

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MIKE SUMMERS RETIREMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and honor that I congratulate Mr. Michael Summers on his retirement. Mike, a 40-year member, 12-year officer, and Business Manager of Ironworkers Local #395, has dedicated his life to the interests of his fellow tradesmen and the entire community in Northwest Indiana. For his lifetime of service to the Ironworkers and the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council, Mike will be honored at a retirement dinner taking place at Avalon Manor in Merrillville, IN, on May 13, 2011.

During his 40-year membership in Ironworkers Local #395, Mike has held many positions and assisted the Building Trades in numerous capacities. Mike has represented the Ironworkers Local #395 as Trustee to the Health and Welfare Plan, the Annuity Plan, and the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee. He has devoted much of his time to numerous boards and currently is a member of the Building Construction Resource Center. Additionally, he is a member of the Tri-Parte Committees for U.S. Steel, Arcelor Mittal Indiana Harbor, and Burns Harbor. Mike is the past President of the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council and has held elected office for the Ironworkers Local #395 as a Business Agent; currently, he is the Business Manager. Mike's passion, devotion, and continuous support to the Building Trades is truly remarkable and he is worthy of the highest praise.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in its craftsmanship and loyalty to its members and service to the community. Mike Summers has always displayed these qualities and I profoundly respect his unwavering dedication to his own members and all the members of the Building Trades. I also deeply value his community involvement that has touched and inspired so many. When it comes to serving those in need throughout the community, Michael Summers has always been the first in line. He is generous to a fault.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Summers has given his time and efforts selflessly to those he has worked with and represented. He has been a true role model to his peers and a true friend to Northwest Indiana. Personally, I have found no better or loyal friend. I treasure our friendship. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Mike for his outstanding contributions and in wishing him well upon his retirement.

CONGRATULATING THE MOCK TRIAL TEAM OF ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mock Trial team of Adams High School in South Bend, Indiana, winners of the 2011 National Mock Trial Competition. Adams High School once again displayed its superior Mock Trial skills in its second national title and tenth time placing in the top ten nationally. The competition, held in the Sandra Day O'Connor U.S. District Courthouse in Phoenix, Arizona on May 6 and 7, 2011, featured 48 teams from 43 states, Guam, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, South Korea and Australia. Each team competed in four rounds before the final deciding match. Adams defeated the Missouri state champions to cap its remarkable season which included winning the Indiana state championship in March.

The team, nicknamed "The Ruckus," practiced 40 hours each week leading up to the national competition. The team members include seniors David Kern, Matt Caponigro, Toby Stoner, Peter Doyle, Geoff Burdell and Czesia Eid, and junior Jeremy Doyle. The team was coached by Adams teacher Heath Weaver with the assistance of Coaches John Scanlan, Erin Linder, Andrew Jones, Lucas Burkett, and timekeeper Maria Caponigro.

Mock Trial competitions require research, mastery of legal issues, honing of courtroom tactics, and strong teamwork. Each team is called on to prepare a legal case from the perspectives of both the plaintiff and defendant and assume the roles of lawyers and witnesses at trial. Peter Doyle was recognized as Best Witness in the national competition, an honor reflecting his extraordinary contribution to the victory. Again, I offer my congratulations to the members of the team, the coaches, Adams High School, and members of the community who supported the team throughout their training. The Adams Mock Trial team has represented Indiana, the City of South Bend, their school and themselves with excellence and distinction.

RECOGNIZING LT. DAVID LENO, A CHICAGO FIREFIGHTER, FOR RECEIVING THE PRESTIGIOUS MEDAL OF VALOR AWARD

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a courageous public servant, Chicago firefighter, Lt. David Leno. Today, in front of the Illinois Fire Services Association's

Firefighter Memorial, Lt. Leno will be presented with the distinguished Medal of Valor. Lt. Leno's years of untiring service to the Chicago community remind us of the extraordinary altruism necessary to commit one's life to the service and protection of the community. Furthermore, this distinction recognizes his exemplary dedication to public safety and his commitment to duty.

The Medal of Valor is presented annually to firefighters who continually serve their communities without reservation in the face of danger or who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Nominated for this honor by Fire Commissioner Robert Hoff, today Lt. Leno will join the ranks of fellow Chicago servicemen and fallen comrades in receiving an award that recognizes outstanding dedication.

In his 22 years of service, Lt. Leno has distinguished himself time and time again with countless acts of heroism. In addition to being formally recognized in 2009 by Mayor Daley for coordinating and participating in the rescue of three victims from the third floor of a burning building, Lt. Leno was nominated for Chicago's Carter Harrison Award and won a Special Honorable Mention for his firefighting performance.

The 3rd District and Chicago are fortunate to have public servants like Lt. Leno whose tireless commitment to safeguarding his community sets an example for all. On behalf of the residents of Illinois' 3rd District, I thank Lt. David Leno for his outstanding devotion, demonstration of selflessness, and personal courage above and beyond the call of duty; and I congratulate him for his deservedly being awarded the Medal of Valor.

COMMEMORATING THE 103RD BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY NURSE CORPS AND 100 YEARS OF SERVICE ON GUAM

HON. MADELINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 103rd birthday of the United States Navy Nurse Corps, and their centennial anniversary of service on Guam. The Navy Nurse Corps has a long history in Guam and continues to be instrumental in supporting Guam's health care system by training local nurses and modernizing health care practices on the island. I would like to recognize and commend the Navy Nurse Corps's outstanding contributions and service to the United States Navy, our nation, and the people of Guam.

Upon their arrival in 1911, three Navy nurses established the U.S. Naval Hospital School for Native Nurses on Guam. This school provided important nursing education and training to local nurses who cared for patients in acute care hospitals, public health village dispensaries, and in people's homes. By

● 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.

1941, 89 local, Navy-trained nurses had graduated from the school.

The Navy Nurse Corps on Guam has also proved to be a critical part of the Navy's humanitarian response efforts in the region. In 1975, Navy Nurses played an important role in "Operation New Life," which brought over 100,000 refugees from South Vietnam to Guam. In 1991, following the eruption of Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines, Guam Navy Nurses supported "Operation Fiery Vigil," which conducted the largest peacetime U.S. military evacuation in history, affecting more than 20,000 military personnel and their families. Guam Navy Nurses also provided immediate, critical care as part of the medical teams that responded to Korean Airline Flight 801, which crashed in Nimitz Hill on Guam in 1997.

