

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING DR. THOMAS E.  
FLORESTANO

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on March 31 my state of Maryland lost a giant in the realm of higher education. Dr. Thomas E. Florestano, who served for fifteen years as President of Anne Arundel Community College, sadly passed away at age 79.

The son of Italian immigrants, Tom was born in Annapolis and graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1952. He matriculated into the University of Maryland but paused his studies to serve in the U.S. Army as a military police officer in Korea and West Germany. Honorably discharged as a sergeant four years later, Tom returned to the University and earned a bachelor's degree in education in 1958.

While an undergraduate, Tom met his future wife of 52 years, Patricia Sherer. Together, they dedicated their careers to improving access to higher education for Maryland students, with Patricia teaching at the University of Baltimore and currently serving as chairwoman of the Board of Regents for the University System of Maryland.

After graduating, Tom worked as an education advisor at the Army Education Center in Fort Meade. Two years later, he joined the University of Maryland as assistant dean of student life and director of student activities. During this period, Tom earned his master's degree in education and later obtained his Ph.D., both from the University of Maryland.

Tom turned his attention to community college administration in 1970, when he took a job as dean of evening and community education and summer school at Prince George's Community College. After nine years there, Tom was appointed President of Anne Arundel Community College.

He took over during a time when the college was facing significant challenges, including tensions between faculty and administration as well as declining enrollment and budget shortfalls. Tom oversaw a program of revitalization that tripled enrollment, instituted new degree programs, expanded the campus, and turned deficits into sound finances by the time he retired in 1994. The legacy of his leadership of Anne Arundel Community College has been its transformation into the third-largest community college in Maryland. Even more so, Tom put the "community" back in "community college."

All of us who knew Tom recognized him as one who looked at a challenge and saw an opportunity and who looked at a student and saw a future. Those futures were what he worked so hard to make possible for thousands of Maryland students.

Tom will be greatly missed by the Maryland education community and by all of us who called him a friend. I join in celebrating his life

and offering my condolences to Patricia, their son Tom Jr., daughter Leslie, son-in-law Kevin, and their extended family.

TRIBUTE TO ROMNEY, WEST  
VIRGINIA

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 250th anniversary of the city of Romney. In 2012, the city will celebrate its 250th birthday with a year-long celebration. Romney is the oldest town in the oldest county in West Virginia. On December 23, 1762, Virginia's Governor signed the act that created Romney.

When Virginia was divided during the Civil War, Romney was located in what became West Virginia. The city was located in an area that was important to both the North and the South during the Civil War and is rumored to have changed hands 56 times as a result. Romney is home to the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind as well as Davis History House, Hampshire County Courthouse, the Taggart-Hill House, the Wilson-Woodrow-Mytinger House, and the oldest office building in the state. I'm pleased to have this unique city in my district!

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT MA  
AND THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

**HON. DENNIS A. ROSS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. ROSS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I extend my congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Ma Ying-jeou and the people of Taiwan as they celebrate Mr. Ma's presidential inauguration this May 20. Mr. Ma Ying-jeou won re-election as the fifth freely elected president of the Republic of China on January 14.

President George W. Bush once famously described Taiwan as "a beacon of democracy to Asia and the world." His words were recognition of Taiwan's achievements in democratic developments. The United States and Taiwan value human rights, civil liberties and the rule of law. Our shared values have produced a strong and dependable friendship for the past century. Taiwan was one of the first to come to our aid after the events of September 11th and Hurricane Katrina. Taiwan continues to be our ally in the war against terrorism by cooperating with humanitarian assistance in Iraq and Afghanistan and providing intelligence. They have shown generosity and compassion by donating to the Twin Towers Fund and Pentagon Memorial Fund.

In honoring Taiwan, we need to continue to sell defensive weapons to Taiwan under the

framework of the Taiwan Relations Act. Despite the rapprochement that has been built up between Taiwan and the PRC, a well-armed Taiwan is still the best guarantee to permanent peace in the Strait. Also, I firmly believe that Taiwan should have a much broader international visibility. I encourage my colleagues to support Taiwan's current bid to join the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) as an observer.

To President Ma and the people of Taiwan, I extend my congratulations on their Presidential Inauguration Day.

HONORING WILFRED EARL  
ARCHER

**HON. DAN BENISHEK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, let it be known, that it is a pleasure and honor to pay tribute to Wilfred Earl Archer, who was born in Port Huron, Michigan on Jan. 30, 1926, to Glen and Genevieve Archer. "Bill" was raised in Flint, Michigan, and attended North Muskegon High School. His family then moved to Detroit, where he attended Denby High School.

Following in the footsteps of his father, who served in the U.S. Army and fought in World War I, Bill felt an intense need to serve his country during World War II. He left school and enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard, on April 1, 1943. He was stationed in San Diego, CA, where he received Amphibious Forces Training in operating Troop Carriers (LCVPs). He was then transferred to San Francisco and stationed on the USS *Middleton*, which was modified/ transformed into an Assault Personnel Attack vessel. The *Middleton* was sent to Maui, Hawaii, and then to New Guinea to assist the 98th Infantry in the invasion of the Philippines. Bill was awarded five Battle Stars for service in the battles within the Pacific Theater; Saipan, Tinian, Okinawa, Leyte, and Luzon. As an LCVP engineer and gunner, Petty Officer 3rd Class Archer also served as a Diesel Electrical Engineer. He was honorably discharged in January of 1946. As a civilian, Bill worked at a foundry in Muskegon.

In 1948, Bill enlisted as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Corps, which shortly thereafter became the U.S. Air Force. He received training in aircraft engine repair in Biloxi, Mississippi. His military career took another direction when Bill was sent to Japan to activate the 1273rd Transport Squadron. While in Japan, Bill achieved flying status as a Flight Engineer, and accumulated 18,000 flying hours while involved with embassy flights to the Philippines and India, and combat flights in the Korean Conflict. In 1949, Bill was a crew member of a C-54, which was the first U.S. aircraft destroyed in the Korean Conflict. It was unoccupied when it was bombed at an air base in Kempo, South Korea. After serving

• 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.

four years there, he was transferred back to the United States, and served in Great Falls, Montana, with Operation Blue Jay, to build an Air Force Base in Tule, Greenland. He received flight training in SA-16 Tri-Phib in West Palm Beach, Florida. He was promoted to Tech Sergeant, and flew AC-47s inspecting instrument landing equipment, at Hamilton Field in San Francisco. Bill later became part of the Strategic Air Command in Omaha, Nebraska. He attended flight engineer school at Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul, Illinois and was assigned to Homestead Air Force Base in Florida as a Flight Engineer on KC-97s.

Bill retired from the Air Force, but retirement didn't last long. While working with the Civil Service, his knowledge as an F-4 aircraft Inspector led Bill to transfer from retired status to the U.S. Air Force Reserves, servicing and flying C-124s. He was sent to transport combat troops and materiel to Cam Rahn Bay, Republic of Vietnam. Bill was discharged from the U.S. Air Force Reserves in 1974. That was the end of an exemplary thirty-one-year military career, involving combat service in three major conflicts. Technical Sergeant Wilfred Earl Archer served with great distinction in World War II, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War.

When his exemplary military career ended, and his civilian career began, Bill received a Teachers Certificate in Automotive Technology from Texas State Technical Institute, and later taught at the TSTI Connally campus. He is a Life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and served his fellow veterans as a VFW Commander of Post 2053 in White Cloud, Michigan.

HONORING MITCHELL SIMON OF  
EAST AMHERST, NY

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 11 year-old Mitchell Simon, a resident of the town of Amherst in Erie County and Western New York.

In many ways, Mitch is an entirely ordinary 11 year old boy. He loves playing baseball, riding his bike, and hanging around with his friends, his siblings and cousins. Mitch is an inquisitive young man, always present with a ready smile and a friendly face.

But in another area, he is very special indeed. Mitch was born with a rare condition that affected the function of his liver. After surgery at a very young age, Mitch was fortunate to live a relatively normal life. But in December 2011, troubles developed, and Mitch was placed on a waiting list to receive a liver transplant.

On Tuesday April 17, the call came, and Mitch and his family, led by parents Jason and Denise, made the trip to Pittsburgh, PA. Overnight, after a grueling surgical procedure, the miracle of life was handed back to Mitch.

After surgery, it was said that Mitch was soon sitting up in bed, playing his X-Box, but it's undeniable that the recovery has had its ups and downs. Any 11 year old would be frustrated to be in bed for too long, and we know that Mitch is fighting hard to get back home.

On Saturday, June 2, a benefit will be held for the Simon family, to help defray the costs associated with Mitch's illness. The response for the benefit has been overwhelming, with friends, relatives, schoolmates' families and Mitch's baseball and basketball teammates and their families all pitching in for a great cause.

I would be remiss if I did not also speak of the tremendous sacrifices made by those who promote and participate in organ and tissue donation. Mitch had the gift of life given back to him with his surgery, but this is not the Simon family's first such experience. Mitch's mom Denise was a kidney donor to her brother in 2002. While an unthinkable tragedy occurs with the death of a child, the Simon family will be forever thankful that another family's tragedy resulted in a new lease on life for Mitch. The miracle of organ donation is never ending, and one hopes that the Simon family's story—both as donors as well as recipients—is an inspiration to others to join the ranks of those willing to "Donate Life."

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that you will join with me and with all of our colleagues to commend the Simon family and offer the best wishes of the House of Representatives to Mitch for a speedy recovery.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MAUREEN  
CLANCY-MAY

**HON. RUSS CARNAHAN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Maureen Clancy-May, and honor her for her years of service to the people of the St. Louis area.

Dr. Clancy-May has achieved many milestones during her 33 years in education. She received her Bachelor's in Teaching Exceptional Children from Southeast Missouri State University, her Masters of Education from the University of Missouri-St. Louis, and her Ph.D. from Saint Louis University in Educational Administration. Dr. Clancy-May then applied her knowledge as a teacher, a Director of Student Services, a Principal, and as an Assistant Superintendent for schools across the St. Louis area. She has also shared her knowledge and experience with other educators as an adjunct professor in the Education Leadership Department at Saint Louis University.

Since July 1, 2004, Dr. Clancy-May has worked as the Superintendent of Schools for the Bayless School District. There, she led the Bayless School District to achieve full accreditation and Missouri's Accreditation with Distinction. Under her guidance, Bayless Elementary School and Bayless Junior High earned both the Missouri and the National School of Character awards. Her determination to improve her school district resulted in numerous awards for the district, as well as a \$1.5 million math and science grant.

In addition to her work in education, Dr. Clancy-May supports her community in many ways. She is an active member of the Rotary Club of St. Louis County and the Lemay Chamber of Commerce, and has served four years on the Board of the Affton Community Chamber of Commerce. She is a member of numerous education organizations, serving as

a representative on the Missouri Association of School Administrators' Executive Committee and as the president of the Cooperating School Districts of the Greater St. Louis Area's Board. Dr. Clancy-May has also been recognized for her many accomplishments, including: being awarded with the FOCUS St. Louis What's Right with the Region Award; Hardee's Hometown Hero Award; and the Southeast Missouri State University Alumni Merit Award.

Dr. Clancy-May has dedicated much of her life to serving the St. Louis community. I congratulate Dr. Maureen Clancy-May for her devotion to one of the nation's most important professions: educating our children and preparing them for a responsible and productive adulthood.

HONORING LEWIS N. WALKER

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Lewis N. Walker, who will retire next month after years of distinguished service at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, Michigan.

Dr. Walker joined Lawrence Tech in 1994, serving as provost for 12 years. During that time, he improved student access to computer technology, expanded international partnerships, and developed facility improvements to support emerging technologies and career fields. Dr. Walker is also credited with fostering and instituting the only required undergraduate leadership program in the country outside the Nation's three military academies.

In 2005, again through Dr. Walker's efforts, the University began a unique partnership with the Ferndale Public Schools to establish University High School, which offers a rigorous preparatory curriculum for public school students. This partnership is making a difference. A full 99 percent of University High School's first three graduating classes received their diploma, and 85 percent have gone on to higher education.

In 2006, Dr. Walker was made President of LTU. The severe economic downturn that began the following year brought a time of extraordinary challenge for the country, and especially for the State of Michigan. With steep job losses, especially in our State's vital auto and manufacturing sectors, there was a clear need for retraining of displaced workers. Through Dr. Walker's leadership, Lawrence Tech stepped up and addressed the challenge through the "Recovery Starts Here" initiative, which provided grants to over 650 displaced workers and supported efforts to diversify Michigan's economy. This program was widely replicated and serves as an example of the vital synergies that can and should exist between institutions of higher education and our Nation's economy.

Building on the successful redevelopment of the campus quadrangle and A. Alfred Taubman Student Services Center, Dr. Walker set in motion the next phase of growth of LTU by laying the groundwork for development of a state-of-the-art Engineering, Life Sciences, and Architecture Complex. Over the years, my office has been pleased to work closely with Dr. Walker and his team on efforts to expand

the University's Center for Innovative Materials Research. Dr. Walker has signed 40 agreements with other leading universities around the world to encourage partnerships and exchange programs.

Prior to his career at Lawrence Tech, Dr. Walker served at the University of Hartford as dean of engineering and a professor of electrical engineering. He holds three degrees from the University of Missouri-Columbia and has published more than 50 technical papers.

In so many ways, Dr. Walker's years of service at LTU have left the University and the community better than he found them. I urge all my colleagues to join me in honoring Lewis Walker as he steps down as President of Lawrence Technological University next month. I feel certain that the University and the State of Michigan will continue to benefit from his talents for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF NEW JERSEY  
CITIZEN ACTION'S 30TH ANNI-  
VERSARY

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate New Jersey Citizen Action on the occasion of their 30th anniversary. New Jersey Citizen Action, NJCA, has worked on behalf of the constituents of New Jersey to protect and expand the rights of individuals and families. Their faithful dedication to protecting and serving the constituents of New Jersey is worthy of this body's recognition.

New Jersey Citizen Action is the state's largest citizen watchdog coalition that has diligently worked to secure economic and social justice for its constituents. NJCA is a nonprofit 501(c)(4) that currently touts an impressive 60,000 individual membership and is affiliated with 100 organizations. Most recently, NJCA has maintained seven active campaigns centered around progressive social and economic justice goals. Among many notable accomplishments, in 2010, NJCA launched a Consumer Health Helpline to assist consumers in securing affordable, quality health services. They have played a prominent role in the battle for Family leave insurance and are applauded for their grassroots campaign in support of national health reform. NJCA continues to educate thousands of minority and women small business owners and entrepreneurs about through various small business forums and consumer education workshops. They continue to field hundreds of volunteers for their annual "Get Out the Vote" campaigns and are commended for their aggressive non-partisan campaign to turn out voters in under-represented areas of New Jersey. In addition to their issue campaigns, NJCA has also provided free comprehensive outreach and education programs in the areas of housing and foreclosure counseling, tax preparation, benefits counseling and financial education. Throughout their thirty year history, New Jersey Citizen Action has continued to work independently as well as partner with various progressive organizations throughout New Jersey to insure that government continues to have a positive impact on its constituents.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in leading this body in congratulating New Jersey Citizen Action for their thirty years of service to the New Jersey community. Their efforts continue to enhance and protect the lives of constituents throughout New Jersey.

UNITED STATES-ISRAEL EN-  
HANCED SECURITY COOPERA-  
TION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2012*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, on May 9, 2012, the House of Representatives reaffirmed our strong relationship with the State of Israel and demonstrated our commitment to Israel's right to defend itself, by passing H.R. 4133 with 411 votes. Unfortunately, I was not present at the time of the vote, but I would like to voice my support for Israel and this bill. Israel is a valued ally and friend of the United States. It is in the national security of both countries to ensure that Israel has the robust defense needed to protect itself from many threats within the region. H.R. 4133 guarantees that the United States will aid Israel in this defense and this bipartisan vote shows that we will always stand firm on our commitments to this relationship. Again, I would like to apologize for missing this important vote, but I commend my colleagues for supporting this vital alliance.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MRS.  
RUTH TINSMAN

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of my dear friend Ruth Tinsman. Mrs. Tinsman, beloved wife of the late Jerry Tinsman, passed away on April 28, 2012, at the age of 81. My thoughts and prayers go out to her family and friends at this most difficult time. She is survived by her daughters Katheline Tinsman and Leann Tinsman, sister Patricia O'Rork, three grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

It was a pleasure to work with Mrs. Tinsman when she served as my District Administrator from the time I first assumed office in 1993 until September 2001. Ruth was a hard-working professional with strong morals and values, impeccable work ethic, an undeniable compassion for others, in addition to a warm and loving personality. Prior to joining my office, Mrs. Tinsman was a Congressional Aide for Congressman William Lehman of Florida for 10 years. "Ruth was great with people and my father's constituency. She always looked out for his best interest," said William Lehman, Jr., son of the late Congressman Lehman.

Mrs. Tinsman has devoted her life to helping others in her community. As a resident of the City of Hialeah, Florida for over 50 years,

she worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life and well-being of all. Mrs. Tinsman has served as a dedicated and loyal member of the Hialeah Housing Authority Board of Commissioners since January 9, 1990. On November 18, 1999, she was elected Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners, which she served on for 10 years. The Ruth A. Tinsman Pavilion, an elderly development facility, was built and named after her in 1996 to honor her work and dedication to the community. Additionally, Mrs. Tinsman served on the board of Citrus Health Network, as well as President of "Kids in Dade Society," developing programs to educate and keep children safe.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Ruth Tinsman will be remembered in South Florida for her love of and dedication to her community. Her legacy of care and compassion will live on for generations to come in the lives she has touched. Ruth was a dear friend and I am truly honored to have known her. She will be missed.

HONORING THE CAREER OF BOB  
MCLENNAN

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and accomplishments of a distinguished member of my community, Bob McLennan.

Bob has been a tireless advocate for the Western New York labor community. He has served as a full-time officer for the National Association of Letter Carriers Branch #3 in Buffalo for the past 21 years. For the last 18 years he has served as the President of that organization and has been an important figure in educating the public and Members of Congress on pressing issues facing our community in Buffalo, NY.

