

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### DENTAL EMERGENCY RESPONDER ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2011*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 570, the Dental Emergency Responder Act. H.R. 570 will allow states to incorporate the valuable resources and knowledge of dentists and dental facilities into their emergency and disaster planning. This legislation is long overdue and will enable our state governments to take an “all hands on deck” approach when it comes to disaster response.

As a trained dentist, I know that dental students receive a great deal of general medical training during the course of their education. As a result, dentists are skilled at patient interviews, diagnostic evaluations, triage, suturing, infection control measures, wound dressing, bloodborne pathogens, administration of medications both intravenously and orally, and basic emergency care, to give just a few examples. Indeed, some dentists receive additional training in oral surgery and are specially trained to address emergent trauma to the maxillofacial areas. Despite these qualifications, the National Health Security Strategy precludes states from including dentists and dental schools in their disaster planning framework. This is a serious omission and an unnecessary one. H.R. 570 would strike this language, and without imposing a federal mandate would permit states to evaluate how dentistry can be helpful in times of crisis and public emergencies.

The Dental Emergency Responder Act is a concept whose time has come, and I urge my colleagues in both the House and Senate to support this important legislation.

### THE PRESERVATION OF ANTI- BIOTICS FOR MEDICAL TREAT- MENT ACT

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of The Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act.

Every year, two million Americans acquire bacterial infections during their hospital stay, and 90,000 will die from them. 70 percent of these infections will be resistant to the drugs commonly used to treat them.

Drug resistance prolongs the length, cost, and severity of the illness, raising health care costs and reducing health outcomes. In the 1990s, the Institute of Medicine estimated that health care costs were upwards of \$5 billion; more recent cost estimates have climbed even

higher. According to a recent peer-reviewed article published in the *Clinical Infectious Diseases* journal, antibiotic resistant infections extended hospital stays between six and 13 days as well as increasing mortality. The researchers concluded that antibiotic resistance costs society over \$35 billion nationally.

Antibiotic resistance is a major public health crisis, and yet antibiotics are used regularly and with little oversight in agriculture.

Many of the antibiotics used in agriculture as animal feed additives are also used to treat humans, including tetracyclines, sulfonamides, penicillins, macrolides, aminoglycosides, chloramphenicols, and streptogramins. These classes of antibiotics are critical to our treatment of potentially fatal human diseases. Tetracyclines, for example, are used to treat people potentially exposed to anthrax. Macrolides and sulfonamides are used to prevent secondary infections in patients with AIDS and to treat pneumonia in HIV-infected patients. Penicillins are used to treat infections ranging from strep throat to meningitis.

Despite their importance to human medicine, antibiotics are used routinely to promote growth in livestock agriculture. According to analyses by the Food and Drug Administration, 13.1 million kilograms of antibacterial drugs were sold for use in livestock and poultry, and 3.3 million kilograms were sold for use in humans in 2009. It is unacceptable that 80 percent of antibacterial drugs were sold for use in agriculture in the United States in 2009—rather than for human health purposes.

The overuse of antibiotics in agriculture has been conclusively shown to harm human health.

A 2002 publication in the *Clinical Infectious Diseases* journal analyzing more than 500 scientific articles concluded that “many lines of evidence link antimicrobial resistant human infections to food-borne pathogens of animal origin.”

The Institute of Medicine, likewise, concluded that reducing the agricultural usage of antibiotics was necessary. Their 2003 report on *Microbial Threats to Health* concluded, “Clearly, a decrease in the inappropriate use of antimicrobials in human medicine alone is not enough. Substantial efforts must be made to decrease inappropriate overuse in animals and agriculture as well.”

Federal agencies, public health organizations, and scientists are united by their concern with the overuse of antibiotics, and its implications for human health.

Despite increased attention to the issue, the response has been inadequate. Part of the problem has been the Food and Drug Administration’s, FDA’s, failure to properly address the effect of the misuse of animal antibiotics on the efficacy of human drugs.

Although the FDA could withdraw its approval for these antibiotics, its record of reviewing currently approved drugs under existing procedures indicate that it would take nearly a century to remove these medically important antibiotics from the feed given to food producing animals. In October 2000, for

example, the FDA began consideration of a proposal to withdraw its approval for the therapeutic use of fluoroquinolones in poultry. The review, and eventual withdraw of approval, took five years to complete. Under its current regulations, the FDA must review each class of antibiotics separately.

For this reason, I introduced the Preservation of Antibiotics for the Medical Treatment Act, PAMTA.

This legislation would phase out the use of the seven classes of medically significant antibiotics that are currently approved for non-therapeutic use in animal agriculture. This bill only restricts the non-therapeutic use of antibiotics in animals; it does not infringe upon the use of these drugs to treat a sick animal.

Addressing this critical issue is not only important for protecting the public’s health, but also to ensure that American livestock production remain competitive in international markets.

Nations around the world including those of the European Union, New Zealand, Thailand, and Korea all have either banned or will begin banning the use of antibiotics for the purpose of growth promotion in animal feed. Under World Trade Organization rules, trading partners who implement this ban will have the right to refuse imports that do not meet this standard. Accordingly, if the United States does not conduct similar restrictions, but continues to allow for the non-therapeutic use of antibiotics in livestock, there may be major trade and economic implications.

Limiting antibiotic usage in agriculture is eminently practical, as Denmark’s example shows. After banning the non-therapeutic usage of antibiotics, Denmark increased productivity while lowering antibiotic usage. A recently published article in the *American Journal of Veterinary Research* evaluated the effectiveness of Denmark’s ban on non-therapeutic usage of antibiotics, and determined that the ban did not harm agricultural productivity. From 1992 to 2008, antimicrobial usage per kilogram of pig produced decreased from 100 to 49—a decrease of more than 50 percent. At the same time, pig production increased from 18.4 to 27.1 million pigs—an increase of 47 percent. This peer-reviewed evaluation reveals that eliminating non-therapeutic usage of antibiotics helped position Denmark’s agricultural industrially globally.

The Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act, therefore, is an urgent trade matter as well as an urgent public health matter.

When we go to the grocery store to pick up dinner, we should be able to buy our food without the worry that eating it will expose our family to potentially deadly bacteria that will no longer respond to our medical treatments. Unless we act now, we will unwittingly be permitting animals to serve as incubators for resistant bacteria.

It is time for Congress to stand with scientists, the World Health Organization, the American Medical Association, and the National Academy of Sciences and do something

● 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.

to address the spread of resistant bacteria. We cannot afford for our medicines to become obsolete.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MILDRED  
H. BURNETT

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mildred H. Burnett, who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on March 11 this year. She is a woman who has spent her life giving back to her community through education and public service.