Today, with more than 100 Navy Nurses on Guam, the Navy Nurse Corps continues to serve our local community by caring for our active duty service members, retirees, veterans, and their families at the U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, the Branch Clinic, and the VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic. They remain active in the civilian community, serving on various committees and projects, including the Guam Nurses Association, Guam Association of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, the Guam Diabetes Association, the Guam Lions Club, the American Cancer Society, and the Guam Memorial Hospital Volunteers Association.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I express a sincere un dangluko na si Yu'os ma'ase to the men and women of the Navy Nurse Corps for 100 years of exceptional service to our island and community.

IN RECOGNITION OF GAINESVILLE
MAYOR GLENN LOCH'S RETIREMENT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mayor Glenn Loch of Gainesville, Texas. Mayor Loch has served at different times as both a beneficiary and champion of the American dream. In the 1960's, he came to Gainesville for the first time with his wife Helen and their new baby. They had nothing to their name but a mattress, yet with some help from the community and a willingness to work hard, Loch became first councilman and eventually Mayor all in the course of ten years. He is now the longest tenured mayor in Gainesville history, and in his work, endeavors to repay the kindness the community bestowed when he was still a stranger to them.

From the time of his first term in 1974, Gainesville has undergone fantastic transformations. The downtown area, dilapidated after the oil bust of the 1980's, is now, according to Mr. Loch, "second to none." He also kicked off the "Take Pride in Gainesville" campaign. This campaign seeks to clean up Gainesville both "trash-wise" and "crime-wise." Initiatives in this campaign include redesigned frontage roads along both sides of Interstate Highway 35, improving access and traffic flow. Loch has continually sought to help Gainesville remain a place where people

are proud to live, with thriving businesses, jobs that pay well, and an involved community of citizens.

It is this ingenuity that prompted me to partner with Mayor Loch on the Pecan Creek Project. I had noticed the flooding problem in that area for years, and when Mayor Loch asked me to help him by communicating with Congress to appropriate funds for the project, I knew it was important that I take part. Since then, construction for the drainage project is underway. Additionally, Loch oversaw the acquisition of 10,800 acre feet of water rights from Lake Texoma, providing Gainesville with enough water for the next fifty years.

On the threshold of Mayor Loch's retirement, I am pleased to have had the chance to speak for a moment about this inspirational man. His story, as effectively as anyone's, celebrates the true meaning of the American Dream. The American Dream is about taking opportunity by the horns. The American Dream is about working tirelessly to make the most of that opportunity. Most importantly, however, the American Dream is about paying it forward, ensuring that those down the line have the chance to do the same. It's about bringing the dream full circle. On behalf of the 26th District of Texas, I thank Mayor Loch for his service to Gainesville and the citizens of America.

HONORING DOS PUEBLOS HIGH
SCHOOL SCIENCE BOWL

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Dos Pueblos High School Science Bowl Team. Michael Feldman, Daniel Gay, Ilan Goodman, Andy Granatelli, Daniel Richman and their coach Chris Jones made the South and Central Coast proud this month as representatives from California at the 2011 National Science Bowl, sponsored by the US Department of Energy in DC.

The U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl is a nationwide academic competition that tests students' knowledge in all areas of science. High school and middle school students are quizzed in a fast paced question-and-answer format similar to Jeopardy. Competing teams from diverse backgrounds are comprised of four students, one alternate, and a teacher who serves as an advisor and coach. The National Science Bowl's high school competition involves more than 13,000 students and is the only science competition in the United States sponsored by a federal agency.

In addition to their academic expertise, these students and their coach proved to be a popular and supportive team in DC. Honored by their peers, the DP team won the Civility Award, which recognizes excellent sportsmanship. In honor of winning this award, the team earned a nine-day trip to Alaska to study the region's glacial, biological and geological treasures.

Mr. Speaker, we speak often in DC of "winning the future." I'm so proud to represent this remarkable group of students, and their coach, who are working tirelessly towards this goal. Today I mark their accomplishment and en-

courage all young people across the country to follow their example, and push themselves in math and science fields. Our competitiveness as a nation depends on it.

HONORING MICHAEL MCKENNA
HOPPENRATH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael McKenna Hoppenrath. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

HONORING CAPTAIN GREG L.
GARNER

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Fresno Police Department Captain Greg L. Garner; and to thank him for his 32 years of selfless service to his community.

Captain Garner was born on February 4, 1959 in Madera, California. After graduating from Madera High School, Captain Garner went on to earn a Bachelors of Science in Criminology and a Master's of Science in Law Enforcement Administration from California State University, Fresno. He started his career with the Fresno Police Department in 1979 as a cadet, and worked his way through the ranks to become Police Officer, Police Sergeant, Police Lieutenant, and Police Captain in 2001.

During the tenure of his service, Captain Garner has received multiple awards and accolades. In 2008 the Fresno Police Department Traffic Unit under his command received the 2008 National Mothers Against Drunk Driving Award. That same unit was recognized as the number one Child Safety Program in the nation by the Office of Traffic Safety, and appeared on the cover of USA Today Magazine in recognition of the unit's efforts to improve traffic safety.

When off-duty, Captain Garner is actively involved in community causes, such as the Downtown Revitalization Committee, Bring Broken Neighborhoods Back to Life Program,

and the Men of Promise organization. He has also received the Gideon Community Service and Citizens of the Community Awards, volunteered in March of Dimes Jail & Bail Fund-raisers, and is currently volunteering part-time at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Captain Greg L. Garner on his 32 years of service and dedication to improving the safety and welfare his community, the City of Fresno.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, on May 11th, my vote on Rollcall vote No. 309 was incorrectly recorded as "aye", when I intended to vote "nay". I did not see the error until it was too late. I ask that the record reflect my strong opposition to H.R. 1229 and my intention to vote no on this legislation.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Asian and Pacific Islander American community in commemoration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

As representative of the 47th congressional district of California, I feel privileged to be here to speak of the history and accomplishments of the Asian and Pacific Islander Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge extraordinary community leaders who have contributed so much to the development of the APIA community.

