coaches should be commended for all their hard work and dedication throughout the regular season. The team went on to give the school's swimming and diving program its best showing since the team's 2008 sixth-place finish. Rock Bridge High School athletic teams have had a huge winning tradition this year.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Rock Bridge High School Lady Bruins for a job well done!

RECOGNIZING APRIL AS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. This month is dedicated to raising awareness about the prevalence of child abuse and neglect as well as spreading knowledge on how to recognize and prevent its occurrence.

Every child has the right to live in a safe and healthy home. Together, we can ensure that right by providing support for parents, recognizing the signs of abuse, and educating community members about the issue.

Mr. Speaker, child abuse is defined as an act or failure to act which presents imminent risk of serious harm. It includes physical, emotional and sexual abuse as well as neglect. Child abuse occurs in every community and every district. It is reported at all socioeconomic and education levels and across cultural, ethnic, and religious lines. In 2010, there were 3.3 million referrals to Child Protective Services, involving 5.9 million children. In

Los Angeles County alone, there were over 170,000 reported cases of child abuse or neglect in 2010. With over half of those referrals being made by mandatory reporters, those professionals required by law to report signs of maltreatment, I applaud our school officials and social service providers who are defending children's wellbeing.

It is vital that we are all equally prepared to speak out for victims who are unable to seek help for themselves. The youngest children, in particular, are most vulnerable to abuse with almost 32 percent of reported victims under the age of four years.

The effects of abuse and neglect can last a lifetime and include physical injuries, mental health conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder, increased risk for violent behavior, and lower levels of economic wellbeing. Such long-term effects hinder the ability to form healthy and positive relationships as adults. Abuse can truly become a cycle, harming generation after generation if nothing is done to intervene.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the extraordinary work of the Miller Children's Hospital in the 37th district and its commitment to promoting positive parenting. The hospital offers training for medical professionals to recognize more subtle signs of abuse as well as early learning opportunities for children and their families to develop healthy family relationships.

Efforts aimed at prevention and early detection are critical in helping our nation's children grow up with the confidence and skills necessary to achieve the American Dream. These efforts can include programs in parent education and substance abuse treatment. Through these investments, we can target those specific circumstances and stresses that often lead to an increased likelihood of abuse.

Mr. Speaker, as I rise today to observe National Child Abuse Prevention Month, I ask all communities to invest in preventative measures and programs to end the cycle of child abuse once and for all. This month will serve as a reminder of our moral responsibility to ensure a bright future for our children and our nation.

CELEBRATING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise proudly today to honor the Environmental Technology Center, ETC, on the occasion of its tenth anniversary. Located at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, CA, ETC was one of the first 'green' buildings on a university campus.

Before the concept of a green building was a familiar part of our national culture, Rocky Rohwedder, Professor and Chair of the Environmental Studies and Planning, ENSP, department, realized that an environmental center could provide a valuable teaching tool. He and Professor Jean Merriman Falbo (now retired) sought grants to realize this vision. I was proud to assist their effort with funds from the National Science Foundation, NSF. With further support from the California Energy Com-

mission, the majority of the funding was in place.

Partnering with experts at Sonoma State University and in the community, ETC was carefully designed and opened its doors in the fall of 2001. The Center represented an exciting new advance in both building and education. Functioning as a teaching tool, demonstration project, and resource hub, it is used as a classroom for the Environmental Studies and Planning Department and several sustainable certificate programs as well as a center for service learning, technical assistance, and community-based research.

Considered a Zero Energy Building because it actually generates more energy than it consumes, its sustainable technologies include roof integrated photovoltaics, advanced window systems, extensive use of daylighting, recycled materials, and thermal mass as well as energy and water-efficient landscaping.

In February, 2002, shortly after ETC opened, the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology held a Congressional field hearing in the Center on the theme of "A Renewable Roadmap to Energy Independence." As the Ranking Member of the Science Energy Subcommittee, I was able to bring nationally known experts whose testimony delivered a clear message: that we could become energy independent with sustainable technologies using the techniques exemplified in the building. In addition, faculty at the Center, such as Dr. Sascha von Meier, testified in Washington, DC, before the Committee and later helped me in writing alternative energy legislation.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating all those who made the Environmental Technology Center possible and who continue to make it a focus of research and application for sustainable building ten years later. I applaud their commitment and foresight in creating "The Building That Teaches."

MARKING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONGRESSIONAL TAIWAN CAUCUS

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus.

Founded on April 9, 2001, the caucus was intended to serve as a forum to educate Members of Congress on issues affecting U.S.-Taiwan Relations, and to provide a platform for exploring ways to positively enhance and strengthen U.S. relations and cooperation with the government and people of Taiwan in accordance with the Taiwan Relations Act. It has grown from 85 Members at the time of its establishment to the current roster of 155, making it the second largest country caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives.

In the past 10 years, the membership of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus has remained solidly bipartisan, reflecting the broad and stable consensus in the U.S. Congress regarding the importance of Taiwan. Through the issuance of various joint letters, its agenda has focused first and foremost on maintaining faithful adherence to legal obligations and pol-

icy principles of the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act, as well as the 1982 "Six Assurances" to Taiwan. Together, these two documents form the cornerstone of our relationship with the people of Taiwan and have contributed immeasurably to the maintenance of peace and stability in the Asia Pacific region, while allowing Taiwan to blossom into a vibrant, open society, eager to engage with the rest of the world.

Today, Taiwan is well on the path to becoming a mature and fully consolidated democracy, and our shared values now form an ever stronger foundation of trust for cooperation across our many areas of mutual interest. At the same time, the military threat posed by the People's Republic of China to Taiwan's democratic way of life only continues to grow with each passing day.