For the last 18 years Bob has also served as Vice President of the Buffalo AFL-CIO labor council leaving his mark as a leader for working families. As one of the leading figures advocating for the National Association of Letter Carriers Bob has been described as being "front and center leading one of the most effective NALC local branches in the country."

Bob became a letter carrier in 1980 in Depew, NY and worked 30 years in that capacity until his retirement in 2010. Bob has since continued to advocate for the letter carriers in Buffalo and Washington, D.C. and will retire after a long and distinguished career. Bob is married to his wife Rosemary and has three sons, Ian, Connor, and Corey. He is also a proud grandfather with four grandchildren, Cailyn, Kiley, Ivy and Ginger.

My community of Western New York has benefited greatly from the leadership and foresight that Bob McLennan has exhibited through his work.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me a few moments to commemorate the service of one of the hardest working men that I have had the good fortune to know.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES LEADERSHIP TO ERADICATE OBSTETRIC FISTULA ACT OF 2012

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the United States Leadership to Eradicate Obstetric Fistula Act of 2012, which will help to eradicate a consequence of prolonged labor for pregnant women in low-resource areas.

Obstetric fistula is an avoidable and tragic medical condition which is a result of insufficient medical interventions that often results in the death of the child and devastating physical and social ramifications for the mother. An estimated 2 million women are currently suffering from an obstetric fistula, and women and girls in sub-Saharan Africa are disproportionately affected.

A simple surgical procedure or extended medical care is often needed to treat and cure women suffering from an obstetric fistula. It is therefore critical that the infrastructure in sub-Saharan Africa be further developed to better care for and treat women who have already developed an obstetric fistula and women who may develop a fistula in the future. It is also imperative if we are to prevent women and girls from developing a fistula. And it is important that obstetric fistula care and treatment not be overlooked within the general global health and development initiatives already under way.

This bill would authorize the development of a comprehensive strategy to not only prevent fistula, but successfully treat the women that are already suffering from this condition. It encourages the expansion of private-sector and multi-sector efforts in addition to public-private partnerships rather than relying strictly on public-sector efforts. It would also establish the International Obstetric Fistula Institute for Sub-Saharan Africa to implement parts of the comprehensive strategy.

This legislation focuses its efforts on sub-Saharan Africa to ensure a meaningful and successful strategy to eliminate this condition. Local factors that are part of the reason obstetric fistulas may develop vary dramatically in regions where women are afflicted. By focusing on a single region that is already rich in diversity, we believe that the strategy and campaign will be successful and sustainable.

This legislation has the potential to transform the empowerment of women in the region by eradicating fistula and, as a result, improving the social, educational, and economic conditions of fistula victims and their communities. Accordingly, addressing this issue is not only a moral imperative for the United States, but it is also in our best strategic interest. I urge my colleagues to support our efforts, and this legislation.

IN HONOR OF BARBARA HEHMEYER

**HON. RUSS CARNAHAN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Barbara Hehmeyer, and honor her for her 23 years of dedicated service to the Lemay Chamber of Commerce. She has made the Lemay Chamber one of the most vibrant Chambers of Commerce in Missouri's Third Congressional District.

Ms. Hehmeyer began working for the Lemay Chamber of Commerce in 1989 and has accomplished many great things during her tenure. She tirelessly pursued many projects that resulted in redeveloping and improving her community. She led the Lemay Development Corporation as it engaged in workforce and youth development activities, as well as neighborhood beautification efforts. Her advocacy for the Community Reinvestment fund will result in at least \$15 million dollars in direct investment for the Lemay area. Barbara also played an instrumental role in bringing Pinnacle Entertainment's River City Casino to Lemay; a project that resulted in over \$380 million in investment and has created 1,000 jobs for the people of St. Louis.

Barbara has also worked to strengthen not only her community but also the Lemay Chamber of Commerce itself. She has doubled the levels of membership in the Lemay Chamber and has established many innovative member benefits. She developed a modern day newsletter, and started annual events which recognize outstanding educators and provide scholarship for area high school students. Barbara also worked with the Lemay Child and Family center, BJC School, the Hancock Place school district, the Salvation Army, the Carondelet YMCA, and St. Louis Community College in implementing the successful Lemay Charting for Change project.

Barbara's commitment to the Lemay Chamber of Commerce and to the St. Louis region has been outstanding. For over two decades she has strived for and achieved excellence. I thank my constituent and good friend, Barbara Hehmeyer, for her work and dedication to our community, and invite my colleagues to join me today in recognizing her great work.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO U.S. ARMY COLONEL RICHARD E. CROGAN

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments U.S. Army COL Richard E. Crogan. His dedication to soldiers as a leader, warrior, and innovator has had a profound and lasting effect on United States Army Aviation. As the Commander for the Aviation Center Logistics Command, ACLC, Colonel Crogan supported an Army at war by providing maintenance, sustainment and logistics support and proficient U.S. and Allied Aviation Officers.

Colonel Crogan was responsible for oversight and quality assurance on the largest

aviation service support contract in the U.S. Army. He was tasked with maintaining 587 rotary wing aircraft, providing over 500 launches every day to support an ever-increasing need for army aviation. Colonel Crogan was personally responsible for providing the aircraft required to professionally train aviators and provide the Army's next generation of great warriors. Aviation maintenance is an expensive proposition and Colonel Crogan's innovative leadership and creative solutions have shown a total cost saving during his command of more than \$750,000,000.

Colonel Crogan's great leadership contributed significantly to the elimination of the flight training backlog on Fort Rucker which reduced the time aviators spent training from 22 months to 12 months. Aviators will now report to their units ten months earlier to begin missions and the Army will see enormous cost savings in a time of fiscal reduction. Colonel Crogan raises the bar for those around him as demonstrated by ACLC winning the Army Chief of Staff Supply Excellence Award in 2011.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in honoring COL Richard E. Crogan's exceptional service, dedication and devotion to duty, leadership, and professional competency. He exemplifies the fine tradition of military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Department of the Army, and the United States of America. May he know that his nation is greatly appreciative of his dedication, and wishes him the best in all his future endeavors.

HONORING MR. JOSEPH FALBO

**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mr. Joseph Falbo, who was recently named the "2012 Dundalk Citizen of the Year" by the Optimist Club of Dundalk. Mr. Falbo was chosen to receive this prestigious award for his remarkable efforts to improve the quality of life in his community.

Mr. Falbo has volunteered with the Dundalk Heritage Association since 1980, when he answered an ad in the Dundalk Eagle seeking volunteers to help erect a fence for Dundalk's signature event, the Heritage Fair. Working his way through the ranks, Mr. Falbo stepped up to serve as the organization's president in 2007 when its then-president fell ill.

From booking bands to ensuring the event runs on schedule, the fair requires year-round planning. Though unprepared and inexperienced, Mr. Falbo's first fair at the helm went off without a hitch. The event has grown since, with last year's shattering attendance records. He continues to make improvements to each year's fair. In addition to being named the "Citizen of the Year," Mr. Falbo recently received a "Milestone Award" from the Dundalk Renaissance Corp., which honors residents who help revitalize the community. The organization said Mr. Falbo's "leadership and heavy lifting" ensure the annual fairs "grow and evolve with our community."

Despite his many awards and acclamations, Mr. Falbo remains humble and appreciative. When told he was receiving his most recent

award, Mr. Falbo said he couldn't accept it unless his whole organization was also recognized.

Mr. Falbo also spent years coaching tee ball, baseball, and soccer teams for the Dundalk-Eastfield Recreational Council. Furthermore, Mr. Falbo helps with the group's annual Dundalk Christmas Parade.

In addition to his volunteer efforts, Mr. Falbo is a fixture in Dundalk's business community, having owned and operated his auto-repair shop since he took it over from his father in the 1990s. He is a graduate of Dundalk High School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mr. Joseph Falbo. His genuine love for his community and neighbors are an inspiration to us all, and are deserving of the utmost gratitude. It is with great pride that I congratulate Mr. Falbo on his exemplary contributions to the Dundalk community.

HONORING JAMES V. LOUGHRAN  
UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor James V. Loughran, a distinguished resident of the town of Amherst, Erie County, New York, upon the occasion of his retirement.

Coming from a large family with a longtime dedication to public service, Jim Loughran served with honor and distinction as a Rifleman with the United States Marine Corps. After multiple combat tours in Vietnam between 1967 and 1969, Jim made the decision to dedicate his professional career to his country with a career in the military.

Jim spent his military career principally in areas of administrative management and recruitment. Time and again Jim was called upon to manage and administer the safe deployment of Marines, often doing so for the largest active and reserve units within the Corps. On multiple occasions, Jim received commendations from his commanders who knew all too well the type of dedication and commitment that Jim showed to his country and to his duties.

Jim maintains a close relationship with former Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Peter Pace, under whom Jim served when both were stationed in Buffalo. On three different occasions, Jim was fortunate to serve under Gen. Pace's command, and their relationship speaks volumes about the type of soldier Jim was, and the impact that Jim's leadership had on his commanding officers.

Jim's commitment to his brothers and sisters in the military did not end when soldiers removed their uniforms. Jim took a serious interest in what soldiers and military personnel would have to face after their careers ended, and spent several years in hands-on counseling of veterans transitioning from military to civilian life.

In the mid-1990s, Jim faced that same transition himself. Our region was fortunate to attract Jim to come back home. And his community was all the better for that decision.

After several years of service to one of our region's most highly regarded members of the

Erie County Legislature, Jim put his management skills to work as the Administrator for the Town of Amherst Justice Court. The largest such court in New York State, Jim served several town justices in Amherst by administering the operations of the court with flawless quality and impeccable honesty and integrity. Amherst Town Justice Mark Farrell has said that, "Jim transformed Amherst Town Court into the most efficient justice court in New York State, leading in the management of the largest caseload and managing the largest such staff in the state. No one gets a job done better than Jimmy Loughran."

Jim was an innovator. Working closely with Judge Farrell, Jim was on the ground floor in the formation of specialized courts, including service to veterans and to those in need of treatment for problem gambling. Jim also worked with town justices to form the Amherst Drug Court and Therapeutic Foundation, where today he serves as President. Jim is involved with dozens of professional and civic associations and has a particular interest with fundraising efforts for the many charities, including the Leukemia Society, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Jim was faced with a health challenge not long ago, and his many friends and family members are delighted to see that he is working through it. On Thursday, May 17, what is sure to be a capacity crowd will fill the Sonoma Grille in the heart of Jim's beloved hometown of Amherst to fete Jim upon the occasion of his retirement.

A long time ago, during his Marine service, Jim earned the nickname "Jimmy Good Guy," and that is as appropriate an appellation as has ever been assigned to a person. Jim earned that nickname simply because of his willingness to help someone—anyone—who was in need. No one who has had the good fortune to encounter Jim Loughran has left that engagement without knowing that Jim would do anything he could to help them.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I am asking that all members of the House join with me, and with Jim's own friends and family, to wish Jim Loughran—the one and only "Jimmy Good Guy"—the very best of good luck and good health in the months and years to come.

HONORING THE 95TH BIRTHDAY OF  
MR. GEORGE GAYNES

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. George Gaynes on the occasion of his 95th birthday. Mr. Gaynes is a distinguished member of the Santa Barbara community. He is a man who has devoted his life to the arts, a man who has delighted us all with his wonderful talents both on-stage and on-screen.

George Gaynes was born in 1917 in Helsinki, Finland. In Europe, he served in the Dutch and British Navies during World War II. Mr. Gaynes served as a translator on battlefields since he spoke, and still speaks, six languages fluently. Mr. Gaynes, blessed with a wonderful singing voice, started his career in opera companies in Switzerland and London,

and later in the New York City Opera Company singing basso.

After moving to the United States, Mr. Gaynes became an accomplished Broadway actor, best known for his on-stage role in *Wonderful Town*. He also had notable roles in the Cole Porter musical *Out of This World* and in the U.S. on-stage tour of *My Fair Lady*. Mr. Gaynes has also enjoyed a distinguished career on-screen. He is perhaps best known for his role in the Police Academy series as Commandant Eric Lassard, as Henry Warnimont on the NBC television series *Punky Brewster*, and as Arthur Feldman on *The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd*. Gaynes is also remembered for his role as Frank Smith on the popular soap opera *General Hospital*, and has appeared in movies such as *The Way We Were*, *Tootsie*, and *The Crucible*.

Gaynes met the love of his life, fellow dancer and actress Allyn Ann McLerie in 1952 in New York where they were both performing on Broadway. The couple has been married for 58 years and has two wonderful children, Iya and Matthew. They have one grandchild, Nicole Falcone Stryjak and are expecting their first great-grandchild, Portia, in June 2012.

George and Allyn Ann moved to Santa Barbara in 1989 and the couple immediately became involved in the issues important to our community and could always be counted upon to support those causes they believed in deeply. In fact, George has continuously contributed various "Letters to the Editor" on both local and national issues in several local newspapers. The couple were also founding members of the State Street Ballet Company in Santa Barbara.

George Gaynes is a man who has devoted his life to the arts and his community. Today I am pleased to recognize him as we celebrate his life as a distinguished actor and entertainer, a man dedicated to making the Central Coast and this Nation a richer, more vibrant place.

IN RECOGNITION OF KATM KAT  
COUNTRY 103

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize KATM Kat Country 103, a country music radio station located in the 18th Congressional District of California. The station recently won two national awards in the country music industry. It was honored as the 2011 Station of the Year at the Country Music Association Awards as well as at the 2012 Academy of Country Music Awards. Both accolades are highly prestigious and speak volumes of Kat Country's performance.

Debuting on the air on April 4, 1992, Kat Country 103 has been providing country music to the Valley for over fifteen years. Kat Country 103 serves listeners from Sacramento to Merced and from the Foothills to the Bay Area. Under the slogan "Continuous Country Favorites and Fun," it provides listeners with radio music, host concerts and events for fans, and participates in many charitable events as well. Kat Country is owned by Cumulus Media and is under the direction of Nikki Thomas, Program Manager.

Kat Country 103 received the news of its nomination for the Country Music Association's award through a telephone call from country sensation Taylor Swift. Kat Country 103 was the first to interview Swift when she broke into the country music business.

Beyond providing music to its listeners, Kat Country 103 also strives to give back to the community and to those in need. Every year, it works with the Make-A-Wish Foundation by holding a telethon to raise money for the organization. It's hosted several charity concerts to support St. Jude's Children's Cancer Research Hospital and even collected donations of thirty-six million pennies for the hospital. In addition, every year at Christmastime it participates in the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation drive, collecting toys and gifts for disadvantaged children in the community. The station also supports the Second Harvest Food Bank, the American Cancer Society, and countless other organizations. It also recognizes and thanks its dedicated listeners by throwing an annual Listener Appreciation Concert. To show its sincere appreciation of support, the station invites nearly 20,000 listeners to attend an all-day concert, absolutely free. It has had such performers as Toby Keith, Taylor Swift, Blake Shelton, The Band Perry and countless others. This year it will welcome Montgomery Gentry as their opening act.

Please join me in congratulating Kat Country 103 and its staff on the recognition of their Country Music Association and Academy of Country Music Awards. They are a very deserving country music radio station and I am proud to have served them in the 18th California Congressional District.

HONORING MR. THOMAS W. LUCE  
III

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and honor a great Texan, Mr. Thomas W. Luce III, for his years of leadership and contributions to improving our public schools, strengthening higher education and supporting business and economic growth.

Mr. Luce was a founding and managing partner of the law firm of Hughes and Luce, LLP until his retirement from the firm in 1997. In addition to his active law practice, Mr. Luce has served on the boards or as guest lecturer at a number of schools of higher education, including the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, the LBJ School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Austin, and Southern Methodist University.

Mr. Luce also has been appointed five times to major posts by Texas governors, including Chief Justice pro tempore of the Texas Supreme Court. He is perhaps best known for his role as the Chief of Staff of the Texas Select Committee of Public Education, which produced one of the first major reform efforts among public schools in 1984.

Mr. Luce served on the Dell Inc. Board of Directors from 1991 to 2005, until he was appointed United States Assistant Secretary of Education for Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development by President George W. Bush. He then served as Chief Executive Officer of

the National Math and Science Initiative, Inc. from 2007 to 2011.

In addition, following his resignation from the Department of Education, Mr. Luce rejoined the board of Dell Inc. He is the longest serving outside board member of this Texas-based company and will leave the board when his term ends on July 13, 2012.

During his time on the Dell Board of Directors, Mr. Luce served on all four board committees and oversaw a period of rapid growth for Dell, a great American success story. In 1991, Dell reported \$890 million of revenue and debuted on the Fortune 500 rankings the following year. Today, Dell is a \$62 billion company and ranked No. 41 on the Fortune 500 list.

Michael Dell, founder, chairman and CEO of Dell, said, "Tom is a great friend and trusted advisor to us all here at Dell, and it's been a true privilege to know him and benefit from his wise counsel for so many years. During his long service as a member of the Dell Board, Tom has contributed to our success in countless ways and has helped shape the strategies that have allowed us to develop and deliver the very best in technology solutions to our customers. On behalf of the global Dell team and my fellow Board members, it is my distinct honor to thank Tom for his commitment to our country and to Dell, and to wish him the very best in everything the future holds."

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Luce and thanking him for his service to our country and his business leadership. We wish him the best in his future endeavors.

TAIWAN PRESIDENT MA YING-JEU'S SECOND INAUGURATION

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on January 14th, 2012, Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou successfully won reelection and will be inaugurated for a second term on Sunday, May 20th. The day will be one of a celebration of democracy, however, like every day in Taiwan, it is one clouded by the ever-present, potential danger lurking a mere 100 miles to its west. The People's Republic of China and its more than 1,400 missiles will continue to target Taiwan. While Taipei and Beijing have made strides in terms of trade, investment, travel and tourism, as well as political strides via the repatriation of fugitives; the government of mainland China still espouses its belief in a right to take Taiwan by force. History is riddled with such fateful attempts in this conflict such as Mao Zedong's bombings of Taipei-administered islands Kinmen and Matsu in the 1950s.

In contrast to Taiwan's culture of democracy, mainland China's political culture is a closed one. The leadership and its central planners listen to few, the least of which include its own people. There is little nuance, dialogue or meaningful negotiation unless backed by the threat of brute force. The government of the People's Republic of China extends its intimidation tactics beyond its borders and against its regional neighbors, nations like Vietnam, the Philippines and others who lay at

least some seafaring claim to the waters of the South China Sea.