I have in my district a compassionate, humanitarian organization: Saint Anselm's Cross-Cultural Community Center. This year, they celebrate 35 years of assisting tens of thousands of refugees in their resettlement and integration, and empowering underserved communities.

I recognize the Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance—the largest API organization in Orange County. Their health outreach programs, after-school programs, and policy advocacy programs make a real difference in the lives of Orange County residents.

Small businesses such as DTNtech Marketing Solutions and Holiday Inn Express of Garden Grove that have demonstrated the spirit of giving with their generous supply of donations and ongoing support for community beneficiary projects.

I would like to recognize several individuals for their extraordinary commitment to enhancing the vitality of the API community:

Ms. Ysa Le for her involvement with art activism for the Vietnamese American Arts & Letters Association to promote, preserve and enrich arts and culture by, for, and about the Vietnamese communities.

Mr. Do-Young Kim who has for over 10 years understood and conveyed the precious privileges and duties of being a United States citizen to the countless Korean immigrants whom he's assisted in realizing American citizenship.

And lastly, Dr. Ding Jo Currie, chancellor of the Coast Community College District, whose brilliance and passion for education has been demonstrated for over 30 years in building a superior educational system for Orange County's students in higher education.

Through their hard work and dedication, the Asian and Pacific Islander American community continues to become an integral part of the Orange County family—as entrepreneurs, community leaders and activists for worthy causes. On behalf of all my colleagues in the House, I offer them our praise and our gratitude.

HONORING SEAN KINCAID
DALDRUP

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sean Kincaid Daldrop. Sean is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

RECOGNIZING GAIL PARKER

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Gail Parker, the President and C.E.O. of the Central Fort Bend Chamber Alliance in Fort Bend County, TX. Mrs. Parker is retiring after nearly 8 years at the helm of the Chamber.

Gail has certainly left her mark on the Chamber. Under her leadership, Gail led the charge to double the Chamber's membership from roughly 400 members in late 2003 to just over 800 members currently, representing businesses from all sectors and industries across Fort Bend County. She also helped to create the Hispanic Business and Young Professionals Divisions, which have been critical to bringing new members of the Fort Bend business community to the Chamber.

Gail is a consummate professional who cares deeply about the community she serves.

The Central Fort Bend Chamber Alliance has been well served by her leadership and commitment to excellence. Throughout her tenure as CEO, Gail demonstrated the dedication and leadership necessary to advance the Chamber's mission and enlarge the scope of the organization.

I'm honored to call her a friend and I wish Gail and her husband Randy all my best. She is in my prayers as she leaves the Chamber to fight her next battle and, as she says, become a cancer "survivor." On behalf of Fort Bend County, I thank you for your hard work and service to the Fort Bend business community.

HONORING D. ERIC HULTMAN

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor D. Eric Hultman who is retiring from my office as Chief of Staff after eight years of service to the constituents of the Second District of Nebraska and a career of service to all Americans.

Eric, a graduate of Brown University and University of Nebraska College of Law, has served the public for over 20 years on Capitol Hill. He has been in senior positions with the House and Senate Judiciary Committees, a U.S. Senator, and a Member of U.S. House of Representatives.

His long and respected career also included the position of Managing Editor for the Legislative Digest for the House Republican Conference and an attorney at several private law firms.

He has worked tirelessly to make our country safer, to make our government more efficient, and to bring a sense of responsibility to Washington, DC. Even though Eric is a committed conservative, he knows the value of working with members from all political stripes. This philosophy has served my office well through the years.

He is a devoted father and husband who somehow always managed to balance both family and professional commitments—a difficult task even for the best of us. But Eric always managed to find that balance through his positive attitude and hard work.

I am proud of Eric's years of public service and am very appreciative of his hard work and friendship. I have also learned to be appreciative of his sense of humor, which during stressful times, has come as welcome relief.

I, along, with all the other members of my staff will miss Eric for not only his patience, but his ability to have an answer for every question. His retirement is well deserved and we wish him the best as he starts the next chapter of his life.

HONORING VAN GUARD HOSE
COMPANY NO. 1

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, Suffolk County is home to many fire department

companies that protect and serve our local communities. I rise to honor the Van Guard Hose Company No. 1 in Patchogue, New York and its members, who this year are celebrating the 120th anniversary of its founding.

In the summer of 1890, local residents determined that the Patchogue Fire Department was unable to adequately respond to fire emergencies in the southern section of the Village of Patchogue when Captain G.G. Horton's barn was destroyed by fire. Due to this unfortunate event, these local residents formed the Van Guard Hose Company.

Residents requested the purchase of a hose cart and the fire directors of Patchogue Fire Department granted the purchase of a two-wheeled cart and 500 feet of hose. Chief Edwin Bailey, the department's first chief, was tasked with determining the location to house the new equipment.

Fourteen residents came together to form the present company for its regular meeting on January 13, 1891 at the home of Mrs. Alfred C. Mott, a resident of southern Patchogue. Today, Van Guard Hose Company No. 1, located just down the street from where the company first met, has grown to 63 members who bravely and selflessly serve their community.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great comfort to know that Long Island is still a collection of communities where neighbors look out for one another, as they did back in the 1890s. I'm proud to represent Van Guard Hose Company No. 1 and its members in the House of Representatives. I offer my congratulations on this milestone and wish them well for many years of continued service to the Patchogue Fire District.

HONORING MITCHELL RYAN
KOVAC

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mitchell Ryan Kovac. Mitchell is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

RECOGNIZING KATHLEEN CAREY
MIHM

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of the 22nd Congressional District of New York, Ms. Kathleen Carey Mihm. Kathy, as she is fondly known to family and friends, is a warm, witty and insightful woman who has dedicated her professional life to public service and, in doing so, has made a lasting contribution to her community.

A native of Kingston, Kathy grew up in a lively Irish family with nine brothers and sisters. She graduated from Kingston High School and went on to pursue advanced study at Ulster County Community College. Kathy began her public career as the Village of Rosendale Clerk, followed by two consecutive terms as a member of the Ulster County Legislature. In 1985, she began a distinguished career with the Ulster County Board of Elections. Kathy served as Deputy Commissioner under the late Harry Castiglione and then, after a brief time as Clerk of the Legislature, was appointed as Commissioner of Elections for the Democratic Party.