In the coming 10 years, we hope to forge a stronger consultative role for Congress in the formulation of Taiwan policy. We look forward to working closely with our allies—both abroad and at home—to find solutions for ensuring Taiwan's long-term security, and to deepen our dialogue with the people of Taiwan.

RECOGNIZING SCOTT ERICKSON AS THE 2012 HURLBURT AFA CHAPTER 398 HIGH SCHOOL AND OVERALL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Scott Erickson, the 2012 Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398 High School and Overall Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Erickson's joy and passion for teaching began at an early age, from watching his mother, also a teacher. Her example, coupled with the skills he learned through his work as a summer camp counselor, became an inspirational force behind his current "learn by doing" teaching approach, which engages students through lesson plans that incorporate activities and experiments using modern-day technology. Throughout his career, Mr. Erickson has used this approach to educate students of all ages ranging from elementary school to high school.

A teacher at Milton High School in Northwest Florida, he continues to hone his teaching techniques, always striving for excellence and establishing award winning technology and aviation programs. Mr. Erickson has played an integral role in sponsoring Milton High School's Robotics Team and led the team to its notable victory at the Emerald Coast BEST (Boosting Engineering, Science, and Technology) Robotics competition. Additionally, through his tireless efforts in fundraising and procuring necessary grants, he became the driving force behind the creation of Milton High School's Aviation Academy—a state-of-the-art teaching and flight simulation facility—which continues to yield positive results. Several of his students are now on the path to earning pilot ratings. Equally commendable, several of Mr. Erickson's aviation students were selected to join the National Flight Academy, a multi-day immersion program that uses aviation to inspire students to

challenge themselves in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Mr. Erickson is respected by all—his students, parents, and administrators alike. Through his hard work and dedication, Scott Erickson is making a tremendous impact in the lives of his students, and this earned him both the title of Teacher of the Year and the admiration of those around him. The Northwest Florida community is proud to call him one of our own.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Mr. Scott Erickson for his great achievements and exemplary service. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing him all of the best.

A TRIBUTE TO THE VOLUNTEERS
OF CLARION, IOWA

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and acknowledge the volunteers of Clarion, Iowa, for their hard work and becoming 2012 National Honorees of Make a Difference Day. This year, more than a thousand citizens of Clarion participated in Make a Difference Day activities, earning them the prestigious honor as one of the nation's 2012 Make a Difference Day winners.

Make a Difference Day is a celebration of the power of neighbors helping neighbors. Created by USA Weekend, this annual day of service mobilizes more than 3 million volunteers nationwide to create positive change in their communities.

This group of outstanding volunteers from this three-stoplight town of 2,800 has made a substantial impact in their community by completing hundreds of small acts of kindness that culminated in their well-deserved national recognition. From crocheting robes for seniors to cleaning ditches, from raking leaves to running errands for neighbors in need, this small town came together a thousand strong to make an unforgettable impact on Make a Difference Day.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Clarion and its citizens in the United States Congress and I trust my colleagues in the House will rise to join me in congratulating them on a job well done. Clarion has shown the nation once again that small towns can surely do big things.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE
AMERICAN LIBERATORS OF
WORLD WAR II AND THE 25TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTER-
NATIONAL MARCH OF THE LIV-
ING

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as Holocaust Remembrance Day approaches on April 19, 2012, I would like to commemorate the U.S. forces that liberated concentration camps and death camps throughout Europe during World

War II. I would also like to commend the International March of the Living, which is commemorating 25 years of taking thousands of students to Poland to visit the sites of mass murder by the Nazi regime.

Each year, those participating in the March of the Living solemnly walk the three kilometers between Auschwitz and Birkenau, two sites that represent the largest concentration camp complex during the war. This year marks the first time students will march not with only friends, families, and survivors, but also the liberators who freed so many from the grips of the Nazi regime. These liberators saw first-hand the atrocities committed by the Nazis, and because these atrocities remain achingly clear, it is important that, as the number of liberators dwindles, we ensure their first-hand accounts are never forgotten. These brave soldiers exhibited compassion, and brought hope, to the survivors they liberated. It is for these reasons that I salute the liberators of the concentration camps and death camps, as well as International March of the Living on its 25th Anniversary, and I call on my colleagues to do the same.

THE PASSING OF MARK AYERS,
PRESIDENT OF THE AFL-CIO'S
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION
TRADES DEPARTMENT

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my shock and sadness at the untimely passing of Mark Ayers, President of the AFL-CIO's Building and Construction Trades Department.

Mark led the BCTD with great skill and amazing grace. He was a champion for worker's rights and worked tirelessly to raise the standard of living and quality of life for all working people and their families.

Mark was an extraordinary leader who possessed an unwavering commitment to improving the lives of working families.

Mark leaves big shoes to fill and will be missed by all who knew and loved him. But his legacy will live on.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

BAYLOR 2012 WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Baylor women's basketball team for winning the 2012 NCAA national championship. I was born in Waco, Texas, home of Baylor University, and I am so proud of my hometown team.

The Baylor Lady Bears did more than win, they made history. The Lady Bears completed a 40-0 season on April 3rd, 2012, by defeating Notre Dame 80-61 in the championship game. They became the first team, men's or women's, to go undefeated and win 40 games in one season.

Baylor University women's basketball team also made television history. With 4.24 million viewers, their game ranks as the most viewed national championship final since 2004. Brittney Griner, the Associated Press Player of the Year and the Most Outstanding Player of the NCAA tournament, led the Lady Bears in their sound defeat of Notre Dame. I am pleased to hear that Brittney intends to stay in school and is on track to finish her undergraduate degree.