A native Texan, Mildred Burnett was born on March 11, 1911 to Ulta Thomas Herriage and Bessie Farmer Herriage at Prairie Point Community, south of Dodd City in Fannin County. She grew up with her parents and five siblings in Fannin County, Prairie Point Community, English Community, Flag Springs, and Dodd City.

Upon graduating from Windom High School in 1929, Mrs. Burnett went to East Texas State Teachers College in Commerce, Texas (now Texas A&M University at Commerce). In 1939 she began teaching at Flag Springs School in Fannin County—a profession she devoted herself to for over thirty-nine years, teaching grades first through fourth.

In 1934 Mildred married Noel Y. Burnett. The couple celebrated over fifty years of marriage and was blessed through the birth of their son, Lanny Joe Burnett, born in 1944. The family resided on a ranch in Fannin County, close to where Mildred and Noel had been born.

Mrs. Burnett is a lifelong Southern Baptist and is a member at the First Baptist Church of Bonham where she taught Sunday School classes and Vacation Bible School for over fifty years. Known for her charm, generosity of spirit and involvement in the community, Mildred is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Retired Teachers Association, Texoma Council of Governments, and is a certified Ombudsman for the Texoma Region. Mrs. Burnett volunteered for the Honey Grove Nursing home and was a pink-lady for the Bonham Hospital. In 1962, Mildred was presented with a certificate at the State FFA Convention for being the "Mother of the State FFA President."

Mr. Speaker, I ask those present today to join me in honoring Mildred Burnett as she celebrates her 100th birthday. She has used her years well as educator and public servant, and I wish her many more blessed years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, March 8, 2011, I missed rollcall votes No. 163 and No. 164 to attend to a family matter. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 163 and "yea" on rollcall No. 164.

EASTERN WASHINGTON RECOGNIZES CITY OF OMAK'S CENTENNIAL

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 100th birthday of the City of Omak—a wonderful community in Eastern Washington which I have the privilege to represent in Congress.

On February 11, 1911, the City of Omak was officially incorporated, and over the next century, this city would grow to be the largest in Okanogan County. To be sure, there are cities and towns across Washington State which have a remarkably rich history. But Omak—best known as the "Home of the Omak Stampede" and the world famous suicide race—has an especially rich character, reinforced by a hardy people living at the foot of the Okanogan Highlands.

The residents of Omak have already marked the centennial with a "Chronicles of the Okanogan" book release. And in the next few months, the Omak Centennial Committee will be organizing more special festivities including a "Paint the Town" interactive art event, the showing of the "Paint the Town" artwork, an all-class reunion, and a Centennial-themed Twilight Christmas Parade.

On this Centennial, we should all reflect on the hard work and dedication of the pioneering citizens who founded Omak and have helped sustain it for over 100 years.

Today, I thank and congratulate all of the organizers, volunteers, and residents for helping to mark this important milestone in the community's history.

In particular, I want to thank Mayor Cindy Gagne, City Administrator Ralph Malone, The Omak Centennial Committee—including the Committee Chair Corina Radford and Treasurer Debbie Lampe—and the event sponsors: Havillah Road Printing, RockWall Cellars, the Omak Chamber of Commerce, and The Omak-Okanogan County Chronicle. Special thanks should also go to the Okanogan County Society and Heatherdale's Frame Shop.

Because of them—and many others—the future of Omak is in good hands.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall votes 163 and 164.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GLENDA  
CULPEPPER

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Glenda Culpepper, who will receive the

2011 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Whitesboro Area Chamber of Commerce on March 25th, 2012.

Mrs. Culpepper's tremendous contributions to her community go above and beyond the call of duty. She began volunteering as a young wife and mother, serving in her church and multiple civic organizations. This is a lifestyle she has led for over forty years.

Glenda Culpepper has donated her own time and personal resources over the years, working with school organizations and booster clubs, even opening her home to host foreign exchange and college students. In her church, she served as a children and youth worker, camp counselor, Vacation Bible School coordinator, and volunteer in the church nursery.

A charter member of a women's service organization in 1971, which was part of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs, Mrs. Culpepper has held various offices within the club and has worked to raise money to provide scholarships for local students.

On the Whitesboro Library Board, which Mrs. Culpepper served on for twenty years, she provided input and direction, volunteered at book sales, summer camps, special presentations, and library events.

Glenda has also served on the Whitesboro Chamber of Commerce for over twenty-five years, where she has served multiple terms on the Board of Directors, been honored as a Lifetime Member of the Chamber, and named Director Emeritus. She has served several terms as the Vice President of Membership Development, and has served on most chamber committees at least once.

Glenda Culpepper's life reflects one of selfless dedication to the betterment of others and her community. She leads by example, both in the public eye and behind the scenes. Her initiative, patience, and tireless effort make her more than deserving of the Lifetime Achievement Award. Mr. Speaker, I ask those present today to join me in honoring this woman for her service and leadership.

HONORING THE YEARS OF SERVICE BY LILLIAN GATTIE TO THE GUNNER FAMILY AND GEORGE ANDROS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding service and dedication of Lillian Gattie, who has worked for the Gunner family in California's Central Valley for 75 years.

Born June 1, 1917 to Italian immigrants, Lillian was raised on a 20 acre farm outside of Clovis where she still resides to this day. It was on the farm that Lillian learned the values of hard work and loyalty that would serve her well in her future career. After graduating from Clovis High School in 1935, Lillian completed business school in Fresno.

Lillian began her 75 years of service to the Gunner family on March 1, 1936 in an office position with the Mission Bell Wine Company, where Vas Gunner was Vice President of Sales. Lillian continued to work for Vas Gunner when he later formed the Argun Wine Company, a successful wine distributor. Lillian

was essential in handling everything from orders to accounting. As Vas Gunner continued to expand his business, Lillian's responsibilities grew as well.

In the late sixties, Vas' son Richard partnered with George Andros to form Gunner and Andros Investments. Again, Lillian's duties expanded to meet the ever growing demands of the company. With Lillian's help and dedication to hard work, the company has grown into one of Fresno's leaders in commercial real estate construction and management.