We cannot let stand such intimidation and let Taiwan suffer the same fate. It is in our national strategic interest and in that of Taiwan's for us to continue our providing our steadfast support and in supplying Taiwan with defensive capabilities as under our obligations in the Taiwan Relations Act. Being sufficiently armed and defensively capable is sadly the only way that Taipei can interact with Beijing on what can at least pass for a perceived position of strength. The United States of America and the American people must continue to have the guts and vision to step forth and provide our democratic friend and ally access to the tools it needs to defend itself and free way of life.

Yet, while we must acknowledge the real concerns, the ever-looming storm on the horizon in this conflict, we must also take note of the successes of democracy. Taiwan continues to hold free and fair elections and we will do our part in supporting such continued success. So, on this day, please join me in congratulating President Ma on his inauguration. But even in celebration, we will not fall complacent; we will continue to urge our government to continue providing our support of Taiwan and our commitment in providing access to the defensive tools it needs to safeguard its democracy.

HONORING DR. SANDRA  
KURTINITIS

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Dr. Sandra Kurtinitis, president of the Community College of Baltimore County, who was recently named the 2012 "Humanitarian of the Year" by the Optimist Club of Dundalk.

This prestigious honor is reserved for individuals who serve the Dundalk-Edgemere community. As president of the Community College of Baltimore County for the past seven years, Dr. Kurtinitis leads the largest provider of higher education in the Baltimore region and is credited with establishing a leaner executive structure that prioritizes the classroom.

Throughout her tenure at the Community College of Baltimore County, Dr. Kurtinitis has gone above and beyond the call of duty to reconnect the once fledgling Dundalk campus with the community. As a result of Dr. Kurtinitis' efforts, enrollment at the Dundalk campus is thriving, having doubled from 2,500 students in 2005 to 5,000 students today.

Shortly after her arrival, Dr. Kurtinitis worked to place several of the college's signature programs on the Dundalk Campus in order to attract new students. Under her direction, the school constructed a new building to house a new program for dental hygienists and dental assistants. In an effort to integrate the school with the surrounding community, the facility is open to the public and will offer low-cost preventive dental work to more than 2,000 residents each year.

In addition, Dr. Kurtinitis has overseen a \$6 million renovation of the campus cafeteria and

library. She also boosted the college's presence at community meetings and events, working closely with the Dundalk Renaissance Corporation and the Dundalk Chamber of Commerce. The college has begun entering a float in the annual Dundalk Independence Day parade, winning awards for the past three consecutive years.

A self-described "servant leader," Dr. Kurtinitis is an experienced and respected educator, administrator and author. Before returning to Maryland, she served as president of Quinsigamond Community College in Massachusetts and, prior, taught English at Prince George's Community College for 22 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Dr. Sandra Kurtinitis. Her dedication to quality education for all students is an inspiration. It is with great admiration and appreciation that I congratulate Dr. Kurtinitis on her well-deserved recognition and wish her many more years of success.

RECOGNITION OF FIFTY-EIGHT  
SOUTH JERSEY HIGH SCHOOL  
SENIORS FOR ENLISTING IN THE  
UNITED STATES ARMED SERVICES

**HON. JON RUNYAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. RUNYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of 58 high school seniors in South Jersey for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Armed Forces. Of these 48 seniors, 13 have joined the Marine Corps; their names are Dominigo Parson, Kyle Hohwald, Angel Gomez, Andrew Galiano, Blasé Salvatore, Cody Quick, Joshua Molinas, Jacob Presley, Hector Rivera, Anthony Pimpinello Jr., Giovanni Figueroa, Joseph Fabrizio, and Vincent Settineri II. Nine have joined the Army; their names are Dakota Beck, Brian Esposito, John Sabatino, Alan Ngyen, Kierra Law, Darryn Henwood, Ryan Madden, Kevin Roberts and Tony Ta. Ten have joined the Air Force; their names are Dane Urgo, Marvin Smith, Addison Steiger, Daniel Flowers, Rebecca Freedman, Alex Belii, Carlos Restrepo, Gabrielle Swift, Matthew Vitalone, and Taylor Dockery. Four have joined the Navy; their names are John Weiser, Matthew Kapp, Craig Smith and Derek Smith. Twelve have joined the New Jersey Army National Guard; their names are Ronald Chin, Wyatt Cooper, Tyrell Powell, Daniel Szovati, Aleshia Morales, Tucker Patten, Jimmy Rodriguez, Yaritza Victor, Michael Murphy, Christian Shinkowitz, Andrew Krevetski and Jonathan Kellum. All of the 46 seniors will be recognized at the "Our Community Salutes of South Jersey" ceremony to be held during the evening of May 30.

As this month begins many of these young men and women will be celebrating their graduation with their fellow classmates. During that time their classmates will be preparing to move onto college or vocational school life, as these men and women begin their training in the armed services, beginning a life of service and sacrifice, all in the efforts of defending our nation and its ideals.

These young men and women now embark on a new chapter in their lives surrounded by

the uncertainties of the world around them. But they should be eased by the knowledge that they are going to receive the best training available to our Armed Forces as well as the unwavering support of this chamber and the American people as they meet the challenges they may face in defense of our nation.

I would like to offer my personal thanks to these brave young men and women. Their sacrifices are the reason why I have the privilege of addressing you in this great chamber of the House of Representatives. The freedom to debate the issues confronting our nation is greatly provided by the sacrifices that these new Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines, along with those who came before them, have fought hard to defend.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the remarkable dedication to our country that these young adults have demonstrated by enlisting in the Armed Forces. May we never forget to recognize all those who serve our nation and the courage they have shown volunteering to risk their lives in defense of our freedoms. All Americans owe them, as well as all those who are currently and who have in the past served our country, a deep debt of gratitude.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO U.S. ARMY  
COLONEL CHANDLER C. (SKIP)  
SHERRELL

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor U.S. Army Colonel Chandler C. (Skip) Sherrell, who is retiring after 26 years of service to our nation as an Army Aviation Officer. During his distinguished career, COL Sherrell served the nation in peace and war in numerous positions of steadily increasing responsibility. Colonel Sherrell has led soldiers in combat, trained soldiers for war, and served as an advisor and assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS), the Chief of Staff of the Army (CSA), and as a DoD Fellow to the United States Congress. He has served his Nation in Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Bosnia, Germany, and Korea, as well as in demanding assignments in the United States. His decorations for his service include awards for valor. He is an outstanding Army aviator, leader, and soldier, and he is deserving of our recognition.

COL Skip Sherrell concluded an outstanding career by serving for two years as the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Aviation & Missile Life Cycle Management Command (AMCOM). He brought a wealth of expertise in aviation operations to the AMCOM Command Group. Prior to joining AMCOM, Colonel Sherrell performed one of the most demanding and critical assignments of his career, serving as the Commander of Task Force (TF) 49. TF 49 was the Army's designation for a composite Aviation Brigade, formed from many units to perform combat operations in Iraq. In twelve months of intensive flying in multiple locations across Iraq, Colonel Sherrell led TF 49 to complete mission success with an impressive safety record—an outstanding achievement.

Colonel Sherrell served in a role that few Army officers experience: working as the Dep-

uty Legislative Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS). Serving as a liaison to Congress as the personal representative of the CJCS is an important position, but more importantly, he also served as a soldier's advocate on Capitol Hill for equipment modernization and improved systems and protection.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in honoring COL Chandler C. (Skip) Sherrell's exceptional service, dedication and devotion to duty, leadership, and professional competency. He exemplifies the fine tradition of military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Department of the Army, and the United States of America. May he know that his nation is greatly appreciative of his dedication, and wishes him the best in all his future endeavors.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MR.  
WAYNE L. NELSON

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Wayne L. Nelson, who died on April 30, 2012. Mr. Nelson was a deeply committed environmentalist. Throughout his life, he fought tenaciously for the protection of Florida's ecosystems. He always had a special concern for Lake Okeechobee, which is the seventh largest freshwater lake in the United States and the largest in the State of Florida. Mr. Nelson was widely respected by everyone of like mind who knew of his love for Florida's natural resources. Younger environmentalists trusted him for his knowledge and learned much from his advice.

An avid angler with a passion for conservation, Mr. Nelson founded Fishermen Against the Destruction of the Environment (FADE) as well as Clean Lake Environment and Recreation (CLEAR). Additionally, he was an active member of Greenpeace and Public Citizens.

Mr. Speaker, Wayne Nelson left a fine legacy of caring for our environment and teaching younger generations all that he knew. Wherever he went, he spread awareness of the importance of saving the earth, and he will be greatly missed by family, friends and everyone in the environmental community. My thoughts are with Mr. Nelson's loved ones during this most difficult time.

HONORING THE AFRICAN AMERICAN  
EDUCATION TASK FORCE

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the African American Education Task Force, co-chaired by Mr. Oscar Wright and Mrs. Wandra Boyd, for its record of success in encouraging and acknowledging academic achievement by African American youth in California's Oakland Unified School District.

Today, the African American Education Task Force and the Oakland Unified School District will celebrate a successful decade of

recognizing our local African American students' Honor Roll status. The African American Education Task Force Academic Achievement Celebration takes place at the ACTS Full Gospel Church, pastored by Bishop Bob Jackson in Oakland, California.

During this year's event, 1,026 African American students from the 8th through 12th grades will be honored for attaining grade point averages of 3.00 or above for the 2011–2012 school year. This outstanding group of young people has accomplished a great deal, and we are pleased to commend them for their academic dedication and success. Especially in light of the great budgetary challenges faced by the State of California and the city of Oakland, these students have proven themselves to be bright, capable and resourceful.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate each and every student for earning this distinction. Thank you for understanding and promoting the importance of staying in school. By continuing to be the best students possible and by making the most of your education, you will enjoy a full range of opportunities to achieve your personal goals, as well as give back to your communities.

Your accomplishments represent the strength of your initiative and a commitment to excellence. The skills and discipline you have developed will be of great use as you continue to follow your dreams toward success. I am so very proud of you for taking personal pride in your studies. Oakland's future leaders are certainly present at this celebration of academic achievement, and I welcome your many civic contributions in the years to come.

On behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, I again salute you for your exemplary academic performance. I am confident that you will continue this fine record of scholarship, service and success. Keep up the good work, and I wish you the very best in all of your future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MOUNT CARMEL  
BAPTIST CHURCH, MAY 15, 2012

**HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mount Carmel Baptist Church who this year, will celebrate 100 years of service to the Arverne Community in my district.

Mount Carmel Baptist Church is committed to advancing the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through the preaching and teaching of the Gospel, comforting the sick and distressed, and helping humanity.

Under the leadership of Rev. Joseph Hezekiah May, Mount Carmel Baptist Church became the flagship Baptist Church on Far Rockaway. Rev. May was a freedom fighter for affordable and appropriate housing and through his efforts, the City of New York took notice and began building public housing.

Mount Carmel Baptist Church has served as a pillar to the Arverne community through its desire to further the cause of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through social activism, pastoral care, community engagement and youth development.

On behalf of the more than 655,000 residents of Sixth Congressional District, we thank

Mount Carmel for your outstanding contribution to our community, city, and state. We join with Mount Carmel to celebrate 100 years of service and wish you continued success in all of your endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SMSGT (RET.) WALTER LAMERTON'S EFFORTS TO BRING A USO CENTER TO TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired U.S. Air Force SMSgt (Ret.) Walter Lamerton of Trinity, Florida for his critical role in bringing the USO to Tampa International Airport.

On January 18, 2012, the USO Board of Governors voted to grant a charter for the USO expansion to Tampa. This USO Center is scheduled to open in August 2012 and will support the more than 300,000 service members and their families that annually transit the Tampa Bay community. At the time of the vote, USO Headquarters Staff stated that "Many have applied, but that this is the first Chartered USO Center approved in the nation in over twenty years."

Walter Lamerton was a driving force behind submitting this ultimately successful proposal to the USO Board of Governors. He worked closely with volunteers throughout the Tampa Bay area and effectively conveyed their message of support for our service members and their families to both the local community and to the USO Board of Governors, under a compact timeframe.

Mr. Lamerton's leadership and attention to detail were critical in the effort to bring the USO Center to Tampa. As a result, many of our Nation's service members and their families will directly benefit from his efforts for years to come.

As Vice-Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I constantly find myself in awe of the sacrifices and efforts that have been made on behalf of our great country by the men and women who have worn the uniform of our Armed Services. Because of this, it is my distinct honor to recognize and express my gratitude to Walter Lamerton for his dedication in bringing the USO to the Tampa Bay area. His success in this endeavor will serve as a lasting legacy for all who support our military and their families. The USO Center at Tampa International Airport will, surely, be a shining star in our community.

PRAISE FOR TAIWANESE  
ELECTIONS

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, as Taiwan prepares for its Presidential inauguration on May 20, I'd like to congratulate our friends in Taiwan for the smooth conclusion of their presidential election on January 14, when Mr. Ma Ying-jeou won a second term as President of Taiwan.

For over half a century, the United States and Taiwan have enjoyed strong relations over economic and security issues. Our shared interest in peace and stability has guided the relationship, and our commitment to Taiwan's security, as stated in the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act, has enabled Taiwan to build a strong democratic government which serves as a symbol of success for others in the region and beyond. Similarly, Taiwan's economic partnership with us has been extremely beneficial. Taiwan is currently our tenth largest trading partner, with over \$68 billion in total bilateral trade.

During Mr. Ma's second term, I hope our relationship with Taiwan will continue to flourish in areas as diverse as trade, military cooperation, and the Visa Waiver Program.

Congratulations to Mr. Ma and the people of Taiwan.

THE DEATH OF NICHOLAS KING

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, it is my regrettable duty to report the death of a great American, Nicolas King. Mr. King died on April 3, 2012 in Santa Rosa, California. He was 79. Perhaps more than any other person, Mr. King was responsible for preserving the Watts Towers in Los Angeles, which has been visited by millions over the past 50 years.

King was instrumental in preserving the world famous Watts Towers which adds an aesthetic appeal to my 37th District. The unique work of folk art, was created over 33 years by Italian immigrant Simon Rodia. Rodia, described as a cement finisher and construction worker, began building the towers in 1921. The nearly 100-foot complex of spires and other structures are decorated with broken pottery, seashells, glazed tiles and pieces of colored glass.

In 1954, Rodia moved to Martinez, California to be closer to family and signed his property over to his neighbor, Louis Saucedo. His former house had burned down, the gates to the walled property were open and unguarded, and the grounds were littered with refuse left by unwanted visitors. Nicholas King and his friend, William Cartwright, visited the famed Watts Towers for the first time and were surprised by what they saw.

The current owner was a dairy farmer by the name of Joseph Montoya. For \$3,000 and a downpayment check of just \$20, Nicholas King and William Cartwright became the owners of the Watts Towers. King and Cartwright cleaned up the area around the towers, and an architect friend of Cartwright soon drew up a plan for a caretaker's cottage on the property. But when the architect went to apply for a building permit, he discovered that an order had been issued earlier for Montoya to "demolish and remove the fire-damaged dwelling and dangerous towers from the premises on or before March 5, 1957." The Watts Towers in 1959 passed a stress test in which the tallest spire was subjected to 10,000 pounds of force and avoided demolition.

With the establishment of the Committee for Simon Rodia's Towers in Watts, King and Cartwright yielded ownership of the towers to



the committee. The group elected Cartwright as its chairman and he and King as permanent directors.

Born Robert Nicholas King in Sacramento on March 21, 1933, he studied acting at the Pasadena Playhouse after graduating from high school in 1951. King had uncredited roles in *The Long, Hot Summer* and as a medic in *The Young Lions*. He had the role of Arnie in *Joy Ride* (1958) and Georgie in *The Threat* (1960). He also had a recurring role on the TV version of the radio serial "One Man's Family."

In 1969, King became a partner in a land cooperative on the Garcia River in Point Arena in Northern California, where he moved with his wife, Kate, and their two young children. King was involved in logging and started a nursery business in which he grafted apple trees and sold root stocks and apples. He also helped organize the river preservation group Friends of the Garcia and was active in the group Save Our Salmon.

Nicholas King's inspirational life reminds us to preserve the rich artistic history of America. William Cartwright said it best, "We knew we had to do something that we believed should have been done before us: preserving something that needed it and not abandoning it." Generations to come will be touched by the artwork at Watts Towers and we have Nicholas King to thank. He will be deeply missed and I urge my colleagues to join me in extending condolences to the King Family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence in memory of Nicholas King.

THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Last year, agricultural producers had record net farm income and trade surplus. One in twelve jobs is linked to agriculture and forestry and American consumers spend less than 10 percent of their disposable income on food. USDA programs affect each of us—from nutrition programs to food safety, conservation to plant and animal health, and rural development to research and extension.

The department manages anti-hunger and nutrition programs that help ensure millions of Americans have enough food. Food banks across the country count on the Emergency Feeding Assistance Program to keep their pantries stocked. USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is helping more than 46 million Americans. More than 30 million American school children rely on the National School Lunch Program for a nutritious lunch. But there is clearly more to do.

With almost 13 million unemployed in this economy, and one in six Americans living below the official poverty line, we know that millions of middle-class and working families are hurting. Across the country, nearly fifteen percent of American households were food insecure in 2010. In other words, nearly 50 million Americans, including over 16 million chil-

dren, struggled with hunger. In my district in Connecticut, nearly one in seven households were not sure if they could afford enough food to feed their families. Earlier this month, the Meals on Wheels Association released its first report card on senior hunger: with 1 in 7 seniors facing the threat of hunger, the country received an F.

At a time such as this, our key federal food security policies become all the more vital. They make a difference for the health and well being of millions of families. In the words of Harry Truman, "Nothing is more important in our national life than the welfare of our children, and proper nourishment comes first in attaining this welfare."

As we look to the future, it is important that the United States maintains its leadership in agriculture. And we must also strive to ensure that everyone has access to the food they need to thrive.

CELEBRATING 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 150th anniversary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Founded by President Lincoln in 1862 as "the People's Department," the USDA has helped modernize and advance American agriculture to the point where Americans now enjoy a safe and abundant food supply at a cost of less than ten percent of their disposable income. The USDA has been critical in protecting the farmers and ranchers who are the stewards of our land and essential to ensuring that our nation maintains an independent and secure food supply.