Baylor University, which also happens to be the alma mater of my own sister, has the most wins combined in football, men's basketball, and women's basketball of any Division I school this season. Baylor should be proud of their many accolades. They have worked so hard to succeed not only in sports, but academically as well. Baylor is a top ranked national university and is an academic gem for the State of Texas and our country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in celebrating the Baylor University women's basketball team for their historic accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. REBECCA POE
OF WEST VIRGINIA

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishment of a constituent of mine Mrs. Rebecca Poe; specifically her twenty-six years of service as Executive Director of the Randolph County Senior Center along with her other accomplishments as Randolph County director for North Central Community Action, campaign chairman for United Way of Randolph County, President of the Elkins Rotary Club and her service on the board of Elkins Rehabilitation & Care Center.

Rebecca, whose first day as Executive Director of the Randolph County Senior Center was July 1, 1985, will work her final day on April 27, 2012. When Rebecca took over the Senior Center it was a small operation with a staff of seven people. Today it has a staff of about 120, including both full-time and part-time positions.

Under Rebecca's guidance the Senior Center home care program began in 1988 with a nurse and coordinator. Today the program has 140 clients and features two full time nurses and a support staff. In 1989 under Rebecca's guidance, the Senior Center made use of a seven-county regional grant to upgrade the nutrition program for their seniors. The Country Roads Transportation program began in 2006 to transport riders of any age.

Although Rebecca has helped the Senior Center make great strides over the years, she insists that the center and the many people she's gotten to know there over the years have made just as big an impact on her.

Mr. Speaker, as the nation's baby boomers move into their senior years, we certainly need more people like Rebecca Poe and the outstanding level of care to our aging population.

I thank Rebecca for her years of service and Randolph County is fortunate to call Rebecca one of its own.

JUMPSTART OUR BUSINESS
STARTUPS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, the Senate amendment to the Jumpstart Our Business Startups, JOBS, Act represents an improvement over the original House-passed version of this legislation, and I will support it today.

Specifically, today's legislation strengthens the crowdfunding provisions of the JOBS Act by adding important investor protections. Under the revised bill, crowdfunding issuances will have to be offered through either an SEC-registered broker or an SEC-registered funding portal, which will further protect investors by improving accountability and enhancing regulatory oversight. Additionally, the maximum amount permitted to be raised in any one crowdfunding issuance has been reduced from \$2 million to \$1 million, and the maximum amount a non-accredited investor can invest has been limited to \$2000 or 5 percent of income for those earning less than \$100,000, and the lesser of \$10,000 or 10 percent of income for those earning more than \$100,000.

Madam Speaker, innovation and entrepreneurship in markets governed by clear and fair rules of the road has always been the key to our economic success. While I believe that there are stronger job creation measures we can and should be considering today, and that this legislation will itself merit continued oversight to ensure it is in fact striking an appropriate regulatory balance, I will support it today for the benefit it may provide.

COACH DAVID SITTON—500 WINS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it's that time of year again; backyards and ballparks are back in full swing. There's nothing like a day, or night, at the ballpark. I remember going to the Houston Buffs games over on the Gulf Freeway, where Finger's is now, and to Colt Stadium to watch the Colt 45s. When the wind blew, the wooden bleachers at Colt Stadium would sway. It was a big deal back then to go to a game. Most of the time, we listened to the broadcast on a transistor radio. (Are there any of those left?) If you can't be there in-person, there's nothing really quite like listening to a game on the radio.

Then came the Astrodome. The first game was played there on April 9, 1965 against the New York Yankees. Governor John Connally threw out the first pitch, and President Lyndon B. Johnson and First Lady Lady Bird joined Astros President Roy Hofheinz in his suite. There were so many flashes going off that it was blinding. The Astrodome was a marvel to the world, the ushering in of indoor baseball. Even with the great home run kings Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris playing for Bronx Bombers, the Astros beat the Yankees 2–1 in 12 innings (those were the days).

There was nothing else like the Dome—the Eighth Wonder of the World. The players would stand in centerfield and hit balls straight up to see if they could hit the roof. And, who could forget the gun slinging cowboy on the scoreboard? As a parent, I brought my kids to the games. They wore Nolan Ryan's number 34 and cheered for players like Terry Puhl, Joe Niekro, Craig Reynolds, Alan Ashby, Billy Doran and Jose Cru-u-u-u-u-u-z. Last season, I watched alongside my grandkids as the train moves along the track, high above the new stadium—Minute Maid Park—whenever Biggio, Bagwell and Berkman (the Killer B's) hit homeruns. Two of my favorite players happen to be none other than Kingwood's own, Phil "Scrap-Iron" Garner (later coach of the Astros) and Craig Reynolds.

With all of the legends of the past, you may not know that we live amongst another baseball legend: Coach David Sitton. Coach Sitton started his baseball career as a pitcher for Humble High School. Lucky for us, he returned to his alma mater and never hung up his cleats. For 28 seasons, Coach Sitton has led his team and truth be told, the folks in Humble would be lost without Coach Sitton. Some say he bleeds purple, and I don't question it.

It is said that the measure of a man is the influence that he has on the lives of others. Coach Sitton has undoubtedly made a lasting impact on the many students and teachers he has worked with over his career. He has guided the Wildcats to 8 District Championships, 2 Regional Semi Finals, 2 Regional Finals, 17 playoff appearances and been named Coach of the Year 9 times. Throughout Coach Sitton's tenure, more than 80 players have gone on to play college baseball, and some went on to play professionally. And, on February 23rd, he led his team to another significant milestone: 500 career wins.