In 2006, Lillian was quoted in the Fresno Bee, "Why would I want to quit? . . . I still really enjoy working, it keeps me going." As a testament to her work ethic, Lillian reports to work at 9 a.m. on the dot, just as she has for the past 75 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the hard work and dedication that Lillian Gattie has shown throughout her many years of service to the Gunner Family and George Andros. I congratulate her on her years of dedicated and successful work in our Valley.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT  
OF COLUMBIA LOCAL FUNDS  
CONTINUATION ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer the District of Columbia Local Funds Continuation Act, to permanently protect both the 600,000 residents of the District of Columbia and the Federal Government from an unintended catastrophe in any future Federal Government shutdown. The bill would allow the District to spend its local funds at the start of a fiscal year if Congress has not approved the District's budget by such time and thereby avoid a District government shutdown if the Federal Government shuts down. Although the District raises and manages its own \$8 billion budget, Congress technically appropriates these local funds back to the District, a hold-over and throwback to the pre-home-rule period. Several years ago, Republican appropriators and I reached a bipartisan agreement to approve the District's local budget in the first continuing resolution, CR, allowing the District to spend at next year's level, if Congress has not passed the District's regular appropriation bill by the start of the fiscal year. We are grateful that this agreement has held through Democratic and Republican congresses and administrations. This agreement has enabled the District to operate its complex big-city functions more effectively than during the many years when the city's local budget was only approved months after the start of the fiscal year.

However, this year we see the limits of even this helpful agreement. As I speak, if the Federal Government shuts down when the current fiscal year 2011 CR expires on March 18, 2011, the District government would shut down as well, even though the city's local budget was forwarded to Congress on time last year. I am working with our Senate allies to permit the District to spend its local funds for the remainder of fiscal year 2011, but, regardless of whether the Federal Government

shuts down this year, a permanent solution has become necessary to avoid disruptive, unintended consequences. The District of Columbia Budget Autonomy Act, to end the anti-democratic anachronism of Congress appropriating to the District its own local funds in the first place, is, of course, the best long-term solution, but today's bill is a critical stopgap measure.

The District urgently needs relief now because even more is at stake than the cessation of vital municipal services. If the District shuts down, it could default under certain financing agreements and leases. When Congress cannot reach agreement on regular appropriation bills, it often operates under successive CRs to avoid a Federal Government shutdown. However, successive CRs greatly hinder the operations of the District. Not only do they make it difficult for the city to plan its activities for the year, successive CRs greatly increase the city's costs of doing business. The city's partners, from Wall Street to small vendors, may charge it a risk premium due to the uncertainty created by successive CRs.

Members who were not here during the last Federal Government shutdown are probably unaware that the District government was forced to shut down, too. The District government had passed its budget months earlier, but Congress had not yet voted for final approval. I am grateful that after the first of several government shutdowns and partial shutdowns, Speaker Newt Gingrich and I worked together to ensure that the District remained operating.

Disputes over the Federal budget have nothing to do with the District's local funds. I do not believe that any Member wants to shut down the D.C. government and bring a large, complicated city to its knees because of a purely Federal matter. Moreover, D.C. residents are not alone in relying on vital District services. Federal officials, including the President, Federal buildings, foreign embassies and dignitaries, and businesses rely daily on the city's services, as well.

It is time we remove the District and the multiple, unintended consequences of a District government shutdown from Federal Government shutdown controversies. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF MOUNTAIN LAKES,  
NEW JERSEY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Borough of Mountain Lakes, in Morris County, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2011.

From its inception, Mountain Lakes, a community in my congressional district, has promoted family life and interaction with nature.

In 1910, Mountain Lakes was just rural woodland owned by a handful of families. The following decade, however, changed Mountain Lakes forever. Developers urbanized the hills, woods, swamps and boulders of Mountain Lakes to create a neighborhood where families could enjoy the nature, recreation and simple pleasures of life. The plan also in-

cluded two manmade lakes, to provide outdoor swimming and boating for the community. By late 1912, the railroad station was completed and with a train line to New York, growth and prosperity soon followed.

Unusual about this community is the nearly 500 homes that were built by one developer. Today, 454 of these homes remain standing, making them one of the largest collections of Craftsman-influenced houses in the United States.

Along with their respect for their architectural history, comes Mountain Lakes' appreciation for education. Its schools provide area students with the foundation they need for a successful future. Mountain Lakes High School is often ranked as a top school by New Jersey Monthly. The Lake Drive School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Craig School are two schools that offer education to students with special needs.

The developers' vision for this community has survived to the present. The natural and architectural character that was constructed in the early 20th century is still a key feature "Lakers" appreciate today. And, with its natural beauty, picturesque location and charm, Mountain Lakes still attracts residents who enjoy outdoor activities and community involvement.

Today, the grand gardens have been simplified, houses renovated, but still the essential character remains. The rustic suburb of Mountain Lakes has maintained its unique character and environment created in the two decades following its founding.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Borough of Mountain Lakes as they celebrate their 100th Anniversary.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF CLIFFORD  
O. POUNDS

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Clifford O. Pounds of Emory, Texas, who passed away on July 31, 2010 at the age of eighty-nine. My staff and I are saddened that we were unable to obtain a Purple Heart medal for Mr. Pounds. He is among an unknown number of veterans who sustained serious injuries on the battlefields of the world, yet did not receive the medal—some because a tragic fire at the St. Louis, Missouri National Personnel Records Center burned 80% of the veterans' records and thereby erased the proof of them having earned the proper award—or some, like Clifford Pounds, who didn't complain of serious injuries sustained in battle, especially during the battle for control of North Africa against a German commander dubbed the "Desert Fox" who led the then great and feared "Afrika Korps"—one of the greatest battles of WWII.

Clifford was born to John Clovis Pounds and Mary Oneida Pounds on September 10, 1921 in Yantis, Texas. He attended school at Emory High School before attending the Sheet Metal Workers Trade School in Corpus Christi. The skills he developed there were something he would continue to use for the benefit of others his entire life.

Mr. Pounds was inducted into the Army Air Force on September 24, 1942 at the age of 22. A decorated World War II veteran, he served his country with the 34th Depot Repair Squadron where his talent as a sheet metal worker was used to repair bullet ridden planes.

The records reflect that Mr. Pounds fought alongside his Squadron in the Rome-Arno, Naples-Foggia, Po Valley and Southern France battles and campaigns. He also spent several months in North Africa fighting the German Afrika Korps commanded by Field Marshal Erwin Rommel. While serving in North Africa, Mr. Pounds suffered wounds from a German bomb that landed and exploded approximately twenty feet from him. Large pieces of hot flak imbedded into his back, and his hip was crushed resulting in a permanent limp. His family gave us these direct quotations—made by Mr. Pounds—and we have no reason to doubt the veracity of his description of his wounds, nor his reason for not obtaining medical information.