Over the course of its 150 years, the USDA has repeatedly been vital in solving the many agricultural challenges facing our nation. For example, a rapidly declining pollinating species population currently threatens the sustainability of our agriculture across the country. With one out of every three bites of food we eat the result of the intervention of pollinators like birds, bats, bees, and butterflies, the USDA has taken a lead role in addressing this looming disaster through programs like the Agricultural Research Service's research on the cause and treatment of Colony Collapse Disorder. The importance of the USDA is reflected in the fact that without pollinators, our country would not be able to grow food.

The USDA also does much more than just work with our local agriculture. It is a key player in addressing the changing needs of agriculture across the globe. The world's population is estimated to be nine billion people by 2050. Consequently, the world will need to produce more food in the next 50 years than has been produced during the past 10,000 years combined. The USDA, America's farmers, ranchers, and research scientists will answer this challenge together through programs such as Food for Progress, McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition, the USDA National Hunger Clearinghouse, and the Norman Borlaug Commemorative Research Initiative.

One hundred and fifty years ago, President Lincoln recognized the potential of America's farmers to resourcefully cultivate our land to provide an ample food supply. Today, we must use the same innovative spirit in approaching agricultural production. By supporting USDA programs and initiatives, we are able to link research and scientific innovations to effective adaptations in order to successfully address the food security needs of our country. I am pleased to honor our country's farmers and ranchers, and acknowledge the work of the USDA on this historic occasion.

HONORING OFFICER CRAIG  
BIRKHOLZ

**HON. THOMAS E. PETRI**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize those peace officers being honored during National Police Week, and I particularly want to honor a constituent of mine who was killed in the line of duty last year.

Officer Craig Birkholz was only 28 years old when he was shot and killed during a six-hour standoff at a home in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, on March 20, 2011. Officer Birkholz is one of the 166 being honored today as part of National Peace Officers Memorial Day, and his name has been engraved on the National Memorial wall.

Officer Birkholz had been with the Fond du Lac Police Department for two years and was a veteran who had served in Iraq and Afghanistan with the Army. Born in Kenosha in 1982, he graduated cum laude from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh with a degree in criminal justice. In 2009, he married his wife, Ashley. Men and women such as Officer Birkholz, who make the ultimate sacrifice in order to keep us safe, truly are owed our eternal gratitude.

I hope that National Police Week celebrated here in Washington will help those affected by the loss of a relative or fellow officer know that their life of service will continue to be honored. We will remember the life and service of Officer Birkholz, and the memorial is a lasting tribute to him and all fallen officers.

TRIBUTE TO SIGNAL HILL POLICE  
OFFICER ANTHONY GINIEWICZ  
ON THE OCCASION OF BEING  
ADDED TO NATIONAL PEACE OF  
OFFICERS MEMORIAL WALL OF  
HONOR

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, later today the name of Anthony Giniewicz of Signal Hill, California, will be added to the National Peace Officers Memorial Wall of Honor. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial is the nation's monument to law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. Officer Giniewicz, who served on the Signal Hill Police Department, died on December 7, 2011, as a result of gunshot wounds sustained 26 years earlier during an exchange

of gunfire with gang members. He will be enshrined on the Memorial Wall of Honor with 361 other peace officers who died in the line of duty in 2011, 19 of whom are from California.

Dedicated on October 15, 1991, the Memorial honors Federal, State and local law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the safety and protection of our Nation and its people. Carved on its walls are the names of more than 19,000 officers who have been killed in the line of duty throughout U.S. history, dating back to the first known death in 1791.

On February 19, 1985, Officer Giniewicz and his partner were accosted by three gang members while off duty in Signal Hill, California. When Officer Giniewicz identified himself as a police officer the assailants opened fired and shot him multiple times. Miraculously, Officer Giniewicz survived the shooting but was paralyzed from the waist. He spend the next 26 years as a paraplegic and underwent multiple surgeries before succumbing on December 7, 2011 due to complications from his injuries.

It is fitting recognition of Officer Giniewicz's heroism that his name will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Wall during the National Peace Officers Memorial Service.

Officer Giniewicz was more than a police officer, he was a dedicated father, son, brother, friend, and role model to his colleagues on the Signal Hill Police Department. Although his injuries were severe and followed him throughout his life, he fought through it and was still able to enjoy many of the activities he loved before the shooting. Officer Giniewicz was a 35-year member of the Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, as well as a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Anthony Giniewicz epitomized everything that is good and true and great about America. He was brave and kind and fearless and devoted to serving others. He is survived by his mother, Nellie; son, Anthony Aleksandr; stepson, John; stepdaughter, Barbara; former wife, Barbara; six sisters Paula, Linda, Elaine, Christine, Diane and Laurie; and two grandchildren Katelyn and Marissa.

As a member of the Law Enforcement Caucus and the representative in Congress of Signal Hill, California, I am saddened at the loss of Officer Anthony Giniewicz but proud to represent the police department Officer Giniewicz served with such distinction. I am honored to represent the people of the 37th Congressional District of California in paying tribute to the 362 fallen heroes who will be joining the more than 19,000 gallant men and women who gave the last full measure of devotion to the communities they took an oath to protect and serve.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence in memory of Officer Anthony Giniewicz and every other man and woman whose name graces the National Peace Officers Memorial Wall of Honor.

HONORING DR. HAMID SHIRVANI,  
PRESIDENT OF THE CALIFORNIA  
STATE UNIVERSITY,  
STANISLAUS

### HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Mr. CARDOZA, and I rise today to acknowledge and honor Dr. Hamid Shirvani, President of the California State University, Stanislaus, to thank him for his leadership and dedication to the academic advancement of the Central Valley.

Dr. Hamid Shirvani faithfully served California State University, Stanislaus, as its President for seven years since his appointment on July 1, 2005.

Under his leadership, the academic reputation of the university grew in stature and the university received national recognition for its excellence, including its first appearance in the Princeton Review's Best Colleges list in 2007, and then every year since.

Dr. Shirvani carefully managed the resources of the university: eliminating a budget deficit that existed upon his arrival, building a reserve, and guiding the university through severe budget reductions that were not fully replaced by tuition increases. While these cuts were made more catastrophic by rising enrollment, Dr. Shirvani maintained and even improved the academic quality of the university by providing a high level of service to the students.

Demonstrating his deep commitment to support and strengthen the region, he proactively and tirelessly reached out to the region's business community to learn about their workforce needs, build partnerships, and create new academic programs to address those needs. He did all this while also providing high-quality, educational opportunities for students that would prepare them for well-paying jobs in the region after graduation.

President Shirvani tenaciously advocated on the university's behalf and established relationships with diverse educational partners and businesses and secured more than \$118 million of external resources—the fruit of which included eight newly endowed professorships and many large donations used to provide scholarships to students with financial need, fund the development of new academic programs, and build and upgrade campus facilities.

His dedication to serving the students and putting their needs first was recognized when he was twice selected as President of the Year by the system-wide student body government, representing 430,000 students across 23 campuses, in 2007 and 2009.

He is a visionary leader who made substantial contributions to higher education in the Central Valley and worked hard to raise the profile and stature of the university.

In June 2012, President Shirvani will be leaving CSU Stanislaus to become the Chancellor of the North Dakota University System.

Mr. Speaker, please join us in honoring and commending Dr. Hamid Shirvani, President of the California State University, Stanislaus, for his numerous years of selfless service to the education of our community.

RECOGNIZING CURTIS WHITEHEAD,  
MAY 2012 STUDENT OF THE MONTH

### HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding student from my congressional district, Curtis Whitehead. Curtis is a senior at August Martin High School in Queens, NY and has won the April student of the month award. During his time at August Martin, Curtis has overcome challenges, excelled in his studies and discovered his true passions: cooking and acting. Since his sophomore year, he has had a recurring lead role on a Time Warner Cable production called "Power Tools for Life." He has since, participated and excelled in countless culinary competitions. By all accounts Curtis is well liked and respected by his classmates and teachers, baking cookies and cupcakes for their birthdays and offering to help in times of need. Upon graduation Curtis will enroll in the Culinary Academy. I applaud Curtis Whitehead for winning student of the month and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 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 \$15,676,996,273,860.82. We've added \$5,050,119,224,947.74 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

#### MARISHA LOZADA

#### HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Marisha Lozada as a Gold Medal recipient of the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards of 2012 for her painting titled Woman with Black.

The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards is the largest, longest-running scholarship and recognition program for creative teens. Awards are presented annually by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, a nonprofit organization headquartered in New York.

This year, the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards program received 200,000 submissions from students in public, private and home schools across America. Of the 200,000 submissions, 60,000 students received regional recognition and 1,600 received national medals.

Mr. Speaker, the arts are an important part of America's cultural fabric, and student creativity should always be encouraged. Therefore, I congratulate Marisha Lozada for her

passion and dedication to the arts, which is evident in her accomplishment.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOGAN SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the Logan Square Neighborhood Association in Chicago, Illinois and wish to congratulate them for their 50 years of committed community service. Their visionary leadership, strategic partnerships and compassionate dedication to our community has made a real and lasting difference in the lives of the residents of Logan Square and the Chicagoland area.

Since 1962, the Logan Square Neighborhood Association has dedicated the last five decades to building a healthy community by directly serving thousands of residents each year and impacting the lives of tens of thousands more with nationally-recognized programs in education, housing, immigration, health and the arts. The Logan Square neighborhood has benefitted greatly from the Association's commitment to change and community involvement.

Among the Logan Square Neighborhood Association's many accomplishments are Parent Mentoring programs that help students, teachers and families bridge cultural differences between immigrants' homes and the schools their children attend, creating a new approach to parent engagement in schools. By partnering with local schools, the Association established Community Learning Centers that allow elementary schools to provide convenient, evening continuing education and physical activities. The Association partnered with community organizations to banish slumlords, ending unethical practices and helping make affordable rental housing available to families. Their home ownership programs have helped more than 100 moderate-income families purchase their first home and led to the first homeownership program for teachers that was adopted by the Chicago Board of Education. The Logan Square Neighborhood Association has also developed programs focusing on living wage jobs which helped to create more than 1,400 permanent, living wage jobs in the Logan Square community.

Because of their commitment to change and to improving the Logan Square community, it makes me proud to have the Logan Square Neighborhood Association serve the residents of the 4th Congressional District. It is with great honor that I commend the Logan Square Neighborhood Association for their 50 years of effectively serving our community. I wish them continued success.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USDA

**HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, on May 15, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed legis-

lation to create the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Today, exactly 150 years later, Lincoln would be proud of how the USDA touches almost every aspect of our daily lives. The USDA not only protects and strengthens our rich agricultural tradition, but it also supports nutrition programs, promotes and develops rural housing, utilities and businesses, food safety, animal health, natural resource conservation, reduces our dependence on foreign oil and much, much more. Because of the USDA, rural communities have affordable electricity and broadband; poor children are able to eat a nutritious meal every day through the School Lunch Programs, and we lead the world in agriculture exports.

My district in South Texas has benefited greatly from the work of the USDA. From providing assistance to rural farmers, to biotechnology research that works to develop drought resistant crops, to developing and upgrading our aging water treatment systems, the USDA is a vital partner in keeping south Texas moving forward. That is why I am honored to extend my thanks and congratulations to Secretary Vilsack and the thousands of people at the USDA for their tireless service.

HONORING NORM NEISS FOR HIS MORE THAN 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO HIS COMMUNITY

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Norm Neiss for the more than 50 years of service he has given to the Mantua community in Virginia.

Mr. Neiss dedicated his life to serving the nation, spending more than 29 years in the United States Navy as a naval aviator. He retired from the Navy in 1974, but his service to our country continued through his dedication to his community.

Mr. Neiss moved to Virginia in 1965 and has been an active member of the community ever since. He was the Chabad Lubavich Temple Liason, and he was a volunteer for the New Covenant Committee, the Architectural and Environmental Review Committee, the District Planning Commission, the Fairfax Federation, and the Fairfax County Citizen Emergency Response Team's medical corps. In addition to generously donating his time as a member of these many community organizations, Mr. Neiss served in a number of local leadership positions, heading the Providence District Council, heading the Mantua Neighborhood Watch, and serving as the President of the Mantua Community Association.

Mr. Neiss never sought recognition for his many efforts in the many organizations in which he so graciously gave of his time. Nevertheless, his neighbors noticed his dedication and the shining example that he set. They nominated Mr. Neiss as the 2012 Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations Citizen of the Year. The Federation represents the homeowners, civic, and citizen associations for Fairfax County's more than 1 million residents. Further, in recognition of his tireless service, Mr. Neiss was selected to be the Grand Marshall for the 2012 Mantua Parade on June 9th.

Mr. Neiss' life-long dedication to serving his community is a wonderful example for us all.

I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking Norm Neiss for the tireless efforts he so graciously has given over the past 50 years and to recognize the tremendous contributions he has made to the Mantua community and the nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 240, Holt of N.J. Amendment to H.R. 5326, I inadvertently missed the vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SANDY ADAMS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Bryan A. Rivera-Bruno for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

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

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

HONORING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. STEVEN MEYER

**HON. BRAD MILLER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Steven Meyer on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Mr. Meyer is being honored by his family for the exceptional life he has led and for his many accomplishments in both the professional and personal realms.

Born in Moers, Germany in 1922, Mr. Meyer fled the Nazi Occupation with his family in 1939 and settled in New York, New York. Drafted by the Army in 1943, Mr. Meyer served with the Army Corps of Engineers in the European Theater of Operations. During his military career he worked as a planner for the D-Day invasion of Normandy, and while in the service Mr. Meyer gained his American citizenship. Following the war, Mr. Meyer had a 30-year career as a contract manager with Koppers Company in Pittsburgh, PA. While in Pittsburgh, he earned his degree in Mechanical Engineering from Carnegie Tech, now Carnegie Mellon. He raised two sons, Robert and Andrew, with his late wife Mrs. Irma Meyer, and has four grandchildren.

Mr. Meyer is an upstanding member of his community and a model citizen. During their years in Pittsburgh, Mr. Meyer and his wife participated in the Council for International Visitors, a program that helped recent arrivals to the United States acclimate to the local community, often hosting dinners at their home for visiting professors and businesspeople from around the world. Mr. Meyer was also active in SHARE, the South Hills Association for Racial Equality, and participated in many community Holocaust commemorations. Following Mrs. Meyer's passing in 2006, Mr. Meyer, together with his sons, endowed the Irma Meyer Memorial Lecture Series at the West Penn Hospital in order to better educate health care providers about end-of-life issues.

Steven Meyer currently resides at the Raleigh, N.C. Heritage Raleigh Brookdale Senior Living community in my congressional district, where he has assumed an active leadership role. He has thrice been elected president of the resident's council, and serves on various committees. In his retirement, Mr. Meyer has discovered a latent talent for painting and rediscovered his love for playing the piano. His paintings have been exhibited at Raleigh City Hall, and he often given piano recitals for fellow residents at the Heritage.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I ask you to join me in wishing Steven Meyer a happy birthday and best wishes for continued health and happiness.

**JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE  
MONTH**

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May as Jewish American Heritage Month. Jewish community has been a vibrant presence in America for over 350 years and contributed greatly to American history and culture. The Jewish community has tirelessly worked to promote issues that affect all Americans, not just members of their own community. With a strong commitment to philanthropy, education, and human and civil rights, Jewish Americans have helped shape the United States into the beacon of hope and equality that it is today.

Approximately five million of the world's thirteen million Jews live in the United States, constituting roughly two percent of the national population. Despite these relatively small numbers, the Jewish community has made a substantial impact on protecting America's promise of equality. Generations of Jewish Americans have pioneered workers' and civil rights, fought honorably in our armed forces, and served as a strong model for women's equality.

As we enter into the month of May, we should also recognize the 64th anniversary of Israel's founding in May of 1948. The United States has always maintained a strong relationship with Israel and has respected Israel's commitment to democracy and its resilience in the face of constant adversity. The Jewish community has played an important role in fostering this relationship.

Mr. Speaker, as a representative of one of the most diverse districts in the Nation, I firmly

believe that an appreciation of other cultures and religions is what makes our country great. I am proud to celebrate Jewish American Heritage Month and the wonderful contributions the Jewish community has made throughout our Nation's history.

**HONORING COLONEL PETER B.  
TRAINER AFTER 30 YEARS OF  
SERVICE WITH THE UNITED  
STATES AIR FORCE**

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Colonel Peter B. Trainer on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force.

Colonel Trainer's professional achievements are numerous and I know he would be the first to acknowledge that none of them would have been possible without the support of his wife and family. Colonel Trainer's parents set the example of service as his father, Lt. Colonel Thomas R. Trainer, retired after a distinguished career in the Air Force.

He began his distinguished career in 1982 when he received his commission through ROTC at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. From there, he proceeded on to numerous important assignments. After completing the Space Operations Officer Course at Lowry AFB, Colorado, he was assigned as a Satellite System Controller and later Assistant Chief, Satellite Mission Planning Branch, Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP), Offutt AFB, Nebraska. In 1986, he was assigned as the Chief of Satellite Operations, Space Systems Division Los Angeles AFB, California where Colonel Trainer was responsible for all command and control activities of the launch and early orbit checkout for two DMSP satellites. Colonel Trainer was then selected for special duty as an Air Force Recruiter and served as the Chief of Operations for the 3514th Recruiting Squadron, McGuire AFB, New Jersey, where he was responsible for Air Force accessions in an area that included New York City, New Jersey and Europe. In 1993, Colonel Trainer was assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Space Command where he qualified as a Space Surveillance Center Commander in the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center. He was subsequently selected to become Chief of the Space Surveillance Section where he was a key player in the command's Space Control Mission.