During her tenure with the Elections Board, Kathy was a tremendous asset to the voting public of Ulster County. She understood that the fundamental mission of the Board of Elections is to serve the voting public in a bipartisan manner. She worked hard and was diligent in her efforts to ensure that every eligible vote was counted. Kathy retired in December of last year in order to spend more time with her two children and four grandchildren. She has left behind a lasting legacy of honor and integrity.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Kathleen Carey Mihm for more than twenty-five years. She has been a dear friend and a valued adviser and we have worked closely on many issues of importance to the residents of Ulster County. Her work on behalf of the Board of Elections and her community was both inspiring and commendable. It is with great pleasure that I recognize her outstanding contributions and achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2011
FAIRFAX COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the volunteers who assist the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office. These volunteers work with deputies and civilian staff to help inmates to improve their lives during incarceration and to prepare them for a successful transition back into the community.

With more than 500 deputies, the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office is the largest Sheriff's office in Virginia and among the largest in the country. These deputies perform invaluable services for Fairfax County residents which in-

clude providing court security, managing the detention center, and serving the civil law process. Volunteers with the Sheriff's Office help provide inmate programs and services at the Adult Detention Center (ADC) and Pre-Release Center, including mental health counseling, religious services, alcohol and drug support groups, health education, library services and job training.

Volunteers complete a Sheriff's Office training program and also work closely with staff to ensure that best practices are followed. A recent study completed at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center showed the significant impact that detention center rehabilitation programs can provide. The efforts of these volunteers improve the lives of those incarcerated, reduce recidivism, and make our communities safer.

Each year, the Sheriff's Office hosts a luncheon to thank all of the dedicated individuals who help make the volunteer program a success. It is my pleasure to recognize the honorees in each service area:

Alcohol and Drug Services—Nate Trager
OAR—Opportunities, Alternatives, and Resources—Linda Rule
Chaplain's Office—Norman J. Bacon
Education—Bill Richey

The efforts of these individuals are particularly noteworthy, but I also want to acknowledge the nearly 300 volunteers who have contributed their time and support to the Sheriff's Office during the past year. These volunteers provide services that help to place inmates on a path to success. They offer their time that could be spent elsewhere to provide encouragement and support that will improve lives during incarceration and provide for a successful transition to help get inmates back on their feet. The efforts of each and every one of these volunteers are commendable and deserve our praise.

Sheriff Stan Barry and the staff of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office should be commended for their critical role in administering the volunteer program. The efforts of these staffers maximize the contributions of volunteers in the most effective way and provide the support that makes this program a success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of these individuals and all of the volunteers who support the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office. The selfless commitment of these individuals helps to provide enumerable benefits to our community and life-changing services to the inmates they serve.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. ADA LEE
PATRICK

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a member of my church, a devoted wife and mother, a Christian woman and a friend to many.

Mrs. Ada Lee Patrick was born in Holmes County, Mississippi, in 1948 and migrated with her family to Chicago, Illinois in 1957. She attended the local elementary and high school on the west side of Chicago. She was baptized at the Mt. Carmel Church and later

joined new morning star and ultimately new Galilee MBC where she remained until death. Ada met and married Mr. Frank Patrick and together they became proud parents of five children.

Mrs. Patrick was actively involved in her church and was known as a cheerful and upbeat person. Her backing was legendary and she is always ready to share encouraging words with everyone.

Mr. Speaker, the world is a better place in which to live because of the life and contributions of Mrs. Ada Lee Patrick. May her soul rest in peace and we extend our heartfelt condolences to her husband Frank and other members of her family.

ISRAEL'S 63RD INDEPENDENCE
DAY

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Israel on the celebration of its 63rd Independence Day. I am a strong supporter of the State of Israel and believe in its right to exist as a Jewish and democratic state with secure and recognized borders.

As our strongest democratic ally in the Middle East, Israel is a crucial friend of the United States, and its continued strength and stability are in our nation's best interest.

The past several years have been a challenging time for Israel. Israel continues to face danger on many fronts, from the ongoing threat of terrorism to the potential rise of a nuclear-armed Iran. Peace and stability in Israel and the Middle East at large are still a possibility. Despite recent events with Fatah and Hamas, I hope that Palestinian authorities will be willing to come to the table and negotiate peace with their Israeli neighbors. I trust that new commitments and agreements are reached that enable these two states to live peacefully with one another.

I will continue to advocate for policies that make Israel more secure and work to alleviate the tensions in the Middle East, and I urge my colleagues to join me. As a member of the Israel Allies Caucus, I have been an active advocate for Israel and its people. I know the people of Israel want to live in peace with their Palestinian neighbors, and I will push for continued American engagement in the peace process. Together, the United States and Israel will continue to work in partnership to bring peace and security to the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Israel on their 63rd Independence Day.

RECOGNIZING THE HONOREES OF
THE 2010 FAIRFAX COUNTY LAND
CONSERVATION AND TREE
PLANTING AND PRESERVATION
AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of Fairfax

County 2010 Land Conservation and Tree Preservation and Planting Awards. These awards recognize those developers, designers and site superintendents who have excelled in their stewardship of the environment by implementing erosion and sediment control measures for soil conservation or increasing the tree cover through tree preservation and planting efforts.

Fairfax County is considered one of the best counties in the Nation in which to live, work and raise a family. One reason for this designation is the innovative environmental protection policies that have been implemented by the county and embraced by its business partners. I am pleased to have led that effort during my tenure as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. These awards recognize the following individuals and companies who have successfully brought their projects to completion while preserving and enhancing the local environment:

Small Commercial: The Howard Gardner School

Large Commercial: Aerospace Corporation Parcel 35 at Westfields

Small Single Family Residential: Yorkshire Subdivision

Large Single Family Residential: Huntington Mews, Section 2

Linear Project: Bull Run Woods
Best Protected Environmentally Sensitive Site: Aerospace Corporation Parcel 35 at Westfields

Outstanding Site Superintendent: Greg Clark

Outstanding Engineering Firm: Whitman, Requardt & Associates, LLP

Outstanding Contractor: James G. Davis
Environmental and Facilities Inspections Division Inspector of the Year (East): Martin Klema

Environmental and Facilities Inspections Division Inspector of the Year (West): William Dougherty

Environmental and Site Review Division Reviewer of the Year (East): Hani Fawaz

Environmental and Site Review Division Reviewer of the Year (West): Shahab Baig

Tree Preservation Awards:
Potomac School
Pohick Stream Valley Park Trail
The Aerospace Corporation Stream Restoration Project

Tree Planting Category Award Recipients:
Francis Scott Key Middle School
Huntly Terrace Townhomes

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the efforts of those involved with these projects. Fairfax County and its residents have benefitted greatly from the collaborative spirit that is represented by these awards today. I wish to thank all of the awardees for their efforts on behalf of our community, and I congratulate them on receiving these awards.