Following medical treatment by a British doctor, he served three additional years before being honorably discharged. Mr. Pounds was among the brave and compassionate soldiers who stormed the Nazi Concentration camps, rescuing and liberating their victims. In addition, he was also responsible for guarding German prisoners, and rounding up the German citizens surrounding those camps.

Upon time of discharge in October of 1945, I am told that when asked if he received any wounds, Mr. Pounds humbly declined to disclose his injuries. He considered his own wounds sustained at the beginning of his military service insubstantial in light of what he witnessed in war—comrades who lost their lives, and the atrocities he observed at the concentration camps. War decorations awarded to Mr. Pounds include the Good Conduct Metal and the EAMET Ribbon (“Europe-Africa-Middle Eastern Campaign”). However, because Mr. Pounds did not complain about his war injuries, and no medical records from the British doctor who operated on his back exist, Mr. Pounds has yet to receive a much-deserved Purple Heart. My staff and I attempted to acquire first-hand accounts from fellow soldiers who could formally verify his wounds. We were unable to contact the veterans Mr. Pounds served with from Emory, or his comrades he fought alongside, due to the fact that they preceded him in death.

On March 16, 1973 Clifford O. Pounds married Evelyn Mayfield in Corpus Christi. A devoted husband and family man, he celebrated thirty-seven years of marriage with his wife, during which time they were blessed with six children.

Clifford Pounds was also known as a man of deep faith and quiet leadership. He was a member of the Church of Christ, taught bible study classes, and could be found daily reading his bible in his family’s dining room every morning. Staying “behind the scenes,” he preferred to quietly help those in need rather than seek out credit for his actions. If an elderly or disabled person needed home repairs, he would readily offer his services until the repair was complete. It was also not uncommon for him to answer a 1:00 or 2:00 phone call in the morning just to be a sympathetic ear for someone needing to talk.

Clifford O. Pounds is preceded in death by his sisters, Joy Sickles and Mary Jo Hart, and

his son, Russell Cole. He is survived by his wife Evelyn; their children Sheron McCain, Dell Pounds, Donna Draudt, Lisa Preuss, and Mike Pounds; as well as seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Mr. Pounds was such a kind and deserving man and veteran, that I was proud to search and search for the proof required, and am so disappointed that I am still working for his Purple Heart award.

Clifford Pounds was an American patriot and man of faith who lived with honor and integrity. He had a compassionate heart for those less fortunate, and gave generously of himself in all aspects of his life. It has pained me to know how entitled Mr. Pounds was to receive his Purple Heart, but I am proud to have gone the last mile trying to get the award to one so deserving. I am personally acquainted with the Pounds family, and we all know that although I was unable to get testimony for presentation for the Purple Heart, that on the 31st of July, 2010—the date of his death—we said goodbye to a great American, a great patriot, and a loving husband, father and grandparent to those who loved him. God, and those buddies he served with, know of his sacrifices. Though he will probably never receive a Purple Heart award, he proudly walks those streets paved with gold, and he will always be remembered as a fiercely loyal soldier, a true and loving family man, and a Red, White and Blue American that we will never forget. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues present today to join me in honoring this unusual American hero, Mr. Clifford O. Pounds.

RECOGNIZING TAIWAN’S 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STRAIT EXCHANGE FOUNDATION

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, recently we have seen many breakthroughs in cross-strait relations: direct, scheduled flights, direct shipping and postal services, a framework for financial cooperation and investment. On June 29, 2010 Taiwan and Mainland China signed the historic Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) in Chongqing, China. At the moment, Taiwan’s Strait Exchange Foundation (SEF) and Mainland’s Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Strait (ARATS) are discussing and exploring further measures to improve cross-strait relations.

It is apparent to the international community that the tone of Taiwan-mainland relations has improved significantly. With the conclusion of numerous cross-strait agreements, economic and cultural ties between Taiwan and mainland China can be expected to grow in the future. I am happy to see increased stability in the Taiwan Strait and upsurge in Taiwan-mainland economic, cultural and people-to-people contacts.

Mr. Speaker, these achievements would not have been possible without the hard work of President Ma Ying-jeou and the leaders of Taiwan’s Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) and the Straits Exchange Foundation. On the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Straits Exchange Foundation, I applaud the courage shown by President Ma in taking steps to improve cross-strait relations.

Again, on this anniversary, it is my belief that future stability in the strait will depend on open dialogue between Taiwan and Mainland China, free of force and intimidation and consistent with Taiwan’s flourishing democracy. In order for Taiwan to deal with Mainland China confidently, Taiwan needs to be confident in its role in the international community, its ability to defend itself and its place in the global economy.

The United States must continue to support Taiwan’s meaningful participation in international organizations. We must help Taiwan feel that it has the physical capacity to resist intimidation by selling defense articles and services to Taiwan, consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA). Lastly, we must explore new initiatives to expand our economic relationship with Taiwan.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR THE SAFE RETURN OF SPACE SHUTTLE “DISCOVERY”

HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome home the Space Shuttle *Discovery* and its crew of six from the STS-133 mission. The Space Shuttle *Discovery* landed safely at Kennedy Space Center located in Florida’s 24th Congressional District this morning. The brave astronauts of *Discovery* spent 13 days in Space and delivered their payload to the International Space Station flawlessly.

This is the final flight of the Space Shuttle *Discovery* and with its now 39th successful mission since 1984, including the delivery of the Hubble Space Telescope and the Ulysses robotic probe, we will bid farewell to the most traveled spacecraft in our fleet. *Discovery* has carried over 180 courageous astronauts to space including the first female shuttle commander and shuttle pilot in history and has been a symbol of space exploration and technological innovation for decades.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done to Commander Steve Lindsey, Pilot Eric Boe, and Mission Specialists Alvin Drew, Steve Bowen, Michael Barratt, and Nicole Stott. They are true American heroes and pioneers in the race for discovery and exploration. Welcome home team.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to recognize the efforts of the National Ground Water Association (NGWA), which is headquartered in my district in Westerville, Ohio. NGWA is sponsoring National Ground Water Awareness Week which began on March 6. Each year, this event puts the national spotlight on a critically important issue, the preservation and protection of groundwater for human and environmental purposes.

National Ground Water Awareness Week is the pinnacle of NGWA’s year-round effort to

educate the public about proper groundwater and water well stewardship. For private household well owners, stewardship includes regularly testing their well water quality and treating it if necessary. An estimated 95 percent of America's available fresh water is in the form of groundwater.