Our hometown hero Coach Sitton also has done great things off the field. He has volunteered many hours to numerous community activities and non-profit organizations. He created the Houston Area Baseball Coaches Association. This association raises money for scholarships and helps unsigned players find colleges to further their playing skills. But, his remarkable contributions to our town were almost taken away too soon. On January 12, 2009, Coach Sitton was involved in a near-fatal motorcycle accident, suffering multiple fractures, head trauma, a broken nose, bleeding in his brain, 2 cracked ribs and a broken pelvis. The community immediately acted to help Coach Sitton and his family. They set up an account so that friends and family could donate money to help pay for medical expenses and they cooked and delivered meals to the family during his recovery. The outpouring of support from the Humble/Kingwood community was in true fashion of Wildcat Pride.

We are grateful and blessed that he survived and, remarkably, is once again dedicating all of his time to our local community. The community is proud of Coach David Sitton for all of his accomplishments as a coach and a leader. His most recent victory was winning his 500th game as the head coach of the Humble Wildcats. We are lucky that he will continue to provide positive mentorship as a coach, husband, father, role model and educator. The Wildcats, and the entire city of Humble, are fortunate to call him one of our own.

Now, let's play ball.
And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO COL. JOHN K.
CARNEY

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifetime accomplishments of Colonel John K. Carney. Col. Carney, originally from Braxton County, West Virginia, passed away less than one month ago on March 17, 2012. He was a World War II veteran and worked more than 38 years in government service.

Col. Carney began his military career in 1941 serving for the United States Air Force. Throughout his tenure, he supervised an array of management and logistics programs for the Air Force both in the United States and abroad. His overseas assignments included tours in South America, Trinidad, and Saudi Arabia, in addition to two tours in the Philippines. His final six years in the military were spent in the Pentagon at Air Force Headquarters. Here, he worked in the Office of the Secretary of Defense where he headed joint service planning and negotiating groups leading to the consolidation of major logistics functions within the Department of Defense.

After 24 years of military service with the Air Force, Col. Carney retired in 1966. It was at this time when he began a second career with the General Services Administration. While working with the GSA, he pursued the development of a government-wide national supply system, which entailed a series of negotiations between the Department of Defense and other federal agencies. He retired a second time in 1980 from his position as Director of Supply Policy.

Along with his dedication to his work, Col. Carney was committed to his community and family life as well. While living in Springfield, Virginia, he played an integral role in the founding of St. Bernadette Catholic Church. It was in Springfield where he and his wife raised their six children, sixteen grandchildren, and nineteen great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, the level of devotion to both family and country by Col. Carney is one deserving of great honor and respect.

I wish to thank Col. Carney for his years of service and Braxton County is fortunate to remember him as one of their own.

HONORING FIRE CHIEF MACK
BORCHARDT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fire Chief Mack Borchardt, the Texas Fire Chiefs Association's 2011 Fire Chief of the Year. It is my privilege to publicly recognize citizens, notably among them Chief Borchardt, for dedicating themselves to the safety and well-being of their communities.

Chief Borchardt exemplifies the role of Fire Chief for the city of Frisco, Texas. His career began in 1973 as a volunteer firefighter in his hometown of Frisco. He has continued with a passion to serve and protect others every day and every year for nearly 40 years. Acknowledgement of his leadership abilities followed steadily. After eight years of service in a nearby community, he became the City Administrator in Frisco and Fire Chief of the Volunteer Frisco Fire Department. In 1987, Chief Borchardt earned his current title as Fire Chief for the Frisco Fire Department. Under his direction, the Frisco Fire Department expanded from all volunteers to 150 full time professional firefighters. Many lives have been saved as the community has grown. In addition, the City of Frisco has seen a growth from one fire station to six, with a seventh station on the way.

Chief Borchardt also initiated the highly popular and innovative Frisco Fire Safety Town, a facility dedicated to educating children of all ages in fire safety and prevention. His contribution to the City of Frisco through the unique S.A.F.E.R. program (Situational Awareness For Emergency Response) has bolstered the firefighter, EMT, and police divisions of the city with the ability to quickly access critical information during an emergency.

Chief Borchardt's loyalty and sense of duty is constant. He has sought to cooperate and collaborate with fellow fire chiefs, firefighters, and public officials to improve the safety and well-being of not only Frisco residents but the larger North Texas community as well. His career accomplishments highlight his well-honed leadership and mentoring skills and underscore the importance of his service as Frisco Fire Chief. I am proud to recognize Chief Mack Borchardt as a committed public servant for North Texas.

CONGRATULATING BENTON HARBOR'S DESTINY WILLIAMS OF THE LADY BEARS OF BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Benton Harbor's Destiny Williams of the Lady Bears of Baylor University on her team's victory in the NCAA women's basketball championship. She is an outstanding young woman who helped lead her team to a perfect season, a rare and timeless accomplishment. Our entire community could not be more proud of Destiny and the remarkable basketball career she has made for herself. This is only the second time her team has won the championship and is a testament to her great success.

Winning a national championship is something that will last a lifetime. It is a remarkable achievement that few athletes ever experience, and is a legacy that will live with Destiny and the Lady Bears forever. Destiny knows that hard work, discipline, and teamwork helped her team win this championship. These same qualities brought a big 2008 victory to the Benton Harbor Lady Tigers in the state championship game. Nobody outworked the Lady Bears and nobody could beat them in the tournament or the regular season. Ending

their perfect season with an NCAA championship speaks to Destiny's abilities as a leader and team player.

Destiny's 12 points and 6 rebounds in the championship game helped her team to victory. She is such an inspiration for young women back home and we are all so eager to see what the future holds in store for our Lady Tiger, now Lady Bear.

On behalf of all the residents of southwest Michigan, congratulations again to Destiny Williams. You make all of us here in Michigan very proud.

HONORING BERNARD RAPOPORT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Bernard Rapoport, a successful entrepreneur and philanthropist. Mr. Rapoport was 94 years old when he passed away in his hometown of Waco, Texas.