IN RECOGNITION OF NORTHWEST
HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call special attention to Northwest High School

in Justin, Texas. Students from Northwest High School will be competing in Aerospace Industries Association's 9th annual Team America Rocketry Challenge (TARC) National finals this weekend. This competition brings students from all over the United States together to hone their skills in math and science in order to design, build, and fly a model rocket. The rocket must carry one raw egg to an altitude of exactly 750 feet, remain airborne for 40 to 45 seconds and return to the ground with the raw egg intact. With this annual competition, the Aerospace Industries Association seeks to inspire students to pursue careers in the aerospace industry.

The students at Northwest High School have been working all year to prepare for this opportunity. The event holds over \$60,000 in prize money, scholarships, and a trip to the Paris Air Show. I know the students of Northwest High School have spent much time and energy into this opportunity, and I wish them all the best. Regardless of the outcome, I and the rest of the 26th District of Texas are extremely proud of this impressive group of students.

A TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN LANE
ARTHUR

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jonathan Lane Arthur for achieving the rank of an Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about 5% of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance based achievement whose standards have been well-maintained over the years. To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Jonathan and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues will join me in congratulating him on earning an Eagle Scout ranking and will wish him continued success in his future education and career.

HONORING LT. COLONEL ALFRED
FRANCIS

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, next Friday, an outstanding member of our military who hails from my district in the U.S. Virgin Islands will receive a promotion to Colonel at the Pentagon and I rise today to salute his service to our country.

Lt. Colonel Alfred Francis, known as "Plow" to his family and friends as a native of St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands, is currently assigned to The Army Staff, Pentagon here in

Washington, DC, and has served there since 2009. He previously commanded the 304th Signal Battalion, 1st Signal Brigade, Camp Stanley, Korea from 2007 to 2009. Prior to serving in Korea, Lt. Colonel Francis served at the Pentagon, assigned to DISA's Joint Staff Support Center as Division Chief, NMCC Operations. He deployed in support of ENDURING FREEDOM between 2002 and 2005. He was assigned to Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schoeffer Barrack, Hawaii, serving as the Assistant Division Signal Officer/Deputy G6 and as the Executive Officer, 125th Signal Battalion and later as Deputy CJ6, CJTF-76.

Lt. Colonel Francis received his Bachelor of Science Degree and ROTC Commission as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Alabama A&M University in 1989. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology and Minor in Mathematics and a Master of Science degree in Quality Systems Management from the National Graduate School. Upon completion of the Signal Officers Basic Course, he was assigned to the 279th Signal Platoon, Kaiserlautern, Germany, where he served as a Platoon Leader and Exercise and Plans officer from 1990 to 1993.

Upon graduation from the Signal Officers Advanced Course at Fort Gordon, Georgia, he was assigned to 525th Military Intelligence, XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he served as Brigade Signal Officer, then Company Commander of A Company—327th Signal Battalion, 35th Signal Brigade (Corps, Airborne) from 1994 to 1996. He was then assigned to the Military District of Washington, where he served on the 1997 Presidential Inaugural Committee as Chief, Visual Information Branch, followed by assignments within the Defense Information System Agency, DISA, as a Commercial Satellite Communications Officer and as a Communication Watch Officer in the National Military Command Center, NMCC, Joint Staff, Pentagon from 1996 to 2000.

Lt. Colonel Francis' awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Staff Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korean Defense Service Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Joint Staff Badge, the Army Staff Badge and the Parachutist Badge.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Fredriksted, St. Croix, the U.S. Virgin Islands and indeed the entire nation are proud of Lt. Colonel Francis. He is an exemplary young American who serves as a role model to the young people of our islands and is a source of pride to his parents, Betty L. Wilson and Divincy "Tino" Francis. We salute him on the occasion of his promotion to Colonel.

HONORING SANTA ROSA
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Santa Rosa Community Health Centers

and recognize their contribution to health care in Sonoma County, California. They are celebrating their 15th year of leadership and collaboration in building a healthy community.

In 1996, five physicians and one nurse practitioner made it their mission to bring high quality health care to the Roseland area of Santa Rosa, where the predominantly Latino community had no access to medical care. These providers worked tirelessly for 4 years until their first clinic opened with the help of the Sisters of St. Joseph and Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital. Southwest Community Health Center opened its doors on March 19th, St. Joseph's day, and was warmly welcomed to the community.

Under the guidance of CEO Naomi Fuchs, the original clinic at Lombardi Court expanded its hours and its facility. Ms. Fuchs also responded to the needs of several other important community programs that were facing budget restraints that threatened closure. The Elsie Allen Health Center, Turning Point Satellite Clinic, Southwest Adult Day Services and the Family Practice Residency Program were all brought under the Southwest umbrella as well as the Homeless Clinic, Roseland Children's Health Center and HIV/AIDS care. As their service area expanded well beyond the southwest corner of the city, they assumed a name that better represents them: Santa Rosa Community Health Centers.

In order to better serve their patients, 2011 saw the opening of the Vista Family Health Center, a 42,500 square foot facility that provides primary care and obstetrics to an additional 10,000 residents. This beautiful new health center reminds patients, many of whom are low income, that a medical home with a caring medical team is a right rather than a privilege.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we congratulate Santa Rosa Community Health Centers on 15 years of ensuring that everyone who enters their doors is heard, valued and honored.