NGWA is a nonprofit organization composed of more than 12,000 U.S. and international groundwater professionals—contractors, equipment manufacturers, suppliers, scientists, and engineers—is dedicated to advancing groundwater knowledge. NGWA's vision is to be the leading groundwater association that advocates the responsible development, management, and use of water.

Association members will be using Ground Water Awareness Week to participate in a variety of activities and events. I want to thank them for their efforts to preserve, protect and safely utilize this most valuable resource.

ANGIE GIARRATANO TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Angie Giarratano of Pueblo, Colorado. Before her passing, she was a philanthropist and longtime leader in her community. She raised thousands of dollars for various charities and brought recognition to a number of other causes.

In addition to her philanthropic work, Ms. Giarratano worked full time, raised two children and was an active member of her church. She also was a grandmother to four and great-grandmother to five. Her husband, John Giarratano, was a World War II hero who played an important role in the D-Day invasion. After the war, he became a small business owner and, like his wife, was a key leader in the community. Family was an important part of Ms. Giarratano's life and was one of the reasons she became such a valuable citizen of Pueblo. While raising a family, she volunteered for the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association and was very active in the American Cancer Society. Ms. Giarratano also worked as the collection manager for the Pueblo Credit and Collection Bureau.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of Angie Giarratano and her family's legacy. It is an honor to recognize her life today.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DANIEL KANE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Daniel Kane, who devoted his life to the assistance of others and to improving the well being of the Cleveland community.

Daniel was born and raised in Slavic Village, in the very same house his mother had been raised. Through his commitment to serving others, he helped bring about several sig-

nificant improvements within the community. He founded the Morgana little league, which provided the youth of his community an opportunity to participate in America's pastime, baseball. He also established the first community garden for Slavic Village, which would eventually be named in honor and recognition of his hard work.

Daniel's devotion to his community and country was apparent from the early years of his life. He served his country in the Second World War, risking life and limb. After the war he began to work for the Cleveland Division of Police as a patrolman and would eventually work his way up to the rank of detective. He retired from the force in 1978, but could not be separated from his devotion to the community. He continued to serve as an Investigative Counselor for the Cleveland Board of Education.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering the distinguished life of Daniel Kane, whose legacy of community involvement is admirable. I extend my deepest and sincerest condolences to his wife Yolanda and his children, Diane, Donna and Daniel Jr.

A TRIBUTE TO THE FOLSOM HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM ON THEIR 2010 CIF STATE CHAMPIONSHIP WIN

**HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Folsom High School Bulldogs Varsity Football Team for their 2010 CIF Division II State Championship win on December 18, 2010.

With their win at the CIF Division II State Championship in Carson, against Serra High School of Gardena, the team joins the level of elite high school football teams in the State. Their win is a source of pride for the students, faculty, and the alumni of Folsom High School, as well as the residents of Folsom.

The Bulldogs had an impressive season in which they attained a 14-1 record. Along the road to the State Championship, the Folsom Bulldogs had one of the greatest playoff runs in Section history. After defeating a solid 6-4 Roseville team 56-13 in the first round, the Bulldogs then steamrolled the 10-1 Vacaville Bulldogs 75-6 in round two. In the Section Semi-finals the Folsom Bulldogs traveled to Atwater to face the 12-0 Buhach Colony Thunder. The Bulldogs defeated the Thunder 55-20. In front of a record crowd of 20,000 plus fans, the Bulldogs battled the nationally ranked Grant Pacers to a 41-20 victory and the Division II Section Championship. Winning the Section Championship in the toughest division in the San Joaquin Section and finishing the season with a 13-1 record earned the Folsom Bulldogs a State Bowl berth. This set the matchup between the 13-1 Folsom Bulldogs and the 14-0 Serra Cavaliers in the Division II State Championship. The Serra Cavaliers came into the State Championship game with a 29-game winning streak. The Folsom Bulldogs proved to be too much for the Cavaliers as the Folsom Bulldogs rolled to a 48-20 victory. This earned the Folsom Bulldogs their first State Championship and a number 5 National Ranking by MaxPreps.

In their 5 postseason games the Folsom Bulldogs faced teams with a combined record of 55-5 and outscored them 275-79. This is an amazing feat by an amazing team. Postseason awards include Dano Graves winning the title of Cal-Hi State Football Player of the Year and the MaxPreps National Player of the Year. Coach Kris Richardson has been honored as the Nike and MaxPreps Division II State Coach of the Year.

This team represents heart, strength, determination, and resilience. I commend Coach Kris Richardson for his leadership throughout the season, and applaud him and his fellow coaches for keeping the team focused and determined to achieve their goal of a state championship.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of the Folsom High School Varsity Football Team.

CONGRATULATING MR. LANE TOKITA FOR HIS COMMITMENT TO THE CLOSE UP WASHINGTON CIVIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

**HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Lane Tokita, an outstanding A.P. History teacher at Kauai High School in my district. Mr. Tokita is in Washington this week with his high school students for the Close Up Washington Civic Education Program. The Close Up Foundation is presenting him with an award for his dedication to the program over many years.

Mr. Tokita's students report that his history class is tough but fair. He instills his students with the philosophy that "Quitting is not an option!" I experienced first-hand Mr. Tokita's effectiveness as a teacher when I visited his class. The students impressed me with their enthusiasm and lively participation.

Mr. Tokita is a strong supporter of this program to give students a first-hand experience with democracy in our Nation's capital. Using the Close Up curriculum—tied to state history standards—Mr. Tokita helps his students understand how our democracy works, and inspires them to become more active in their school and community.

Over 95 percent of the program's 500,000 participants have reported that the program helped them better understand their roles as citizens.

I salute Mr. Tokita for his dedication to providing a well-rounded civic education for his students. I have requested to have a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol in his honor.

Congratulations to Mr. Tokita and the many students he has helped influence over the years.

THE VOLUNTARY STATE DISCOUNT PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN ACT OF 2011

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce, along with my colleague,

Representative CHELLIE PINGREE, the Voluntary State Discount Prescription Drug Plan Act of 2011—a completely voluntary, commonsense way to offer prescription drugs at affordable prices to millions of Americans currently struggling without prescription drug coverage.

With the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, millions of uninsured Americans will gain access to health insurance and prescription drug coverage. However, the expansion of coverage won't happen until 2014.