Bernard Rapoport was born into humble beginnings. As the son of Russian immigrants, Mr. Rapoport began working at an early age to help his family survive the most trying times of the Great Depression. Out of this experience, Mr. Rapoport developed a tremendous value for education and hard work, and would promote this universally throughout his life.

After moving to San Antonio, Mr. Rapoport began a career selling insurance, where he quickly realized his true talents and passion for the work. Mr. Rapoport opened his own insurance agency in Waco, and launched a long and successful career. Mr. Rapoport ultimately founded the American Income Life Company and expanded it to become one of the Nation's largest providers of supplemental life insurance.

Mr. Rapoport understood well the values of social responsibility, and used his success to help others in need. Using \$46 million of his own money, Mr. Rapoport established the Bernard and Audre Rapoport Foundation in 1987. Consistent with his values, the Foundation focuses on promoting educational, healthcare, and cultural programs for the community in Waco and elsewhere. For his widespread generosity, Mr. Rapoport was named as one of America's "40 most generous philanthropists" by Fortune magazine.

Mr. Rapoport's civic involvement continued well beyond his philanthropy, and he was well-known for his dedicated political involvement at all levels of leadership. Mr. Rapoport built strong relationships with presidents, senators, and representatives, and was frequently praised for his fierce advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, it takes a special person to become as successful in business and political activism as Mr. Rapoport. It takes an extraordinary person to use that success to contribute so selflessly to the community. It has come as a great loss to many people to hear of Mr. Rapoport's passing. I am pleased to honor Mr. Rapoport for his contributions, and his legacy will be preserved in the Bernard and Audre Rapoport Foundation and the American Income Life Company.

IN RECOGNITION OF ARGYLE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the boys' basketball team of Argyle High School for their Texas 3A state championship title this year. The title "Champion" is earned through the determination to succeed as individual athletes, working together as a team. Additional accolades to Coach John King and his staff for their outstanding leadership. Clarke Overlander was named the Class 3A state championship game Most Valuable Player.

In these young men's perseverance and vision to succeed, they are held to rigorous standards of performance on the field as well as academics in the classroom. Winning many games on the way to the state championship, their road to victory is testament to a team always reaching for new heights. This milestone achievement speaks highly of each young man's motivation, teamwork, and willingness to face a challenge; they can be expected to prove themselves as champions in many ways throughout their lives.

I am pleased to join the classmates, teachers, friends, family and Argyle community in honoring the athletic achievement of the Argyle Eagles boys' basketball team winning their first Texas 3A state championship. It is my privilege to represent you in the U.S. House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF JOHN NOLEN BAILEY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and remarkable public service of John Nolen Bailey. Mr. Bailey passed away on March 22nd. He will be remembered for his volunteerism, vision and leadership in Monterey County as well as his leadership in the national field of association management.

Mr. Bailey was born on July 12, 1935 in San Francisco. He began his service to the Monterey Peninsula in 1988, with his wife Mary Adams.

Highlights among John's more than 50 years experience as a leader in the professional association world include his serving as chief elected officer of the 25,000-member American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), President and CEO of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC), as well as executive director of Trial Lawyers Care, a New York City-based organization that provided pro bono legal representation to more than 1,700 victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

John served on the National Steinbeck Center Board of Trustees, Forest Foundation, Del Monte Forest Property Owners Association, Clark Foundation, Dorothy's Place, and was the executive director of the Monterey History and Art Association from 2005 to 2007. He later returned to the Museum to assist it during a period of organizational transition. The

museum had been closed and would not have reopened had it not been for the expertise and community trust belonging to John Bailey.

Awards honoring his years of service include being voted by peers as the US Association Executive of the Year, and recipient of the Key Award, the highest honor presented to individuals in the association management profession. He was also a recipient of the prestigious Points of Light Award, which was presented to him by then President George H. W. Bush.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House as I commend John Bailey for all he has accomplished and contributed to our community. I would like to express my gratitude for his selfless service to the people of Monterey County, and indeed to our nation. I would also like to extend my deepest condolences to his family, friends and all those whose lives he touched and whose careers he encouraged during this time of grieving. The world has lost a truly good man.

A TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF
VERNON WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL FACILITY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate David Ignatowicz, Arnie Bevins, and the entire staff of the Town of Vernon Water Pollution Control Facility on their outstanding work on wastewater treatment.

Covering Vernon, Ellington, Tolland, and parts of South Windsor and Manchester, the Connecticut facility is the first of its kind with a full-scale powdered activated carbon treatment and wet-air carbon regeneration system. The unique wastewater utility has maintained an outstanding performance and customer satisfaction record for over 30 years, processing wastewater from over 122 miles of sewers and seven pump stations. With 20 dedicated individuals serving 66,000 Connecticut residents, the Vernon plant team has made certain that the water discharged from this facility is excellent in quality.

Recognizing the outstanding work of the Town of Vernon Water Pollution Control Facility, the New England Water Environment Association (NEWEA) named the facility the Wastewater Utility of the Year for 2010. Given annually, the NEWEA's Wastewater Utility of the Year award recognizes a regional utility for exceptional management, maintenance, and performance. The award, given to a facility located within six Northeastern States, is based on marks in 18 different areas to highlight overall excellence in utility operations. Having received top marks in each of these 18 areas, the Town of Vernon Water Pollution Control Facility proved to be more than deserving of this prestigious award.

Water Pollution Control Facilities like the Town of Vernon's are vital to the health of our communities and our ecosystems. Their innovative processes, forward thinking, and hard-working staff have helped to ensure that the discharged water is of the best possible quality. Mr. Ignatowicz, Mr. Bevins, and the entire Town of Vernon Water Pollution Control Fac-

ity team are a true asset to our state and our region, and I congratulate them on their exceptional work and well deserved recognition.