In 1995, Colonel Trainer transitioned to his present status as a USAF Reserve Officer where he was chosen by U.S. Space Command Director for Operations to be the first Space Command Intern to the National Signals Intelligence Committee. Col. Trainer helped to shepherd in a new era of cooperation between Space Command and the National Reconnaissance Office. His successes continued as he later served as Chief, Space Exploitation and Integration Branch at U.S. Strategic Command, where he played an integral role in bringing tactical space capabilities, including "Blue Force Tracking" to our combatant forces. Following the attacks of September 11, 2001, Colonel Trainer served as

one of the watch commanders that stood up the nation's Blue Force Tracking Missions Management Center during Operation Enduring Freedom. This experience and background led to his selection as Individual Mobilization Augmentee to the Chief, Space and Missile Programs, Air Force Legislative Liaison, advocating for space and missile programs to Congress. Col. Trainer worked extensively with our colleagues on the House Armed Services Committee Strategic Forces Sub-Committee, developing great rapport with former members, Rep. Terry Everett and Rep. Ellen Tauscher. His dedication and success in supporting numerous projects, including the unveiling of the Operational Responsive Space Concept to Congress, led to his selection as the Legislative Liaison Reservist of the Year in 2006.

Perhaps the most challenging assignment was his final one as Individual Mobilization Augmentee to the Director, National Reconnaissance Office, where he serves as the senior reserve officer supporting the NRO and all associated Space activities. In this position, he leads 60 total force professionals and aids the Director in the NRO's interaction with significant mission partners including the Director for National Intelligence, National Security Agency, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, Air Force Space Command, Strategic Command and other Combatant Commanders. In 2010, the Air Force Reserve recognized Col. Trainer's performance by selecting him to its Reserve Brigadier General Qualification List.

Colonel Trainer has excelled throughout his distinguished career and I am honored to pay tribute to this Airman. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Colonel Pete Trainer, his wife, Melanie, and their son, Nick, for their service to our country. I wish them Godspeed, and continued happiness as they start a new chapter in their lives.

**SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP'S LOBBYING  
FOR CHINESE TELECOM FIRM  
HUAWEI**

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit my recent correspondence with Mr. Carter G. Phillips, managing partner for Sidley Austin LLP, regarding the firm's representation of Chinese telecom firm Huawei. As noted in the letters, the U.S. national security community has serious concerns with Huawei's connections to the People's Liberation Army and Chinese intelligence.

Equally troubling is Huawei's well-documented history of supporting America's greatest adversaries—some of the most repressive and brutal regimes in modern history—including the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, Saddam Hussein regime in Iraq and the current regime in Iran.

Today, through Huawei, China exports its repressive technologies to likeminded governments. An October 27, 2011, Wall Street Journal piece reported that the Chinese telecom giant Huawei "now dominates Iran's government-controlled mobile-phone industry . . . it plays a role in enabling Iran's state security network."

Respected national security reporter Bill Gertz also recently reported that Huawei has also been “linked to sanctions-busting in Saddam Hussein’s Iraq during the 1990s, when the company helped network Iraqi air defenses at a time when U.S. and allied jets were flying patrols to enforce a no-fly zone. The company also worked with the Taliban during its short reign in Afghanistan to install a phone system in Kabul.”

For these reasons, I also wrote to Ms. Samantha Power, the director for multilateral affairs on the National Security Council at the White House. I also submit this letter for the RECORD. Given Huawei’s troubling activities in Iran, I urged Ms. Power, in her capacity as chair of the newly-created Atrocities Prevention Board, to consider whether the company should be sanctioned.

It is inconceivable to me that a respected law firm like Sidley Austin would represent a Chinese state-directed company like Huawei, given the significant national security concerns as well as its appalling record of supporting some of the world’s worst regimes.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, April 25, 2012.

Mr. CARTER G. PHILLIPS,  
Managing Partner, Sidley Austin LLP, Washington DC.

DEAR MR. PHILLIPS: It has recently come to my attention that a lobbyist with your firm has been retained by the Chinese telecom firm Huawei to lobby Congress and the administration.

Given the longstanding and serious concerns from senior officials in the U.S. intelligence and defense communities, as well as the Congress, about Huawei’s connections to the Peoples’ Liberation Army and the potential vulnerabilities of its telecom products, I was surprised that a firm of your caliber would agree to represent a company that is so closely connected to the Chinese government.

In all my years in Washington, very rarely have I seen the leadership of defense, intelligence and civilian agencies come together in such a concerted effort to warn of a security threat from a foreign entity. When the White House, intelligence community, Defense Department and the Commerce Department all have worked to block Huawei from gaining greater access to U.S. networks, everyone should take notice.

Just last month, during a hearing before the House Commerce-Justice-Science (CJS) Appropriations subcommittee, which I chair, Secretary of Commerce John Bryson noted that the “Commerce Department has been very focused on Huawei.”

Secretary Bryson told the panel “I think you’re right in characterizing that as a considerable challenge to our country. It appears that Huawei has capabilities that we may not fully detect to divert information. It’s a challenge to our country . . . we have taken some steps to not have Huawei advance yet further in our country but the reality is in the market—they are advancing further so we need to address that further.”

Also noteworthy is that shortly after Secretary Bryson’s testimony before the CJS subcommittee, Australia announced that it has banned Huawei from bidding to help build a nationwide high-speed Internet network due to concern about cyber attacks traced to China. Australia’s actions follow several similar moves by the U.S. government to block Huawei access to American networks.

In 2009, The Washington Post reported that the National Security Agency “called AT&T because of fears that China’s intelligence

agencies could insert digital trapdoors into Huawei’s technology that would serve as secret listening posts in the U.S. communications network. In 2010, then-Commerce Secretary Locke called Sprint CEO Dan Hesse to raise concerns about Huawei, which ultimately resulted in Sprint choosing not to use Huawei equipment.

These moves should not be surprising given Huawei’s long-documented deep ties to the Chinese government and the Peoples Liberation Army. According to a 2005 report by the RAND Corporation, “both the [Chinese] government and the military tout Huawei as a national champion,” and “one does not need to dig too deeply to discover that [many Chinese information technology and telecommunications firms] are the public face for, sprang from, or are significantly engaged in joint research with state research institutes under the Ministry of Information Industry, defense-industrial corporations, or the military.”

The U.S. business community also is concerned about Huawei. On April 6, The Wall Street Journal reported that “Cisco Systems Inc. Chief Executive John Chambers identified Huawei Technologies Co. as its toughest rival, stating that the Chinese company doesn’t always ‘play by the rules’ in areas such as intellectual property protection and computer security . . . he suggested that, [unlike Huawei], Cisco is considered trustworthy by governments around the world.”

It’s not just Huawei’s longstanding and close connections to Chinese intelligence that is troubling. Huawei has also been a leading supplier of critical telecom services to some of the worst regimes around the world. Last year, The Wall Street Journal reported that Huawei “now dominates Iran’s government-controlled mobile-phone industry . . . it plays a role in enabling Iran’s state security network.” And given the president’s April 23 executive order addressing entities that are providing Iran and Syria with technologies to repress their people, I would think representing Huawei would give you further pause.

For these reasons, I urge you to reconsider your firm’s relationship with Huawei. I think you would agree that Sidley Austin’s reputation and integrity is worth far more than its contract with a state-directed company like Huawei.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,  
Member of Congress.

SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP,  
Washington, DC, April 27, 2012.

Re Huawei

Hon. FRANK R. WOLF,  
Chairman, Commerce-Justice-Science Subcommittee, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WOLF: Thank you for your letter of April 25, 2012. We understand your concerns and appreciate your bringing them to the firm’s attention.

Sincerely,

CARTER G. PHILLIPS,  
Managing Partner.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, April 30, 2012.

Mr. CARTER G. PHILLIPS,  
Managing Partner, Sidley Austin LLP, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PHILLIPS: Last week, I wrote you sharing concerns about your firm’s representation of Chinese telecom firm Huawei. This company is of great concern to the U.S. national security community due to its well-documented ties to the People’s Liberation Army and continued questions about the integrity of its products.

Although Huawei generally dismisses all legitimate criticisms of its ties to the Chinese government as “tired disinformation,” I thought you should be aware that just last week the House Armed Services Committee singled out the threat from Huawei by name in its FY 2013 National Defense Authorization Act.

According to the committee report, the committee is concerned about the supply chain threat from Chinese telecom firms, “specifically Huawei and ZTE Corporation, have been, and are likely to continue to provide billions of dollars in Chinese Government support. The report also stated that these firms have been blocked from certain deals with U.S. firms because of national security concerns.” I have enclosed a copy of this section from the report for your reference. There should be no question that the national security community actively considers Huawei a serious concern.

Perhaps this is due, in part, to Huawei’s longstanding history of supporting America’s greatest adversaries—some of the most repressive and brutal regimes in modern history—including the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, Saddam Hussein regime in Iraq and the current regime in Iran.

Through Huawei, China exports its repressive technologies to likeminded governments. An October 27, 2011, Wall Street Journal piece reported that the Chinese telecom giant Huawei “now dominates Iran’s government-controlled mobile-phone industry . . . it plays a role in enabling Iran’s state security network.”

Respected national security reporter Bill Gertz also recently reported that Huawei has also been “linked to sanctions-busting in Saddam Hussein’s Iraq during the 1990s, when the company helped network Iraqi air defenses at a time when U.S. and allied jets were flying patrols to enforce a no-fly zone. The company also worked with the Taliban during its short reign in Afghanistan to install a phone system in Kabul.” I have also enclosed a copy of this article.

How can an American firm like Sidley Austin represent a company that has provided our enemies with equipment? How does Sidley Austin reconcile working for a company that is empowering the world’s worst governments to monitor and repress their own people? Certainly this must give you pause.

Huawei is believed to receive billions of dollars in subsidies and assistance from the Chinese government—the same government that is an equal opportunity oppressor of people of faith. Catholic bishops, Protestant house church leaders and Tibetan Buddhist monks and nuns are routinely harassed, imprisoned and placed under house arrest. China maintains an extensive system of slave labor camps as large as that which existed in the former Soviet Union.

The 2010 Nobel Prize recipient Liu Xiaobo still languishes in prison to this day. China’s abysmal human rights record has been thrust into the international spotlight with the courageous escape last week of Chen Guangcheng, the blind lawyer activist who, after serving several years in prison on trumped up charges, had been confined to a virtual prison in his home.

According to your Web site, Sidley Austin’s mission is “to adhere to the highest ethical standards.” Representing a firm with Huawei’s record certainly doesn’t live up to your stated mission.

Again, I urge you to reconsider your firm’s representation of Huawei. Rest assured, I will continue to inform my colleagues of Huawei’s unrepentant record of supporting some of the world’s most brutal regimes—and America’s greatest adversaries—and the U.S. national security community’s continued concern about their threat to our supply chain.

Best wishes.  
Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,  
*Member of Congress.*

OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

REVIEW OF THE SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY AND INTEGRITY OF THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS COMPLEX

The committee is concerned by the findings of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) in its report, "IT Supply Chain: National Security-Related Agencies Need to Better Address Risks" (GAO-12-361). The report stated that, "Although four national security-related departments—the Departments of Energy, Homeland Security, Justice, and Defense—have acknowledged these threats, two of the departments—Energy and Homeland Security—have not yet defined supply chain protection measures for department information systems and are not in a position to have implementing procedures or monitoring capabilities to verify compliance with and effectiveness of any such measures."

The committee is also aware that its "2011 Report to Congress," the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission detailed specific supply chain threats originating from firms linked to the Government of the People's Republic of China. These firms, specifically Huawei and ZTE Corporation, have been, and are likely to continue to provide billions of dollars in Chinese Government support. The report also stated that these firms have been blocked from certain deals with U.S. firms because of national security concerns.

The committee is concerned by these developments as well and the information technology (IT) chain problems reported by GAO. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the National Counter Intelligence Executive, to provide a report to the congressional defense committees by August 31, 2012, on the supply chain risks to the Department of Energy. The report should address the following: (1) IT supply chain vulnerabilities of the Department of Energy, with special attention paid to the laboratories and plants of the national nuclear weapons enterprise; (2) Evaluate whether the Department of Energy, or any its major contractors, have a supply chain that includes technology produced by Huawei or ZTE Corporation; and (3) A plan for implementation of the recommendations of the GAO report referenced above.

Finally, the committee is aware that section 806 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383) provided the Department of Defense the authority to protect its supply chain. The committee is also aware that section 309 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112-87) provided the intelligence community similar authority. The committee further directs the Secretary of Energy to include in the report an assessment of any concerns may have about providing similar authority in order to protect the Department of Energy's IT supply chain.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 8, 2012.

Ms. SAMANTHA POWER,  
*Director For Multilateral Affairs, National Security Council, Washington DC 20500*

DEAR MS. POWER, I write regarding the administration's recently released initiative on atrocities prevention. As you know, this is an issue about which I care deeply and I am encouraged to see these matters prioritized. Moving forward, it will be essential to ensure that these efforts don't simply result in additional monitoring, but rather are the impetus for action in the face of grave human rights abuses.

My reason for writing is two-fold. I noted with interest President Obama's recent executive order authorizing sanctions and visa bans against those who commit or facilitate grave human rights abuses by means of facilitating information technology capabilities in Syria and Iran. It is my understanding that the sanctions are intended to impact not just the regimes in question, but the companies that enable them by providing technology which is ultimately used to oppress and brutalize the citizens of these lands. This executive order is an important first step, but I respectfully urge the administration to broaden the scope to include countries such as China which has a long and well-established track record of using technology to repress and even imprison its citizens.

Further, I urge the administration to examine whether Huawei Technologies, a Chinese telecom firm with deep connections to the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and Chinese intelligence, should be among the companies sanctioned under this new executive order. As you may know, Huawei has been a leading supplier of critical telecom services to some of the worst regimes around the world, including Iran. On October 27, 2011, the Wall Street Journal reported that Huawei "now dominates Iran's government-controlled mobile-phone industry . . . it plays a role in enabling Iran's state security network." The article continued, "This year Huawei made a pitch to Iranian government officials to sell equipment for a mobile news service on Iran's second-large mobile-phone operator, MTN Irancell. According to a person who attended the meeting, Huawei representatives emphasized that, being from China, they had expertise censoring the news."

You may be aware that Huawei's actions in Iran appear to be consistent with its practice. Over many years, of doing business with rogue regimes. In a March 13, 2012 Washington Free Beacon piece, respected national security reporter, Bill Gertz, wrote, "Huawei has been linked to sanctions-busting in Saddam Hussein's Iraq during the 1990s, when the company helped network Iraqi air defenses at a time when U.S. and allied jets were flying patrols to enforce a no-fly zone. The company also worked with the Taliban during its short reign in Afghanistan to install a phone system in Kabul."

While there have been initial news reports suggesting that Huawei, in the face of public scrutiny and criticism, may be scaling back its operations in Iran, the Wall Street Journal also reported on December 10, 2011, that "Huawei, which has about 1,000 employees in Iran, said it plans to continue servicing its existing Iranian contracts."

In light of these realities, I respectfully request that the newly created Atrocities Prevention Board to take up these matters at the earliest possible time. I look forward to your prompt response.

Best wishes.  
Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,  
*Member of Congress.*

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK  
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 2072, the Export-Import Reauthorization Act of 2012.

Since it was established in 1934, the Ex-Im Bank has helped to support American exports by providing loan guarantees, working capital guarantees, export credit insurance, and direct loans to American companies and foreign businesses that purchase American products.

The Ex-Im Bank has supported more than \$450 billion of U.S. exports since its inception. Over the last 5 years the Ex-Im bank has supported 11,000 transactions and \$65.5 billion, supporting American jobs and American businesses in more than 2,000 communities nationwide.

Since 2007, in my home state of Georgia, the Ex-Im Bank has supported the trading activities of 129 companies, 60 percent of which were small businesses—supporting over \$2 billion dollars in total export sales.

In my district over the same time period, the Ex-Im Bank has assisted 16 companies—including nine small businesses and four minority-owned businesses—supporting more than \$270 million dollars in total export sales.

John Chihade, Vice President of Chihade International, a small business in my district, told my office, quote,

"Without the Ex-Im Bank I would not have been able to get the line of credit that I currently have. With the SBA my line of credit was \$5 million, but with the support of the Ex-Im Bank I am now up to \$7½ million. This has allowed me to really grow my business. I've gone from 3 employees to 42 employees in 4 years."

Because of the Ex-Im Bank's support for Mr. Chihade's company, not only was he able to sustain his business during the worst economic recession in America's history, but he was able to grow his business and create jobs.

In Fiscal Year 2011, the Ex-Im Bank provided \$6 billion in financing and insurance to American small businesses and has set a goal of providing \$9 billion annually, adding 5,000 new businesses to its portfolio by 2015.

These 5,000 new businesses will be better able to sell goods in the global market place and expand their enterprises, creating jobs and opportunity while strengthening and expanding America's global commercial reach.

It's no wonder that the Ex-Im Bank plays such a key role in the President's National Export Initiative, a plan to double U.S. exports in five years to support 2 million jobs in the United States.

Our work to reauthorize the Ex-Im Bank is a rare example of effective government in this House, and I have to commend my colleagues, the Majority Leader and the Minority Whip, for working so hard to make sure this key priority of the Obama Administration is passed. My colleagues have not only recognized the need to reauthorize the Ex-Im Bank, but also the need for improvements to ensure the long term success of the Bank.

The provision that directs the Secretary of the Treasury to look at the impact of the Bank's activities on private competition will provide the Ex-Im Bank and Congress with the information that is needed to ensure that the Bank's lending practices do not unintentionally benefit one U.S. industry at the expense of another.

Also—and I think that most of my Republican colleagues will agree—the provision that raises the Ex-Im Bank's lending cap by \$40 billion is critically important to ensuring that the U.S. can continue to support American exporters by matching the unfair export financing

activities of foreign nations such as China, and other non-OECD member countries.

Re-authorizing the Ex-Im Bank is a win-win-win.

It is a win for American workers, American businesses, and for the American taxpayers.

Not one single tax payer dollar will be needed to re-authorize the Ex-Im Bank.

In fact, since 2005, the Ex-Im Bank has generated more than \$3.4 billion in profits that it has returned to the Treasury, including \$700 million in Fiscal Year 2011.

With a less than 2 percent borrower default rate since its inception, the Ex-Im Bank is, and has been, a revenue generator for the American taxpayer.

The Ex-Im Bank is a prime example of government efficiency, and I for one am glad that we could come to a bipartisan compromise here in the House to re-authorize its charter, and I strongly urge my Senate colleagues to do the same.