In the meantime, high prescription drug costs will continue to be a burden for millions of Americans. This legislation would enable states, at their option, to create state discount prescription drug plans that extend Medicaid-negotiated rebates to citizens up to 300 percent of the poverty line and thereby provide discounts of roughly 40 percent to 50 million uninsured Americans—all at their local pharmacies. Just like HMOs and insurance plans in the private sector, participating states would simply leverage their purchasing power to secure better prices on behalf of their citizens. In that regard, our bill would explicitly authorize recent prescription drug affordability initiatives in states like Maryland, Maine, and Vermont by removing barriers that have to date not been embraced by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

In 2005, my home state of Maryland passed a state discount prescription drug plan law with the near unanimous support of our General Assembly and our then Republican Governor Robert Ehrlich. Unfortunately, that plan was subsequently blocked by the Bush Administration for reasons that have never been credibly explained. As a result, the broad bipartisan will of our state has been thwarted and hundreds of thousands of Marylanders have been deprived of needed access to affordable prescription drugs. In fact, according to an analysis of U.S. Census data conducted by Families USA and the Center for Policy Alternatives, an estimated half million Marylanders would become eligible for immediate prescription drug price relief under this legislation.

Since these plans are created at the state level, we don't believe states should have to ask the federal government's permission in order to establish them. For that reason, our legislation makes clear that Maryland—and any other state that chooses—can set up a state discount prescription drug plan without petitioning CMS for a Section 1115 waiver. Additionally, since these plans rely on government purchasing power rather than government outlays to produce price discounts, we remove CMS's somewhat contrived requirement that states expend some undefined amount of their own money as part of these plans. Beyond modest administrative costs, it simply isn't necessary.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation represents a significant opportunity to empower states to deliver prescription drug affordability to millions of our citizens who don't currently have it. I hope Congress seizes this opportunity, and I invite my colleagues' support.

IN HONOR OF THOMAS G.  
MASARYK

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Thomas G. Masaryk and in commemoration of the statue that is being dedicated in his honor at the Bohemian National Hall in Cleveland.

Thomas Masaryk was both the founder and the first president of the Czechoslovak Republic. The Czechoslovak Republic was established in 1918 in the aftermath of the First World War; Thomas made two visits to Cleveland in his lifetime, one in 1902 and another in 1918 where he spoke at the National Bohemian Hall.

The statue is a plaster cast of a similar statue that is located in the Czech Cultural Garden at Rockefeller Park. The statue's curator, Frank L. Jarouch, has been a Cleveland resident all of his life and originally dedicated the statue to the Czech Garden in 1961.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please rise with me today in honor and recognition of the dedication of this statue of Thomas G. Masaryk. It is a benefit to the community that stands in memory of a man who chose to make a difference with his life.

THE FEDERAL FIREFIGHTER  
FLEXIBILITY AND FAIRNESS ACT

**HON. JOHN P. SARBANES**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to re-introduce the Federal Firefighter Flexibility and Fairness Act which passed the House of Representatives by voice vote in the 111th Congress. This legislation would correct a longstanding disparity between professional firefighters who are employed by States, counties, or municipalities and Federal firefighters.

In 1985, Congress amended the Fair Labor Standards Act so that firefighters around the country could engage in a practice called "trade time." Trade time allows two firefighters, solely at their option and with the approval of their supervisor, to trade shifts without affecting the pay of either firefighter. The Congress made this change because firefighters work uncommon schedules involving 24-hour shifts and 72-hour workweeks, followed by a period of time away from the firehouse. Trade time enables firefighters to meet personal obligations such as attending a child's birthday or assisting a sick family member without exhausting their annual leave. It also ensures that firehouses across the country can maintain staffing requirements and keep our communities safe.

Federal firefighters are not covered under the Fair Labor Standards Act and therefore have been ineligible for trade time. I am re-introducing this legislation to amend Federal employee labor law to fix this problem.

Federal firefighters work side-by-side with their non-federal colleagues, so this is an issue of equity. Correcting this inequity will help Federal agencies recruit and retain fire-

fighters. Just like other firefighters, Federal firefighters risk their lives on a daily basis. They also accept the irregular hours that their jobs require. This legislation merely gives them some modest flexibility to balance that irregularity and meet their family obligations.

I hope my colleagues will support this bipartisan commonsense legislation.

THE RED ROUTE HIGHWAY  
THROUGH THE TOWN OF GARNER

**HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, the Army Corps of Engineers is working to put a highway straight through the town of Garner, in my district, slicing it in half.

I rise today for the Town of Garner, whose voices must be heard.

The Red Route would pass through the living room of Brenda and Jerry Summer, older residents whose children and grandchildren have moved back to Garner to be close to them.

They say it will be the worst thing in the world if they had to move, and have no idea where they would go. Heartbroken, is how Mrs. Summer described the situation.

I rise for the seniors at the Village at Aversboro that moved in with the confidence they are buying their final home.

Instead, they're being put through an emotional period of stress, not knowing where they'll end up.

I stand for the thousands of families that would be displaced and have to find new homes.

I rise for the 140 year old Springfield Baptist Church, and the 2,000 parishioners, who would literally lose all of their property which is some fifty acres of land.

All because of the Clean Water Act and the Army Corps refusal to remove the Red Line from consideration.

The oppressive regulations under the Clean Water Act are stifling economic growth and job creation.

The Act allows a Dwarf Wedge Muscle and a portion of wetlands to paralyze a town and displace countless families and businesses.

It gives the Army Corps of Engineers the power to stop development and job growth in their tracks.

The situation is especially frustrating since the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the North Carolina Turnpike Authority say they will never build the highway.

Even though the road is not a real option, the Army Corps insists on moving forward, spending hundreds of thousands in taxpayer dollars to study road that will never be built.

Meanwhile, the town of Garner is "Closed for Business" and economically crippled as the state spends years studying a road with no future.

I'm not saying the highway should not be built.

I'm simply asking why the federal government is spending millions in tax payer dollars on a road with no future.

Common sense dictates the Army Corps should find a viable option.

Common sense dictates the Army Corps should remove the Red Line from the Map today.

As this map demonstrates, other options are much less destructive and even less costly to build.

These options do not split a town in half and should be studied in place of the Red Line.

The North Carolina Turnpike Authority has already dropped three other options from consideration because of public protests in those towns about the potential harm to the community.

As each day goes by, Garner loses millions of dollars.

Garner stands to lose a project worth \$9 million in investments and hundreds of jobs.

Investors are literally walking away while the town stands in limbo, a hostage to a heavy handed government agency.

Further, the proposed route would cut across several tributaries flowing into Lake Benson, a major source of drinking water for Garner.