A TRIBUTE TO MAPLEWOOD
NEIGHBORS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Maplewood neighbors of Humboldt for being the recipients of the Good Neighbor Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Good Neighbor Award is presented to an individual or group who exemplify true neighborhood spirit by lending a helping hand in a time of need. This was exemplified when Maplewood neighbors assisted a recently widowed and grieving neighbor by selflessly mowing her lawn, moving snow from her driveway, and

simply taking her on walks to remind her of the support she will always have in her neighborhood despite her current difficulties.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent the members of the Maplewood neighbors in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues will join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

RECOGNIZING DAN KEIFER

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an environmental leader from Southeastern Michigan, Dan Keifer, as he retires from the Clinton River Watershed Council after 10 years of dedicated service to the Clinton River watershed.

Those of us who represent urban watersheds know that the health of the waterways that flow through our communities are often measured in terms of specific indicators. A recovering river has fewer beach closings, declining e-coli pollution counts, and less bank erosion and sedimentation. A recovering river also shows restoration of native riparian vegetation, improved habitat, healthier stream flows, and the return of a wide variety of fish and other aquatic organisms. All of these watershed characteristics are measurable.

Another quality of recovering waterways is harder to directly measure, but is no less essential. Recovering rivers and streams invariably have people who take the time and trouble to care for them and work on their behalf. Without such public advocates, water quality improvements simply don't happen. Dan Keifer has been a powerful advocate and force for good in the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair watersheds. He has been an invaluable asset to the Watershed Council's mission to protect, enhance, and celebrate the Clinton River, its watershed, and Lake St. Clair.

Dan joined the Clinton River Watershed Council staff in 2002 and has served as that organization's Development Director and, later, as the Community Outreach Coordinator. Along the way, Dan has coordinated countless projects, meetings, and outreach efforts in support of water quality in our area. In 2008, Dan was awarded the National Distinguished Service Award for Trout Unlimited for his work in coordinating the Watershed Council's Coldwater Conservation Project.

Dan has also been an important part of my own office's water quality work, including efforts to support the new Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and deploy resources from that program in the watershed. He has worked with my office on everything from grants, to efforts to battle the invasive Asian carp, to the emerging partnership to carry out the recommendations of the Lake St. Clair Management Plan. Through it all, Dan has been an invaluable resource to my office.

Over the years, Dan has traveled the length and breadth of the watershed to speak to groups and relate the 10,000-year history of the Clinton River Watershed, telling the story about the progress that has been made from the days when the Clinton River was one of

the most polluted rivers in Michigan to today when the trout and salmon have returned. He speaks of what is needed going forward to fully restore the Clinton River and address the challenges confronting this urban waterway. This is an important story. In the truest sense, Dan has been the voice for the Clinton River.

Dan and his wife Heidi are moving to the Washington area to take up their responsibilities as grandparents. On behalf of myself, my staff, and everyone who has benefitted from his work, I am so pleased to join with the entire community in paying tribute to his achievements and thank him for his years of service to the watershed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 11, I was unable to cast my vote on rollcall vote No. 312, the Connolly of Virginia Amendment No. 2 to H.R. 1231.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of the amendment.

A TRIBUTE TO THE GOLD-EAGLE COOPERATIVE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Gold-Eagle Cooperative of Humboldt for being the recipient of the Horizon Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Horizon Award is presented to a business or entity which has brightened Humboldt's horizon through building improvement. Gold-Eagle has made important commitments to the communities of Thor and Renwick over the past year and both communities have enjoyed sizeable expansion.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent the members of the Gold-Eagle Cooperative in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT WEXLER

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues, Representatives ADAM

SCHIFF, BRAD SHERMAN and HENRY A. WAXMAN, as we pay tribute to Dr. Robert Wexler who is being honored by the American Jewish University.

We know firsthand of his many outstanding contributions to our community. For 18 years, Bob has been the President of the American Jewish University, where students are offered an educational setting which embraces both the history of the Jewish heritage and the skills necessary to become leaders in society. During his time at the university, Bob's many accomplishments contributed greatly to the growth and prestigious reputation of the institution. In 2007, he led the merger between Brandeis Bardin Institute and the University of Judaism, creating the American Jewish University and making it one of the largest Jewish institutions in the United States. Bob is also responsible for the establishment of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at AJU, which is the first independent conservative rabbinical school in the west. Bob is also a founder of the Whizin Center for Continuing Education.

In addition to his distinguished work as the President of AJU, Bob has been deeply involved in many charitable organizations. He has generously given his time to many of the Los Angeles Federation's commissions and committees, and has been named to Newsweek's list of America's 50 most influential rabbis, as well as Forward's list of the 50 most significant American Jewish leaders.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, we ask you to join us in recognizing Dr. Robert Wexler for his invaluable service and dedication to the community.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND WORK OF JOHN GILMAN

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life and work of John Gilman, a social justice and peace activist, author, decorated veteran and business owner. Mr. Gilman died on April 26, 2011, at the age of 90.

Mr. Gilman was one of ten children born to Jewish immigrant parents in Chester, Pennsylvania. John Gilman put his beliefs into action at an early age, leading his high school classmates in a strike. They demanded a new school building due to overcrowding that caused students to attend in shifts.

Mr. Gilman served as an infantryman in World War II and saw combat during the Allied advance into Germany. He was nominated for a Medal of Honor and awarded the Bronze and Silver Stars in addition to the Distinguished Service Cross for his exemplary service including "taking out" a German pillbox and tank.

A social activist throughout his life, he served as Executive Director of the Wisconsin Civil Rights Congress fighting against racism. He was one of the pioneers of humanitarian aid for Cuba, worked for nuclear disarmament and was an early local protestor against the Vietnam War. Mr. Gilman marched with Father James Groppi, Father Dismas Becker, and the Rev. Lucius Walker during Milwaukee's civil rights struggle. The flooring store he operated was firebombed in retaliation for his work. The

grand dragon of the Illinois Ku Klux Klan was convicted in connection with the bombing.

Mr. Gilman's politics came under scrutiny in the 1950s; he was twice called before the House Un-American Activities Committee for his involvement in organizations deemed to be Communist. Gilman refused to testify or implicate anyone else pleading the 5th Amendment and displaying his military medals in a large frame to the ire of his questioners.