Again Mr. Speaker, I support the re-authorization of the Export-Import Bank and urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

CONGRATULATING TONY JIMENEZ  
FOR BEING NAMED SMALL BUSINESS  
PERSON OF THE YEAR

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tony Jimenez, President & CEO of MicroTech, for being named the Small Business Person of the Year by the Small Business Council of America, or SBCA. MicroTech is an innovative technology company located in Vienna, Virginia started by Mr. Jimenez in 2004. It provides a host of technology services—including cyber security, systems integration, and cloud computing—to the commercial and public sectors, serving more than half-a-million daily technology users.

The SBCA is a nationwide nonprofit representing more than 20,000 businesses in the retail, service and manufacturing sectors. According to the SBCA, the criteria for the Small Business Person of the Year award includes, "dedication to small business in America as evidenced through promotion of a climate favorable to free enterprise, promotion of a positive image of American business through excellent business, civic or corporate leadership, [and] leadership in advancing the interest of small business in America."

During its short history MicroTech has won a number of awards from a host of organizations. Just a few of the many recognitions include: the Red Herring Global 100, which recognizes the most innovative tech companies in the world; the AFFIRM Award which recognizes the top 100 most influential Hispanics in IT; the U.S. Chamber of Commerce "Blue Ribbon Small Business;" and the CRN Number 1 Fastest Growing Solutions Provider.

In addition to being an award-winning business professional, Mr. Jimenez is dedicated to giving back to the community and he was named a Top CEO Philanthropist; received recognition from the Washington Business Journal for top-privately-held corporate philanthropist; and received the USHAA Bravo

Award for good business practices and philanthropy.

As my colleagues and I well know, small businesses are the economic engine of America, and MicroTech is a shining example. In its 8 years of existence Mr. Jimenez has created more than 400 jobs in 28 states. MicroTech is a shining success story and clearly demonstrates how a dedicated entrepreneur such as Mr. Jimenez can turn an idea into a successful business employing hundreds of Americans while serving as a tremendous corporate citizen in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the value that America's small business leaders bring to our economy, and join me in congratulating Tony Jimenez for being named the SBCA Small Business Person of the Year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MARTIN HEINRICH**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed four votes the afternoon of May 10, 2012, which included rollcall votes 246, 247, 248 and 249.

If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote 246, the Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 5652.

If I had been present, I would have voted against rollcall vote 247, Representative RYAN's (WI-1) bill, H.R. 5652.

If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote 248, the Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 5326.

Lastly, I would have voted against rollcall vote 249, Representative WOLF's (VA-10) bill, H.R. 5326.

CELEBRATING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE'S 150TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for its 150th year of service. President Abraham Lincoln established USDA 150 years ago today in 1862.

American agriculture has been the second most productive sector of our nation's economy in the past decade. United States farm income is forecast at \$91.7 billion in 2012, the second highest on record. Agriculture now accounts for 1 in 12 jobs in the United States.

United States agricultural exports have been particularly strong. Exports reached record levels in fiscal year 2011 of \$137.4 billion. This level supported 1.15 million jobs here at home and contributed to a trade surplus of \$42.7 billion in agriculture. Agriculture is one of the few sectors that the United States has consistently had a trade surplus.

American farmers and ranchers provide us with 86 percent of the food we consume. This efficiency results in American consumers spending less than 10 percent of their dispos-

able incomes on food. By comparison, most European consumers spend more than double that, and in developing countries, the percentage is often as high as 50 percent.

USDA has played a vital role in the success of American agriculture. There is no doubt that without assistance from USDA American agriculture would not be as strong as it is today.

With the support of Congress, USDA provides a strong safety net for America's farmers and ranchers to ensure the United States continues to be the world's leader in agricultural production. USDA's crop insurance insures 264 million acres on about 500,000 farms. Crop insurance has helped more than 325,000 farmers who lost crops due to natural disasters over the past three years.

I want to highlight USDA's recent efforts in strengthening local and regional food systems. For many years, I have advocated and worked to provide federal assistance in supporting local food systems. Local food sales were valued at \$4.8 billion in 2008 and are expected to grow in the coming years. We need to harvest this economic power to help create American jobs and strengthen our local economies.

The Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food (KYF) initiative represents a good first step in using USDA's programs to improve local food systems. KYF provides a one-stop shop for information on more than 25 USDA programs that could assist in developing and improving local food systems, encourages much needed collaboration across agencies to reduce bureaucratic barriers in supporting and expanding marketing opportunities in local food markets, and works to connect farmers directly to consumers, which helps increase the availability of healthy nutritious foods.

KYF efforts have been hugely successful related to farmers' markets. We have seen a 54 percent increase in the number of farmers' markets since 2008. Over 2,400 farmers' markets and farm stands are now authorized to accept EBT, an increase of 51 percent over last year.

Mr. Speaker, while there are many challenges still facing American agriculture, there is no doubt in my mind that USDA is up to the task. From my perspective, the future success of USDA and American agriculture will depend on our support for local food systems and other emerging markets such as the specialty crop market.

I congratulate USDA for its 150th Anniversary and thank all the department's employees for their service.

HONORING JOHN F. MURPHY  
HOMES

**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John F. Murphy Homes of Auburn, Maine on the occasion of its 35th anniversary.

John G. Murphy was one of Maine's foremost advocates on behalf of the developmentally disabled. In 1954, Mr. Murphy used his standing on the Lewiston Board of Finance to open the Garcelon School as an educational facility for mentally retarded children. After his passing in February of 1976, members of the Lewiston Auburn Association for

the Mentally Retarded formed a foundation in Mr. Murphy's honor to continue his work.

On May 18, 1977, the John F. Murphy Foundation for the Mentally Retarded was officially established with the mission to provide housing for individuals with developmental disabilities. In March of 1978, they opened their first home at 23 Pleasant St. in Lewiston for 6 people. Today, the agency provides direct support to hundreds of Mainers and their families, employs more than 700 people in the greater Lewiston-Auburn area, and generates millions of dollars in local economic activity.

John F. Murphy Homes has helped to raise awareness about intellectual disabilities and the need for group care facilities. The organization's remarkable success is owed to the outstanding vision of its founders and the tireless work of its employees. In January, John F. Murphy Homes received a \$1.7 million grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to continue their important work.

John F. Murphy's example has truly made the Lewiston-Auburn community a better place for the mentally retarded.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the John F. Murphy Homes on achieving 35 years of exemplary service to the Lewiston-Auburn community.

RECOGNIZING THE USDA FOR 150  
YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and its dedicated employees for 150 years of service to America. By working with farmers across America, the USDA has built the most productive, efficient agricultural economy on earth. It has rescued whole regions from the Dust Bowl, diversified production in the South to end regional dependence on cotton, led efforts to restore estuaries like the Chesapeake Bay through conservation programs, financed rural development, and rebuilt agriculture in war-torn countries in partnership with the Armed Services.

America's food security today stands in stark contrast to other industrialized countries which are heavily dependent on food imports. Only because of the USDA's work do we enjoy this security, which includes affordable food for working Americans. Today the USDA is working to ensure that food security includes healthy foods which address America's most challenging chronic health problems. Under Secretary Vilsack, the USDA is leading efforts to redevelop local food production. The benefits of this initiative are evident in my home state of Virginia, where growing wine, cheese, fruit, and vegetable production is bringing land back into production which had been fallow for decades. The USDA is much more than agriculture; it pursues a comprehensive program of rural development, and its recent efforts to strengthen local food supplies are emblematic of this comprehensive approach.

The USDA is playing a central role in conserving America's natural resources, as it has since its inception. Photographs from the

Works Progress Administration should serve as a reminder of the resources that would have been lost but for USDA leadership. Before we had comprehensive agricultural conservation programs, cubic miles of prime soils were being lost throughout the South and Midwest to erosion from wind and rain. The USDA pioneered soil conservation methods which ensured that these regions would remain productive for generations to come. Building on that early success, USDA conservation programs are responsible for reducing agricultural pollution entering the Chesapeake Bay and other estuaries, ensuring that Americans can enjoy productive fisheries as well as productive agricultural lands.

In an era where government is disparaged all too frequently, the USDA is a shining example of the benefits of federal service. We never could have become the most powerful, prosperous nation on earth without the agency which worked with farmers to feed our armies and our workforce, and to conserve those natural resources that we will rely on for the next 150 years.

REMEMBERING CONSTANTINE G.  
VALANOS

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I doubt there is a single member of this House or the Senate who has never set foot inside the Monocle on D Street. Just steps from the Capitol, the Monocle has been a political institution as much as it has been a warm and welcoming restaurant. Its tables have long been set with a spirit of friendship that transcends party; they have been host to meetings and discussions on nearly every issue of national importance. The Monocle has been a place of agreement, often at times when disagreement divided us in this House.

It was Constantine Valanos who brought that warm and inviting place to Capitol Hill and to all who serve here. Many of us knew Connie well. Connie made a point of knowing and remembering all of us who set foot in his restaurant, even if just once in a while. Sadly, Connie passed away last month at age 93.

Constantine George Valanos was born into a family of Greek immigrants in Albany, New York, as the First World War was drawing to a close. He grew up here in Washington, D.C., and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Following his discharge, Connie attended the George Washington University and pursued a career in accounting. In 1960, seeing an opportunity to buy and fix up an old restaurant on Capitol Hill, Connie and his wife, Helen—who passed away in 2005 after a fifty-three year marriage—opened the Monocle.

Among their first regular customers were then-Senators John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon. Over the next fifty years the Monocle would see a steady stream of Senators, Representatives, future Presidents and Vice Presidents, Supreme Court justices, foreign diplomats, and ordinary Americans visiting with their elected officials.

After three decades at the helm, Connie and Helen passed the management of the business to their son, John, and daughter-in-law,

Vasiliki, who continue to run the Monocle today and provide the same friendly and welcoming environment to all who step through the door.

The ancient Greek statesman Pericles said: "What you leave behind is not what is engraved in monuments of stone but what is woven into the lives of others." Connie Valanos leaves behind a legacy not only of a restaurant but also of the countless ways in which he made that restaurant a place where leaders come together to hash out the agreements that help make our Nation great and improve lives around the world. The Monocle, as former Vice President and regular patron Walter Mondale once noted, is "where laws are debated, where policies are set, and where the course of world history is changed." That is Connie's lasting legacy.

I join in celebrating Connie's life and in offering my condolences to his wife Judith, his children, John and George, his three grandchildren, and the entire Valanos family.

RECOGNIZING JESSIE "DINK"  
HOSMAN

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 91st birthday of Jessie C. "Dink" Hosman who was born June 3, 1921, and grew up in the Willard, Missouri area.

During World War II, Technician Fifth Grade Hosman was in Company B, 1st Battalion, White Combat Team, which fought all over Burma with "Merrill's Marauders". T/5 Hosman fought through some of the harshest conditions of the war where the enemy was often less of a concern than malaria, deadly Mite Typhus, Amoebic Dysentery, and malnutrition. T/5 Hosman spent two years in the jungle and also served in Panama and India. Being a member of "Merrill's Marauders" earned T/5 Hosman the distinction of United States Army Ranger.

T/5 Hosman helped secure the strategic Burma Road while it was being built in treacherous conditions. Extraordinarily, while "Merrill's Marauders" had such a high casualty rate, they never left a fellow soldier's body behind. T/5 Hosman received the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Presidential Unit Citation, and the Bronze Star Medal for exemplary service.

After the war, Jessie returned stateside and spent some time in San Francisco where he was given everything and anything he wanted to eat to make up for two years of malnutrition. Eventually Jessie returned home to the Willard area where he raised his family and purchased a farm where he ran a milk and beef cattle operation for 50 years.

These days, Jessie is enjoying life and taking it easy living with his daughter, Terri Hughes, and her husband, Jimmy Hughes, in Walnut Grove, Missouri. He still enjoys his hobbies of fishing, hunting, boating and his RV. Jessie has also attended several "Merrill's Marauders" reunions.

As the years create more and more distance from the events and heroes that defined World War II, I personally wanted to take this



opportunity to recognize one of my constituents who is a Real American Hero. Without the sacrifices of America's Greatest Generation, we would not be enjoying the freedoms and rights they fought to preserve. May God bless Jessie C. Hosman. I wish him a very happy birthday and many more.

RECOGNIZING GMU PRESIDENT  
ALAN MERTEN ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Alan G. Merten and to congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement following a distinguished, 16-year tenure as president of George Mason University.

Dr. Merten was Mason's fifth president, and under his leadership the University developed the culture, academics and reputation of a unique and world-class institution of higher learning. There are many examples of his growth and enhanced prestige, but I would like to cite a few statistics that speak to the caliber of excellence Dr. Merten has helped build at Mason. U.S. News and World Report ranks George Mason 138th among the best universities in the nation. Incoming freshman now average a 3.6 GPA, up from 3.0 in 1996. Mason's student body has grown to more than 32,000. While GMU was founded as a branch of the University of Virginia, it became an independent institution in 1972 and now is the largest university in the Commonwealth. Dr. Merten's success cultivating new funding opportunities and promoting the fields of information technology and biological sciences have sparked an increase in annual research funding from \$28 million in 1996 to more than \$100 million today.

When he steps down next month, Dr. Merten will conclude a career in higher education that has spanned more than four decades of service at numerous institutions. Dr. Merten holds an undergraduate degree in mathematics from the University of Wisconsin, a master's degree in computer science from Stanford University, and a PhD in computer science from the University of Wisconsin. He began his career in 1970 as an associate professor of industrial and operations engineering at the University of Michigan. He later served as an associate dean in the Michigan Business School where he was responsible for executive education and computing services. After serving for three years as the dean of the College of Business at the University of Florida, Dr. Merten accepted the deanship of the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell University in 1989. In 1996, he accepted the position of President at GMU.

Dr. Merten is a well respected figure in the Northern Virginia community who has used his considerable and diverse talents to raise the profile of the University and our community. Throughout his tenure, Dr. Merten has expanded GMU's partnership with the regional business community, serving on the Board of

Directors of the Greater Washington Board of Trade and the Northern Virginia Technology Council, and he was a member of the Virginia Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Higher Education. His tireless efforts advocating on behalf of the university in local, state, and federal government have earned him a reputation as a champion of higher education. After his retirement, Dr. Merten will continue to serve George Mason and our community in other capacities, as well as spend more time with his wife Sally, daughter Melissa, son Eric and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Dr. Alan G. Merten for his tremendous contributions to George Mason University and the higher education community. I consider Dr. Merten a dear friend and wish him, his wife and family the best as he moves into retirement. Thanks to his leadership, the University and Northern Virginia are well positioned for future growth and success.

THE PASSING OF MURIEL WATSON

**HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of San Diego's great citizens Muriel Watson. Muriel passed on May 1, 2012 after a lengthy battle with cancer.

I had the pleasure of knowing Muriel when I was Mayor of Imperial Beach. I would also talk with her when I would ride my horses along the border. She was tenacious, dedicated and motivated to all of her causes and her attitude and intellect allowed her to accomplish anything she set her mind to.

Muriel was born in Newton Massachusetts on October 23, 1930 as the only child of William and Cynthia Bianchi. She grew up as a teenager in San Diego, attended San Diego High School, and later earned her teaching degree at San Diego State College. She was a patron of the arts and would dance and act at the Old Globe theatre in San Diego from time to time.

After meeting her husband George Watson in 1953, a Border Patrol agent, Muriel began her work with the U.S. Border Patrol. She became involved with the Border Patrol Union as a Public Information Officer and testified before Congress regarding issues and concerns of the Border Patrol.

In addition to her involvement with the Border Patrol, Muriel created an initiative called "Light Up the Border" in 1989. The goal of the group was to shine car lights on the border in order to cut down on border violence. The group met monthly starting on November 4, 1989. At the first meeting, 23 cars were present and over the seven months of the program the group grew to 2000 cars in June of 1990.

Over the course of the program, Muriel was able to enlist the help of Congressman Duncan Hunter to begin construction on what today represents three layers of border fence, more agents, and lights on the border.

Muriel will be missed by those of us who knew her. Her memory will live on in the lives

of her children and grandchildren, in the hearts and minds of the Border Patrol agents, and through the people of the causes she served.

TRIBUTE TO DEACON LAMOUNE  
CARLOS GLOVER

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life and legacy of my friend and brother beloved, Deacon Lamoune Carlos Glover who made his heavenly transition on Tuesday, May 8, 2012. Deacon Glover was born April 23, 1968, in Chicago, Illinois to the late Robert and Lorraine Glover. A product of the Chicago Public Schools system, Lamoune attended Mollison Elementary School and Jean Baptiste Pointe DuSable High School, and later went on to attain an Associate Degree in Applied Science.

Lamoune's love for Christ started at an early age. At 6, his "play mother" May Turner took him to church. Lamoune was baptized at the age of twelve at the Gospel Temple Church, under the leadership of Pastor Warren L. Turner. There, he served as a member of the usher board and in the youth ministry.

Later in his journey, Lamoune began attending the Beloved Community Christian Church where I am privileged to serve as pastor and teacher. In 2002, Lamoune experiencing the transformative power of Jesus Christ and being led by the Holy Spirit re-dedicated his life to Christ. At Beloved, he served as a trustee, church steward and member of the Men's ministry.

In July 2003, Lamoune met his "better half" Joyce Lemon. After a loving three-year courtship, Lamoune and Joyce married on August 19, 2006. To this union, one beautiful, daughter was born, Ahrmani Glover.

In 2011, after nine years of devoted Christian service, I installed Bro. Lemoune as Deacon of the Beloved Community Christian Church. It was one of his proudest moments, for no matter what life threw Lamoune's way, he always somehow knew that with God, he would be "okay".

Mr. Speaker, in the Exodus story, as Israel did battle with the Amalekites, Moses stood on a hill with the staff of God in his hands, whenever Moses raised his hands Israel prevailed. When Moses hands grew tired so that he was forced to lower them, Israel suffered in battle, but Aaron and Hur, Moses' armor bearers, held Moses' hands up and Joshua and Israel defeated Amalek. Lemoune was such an armor bearer.