Runoff from the road would empty into the lake, increasing sedimentation and the risk of other pollutants.

With unemployment in my district at almost 10%, the federal government should get out of the way and let businesses grow.

It's disappointing that the Army Corps, at the behest of Washington regulators, would consider the interests of a few tiny mussels ahead of the interests of the people of Garner.

The Orange Route is the original plan proposed and has been on the map for nearly two decades.

In Garner, millions of dollars in investments and thousands of jobs would be lost.

Twenty-six commercial lots will be destroyed, with a total tax value of over \$30 million.

Approximately 510 residential lots in Garner representing a tax value of over \$106 million would be leveled.

I came to Washington to stop out of control spending and waste and remove job-killing regulations. It didn't take long to find examples of waste and job-killing regulations right here in our district with the continued study of this "Red Line." This option must be taken off the map so Garner can begin growing again.

Garner families are fighting for their homes and livelihoods, and I stand with them, ready to fight until the Red Line is removed from consideration.

IN RECOGNITION OF CLEVELAND  
FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD'S  
25TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the Cleveland Federal Executive Board, and to thank all the federal employees in our community for their individual and collective dedication to the public good.

The community of federal employees in Cleveland, Ohio is comprised of more than 25,000 individuals who contribute their talent and expertise daily in an array of roles, including park rangers, administrators, accountants, clerical employees, attorneys, engineers, military personnel, mail carriers, scientists, nurses and physicians.

The professional contributions extended daily by federal employees serve as a foundation of support, safety and security throughout the community. Every day, the environment is protected; the mail is delivered; veterans receive medical care; our national park is preserved; immigrants are guided to citizenship; citizens are provided with benefits and programs; and the universe is studied and explored thanks to federal employees in Northeast Ohio.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the members of the Cleveland Federal Executive Board and the thousands of federal employees who live and work within the Cleveland community. Their dedication to their work continues to preserve, protect and strengthen our entire community.

UPHOLDING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S TRUST OBLIGATIONS  
TO NATIVE AMERICANS

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, today I join Congressman DON YOUNG and Congressman DOC HASTINGS in supporting H.R. 887. I explain separately my reasons for doing so, and specifically my concerns about a request for attorney's fees of \$227 million. The resolution of the litigation in Cobell v Salazar involved claims that ultimately amounted to a breach of trust by the government to Native Americans. The plaintiffs have been denied the use of money they were otherwise entitled to, according to the settlement. The petition for fees reports that "government officials have abused individual Indian trust beneficiaries" for decades.

While the mismanagement of the Native trust monies is bad enough, a second injury cannot be inflicted on these same peoples by a fee request that is almost a quarter of a billion dollars. It shocks the conscience to see such a large request. Every dollar paid out in legal fees is a dollar the injured Native Americans will not have. That being said, I recognize, and appreciate, the work done by Plaintiffs' counsel on behalf of the claimants, and I recognize the value of that work and the years it took. In this case, the magnitude of the recovery cannot be used as a benchmark to determine attorney's fees. I would prefer to see an accounting of the actual attorney's fees incurred, by the hour, to see how that compares as a benchmark. But a contingency fee based on a resolution that is itself measured in the billions is simply avaricious.

I therefore support this legislation, H.R. 887, that limits the fee award to \$50 million. Congress has the ultimate power over Indian affairs. It also has the duty to protect Native American rights. The Constitution grants to Congress the express power to make regulations governing the territory belonging to the United States (Art. IV, Sec. 3, Cl. 2). In addition, the Indian Commerce Clause conveys the express power to Congress over Native American affairs. This clause provides that "Congress shall have the Power . . . to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes." (Art. I, Sec. 8, Cl. 3). As a result of

these powers, it is well established that Congress has plenary power over Indian affairs. It is up to us, members of Congress, to make sure we exercise these supervisory obligations.

Finally, there is what is referred to as the federal government's "trust relationship" between the federal government and the Native American tribes. This trust relationship obligates Congress and the federal government to protect the well-being of Native Americans, peoples who rendered their lands in return for this trust. As elaborated by Supreme Court Justice John Marshall, the tribes of our country are considered "domestic dependant nations" whose relationship to the United States was like "that of a ward to his guardian." We, the guardians in Congress, must now intervene to protect those under our care, especially where a fee dispute now creates a conflict of interest between the class members and their legal counsel.

That brings us to the Cobell settlement. In rectifying the breach of fiduciary duty documented in Cobell, we cannot allow another breach to proceed under our noses. Just as the government has a fiduciary duty to the Native Americans in the first instance in ensuring trust monies are not misappropriated, so too Congress has plenary power to ensure that the Native American class members are not gouged in a fee award. I have long advocated for sensible legal reform. Excessive attorney's fees in cases like this support this advocacy. Though the Cobell litigation was contentious and time consuming, no one can tell me, with a straight face, that a \$50 million dollar fee award is not excellent compensation for one case. On behalf of the 21 federally recognized tribes in Arizona, over 250,000 strong, from the Diné in the north, to the Havasupai at the bottom of the Grand Canyon, down to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe in the south, and on behalf of those tribes in between and throughout the United States, I rise in support of H.R. 887.

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS AND JANICE  
BRINKMAN

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Dennis Brinkman, Vietnam War veteran and Alpha Gamma Rho brother from Iowa State University, and his wife, Janice Kay Reeder Brinkman, on the special occasion of their 40th wedding anniversary. This special day will take place on March 27, 2011, but family will be celebrating the event in Galena, Illinois, this weekend—March 11–13, 2011.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Brinkman were married on March 27, 1971, in West Union, Iowa. Together they raised one child, Ann Marie. Dennis has farmed near Greene and Charles City, Iowa, since 1972. His operation has included beef cattle, farrow-to-finish hog production, soybeans and corn. Jan, a graduate from the University of Northern Iowa, started her career as an elementary school teacher. When Ann Marie turned two, she began working for Greene Limestone Company as a bookkeeper.

Dennis and Jan currently reside in rural Greene, Iowa. Dennis continues to expand his



crop business and serves on the AgVantage FS Board of Directors. Jan is an office manager at Allied Manatts Group L.L.C. in Charles City, Iowa, and an active member of a local mother's club that helps support the Coats for Kids program at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church.

I salute this lovely couple on the 40th year of their life together, and I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me, their friends and family in honoring them on this special occasion.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,193,176,753,471.62.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$3,554,751,007,177.80 since then.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING BISHOP JAMES E.  
McKNIGHT

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the constituents of the Third Congressional District of Florida, I rise to recognize and wish a Happy Birthday to Bishop James E. McKnight, a man of God and leader to the community of Gainesville, FL.