John Gilman's autobiography, *Footsoldier for Peace and Justice* details an amazing life and in his own words "standing up against what he thought was wrong". Mr. Gilman is survived by his wife Helen; daughters, Rose Corso and Jennifer Gilman; 2 sons, Herman and Glenn; a brother, Jack; and a sister, Edith Silverstein; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Milwaukee and the country has experienced a profound loss with the passing of John Gilman. Mr. Gilman remained active almost until his death; I am proud to have called him friend. John Gilman was a true patriot understanding the turmoil of war firsthand through his honorable defense of his country but still fighting for peace because of his service. Today, I thank him and his family for their immeasurable achievements, I mourn his loss and I salute his legacy.

A TRIBUTE TO ELWIN HODGES

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Elwin Hodges for being the recipient of the Spirit Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Spirit Award is presented to a leader in the community and recognizes longtime achievement of community support or a superior effort on behalf of the Humboldt community. Elwin has consistently been finding new ways to help those around him for more than 50 years. A 55-year member of the Lions Club, Elwin recently was awarded the Lions International President's Medal, which is the second highest award a Lion can receive. He earned this award through commitment to the local vision program for school children, years of service to the Department of Social Services, donations of hundreds of pounds of vegetables to the Upper Des Moines and the Food Pantry from his own garden, and most interestingly, by inventing the hand-crafted "Fort-U-Nut" to provide thousands of messages of cheer and inspiration to those that need them most.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Elwin in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future

NATIONAL EMS WEEK

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, May 15th through the 21st is National EMS Week, a week set aside to reflect upon and honor the life-saving and heroic role the Emergency Medical Services, EMS, community plays in our society. While everyone associated with the EMS system is worthy of due praise, I rise today to pay tribute to one particular segment of the EMS system.

In conjunction with EMS Week, the Association of Air Medical Services is instituting the inaugural MedEvac Hour, asking those who are participating in EMS Week to find one hour of the week to recognize the contributions of all those involved in helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft medical transport. As a co-chair of the Congressional Air Medical Caucus, I recognize the vital role the air medical community plays in this nation's health care system.

I would like to take this opportunity to especially commend the exemplary services provided to my constituents in California's 18th congressional district: PHI Air Medical of Modesto, Medi-Flight of Modesto and Merced, REACH Air Medical Services of Stockton, Sky Life Central California of Fresno, and the California Highway Patrol—Central Division. The work they do saves lives and we are grateful for it.

Numerous studies have shown that the first hour following a trauma is a critical period in determining the final health outcome of the patient. However, 46.7 million Americans live more than an hour away from a Level 1 or Level 2 trauma center. When time and distance are critical, helicopter MedEvac is the quickest and most efficient way to get critical level medical care to the patient. MedEvac helicopters are most often utilized for time-sensitive illnesses and injuries such as severe trauma, heart attacks, or strokes. In remote rural areas, MedEvac helicopters are often the only access to definitive treatment and diagnosis. It is estimated that MedEvac helicopters transport approximately 400,000 patients annually, with MedEvac fixed-wing aircraft transporting an additional 100,000-plus patients over longer distances annually.

As early as 1926, the United States Army Air Corps used a converted airplane to transport patients from Nicaragua to an Army hospital in Panama, 150 miles away. Routine MedEvac transport utilizing helicopters began during the Korean conflict in the 1950s. In March of 1970, the Maryland State Police transported the first critically injured trauma patient by helicopter in the United States. The first civilian hospital-based medical helicopter service in the United States was established in 1972 at St. Anthony's Hospital in Denver, Colorado.

As of the close of 2009, there were over 4,400 MedEvac pilots, 600 physicians, 5,500 nurses, and 5,300 paramedics/EMTs staffing MedEvac vehicles, both fixed-wing and helicopter, in the United States. These people save lives every day, providing critical level medical care and safe, rapid transport to the

most appropriate health care facility during the most dire of circumstances. In addition, we cannot overlook the many other people, from aviation mechanics to communication specialists, that play a key role in MedEvac operations.

All of the dedicated men and women of the MedEvac community deserve our heartfelt thanks. I urge all of my colleagues, during this National EMS Week, to take a moment to recognize these unsung heroes and the life-saving services the MedEvac community brings to their districts and across the nation.

HONORING MENDOTA HIGH
SCHOOL CHESS TEAM**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Mendota High School Chess Team, home of the mighty Aztecs, on their first place victory at the CalChess State Championships held recently in Santa Clara, California. This event drew more than 1,300 students from over 100 schools from across our great Golden State.

This victory is especially fitting as it clearly embodies the classic "underdog" tale. Mendota is not where you would normally expect to find the state's top high school chess team. As their coach Vanessa French explained, "I taught my kids a long time ago, don't be frightened by the bedazzled or the bling-bling . . . I have never told them we couldn't win."

A small agricultural community, Mendota is located in the western portion of California's Central Valley. I am proud to represent this community with its population of 10,000. Historically known for its reputation as The Cantaloupe Center of the World; sadly Mendota has recently become known to many in our nation for its chronic high unemployment rate, at times hovering near 45%. Most residents of Mendota are hard working migrant farmworkers and earn, on average, one-third of what other Californians earn. Culturally, chess is not a game played in the homes of many Mendota families, who are busy simply trying to make ends meet.

Yet, despite these tremendous odds, the students from Mendota High School returned home as state champions, winning first place in the Premier Division and earning eight team and individual medals and trophies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the hard work, dedication and spirit of strategic competitiveness that runs through each and every one of these impressive students. I congratulate students Julian Estrada, Chrispen Reyes, Luis Castillo, Felipe Beltran, Jessi Mendez, Kevin Romero, Sergio Mayares, Milton Arroyo, and Edwin Brioso and Coach Vanessa French on their great victory and ask that you join me in wishing continued success to all those at Mendota High School who worked so tirelessly on this victory.

A TRIBUTE TO LOIS ANN JOHNSON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lois Ann Johnson of Humboldt, Iowa for being the recipient of the Inspiration Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Inspiration Award is presented to an individual with a "can-do" attitude who is involved in all facets of the community both as a leader and team player. Lois was recognized for her extensive volunteer work at her local hospital auxiliary, church, and care centers, just to name a few. Lois was also recognized as a mentor at the elementary school and as president of the advisory group associated with the community's CARE team.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Lois Ann Johnson in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending her for her sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish her continued success well into the future.