Deacon Lamoune Carlos Glover's life has been seen through the lenses of personal sacrifice, love, reconciliation, and perseverance. My sincerest thoughts and prayers are extended to his loving wife, Joyce, his children Otisha Pitts, Jakwon Webb and Ahrmani, grandchild Javion Goss, brothers, Robert Glover and Marvin Harvey, sister Bernadette Glover, his Beloved Community Christian Church family, and host of other family and friends. I am privileged to enter these words in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO DR. F. SHERWOOD  
ROWLAND

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Dr. F. Sherwood Rowland, who was born on June 28, 1927, in Delaware, Ohio, and who passed away on March 10, 2012, at his home in Corona del Mar, California, at the age of 84.

Professor Rowland was a giant in the scientific community. Along with his colleague Dr. Mario Molina, he discovered the serious threat to the earth's ozone layer posed by man-made chemicals called chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs. These supposedly harmless chemicals were being released from aerosol sprays, refrigerators, and air conditioners. In their 1974 paper published in *Nature*, the two scientists showed that CFCs were depleting the planet's protective stratospheric ozone layer. They found that CFCs rose into the stratosphere, where they were broken apart by powerful ultraviolet rays and released chlorine atoms. The chlorine destroyed the ozone molecules protecting the planet's surface from harmful ultraviolet radiation.

Sherry Rowland recognized that the depletion of the ozone layer "was not just a scientific question, but a potentially grave environmental problem." Increased exposure to ultraviolet radiation meant more cases of skin cancer and eye damage, as well as harm to plant and marine life.

Sherry Rowland spoke out about this danger to the ozone layer and argued for a ban on CFCs. Over the years, he did hundreds of press interviews and testified before Congress and state legislatures time and time again.

Professor Rowland persevered despite efforts to discredit his work. Scientific societies withdrew their invitations for him to speak about his research. And industry attacked him personally. In 1977, the president of one aerosol manufacturing company claimed that criticism of CFCs was "orchestrated by the Ministry of Disinformation of the KGB."

But Professor Rowland was ultimately vindicated by both his fellow scientists and the international community. In 1983, a British Antarctic Survey team confirmed the existence of a hole in the ozone layer above Antarctica. Four years later, the Montreal Protocol was signed. This landmark treaty phased out the production and use of CFCs. The ozone layer is now expected to fully recover around the middle of the century.

In 1995, Dr. Rowland received the recognition he deserved when he shared the Nobel Prize for Chemistry with Dr. Molina and Dr. Paul Crutzen for their ozone layer work.

Sherry Rowland's life stands as a testament to the critical role of scientific discovery in the development of wise and effective government policy.

One need only ponder what the world would be like today without the work and voice of Sherry Rowland to appreciate the magnitude of his contributions. Please join me in celebrating the life of Dr. Sherry Rowland, a man who literally helped save the world.

EVERETT LILLY

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, the glorious hills of West Virginia fell more silent than usual this past week. A familiar voice was quieted by the passing of an American original. This last weekend, we celebrated the life and legacy of Mr. Everett Lilly, who passed on to his heavenly reward after 87 years on this Earth. Until just recently, Mr. Lilly's voice and mandolin playing were a familiar melodious staple for the ears and musical souls of southern West Virginians and countless ones beyond our borders.

Everett and his brother, Bea, who passed in 2005, introduced bluegrass music, Lilly-style, or as Mr. Lilly liked to call it, "American Mountain Country Folk Music," to our country's northeast in the 1950's with Don Stover and Tex Logan. They rose to international fame and toured Japan. Everett played two separate stints with the legendary bluegrass group formed by Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs. Most recently, even though he was well into his 80s, he toured with his own band, The Lilly Mountaineers, and taught classes at Mountain State University—passing on his knowledge and skill with mountain music and its accompanying lore.

The Lilly Brothers were inducted into the West Virginia Music Hall of Fame and the International Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame. Everett received the Vandalia Award, West Virginia's highest folk life honor, in 2009.

Tributes to Mr. Lilly and his considerable talents continue to be written, West Virginia's Mountain Stage's memorial to him reminds us that country singer, Marty Stuart, called Mr. Lilly, "God's mandolin player."

Let me just add that all the words used to describe Mr. Lilly's legacy like entertainment giant, pioneering artist, and musical legend and icon are true I knew Mr. Lilly and know his family. They are friends of mine and the best compliment I can pay him is that what you saw was what you got. I don't think he had a fake bone in his body, and he was more than ready to lend a helping hand whenever, wherever possible. Indeed, as our hometown newspaper, the Register Herald, summed it up succinctly, Everett was genuine.

Among the tens of thousands Mr. Lilly enlightened and entertained over the decades was everyone from presidents to just plain good people. Though he achieved international fame and the composition of his audiences would drastically change from venue to venue, he never did. Whether he was on the world stage or staged in front of a family barn here in southern West Virginia, Everett never strayed from his deep roots in Clear Creek, West Virginia.

The New York Times ran a warm story on Mr. Lilly's many accomplishments and concluded with perhaps what he considered his greatest, his family. Mr. Lilly's son, Jiles, preceded him in death, but he is survived by his wife of 64 years, JoAnn; three sons, Daniel, Mark and Everett Alan; four daughters, Karen Pierangelino, Diana Tomah, Ann Lilly and Laverne Wheeler; a sister, Flossie Williams; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

"He played music right up to the end," Daniel Lilly told the Times. "He was enjoying life and still riding his four-wheeler through the woods at the age of 87. He died at the kitchen table."

He and his band used to play an old song that seems a fitting epitaph for his long happy career and life. I leave you with the lyrics to, "Who will sing for me," confident that the praises for Everett Lilly will continue to be sung by all those whose lives he touched. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, we all could take a page or two from the songbook of this talented, this beloved son of West Virginia:

Often I sing for my friends  
At death's cold hand I see  
When I reach my journey's end  
Who will sing for me

Chorus

I wonder (I wonder) who  
Will sing (will sing) for me  
When I come the cross  
of that silent sea  
Who will sing for me

When crowds shall gather round  
And look down on me  
Will they turn and walk away  
Or will they sing one song for me

So I'll sing 'til the end  
Contented I will be  
Assured that some friends  
Will sing one song for me

#### SEQUESTER REPLACEMENT RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2012*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, once again, the Republican majority is proposing legislation that puts Americans directly on the Road to Austerity. Similar to the Ryan Budget, the Sequester Replacement Reconciliation Act is noteworthy for the harsh austerity it demands of the many and the lavish benefits it extends to the few.

Instead of closing tax loopholes or asking millionaires to contribute to deficit reduction, this bill focuses only on cutting spending while hurting millions of Americans.

This bill puts the burden of deficit reduction squarely on the backs of seniors, the middle class, and the most vulnerable among us:

It slashes food stamps by \$33.2 billion at a time when families can least afford it; permanently eliminates the Social Services Block Grant program which provides assistance for nearly 23 million Americans including 4.4 million children and 1.7 million older Americans who receive "Meals on Wheels"; cuts investments to women's health by eliminating the Prevention and Public Health Fund which promotes maternal and child health; and politicizes the funding process for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau which was created by the Dodd-Frank law to deal with banks that are "too big to fail."

Mr. Speaker, Democrats agree that we need deficit reduction, but demand that we do it in a balanced and fair way. The proposal before us shreds the social safety net that protects millions of hardworking families in an effort to protect defense cuts under sequestration and makes billions of dollars in cuts beyond what

was agreed to under the Budget Control Act for FY13.

This bill is another example of a partisan bill that has no chance of going anywhere but that sends a message to all Americans: You are on your own. From Medicare to child protective services, to respite care for disabled individuals, the Republican majority is cutting your services while handing a neatly wrapped gift to our Nation's millionaires.

I strongly urge a "no" vote.

HONORING MR. MA YING-JEOU ON  
TAIWAN'S PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION DAY

**HON. RICHARD L. HANNA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, as Taiwan prepares for its Presidential Inauguration Day on May 20, I'd like to congratulate President Ma and our friends in Taiwan for a smooth completion of their presidential election on January 14. Mr. Ma Ying-jeou won a second term as President of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

President George W. Bush once famously described Taiwan as "a beacon of democracy to Asia and the world." His words were recognition of Taiwan's achievements in democratic development. We trust Mr. Ma and his people will continue to deepen and improve Taiwan's democracy and instill an even stronger commitment to democratic values among Taiwan's people.

The United States and Taiwan have enjoyed a strong security and economic partnership for over half a century. Our common interest in peace and security has guided U.S.-Taiwan relations and our commitment to Taiwan's security, as stated in the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act, has enabled Taiwan to build a strong democratic government and today serves as a beacon for others in the region and beyond. Similarly, Taiwan's economic partnership with us has benefited both sides, resulting in Taiwan being our tenth largest trading partner, with total bilateral trade amounting to over \$68 billion.

During Mr. Ma's second term, I hope our relationship with Taiwan will continue to flourish, especially in areas like military cooperation, Taiwan's inclusion in the Visa Waiver Program, as well as our trade relationship.

Congratulations to Mr. Ma and the people of Taiwan.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today is the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Agriculture, which was established by President Lincoln on May 15, 1862.

I commend the hardworking individuals at the department who work with all elements of the food supply chain—including our farmers, growers, and ranchers, to support for packers

and shippers, marketers and processors, equipment suppliers, researchers, and retailers—to ensure that Americans have access to affordable, safe and abundant food.

The USDA also assists with important conservation efforts, and connects the most vulnerable in our society with critical food resources. As we mark this anniversary, I hope we all will take this opportunity to recognize the continued need that exists at our local food pantries. I meet with food banks and pantries on a regular basis, and demand is at an all-time high. Families who use to donate food regularly are now coming to receive food.

I appreciate the support of my colleagues for the inclusion of language in the FY12 agriculture spending bill that was signed into law to make it easier to donate excess food from the Federal school lunch program to local food banks by ensuring they are covered by the Good Samaritan Act.

The American agriculture community should be commended for their work to ensure that everyone has safe food on the table.

A TRIBUTE TO AGRICULTURE

**HON. AUSTIN SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, with the 150th anniversary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture upon us, I feel it important to pay tribute to the American farmers, ranchers, and producers who remain a cornerstone in the foundation of our country. Since the settlement of American colonies, agriculture has played a paramount role in the lives of American citizens.

Growing up in South Georgia, I witnessed the impact agriculture plays in our Nation's economy and national security. In Georgia, agriculture is directly related to one out of every seven jobs. It contributes billions of dollars to the State's economy and provides a safe and reliable source of food for American citizens. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has played and continues to play an important role in each of these aspects.

With the long-standing relationship between Georgia and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the State of Georgia has become synonymous with agriculture. Georgia leads the Nation in broilers and value of egg production with \$4 billion dollars and \$570 million dollars, respectfully. It produces the second highest amount of cotton in the United States, and it produces almost half of the peanuts grown in the U.S. with a farm gate value of over \$401 million dollars. Altogether, agriculture contributes about 12 percent annually to Georgia's \$787 billion dollar economic output.

With the success of our Nation's agriculture sector, it is vital that the U.S. government create an optimal environment where farmers and ranchers can continue to provide our country with a consistent and safe supply of agriculture products. We can achieve this through appropriate policies that provide support for our Nation's agricultural producers.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, during this time of honoring the 150th anniversary of the Department of Agriculture, it is with great esteem and pride that I honor our Nation's farmers, ranchers, and producers. I ask my fellow colleagues

to provide continued support for our country's agriculture industry. With continued support, we can carry on our America's role as a world leader in reliable material and safe foods.

RECOGNIZING MICHIGAN HELMET CHOICE LAW

**HON. TIM WALBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the recent passage and signing into law of a helmet choice law in my home State of Michigan.

Last month, Governor Rick Snyder signed into law Senate Bill 291, which modernizes Michigan's outdated mandatory helmet law and allows adult choice for motorcycle riders like myself. The new law allows riders to exercise their personal liberty in choosing whether to wear a helmet or not, while at the same time including smart safeguards to ensure riders are equipped with the proper skills and protections to safely travel on Michigan roads.

Michigan now joins the 30 other States with helmet choice laws, and this law will undoubtedly encourage cross-country riders to visit our beautiful State and support our strong tourism industry.

While riders are certainly free to choose whether they will ride with a helmet or not, driver awareness cannot be optional. Too many riders are injured or killed each year due to reckless driving and the only way to ensure the safety of motorcycle riders and car drivers is increased awareness on the roadways. Along with increased motorcycle rider education, it is my hope that the debate over this commonsense law will encourage all drivers to pay closer attention behind the wheel.

Again, I am grateful to Governor Snyder and the Michigan legislature on advancing personal liberty in Michigan through the passage of Senate Bill 291, and I look forward to taking my Harley out soon.

USDA—HAPPY 150TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Agriculture Committee, I am pleased to recognize the 150th birthday of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The good work of USDA and the important programs administered by USDA reach all of us every day, often more than most of us realize. In coordination with our farmers and ranchers, USDA ensures that we have a safe and abundant food supply. USDA protects the quality of our meat and poultry; feeds children and low income Americans through the nutrition programs; and supports rural Americans with an array of basic programs, including broadband, housing and economic development.

As Co-Chair of the House Hunger Caucus, along with my good friend Representative JO ANN EMERSON, I am committed to ending hunger in the United States and around the world. I want to praise USDA's robust domestic programs to help feed the most vulnerable among

us and improve nutrition. These safety net programs, including SNAP, the Child Nutrition Programs, and WIC are vitally important to helping those in need put food on the table during economic hard times and helping make sure no one especially seniors and children—goes to bed hungry in America. The Child Nutrition Programs including the National School Lunch Program are among the most important and successful anti-hunger and nutrition programs in the country. Thanks to diligent oversight by USDA, and significant reforms in the program, SNAP is one of the most effective and efficient federal programs. It is a testament to USDA's longstanding commitment to the highest standards and oversight of its programs.

Globally, the impact of USDA is just as great. I have long promoted an integrated government-wide approach to addressing global hunger and food insecurity. Beginning with the Bush Administration and expanding under the leadership of President Obama, Secretary of State Clinton, Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack and USAID Administrator Raj Shah, I am proud to say that global food security programs are stronger than ever. In particular, I am proud to support USDA's signature role in global agricultural development, emergency food aid, and international school feeding programs.

Agriculture is not just a nostalgic reflection of the past, it is a critical part of contemporary American life and the U.S. economy. I would like to take this opportunity to salute the thousands of Massachusetts small farmers who contribute so much not only to the economy, but to the nutrition and health of the people of Massachusetts, New England and the nation. It has been such a privilege for me to visit their farms, dairies and gardens and witness first-hand the great work they are doing.

I am pleased to extend my heartiest birthday wishes to USDA on this landmark anniversary, and I wish them the very best success in supporting agricultural development here at home and around the world in the next 150 years.

AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL  
SCLEROSIS (ALS) ADVOCATES

**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to recognize the hundreds of brave advocates who are visiting Capitol Hill from Maine and across the country to raise awareness about Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), commonly referred to as Lou Gehrig's Disease.

They are here today to share their stories, to educate others about the challenges they face, and to make sure that we continue to invest in the critical research and data collection that is essential to finally making a breakthrough in the fight against ALS.

Some are here to advocate on behalf of themselves, and some are here to represent their loved ones, friends, and neighbors—far too many of whom have already been lost to ALS. They are all here to give voice to the many thousands of Americans who suffer from this disease but can't be here in person to speak for themselves.

Because of their efforts, no Member of Congress will be able to say they haven't been touched by this terrible disease. And because of their efforts, I truly believe that one day in the not so distant future we will finally have a cure.

I also want to honor one special individual in particular who had planned to be here today, before he lost his battle with ALS on April 27, 2012 at just 34 years old.

Joshua Kennedy led a life of exemplary service. He served his country bravely as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserves, including eighteen months in Iraq as a petroleum supply specialist. He served his family as a devoted husband to his wife Ernesta and a proud father to his sons Tyler, Charles, and Andrew. He served his community in Maine as a correctional officer at Androscoggin County Jail in Auburn. Then after his diagnosis in March 2010, he began to serve his country in a way he never imagined—as a passionate advocate for ALS awareness.

I had the distinct pleasure of meeting Josh in my Portland office not long after his diagnosis. I was struck by his compelling story, his warm smile, his love for his family, and his bravery in the face of unbeatable odds. He and Ernesta later traveled to Washington DC, where he brought his message to Congress and inspired action the same way he inspired the community who rallied around him and his family back home. Even as his voice eluded him and his body began to fail him, it was clear that his spirit remained strong.

I had looked forward to seeing him again this year, and his presence is dearly missed today, as it will be for years to come. There are not enough words to appropriately honor his legacy or to comfort his family on their tremendous loss. But I know his advocacy was not in vain. It is because of people like Josh that we are making progress, bit by bit, and I look forward to the day when we can celebrate his memory with a cure for ALS.

REMEMBERING ORLANDO ZAPATA  
TAMAYO

**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Orlando Zapata Tamayo who would have turned 45 years old today, had his life not been cut short by the murderous Castro dictatorship.

Orlando Zapata Tamayo was a member of the pro-democracy organizations Movimiento Alternativa Republicana and the Consejo Nacional de Resistencia Covica. He was arrested several times, including on March 20th, 2003 during Cuba's notorious "Black Spring." During his many years in prison, he suffered beatings, humiliation, and long periods of solitary confinement. Zapata Tamayo began a hunger strike on December 3rd, 2009 to protest inhumane prison conditions and arbitrary extensions of his sentences. His hunger strike lasted more than 80 days. During that time, he was deprived of water, suffered abhorrent prison conditions, and ultimately died at the hands of the Castro regime on February 23rd, 2010.

Sadly, the two years since his death have been years of increased repression and more

murders by the Castro regime. The number of political arrests doubled between 2010 and 2011, and the first three months of 2012 have proven even more brutal and repressive than the same period last year. While we continue to mourn the loss of Zapata Tamayo, his spirit and mission have nonetheless strengthened Cuba's courageous pro-democracy movement. Shortly after Zapata Tamayo's death, other pro-democracy activists continued his cause such as Jorge Luis Garcia Perez ("Antunez"), who founded the "Orlando Zapata Tamayo National Front for Civic Resistance and Civil Disobedience." In so many ways, he still lives. Among the pro-democracy activists that honor him and continue his mission, Mr. Zapata Tamayo is an enduring symbol of perseverance in the face of brutal repression.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Orlando Zapata Tamayo. Although his life was brutally cut short, he will forever be a blessing to Cuba's courageous pro-democracy movement and to the activists that will not allow his sacrifice to be in vain.