IN RECOGNITION OF EMILY
SCAMMELL, WINNER OF AU-
BURN'S POLITICAL SCIENCE
LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend an outstanding young woman who attends Auburn University, which is located in my district in east-central Alabama. Auburn's Political Science Department recently started a new award that recognizes a student leader who excels in both the classroom and the community. It's my privilege to announce the first winner of Auburn's Political Science Leadership Award, Ms. Emily Scammell. A faculty committee selected her in recognition of her superb credentials.

Hailing from Daphne, Alabama, Emily is a junior political science major. She's minoring in hunger studies, which is part of the Universities Fighting World Hunger Initiative between the World Food Programme and Auburn University. Emily has a 3.9 Cumulative Grade Point Average and has made the dean's list for six consecutive semesters. She is a student in the Honors College at Auburn, won the Phi Kappa Phi First Year Award and is a recipient of the Spirit of Auburn Founder's Scholarship and the Academic Enrichment Scholarship.

Emily is active in student government, having served as director of honors activities and assistant director of organization programs. She is co-founder and vice president of the Campus Kitchen/Hunger Studies Group and an officer in her sorority. Emily volunteers at the East Alabama Food Bank and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Auburn. She has also worked at the Bay Area Food Bank in Theodore, Alabama, and the World Food Programme in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Emily and thank Auburn University for producing such outstanding students and citizens.

IN HONOR OF JOHN MYERS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize John Myers. Mr. Myers passed away on March 23rd. Mr. Myers was a lifelong volunteer and champion of community outreach and development in Monterey County.

John attended college at Purdue University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering in 1951. He then joined Union Carbide Corporation where he worked for the next 42 years in research and production of enriched uranium used in nuclear energy and in asbestos research.

Following his retirement in 1993 John remained busy. John served on the Board of

Trustees, and as Chairman and Office Manager at Mee Memorial Hospital from 1982 to 2012. His time on the board saw upgraded services in radiology, new and remodeled clinics, a new dialysis center and many other services expanded.

Among John's many other notable positions held was as member of the King City Planning Commission and the King City Council. John served as Mayor of King City from 1992 to 2004, the longest-running mayor in the city's history. As Mayor, he also served as vice chair of the Monterey County Mayor's Association and on the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District Board. He was also a member of the Bay Area chapter of the League of California Cities.

John and his wife of 35 years served on the Hospice Trees of Life committee as well as for the first Valley Heritage Days in King City. He was also an active member and director of Monterey County Agricultural and Rural Life Museum.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that John Myers' life and legacy will continue to thrive because of his longstanding work for his community. I would like to extend my sympathy to his family and friends in this their time of mourning.

CELEBRATING THE INAUGURATION
OF DR. ROBERT K. MCMAHAN AS
THE SEVENTH PRESIDENT OF
KETTERING UNIVERSITY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Robert K. McMahan on the occasion of his inauguration on April 20 as Kettering University's seventh President.

Since its founding in 1919, Kettering University in my hometown of Flint, Michigan has been pioneering technology and preparing students to become innovators and leaders. It is the country's premier engineering, science and business university dedicated to co-op education. It is a national leader in preparing entrepreneurs and is ranked among the nation's finest specialty schools.

Dr. McMahan is the ideal person to be leading Kettering as it charts a path from its storied legacy of technical leadership to its entrepreneurial spirit today. As Kettering University celebrates its history and marches confidently toward an exciting future, it will do so with an enormously gifted new President who is an innovative thinker with a broad range of academic, business, management and government experiences. Robert K. McMahan has explored the foundations of the universe as a groundbreaking researcher. He has been a leader in academics, an advisor to high government officials and as a private sector entrepreneur has created initiatives that have driven innovation and technology.

Prior to his arrival at Kettering, Dr. McMahan was the Founding Dean of the Kimmel School and Professor of Engineering at Western Carolina University; the Kimmel School is Western's College of Engineering and Technology. Before his tenure at the Kimmel School, Dr. McMahan was the Senior Advisor to the Governor of North Carolina for

Science and Technology, and the Executive Director of the North Carolina Board of Science and Technology. In this role he also acted as a Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Commerce, the General Assembly, and the Economic Development Board.

Prior to his work with the Governor, he was a Senior Technology Strategist and Venture Capitalist for In-Q-Tel, a private venture capital organization funded by the CIA, where he was responsible for developing a technology investment strategy for the intelligence community, and then deriving, molding, and structuring individual investments and technologies within the portfolio in response to it.

Before joining In-Q-Tel, he was Executive Vice President of Engineering and R&D for GretagMacbeth, LLC, where he was responsible for the company's worldwide research, engineering, and product development activities and for the creation and operation of the company's Advanced Technology Laboratories in the Research Triangle Park.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Dr. Robert K. McMahan as he prepares to share his vision for Kettering University's future on the occasion of his inauguration as its President.

HONORING JOHN S. CHASE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. John S. Chase, a renowned architect, entrepreneur, and father. Mr. Chase passed away at the age of 87.

Mr. Chase was a man of many firsts. Just two days after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the University of Texas must desegregate its graduate and professional schools, Mr. Chase enrolled to become one of UT's first black students. In his passionate pursuit to become an architect, Mr. Chase endured hate mail and heightened discrimination, and had to be shadowed by federal marshals in order to ensure his safety.

After graduating, Mr. Chase became the first African American licensed to practice architecture in the state of Texas. Unfortunately, his struggles with racism persisted, and white firms refused to hire him. Not easily discouraged, Mr. Chase overcame these obstacles by moving to Houston and opening his own firm. There, Mr. Chase went on to build homes, churches, schools, and public buildings that have left a lasting legacy throughout Houston.