Bishop James E. McKnight was born March 14, 1930, and is a life-long resident of Gainesville, Florida. He has been married to Jessie M. McKnight over 56 years with three sons and one daughter.

As a man for whom education was key, Bishop McKnight graduated from Lincoln High School in Gainesville, Florida and attended Florida A & M University in Tallahassee, Florida. Bishop McKnight was not only a religious and community leader but also a patriot, he joined the U.S. Army and received special training in the Intelligence Division while serving in the Korean War from 1951–1953. Bishop McKnight has been a pastor in the Church of God by Faith for 53 years. He is presiding pastor of Gainesville Church of God by Faith in Gainesville, Florida, where he and his wife have served as leaders for over 50 years.

Under his leadership at Gainesville Church of God by Faith, a new building was built in 1973, and renovated and expanded in 1990. Bishop McKnight is very involved in the community and has served as a Board Member of the Eastside Clinic and development projects and the Black on Black Crime Task Force for many years. He was instrumental in offering their place of worship as a shelter to the resi-

dents of the former Kennedy Homes Apartment Building, who were displaced by fire in 2003. He received an award as a distinguished leader in the Gainesville Community in March of 2007. Bishop McKnight is highly respected and well known as a "Praying Man" in the Gainesville community and surrounding areas, and the National Church of God by Faith.

HONORING HOPE HOUSE'S 40TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2011*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Hope House located in the Town of Dover, Morris County, New Jersey as it celebrates its 40th Anniversary.

Hope House, a not-for-profit, multi-service agency, established in 1971, is a Catholic Charity Agency in the Diocese of Patterson. This noteworthy organization serves clients mainly from Morris County, providing professionally based social services, especially for those who are oppressed, powerless, or otherwise disenfranchised. Hope House Social Service Agency advocates fair and just treatment for all individuals. Services are delivered without regard to race, gender, personal belief or circumstances.

Hope House provides numerous programs and clinical counseling for children, adolescents, and adults. They maintain a professional staff of mental health providers with diversified backgrounds. Hope House counselors are therapists, many of whom are board certified. Licensed clinical social workers and professional counselors are also on staff to provide individuals with the care and support they need.

Of the numerous programs Hope House provides, their HIV/AIDS Service extends into Sussex and Warren Counties. This service is a community based program designed to provide comprehensive and centralized AIDS specific services in a compassionate, caring, and confidential environment.

In addition to the excellent health and social services, Hope House also provides domestic home services to those in most need. For instance, the Chore Program assists low income seniors and younger, disabled adults with light household chores. This program enables individuals to maintain independence and may help prevent premature institutionalization. Much like the chore program is the Fix-It Program. This service offers minor home repairs to Morris County low income families, persons with disabilities and seniors.

The Hope House style is warm and welcoming, reflecting personal attention and sensitivity with a dedicated staff and many volunteers and supporters. It is a cherished resource in our community that enables individuals to seek support for a wide range of issues and receive the attention they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Hope House of Dover, New Jersey as they celebrate their 40th Anniversary.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4,

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 10, 2011 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 15

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the situation in Afghanistan; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Administration's report to Congress, focusing on reforming America's housing finance market.

SD-538

Budget

To hold hearings to examine the report of the Bipartisan Policy Center's Debt Reduction Task Force.

SD-608

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold closed hearings to examine information regarding cyber security and critical electric infrastructure.

SVC-217

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for Tribal Programs.

SD-628

10:15 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the "Freedom of Information Act", focusing on ensuring transparency and accountability in the digital age.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine realizing NASA's potential, focusing on programmatic challenges in the 21st century.

SR-253

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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

To hold hearings to examine enhancing the President's authority to eliminate wasteful spending and reduce the budget deficit.

SD-342



<p>MARCH 16 9 a.m. Foreign Relations To receive a briefing on Libya. SVC-217</p>	<p>2 p.m. Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-342</p>	<p>FEMA is ready for the next big disaster. SD-342</p>
<p>9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations from AMVETS, Jewish War Veterans, Military Officers Association of America, Gold Star Wives, Blinded Veterans Association, Non Commissioned Officers Association, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Fleet Reserve Association. SDG-50</p>	<p>Appropriations Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Environmental Protection Agency. SD-124</p> <p>Aging To hold hearings to examine securities lending in retirement plans. SH-216</p>	<p>MARCH 30 10:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations from Paralyzed Veterans of America, Air Force Sergeants Association, Military Order of the Purple Heart, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Wounded Warrior Project, Vietnam Veterans of America, The Retired Enlisted Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War. SD-106</p>
<p>10 a.m. Budget To hold a joint hearing with the Task Force on Government Performance to examine modernizing performance, focusing on using the new framework. SD-608</p> <p>Commerce, Science, and Transportation To hold hearings to examine the state of online consumer privacy. SR-253</p>	<p>2:30 p.m. Foreign Relations To receive a briefing on Afghanistan, focusing on progress and expectations. SVC-217</p> <p>Judiciary To hold hearings to examine certain nominations. SD-226</p>	<p>2:30 p.m. Energy and Natural Resources Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the National Park Service. SD-366</p>
<p>Environment and Public Works To hold hearings to examine the report to the President from the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling. SD-406</p> <p>Finance To hold hearings to examine health reform, focusing on lessons learned during the first year. SD-215</p> <p>Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Organizational business meeting to consider subcommittee assignments and any pending nominations. SD-430</p>	<p>MARCH 17 9:30 a.m. Armed Services To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session. SD-G50</p> <p>Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings to examine current global investment trends in clean energy technologies and the impact of domestic policies on that investment. SD-366</p>	<p>MARCH 31 9:30 a.m. Armed Services To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program. SD-G50</p>
<p>10:15 a.m. Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Joseph M. Torsella, of Pennsylvania, to be Representative to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador, Department of State. SD-419</p>	<p>2 p.m. Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine the nominations of David Bruce Shear, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and Kurt Walter Tong, of Maryland, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as United States Senior Official for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum, both of the Department of State. SD-419</p>	<p>APRIL 5 9:30 a.m. Armed Services To hold hearings to examine U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Southern Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session. SD-G50</p>
<p>10:30 a.m. Appropriations Department of Defense Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of the Navy. SD-192</p>	<p>MARCH 17 2:30 p.m. Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine catastrophic preparedness, focusing on if</p>	<p>APRIL 12 9:30 a.m. Armed Services To hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SH-219 following the open session. SD-106</p>