RECOGNIZING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

**HON. RICHARD L. HANNA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Hamilton College on the occasion of its bicentennial.

Hamilton is one of this Nation's finest liberal arts colleges. It is known for its rigorous academic program to prepare students for lives of meaning and purpose. The College is renowned for teaching students to express their ideas with clarity and precision, to think creatively and analytically, and to act ethically and with conviction.

Hamilton College was originally founded in 1793 as the Hamilton-Oneida Academy by the Reverend Samuel Kirkland, missionary to the Oneida Indians. Rev. Kirkland's vision was to educate the children of the Oneidas alongside the children of the white settlers streaming into Central New York following the American Revolution. He presented his plan of education in 1793 to President George Washington who "expressed approbation" and to Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton who lent his name to the institution and consented to become a trustee. Oneida Chief Skenandoa and Baron von Steuben, inspector general of the Continental Army and "drillmaster" of Washington's troops during the War for Independence, were present when the cornerstone for the new Academy was laid on July 1, 1794.

The Hamilton-Oneida Academy lasted 19 years before it was rechartered by the Regents of the University of the State of New York as Hamilton College on May 26, 1812. The institution is believed to be the 31st oldest college in the United States.

Over the years, Hamilton has never wavered from its mission to teach the liberal arts and sciences. In 1968, all-male Hamilton College established the all-female Kirkland College, which lasted 10 years until the two colleges combined in 1978.

Today, Hamilton enrolls 1,812 students from 49 States and 37 countries. Its student-to-faculty ratio of 9-to-1 ensures significant individual attention for its students, many of whom

compete successfully for Fulbright Awards, Goldwater Scholarships and other prestigious national fellowships and scholarships funded by this body.

Included among its graduates are public servants at every level, including most notably former Vice President of the United States James "Schoolcraft" Sherman; former Secretary of State, Secretary of War, U.S. Senator and recipient of the 1912 Nobel Peace Prize Elihu Root; current Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack; and former U.S. Ambassadors Arnold Raphel, William Luers, Sol Linowitz, Michael Klosson and Edward Walker. The College also counts among its alumni prominent business leaders, scientists, artists, educators, physicians, ministers, lawyers, entrepreneurs, entertainers, writers, and journalists.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing and congratulating the students, faculty, staff, alumni and trustees of Hamilton College on the occasion of their institution's two hundredth anniversary on May 26, 2012.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 150th anniversary of the Department of Agriculture. It was 150 years ago to this day that President Abraham Lincoln established the USDA.

As Americans, we have been blessed with the most successful agricultural economy on earth. U.S. consumers spend, on average, less than 10 percent of their disposable income on food—the lowest of any developed nation in the world. In Europe, consumers spend double that percentage and, in developing countries, consumers often spend more than half of their income on food. As Americans, we can be proud of our producers and the role our agriculture department has played in making advancements in the agricultural sector. Successes in agriculture lift all aspects of our economy.

American agriculture's success has been fueled largely by the hard work of our farmers and ranchers. They withstand incredible challenges on a daily basis to provide our nation with a safe, abundant and affordable food supply. More and more, our producers will be depended upon to feed not only Americans here at home, but a growing world population. I am confident our producers, our research institutions and the private sector will be able to harness innovation to meet the daunting challenge of feeding a world population that is expected to grow from around 7 billion to over 9 billion by the year 2050.

Agriculture will continue to represent the foundation of the U.S. economy. I am proud of what agriculture has been able to accomplish over the last 150 years with the support of USDA. It is with great respect for the farmers and ranchers in Southern Missouri I represent, and those in industry and our research institutions, that I recognize agriculture's great success story over the last 150 years.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGRESSIONAL PASSAGE OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, since I was elected to federal office, I have been a champion for women's equality and have introduced the Equal Rights Amendment, ERA, for the last 15 years. I will continue to advocate for this important legislation until women are included in the Constitution.

Despite determined efforts by many dedicated activists, the ERA has never become part of our Constitution. On the 40th anniversary of the Congress passing the Equal Rights Amendment, I was joined by a number of speakers who spoke about the importance of equality for women. I submit their comments below to demonstrate the wide support for this Constitutional amendment. It is my great hope that we will soon realize a time when my bill does not need to be reintroduced and speeches and events to raise awareness of the ERA are not needed; simply put, a time when the ERA has been adopted and true equality has finally been achieved.

SENATOR BIRCH BAYH

REMARKS ON THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGRESSIONAL PASSAGE OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT BIRCH BAYH

To Bobbie Francis and Members of the NCWO-ERA Task Force:

I'm sorry I can't be there to share interesting conversations with all of you. I particularly appreciate the invitation from Bobbie Francis to join her and all of the friends of the NCWO-ERA Task Force in discussing an issue that has been close to my heart for more than 40 years.

Recent events have seen an assault on those who provide health care services to women and we have even seen questions raised anew about issues like contraception. It may have been 40 years since we passed the ERA in Congress but the reasons why many of us tried to write women's rights into the Constitution are still with us today.

As the Chief Senate Sponsor and floor leader of the Equal Rights Amendment, I remember well the intensity of the battle we fought in the early 1970's. America's history has been a steady expansion of individual rights, beginning with the expansion of the franchise in our early years. From the rights of former slaves after the Civil War to the expansion of the vote for women and then for 18 year olds, we have codified in our Constitution an ongoing commitment to individual rights. It seemed fitting then, and seems fitting now, that our Constitution speak loudly and clearly that the law allow no discrimination on the basis of gender.

While the principles involved in this battle remain, the country has evolved quite a bit since 1972. In 1972 there were 2 women in the US Senate and 13 in the House of Representatives. Now there are 17 women Senators and 75 Congresswomen. There were no female Governors in 1972 and had been only 3 in all our history before that, there are 6 now. We have had a female Speaker of the House and have scores of CEOs, business owners and leaders in all walks of life who are female. The number of women elected to state legislatures across the country is larger than ever before. The number of women in the military cannot be compared to the numbers 40 years ago. And in a recent issue of News-

week, long-time Supreme Court reporter Nina Totenberg spoke about taking the job at NPR in the 70s because the pay was too low for men to want the job.

There has indeed been progress, but the principles remain the same.

To open the sports pages in the morning is to see female athletes in a number of sports. To watch the television news in the evening has us watching many female anchor persons, weather ladies, and sports announcers. Even the major sports telecasts regularly involve on-air female broadcasters. But is there equal pay for equal work today? Are there still obstacles on the professional paths to boardrooms for women? Is sexual harassment still a prominent issue in offices around America and in our military?

It is still fitting in the 21st century for our nation to include in its basic law the principle that discrimination based on sex has no place in American life. It is fitting for our daughters and granddaughters to be reminded that their parents and grandparents took a stand to protect their futures and to ensure that they have an equal place in modern America.

In closing, let me stress that the ERA is still the right thing to do, not only in principle but in every day practice.

Thank you for your continued, dedicated efforts.

JANET KOPENHAVER, FEW

JANET KOPENHAVER, WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE, FEDERALLY EMPLOYED WOMEN (FEW), REMARKS AT 3/22 PRESS CONFERENCE

I want to thank Rep. Carolyn Maloney and all the co-sponsors on the ERA bill for their continuing support of women's issues. I am so happy to be here representing Federally Employed Women. The enactment of an Equal Rights Amendment is our number one legislative priority and our members have been busy sending letters to their Representatives urging them to co-sponsor this critical bill.

On my way in today on the metro, I was carrying one of those green ERA signs, a woman came up to me and said "Wow—that sign is old." No kidding! Too old in my opinion. Hopefully we can soon put all these signs in the Sewall Belmont House as historical artifacts no longer needed for lobbying!

But really, in a nutshell, no one in this country would say that women are not equal to men. No one! So let's end the hypocrisy and pass the ERA this year. The time has come and the time is now!

SARAH BEAR

REMARKS BY SARAH BEAR, EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT PRESS CONFERENCE, MARCH 22, 2012

I cannot begin to tell you how many people I've encountered that believe the Equal Rights Amendment has been passed. They are shocked when I break the unfortunate news to them that it has not, in fact, been passed. Shouldn't this, in and of itself, be proof that the ERA should be ratified?

It is such a simple statement: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridge by the United States or by any state on account of sex." Is it so difficult to ratify this amendment and permanently add it to the Constitution? What makes men, women, or transgendered individuals so different that we don't deserve equal protection under the Constitution? We're all people. We all feel, cry, smile, laugh. We're just as much human as the person next to us, whether or not we share similar reproductive organs.

As a distant relative of the inspirational suffragist and author of the ERA, Alice Paul, it is in my blood to fight for this basic right. I promise to her, the Alice Paul Institute, and all the amazing women and men who have fought and continue to fight for equal

rights, that I will not relent or give up. Alice said, "I never doubted that equal rights was the right direction. Most reforms, most problems are complication. But to me, there is nothing complicated about ordinary equality." How true this statement is.

TERRY O'NEILL, NOW

REMARKS BY TERRY O'NEILL, EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT PRESS CONFERENCE, MARCH 22, 2012

Thank you to Congresswoman Maloney for having the courage and the tenacity to re-introduce the ERA every year until we get it done. We will not give up. We will get the ERA one way or another. I have told people over and over again, if we have to get the ERA swinging from the chandeliers, that's the route we'll take to get it. I'm so grateful for all the leaders we have here. Thank you for your leadership. Women are only 17 percent of the United States Congress. That is not okay. Women are only three out of nine Supreme Court justices and given what the Supreme Court has started doing to women these days, that is really not okay. This year—2012, needs to be the year of the women. If we had had women in state legislatures in those key legislatures in 1982 when we almost ratified the ERA back then, in Illinois, in Florida and in North Carolina. If we had had women and if we had had people of color, men and women of color, we know that we would have ratified the ERA. We have got to change the complexion of our elected leadership. It starts this year, women will be voting this year, we've had it, we've had enough. Enough with the war on women, we're going to elect more women to support the ERA.

Thank you so much.

—Terry O'Neill, National Organization for Women, President.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

HON. BOB GIBBS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln signing into law an act of Congress establishing the United States Department of Agriculture. Since May 15, 1862, the USDA's work on agriculture, economic development, science, natural resource conservation and many other important issues has impacted the lives of generations of Americans.

As the first Member of Congress who has also served as President of a state farm bureau and a farmer of 30 years, I know firsthand the valuable programs the USDA provides to rural America. Whether you need help with growing, grazing, or international trade, the USDA works to ensure that Ohio's number one industry remains a viable part of American society. The USDA has taken historic steps to improve the lives of rural Americans and build thriving economies in rural communities, a fact that does not go unnoticed in our state with over 26,207,000 acres of farmland.

I am proud to submit to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD this column by American Farm Bureau President Bob Stallman, which highlights the story of the USDA and the important role science and technology played in the American farming industry.

[From the AgAgenda, May 2012.]

USDA: CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF INNOVATION

(By Bob Stallman)

President Abraham Lincoln is known for many achievements during his lifetime, but a little known triumph of his—that affects farmers and ranchers greatly—was the establishment of the United States Department of Agriculture 150 years ago.

On May 15, 1862, President Lincoln signed into law a bill establishing a new Department of Agriculture, which was specifically directed to acquire information through "practical and scientific experiments" and to collect and propagate "new and valuable seeds and plants" and distribute these to the nation's agriculturists. It is clear, Lincoln was a man beyond his time.

A MAN WITH A VISION

Lincoln understood the importance of agriculture to America, and, as importantly, he realized science and technology played a major role in the farming industry. Without a doubt, I believe Lincoln today would embrace the many technological advancements farmers use on their farms, including biotechnology.

Lincoln once wrote: "Every blade of grass is a study, and to produce two, where there was but one, is both a profit and a pleasure. And not grass alone, but soils, seeds and seasons—hedged, ditches and fences, draining, droughts and irrigation—plowing, hoeing and harrowing—reaping, mowing and threshing—saving crops, pests of crops, diseases of crops and what will prevent or cure them . . . the thousand things of which these are specimens—each a world of study within itself."

The federal government was, from the beginning of its involvement in agriculture, dedicated to scientific progress in farming. This commitment continues today and is shared by farmers and ranchers across the country, regardless of the methods of food and fiber production they use—organic, conventional or biotechnology. They all need science.

FULL SPEED AHEAD

The importance of science and innovation—biotechnology in particular—to agriculture will be significant as we face several challenges in the years ahead. The world's population just passed the 7 billion mark. According to the World Food Program, the best estimate is that 1 billion people (one in seven) are hungry and food insecure. By 2050 the world's population will rise to 9 billion people. This means we must double world food production by 2050 in order to meet this challenge.

Further, we must accomplish this hefty goal while realizing that our Earth is fragile. To take care of our environment, we must embrace agriculture research, science, innovation and biotechnology.

When it comes to medical care, communication and transportation we accept the importance of innovation. We need to do the same when it comes to the production of food.

Earlier this year, the United Nations issued a special report recognizing that "new 'green' biotechnologies can . . . improve resistance to pests, restore soil fertility and contribute to the diversification of the rural economy." Sound familiar? Seems a lot like what Lincoln described as a goal 150 years ago.

Scientists have developed new seeds that can improve yields while resisting disease and requiring less water. That is critical as 70 percent of all fresh water is used by agriculture. American consumers and consumers all over the world can feel safe with this technology and confident it will improve our environment.

While meeting these quantitative challenges and meeting our environmental goals, we will strive to focus even greater attention on the qualitative side, to also meet the needs of consumers who express a preference for foods grown "their way." Science is the answer for all these missions, and today's USDA is helping to blaze that trail.

So, Happy Birthday USDA and best wishes as we continue down the road for another 150 years. America's farmers, ranchers and research scientists can lead the way to a new 21st century Green Revolution if we follow the vision of Abraham Lincoln. As Honest Abe said, "Leave nothing for tomorrow which can be done today."

BOONE COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF  
JESSE RICE BROWNING

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, during this season of renewal, it is fitting that we recognize those who, through their service to the public good, paid the ultimate sacrifice. Today, every 53 hours a law enforcement officer falls in the line of duty in this country.

These men and women got up in the mornings, dressed for work, kissed their family goodbye, and went out the door just as we do each morning, but with one tremendous difference. As law enforcement officers, they knew the challenges of a most typical day for them, would amount to unimaginable odds for any of us to face on our best day.

What they viewed as just doing their job, the rest of us know goes to the heart of human courage and commitment. They died so the rest of us could live. Their sacrifice allowed us to grow, prosper and, for their families, as scripture tells us, "to go forth and multiply."

In this, our Nation's Capital, each year for the past several years on May 15th, a few blocks west of our Capitol Building, our country pauses to reflect on the noble and selfless acts of these officers who represented the law of our great republic. Here, at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial during National Police Week in a solemn and moving memorial candlelit vigil ceremony, Americans gather around our Nation's living tribute to fallen officers throughout the land.

Though it is a monument hewn of solid blue gray stone marble to withstand the ages—it is, Mr. Speaker, as alive as you or I. For on its face are forever carved the names of fathers, mothers, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, grand paws and grand maws, cousins galore and friends to countless numbers of us. As long as we live, Mr. Speaker, they, nor their memories, will ever die.

This year, two names have been added to the face of the monument's more than 19,000 names of law enforcement officers who have been killed in the line of duty. These two sons of the State of West Virginia, two loyal public servants from the heart of the coalfields of Appalachia, and two officers of the law from Boone County, West Virginia, who were simply doing their jobs when the face and forces of evil struck to rob them and their families of any future.

All West Virginians owe them a deep debt of gratitude and we are indebted, as well, to

the Sheriff of Boone County, The Honorable Rodney A. Miller, whose invaluable assistance helped speed their acknowledgement and inclusion into this fraternity of honor and remembrance.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to the Coal Valley News, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, and the families for sharing the memories of the fallen with me which I humbly pass on for this Nation's greater edification.

Killed in the line of duty were Deputy Sheriff Jesse Rice Browning and Constable Cecil Alvin Ferrell.

Constable Ferrell was shot as he attempted to serve an arrest warrant. When Constable Ferrell allowed the suspect to get dressed, the suspect grabbed a shotgun and fired. Constable Ferrell sustained a gunshot wound to the abdomen and died at the scene on October 17, 1937. He was 36 years old.

On April 9, 1917, Deputy Sheriff Jesse Browning was shot by an inmate who had attacked him and gained control of his gun before fatally wounding him. Jesse Browning was taken to Charleston, Kanawha Valley

Hospital, via train where he clung onto life for several days until he passed from the Earth on April 15, 1917. Deputy Sherriff Browning was 39 years old. He had served Boone County for 15 years.

His body lies in a grave on a remote hillside in Barrett, W.Va. At the time of his death, he left behind a wife, Orpha Pauley Browning, and seven children: Glenn Browning, Marie White, Gladys Jarrell, Dennis Browning, Clyde Browning, Dassie (Scootie) Williams and Georgia Workman. He was predeceased by a son, Alvin Browning. At the time of his death, his youngest child was only three months old.

All of his children remained life-long residents of West Virginia. His descendants include 36 grandchildren and many great grandchildren. Several of these have been behind the effort to have their grandfather recognized for his service and sacrifice to Boone County, West Virginia.

Chaplain Grant Wolf offered these thoughts of comfort and hope, "It was only a moment, but in that moment of madness our lives and the world changed. Hearts were broken and

names previously unknown are now spoken with reverence. The moment passes, but in that moment we mourn for the life that was taken and grieve for the survivors, remembering the sacrifice made to protect and serve. It was only a moment but he is gone, a sacrifice made to give us a future. We pause in our sorrow reflecting what might have been—but then we press on for, by the grace of God, his memory still stands."

I am deeply honored to represent the good people of southern West Virginia in the Congress. Life does go on for these two loving families, yet preserving the lives of their fallen relatives preserves not only cherished family memories, it fosters a legacy critical to the very foundation our country's future.

For if, Mr. Speaker, we are to remain a nation ruled by law and not by men, it is incumbent upon each of us to search our souls and find the strength and solace these brave officers achieved to protect and to serve us. May God bless such men and women as these and may such dedication reign forever in the home of the brave and land of the free.