Mr. Chase was diverse in his skills, and in addition to his career he was devoted to his community. In 1980, Jimmy Carter appointed Mr. Chase to serve on the United States Commission on Fine Arts, where Mr. Chase contributed to the design and aesthetics of federal interests as the first African American to serve on the Commission. Mr. Chase also made notable contributions toward expanding the educational resources for the University of Texas, including his work on the Martin Luther King Humanities Center and the Thurgood Marshall School of Law Building.

Mr. Speaker, I am greatly saddened to hear of Mr. Chase's passing, and my thoughts are with those family members who are grieving his loss. We must honor his bravery for facing

overwhelming adversity during a time of such uncertainty and racial strife. While there is little comfort in mourning a loved one, I hope his family can take solace in the lasting legacy he has left behind. Mr. Chase's many structures will serve to remind us of his personal triumphs.

IN HONOR OF MARIKO "MOLLIE" SUMIDA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Mariko "Mollie" Sumida. Mollie passed away on March 5th. Mollie was a great woman and personal friend. She played an instrumental role in teaching me cross-cultural sensitivity. She and her husband, Yukio were also close family friends of my mom and dad, the late Janet Haskins Farr and Senator Frederick Sharon Farr.

Mollie and her family moved to the Monterey Peninsula when she was 12 years old. She attended Monterey High School, where she met her future husband, Yukio Sumida.

During World War II, Mollie was interned in Poston, Arizona while her husband served overseas with the highly decorated 442nd Infantry Division. Following the war, they returned to Monterey, where their daughter Ann and son Ray were born.

In 1952, Mollie opened the Cypress Garden Nursery, where she worked until retiring at the age of 80. During this time she became very active in civic as well as business organizations including the Monterey History and Art Association, Gateway Center, and the California Association of Nurserymen.

I fondly remember the many things Mollie taught me in life, including how to speak a few Japanese words and, most everlastingly, how to be a gardener. I will sorely miss her.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House when I recognize the contributions of her remarkable life. I would like to extend my deepest condolences to her family and friends during their time of grieving.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, it's been 910 days and eight extensions since SAFETEA-LU expired. Today we find ourselves kicking the can once again as we take up extension number nine because this House Majority has failed to act.

Thankfully the Senate did act. Two weeks ago, Democratic and Republican Senators overwhelmingly voted, by a bipartisan majority of 74-22, to generate jobs, repair our roads and bridges, invest in our infrastructure, and strengthen our economy. Meanwhile, this body under Republican leadership has yet to put forward a credible highway reauthorization that puts Americans back to work.

MAP-21, the surface transportation authorization bill, passed by the Senate is by far the biggest jobs legislation Congress will consider this year.

It is imperative that the House of Representatives join the Senate in passing this bipartisan bill and send it to the President before the March 31st expiration of highway program funding or risk devastating job losses across the nation.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 14 will save 1.8 million jobs and creates up to 1 million more jobs.

The bill also provides consistency for states and maintains current funding levels for highways and public transportation, consolidates and streamlines highway programs, and establishes a national freight program. This national freight program will provide over \$2 billion dollars to upgrade our nation's goods movement system. That equates to \$336 million to the state of California alone over two years for freight infrastructure upgrades. These funds are critical to areas like my district where over 40 percent of our country's imports arrive each year via the Port of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

In addition, the bill would authorize another \$1 billion dollars in fiscal year 2013 for Projects of National and Regional Significance. In previous years, the Projects of National and Regional Significance provided funding to several projects that provide economic benefits by making it easier to move goods.

Madam Speaker, these two programs and this bill are essential for our country to remain competitive globally.

H.R. 14 also improves safety, and institutes performance measures and improves accountability for transportation infrastructure investments.

Now is the time for swift action by the House action on the bipartisan Senate bill that will save or create 132,000 transportation jobs and 45,000 transit jobs in my home state of California.

Transportation has long been a bipartisan issue—and the Senate continued this tradition. The House should follow suit and put America back to work by passing H.R. 14.

I encourage my colleagues to stop kicking the can down the road—start creating jobs—and defeat this extension.

RECOGNIZING ADVENTURE THEATRE'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Adventure Theatre in Glen Echo, Maryland on 60 years of excellence. Founded in 1951, Adventure Theatre is the longest-running children's theatre in the Washington, DC metropolitan region and is a treasure of our community. I am honored to have it located in Maryland's Eighth Congressional District.

Adventure Theatre reaches more than 65,000 individuals annually, with its award-winning performances based on classic and popular children's stories and with theater classes, workshops and community engagement programs. Through these intimate and

interactive theater activities, children are introduced to a limitless world of possibilities.

Adventure Theatre was founded by a group of women who believed that children deserve to experience outstanding theater. Over the next six decades, Adventure Theatre has become a nationally-recognized, state-of-the-art theater.

At its gala anniversary celebration that is being held tonight, the Past Presidents of the Board of Directors are being presented with the 2012 Spirit of Adventure Award. This award commends these leaders for their creative spirits and successful guidance of this extraordinary theater. I am delighted to express my appreciation to them for all that they have done to enhance and enrich our community.

I congratulate Adventure Theatre on its 60th anniversary and encourage my colleagues to bring family and friends to enjoy an Adventure Theatre production. You will have an experience that you will long remember.

IN HONOR OF SUSAN A. McCLOUD

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Susan A. McCloud, who retires as the longest-serving Mayor of Car-

mel-by-the-Sea, California, on April 17, 2012. Sue was born in Connecticut to Walter and Gladys McCloud. Her family moved to Carmel when she was in elementary school and she lives now in the same house her parents bought. We both shared the joys of growing up in Carmel, attending Sunset Elementary and Carmel High School. Sue earned her B.A. in Political Science at Stanford University, attended the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland, and graduated from The National War College in Washington, D.C.

In the early 1960's Sue worked as the Special Assistant and interpreter to Richard C. Zellerbach, who was deaf, while he was Acting Chairman of the Board of the Crown Zellerbach Corporation and head of the Zellerbach family foundations. She also assisted with the organization of the family vineyard, Hanzell, in Sonoma, California. From 1963 to 1994 Sue served our nation with the Central Intelligence Agency in France, England, Japan, Switzerland and Sweden. She was named C.I.A. Chief of Station in two of those countries, and retired as a member of the Senior Intelligence Service.

While in the C.I.A. Sue worked with policy levels of foreign governments and served as an advisor to several U.S. Ambassadors, worked on task forces to address long-term planning for the post-Cold War C.I.A. and the greater U.S. Intelligence Community, and headed up the Aldrich Ames damage assessment team.

Upon retiring in 1994 she moved back to her roots, Carmel-by-the-Sea, and immediately got down to work. She was on the Board of Director of Monterey Institute of International Studies and chaired its Planning Committee, was a member of the Carmel Planning Commission and the Board of the Carmel Music Society. In 1998 Sue joined the Monterey Regional Waste Management District and also was elected to the Carmel City Council. She became Director of the M.R.W.M.D. and continues to this day as vice chair. She was elected Mayor of Carmel-by-the-Sea in 2000 and was re-elected four times, becoming the longest-serving Mayor of our town.

How can I begin to thank her for all her years of public service? She has won so many awards: the 2009 Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Ruth Vreeland Memorial "Public Official of the Year", 2000 Lincoln Club of Northern California Ten Most Effective Women Legislators, C.I.A.'s Intelligence Medal of Merit, Donovan Award for Excellence (given in memory of the founder of the Office of Strategic Services.) I am always mindful of the talent that has come from our area, and she is one of our nation's best.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House as I commend Mayor Sue McCloud for all she has done and all she will undoubtedly continue to do. I extend my most sincere thanks and warmest wishes for her success and much happiness in her retirement.

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 Tuesday, April 17, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
APRIL 18

- 9:30 a.m. Appropriations Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the United States Forest Service. SD-124
10 a.m. Environment and Public Works To hold an oversight hearing to examine the General Services Administration (GSA). SD-406
Foreign Relations To receive a closed briefing on an intelligence update on Iran and Syria. SVC-217
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings to examine effective strategies for accelerated learning. SD-430
Judiciary To hold hearings to examine the nominations of James Xavier Dempsey, of California, Elisebeth Collins Cook, of Illinois, Rachel L. Brand, of Iowa, David Medine, of Maryland, to be Chairman, and Patricia M. Wald, of the District of Columbia, all to be a Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board. SD-226
Small Business and Entrepreneurship To hold hearings to examine perspectives from the entrepreneurial ecosystem, focusing on creating jobs and growing businesses through entrepreneurship. SR-428A
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine protecting commuters, focusing on ensuring accountability and oversight in tolling. SR-253
10:30 a.m. Appropriations Department of Defense Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Missile Defense Agency. SD-192

- 2 p.m. Budget Business meeting to consider the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2013. SD-608
Finance International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness Subcommittee To hold a hearing to examine the Asia Pacific, focusing on trade opportunities for agriculture and food producers from the Great Plains to the Pacific Northwest. SD-215
Aging To hold hearings to examine the future of long-term care, focusing on saving money by serving seniors. SH-216
2:15 p.m. Foreign Relations African Affairs Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the United States policy response to entrenched African leadership. SD-419
2:30 p.m. Appropriations Financial Service and General Government Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the General Services Administration, focusing on a review of the recent Inspector General management deficiency report and an assessment of the fiscal year 2013 General Services Administration (GSA) funding request. SD-138
Armed Services Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine financial management and business transformation at the Department of Defense. SD-G50
Armed Services Strategic Forces Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the National Security Administration management of its National Security Laboratories. SR-222
Intelligence To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219
APRIL 19
9:30 a.m. Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings to examine the impacts of sea level rise on domestic energy and water infrastructure. SD-366
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Joseph G. Jordan, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy, Executive Office of the President. SD-342
Armed Services SeaPower Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine Navy shipbuilding programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program. SR-232A
10 a.m. Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine Syria, focusing on United States policy options. SD-419

- Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings to examine delays in OSHA's standard-setting process and the impact on worker safety. SD-430
Judiciary Business meeting to consider the nominations of William J. Kayatta, Jr., of Maine, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, John Thomas Fowlkes, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, Kevin McNulty, and Michael A. Shipp, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, Stephanie Marie Rose, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Iowa, Michael P. Shea, of Connecticut, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, Gonzalo P. Curiel, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, and Robert J. Shelby, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah. SD-226
2 p.m. Appropriations Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Food and Drug Administration. SD-124
2:15 p.m. Indian Affairs To hold hearings to examine S. 1684, to amend the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act of 2005. SD-628
APRIL 24
2:30 p.m. Armed Services Airland Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine tactical aircraft programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program. SR-232A
APRIL 25
10 a.m. Finance To hold hearings to examine tax reform, focusing on what it means for state and local tax and fiscal policy. SD-215
Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine Veterans' Affairs mental health care, focusing on evaluating access and assessing care. SD-138
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
2:30 p.m. Armed Services Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine current readiness of U.S. forces in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program. SR-232A

Armed Services

Strategic Forces Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine ballistic missile defense policies and programs 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.

SR-222

APRIL 26

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine weather related electrical outages.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine tax filing season, focusing on improving the taxpayer experience.

SD-215

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine Marine Corps acquisition programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-222