H.R. 1229 AND H.R. 1231

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, this week, the House majority is taking up legislation that helps the profits of Big Oil but does nothing to curb a future oil disaster or bring down oil and gas prices. H.R. 1229 and H.R. 1231 both greatly expand U.S. offshore drilling while removing crucial environmental safeguards and limiting oversight of the oil and gas industry. It has been a little over a year since the gulf oil spill and these bills ignore the lessons learned from this environmental and public health disaster that resulted from the explosion that took the lives of 11 Americans.

I fully support national energy policies that increase energy independence but these must be done in a way that protects our environment and uses our natural resources responsibly. It is important that any energy policies we put in place provide greater efficiency and accountability to the management and regulation of our energy resources.

That is not what the legislation before us will do. I urge my colleagues to vote "no."

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND JOSEPH
D. MATHIS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a South Carolinian who distinguished himself on the athletic field and as an educator, coach, minister and community activist. The late Reverend Joseph D. Mathis is being inducted into the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame on May 23, 2011, and will be honored for his lifetime of accomplishments by the Rainbow Push Coalition on May 14th. I add my voice to those honoring Reverend Mathis, who made tremendous contributions to the State of South Carolina.

Joseph Mathis was born August 28, 1922, in Cordele, Georgia, to Elnora Huggins and A.C. Mathis. He was reared in the home of his maternal grandparents, Lula Taylor Huggins and the Reverend Harrison Huggins, Sr. During the Great Depression, Reverend Mathis moved to Greenville, South Carolina with his family, where he graduated from Sterling High School. Despite the financial obstacles, help from others enabled Reverend Mathis to attend Benedict College and Allen University, where he earned a degree in History. He was a standout player and captain of the football team at Allen University, which went undefeated during the regular season of his final year.

Mathis returned to Greenville following his graduation, and took a job at his alma mater. From 1946 to 1970, Reverend Mathis taught health, physical education and social studies at Sterling High. As their coach he led the Sterling Tigers football team to regional fame and three state championships between 1946 and 1961. Reverend Mathis also served as athletic director and coached baseball, girls and boys track and basketball at Sterling High. Coach Mathis always emphasized athletic fundamentals, conditioning, and academic excellence. In 1992, he was inducted into the Piedmont Athletic Hall of Fame and was first nominated to the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame.

During the tumultuous years of desegregation, Reverend Mathis took on the responsibility of serving as the Assistant Principal of Greenville High School in 1970. He held that position until 1974. He later taught Social Studies at League Middle School and worked as a placement coordinator at Donaldson and Enoree Vocational Schools before retiring in 1977.

In addition to his commitment to education, Reverend Mathis was equally committed to his faith. He served as a Trustee and Sunday School Superintendent for many years at Israel CME Church in Greenville, and in 1961, he gave up full-time coaching in order to accept the call into the ministry. Reverend Mathis was ordained a Christian Methodist Episcopal minister under the pastorate of Reverend R.O. Langford at his home church. He pastored Young Laymen in the Nicholtown community for 31 years, and Mount Olive CME Church for ten years. In 1993, Reverend Mathis retired from the ministry after thirty-one years of service.

Another of Reverend Mathis' passions was civic involvement. When he earned his mas-

ter's degree from Atlanta University, his master's thesis was entitled "Race Relations in Greenville, South Carolina, from 1865 through 1900, as Seen in a Critical Analysis of Greenville City Council Proceedings." His studies compelled him to organize African American voters in Greenville in the 1960s and 70s. He also served with distinction on the Greenville City Council from 1979 to 1983, where he worked to improve public transportation, to include minority contractors in public work, to bring Municipal Stadium and the Braves to Greenville, to improve police pay and to annex Verdae Place to the City of Greenville.

Reverend Mathis and Kittle Mae Avery were married in 1948, and they shared a strong union until her death in 1991. The couple had two daughters, Janice (Thaddeus) Allen and Davida (Harry) Johnson, and three grandchildren. Reverend Mathis passed away in 2002 at the age of 80, but his legacy lives on through his family and in the countless people he touched through his service over his lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in recognizing the remarkable life of Reverend Joseph D. Mathis. He remains a tremendous example of an unsung hero. Reverend Mathis dedicated himself without reservation to his faith, his community and his profession. He excelled in all these arenas and is a remarkable role model for future generations to follow. It is my honor to provide this posthumous recognition of his many accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HAROLD
BLACKMAN, DIRECTOR OF THE
CENTER FOR ADVANCED EN-
ERGY STUDIES

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Harold Blackman, an Idahoan who has made a difference. When the Battelle Energy Alliance was selected by the Department of Energy to manage the Idaho National Laboratory, the contract called for the development of a research institution to link the Lab to the three Idaho state universities—the University of Idaho, Idaho State University and Boise State University. Ultimately, Dr. Harold Blackman was chosen to serve as Director of the Center for Advanced Energy Studies and a landmark institution in Idaho began to come together.

The Center for Advanced Energy Studies, or CAES as it is known in Idaho, brings INL researchers, university faculty and students, and industry together to partner in research and development activities. At the outset, Harold faced the challenge of getting the three Idaho universities to view the Lab as a partner and, perhaps the even more difficult challenge to get the three schools to work together. Previous efforts to bring our national labs and universities together in lasting partnerships have not always been successful and were it not for Harold Blackman's patient manner and his willingness to listen, learn and implement, CAES would have been another failed attempt. Instead, CAES is a smashing success and much of the credit goes to Harold Blackman.

CAES has developed into a state of the art research facility with world class equipment that gives its researchers a competitive advantage pursuing research proposals. Also, the partnership is helping fill the pipeline for the next generation of energy professionals. At a time when Idaho, like every other state in the Union, is facing severe budgetary pressure, Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter and the Idaho Legislature have continued to provide funding to support university faculty participation in CAES. Through CAES, Idaho universities have increased the role they play supporting nuclear energy research in the US, and undergraduate and graduate student enrollment in nuclear engineering classes has soared. As a result of the expertise and credentials of the staff Harold Blackman has assembled, CAES now administers the Department of Energy's Nuclear Energy University Program which funds R&D, fellowships, scholarships, and infrastructure investments across the country. In addition to fostering a new collaborative climate between the Idaho universities, Harold Blackman and CAES were instrumental in establishing a high-speed network researchers could tap into across the state.

The Center for Advanced Energy Studies is a model for national laboratory, university and industry collaboration and Harold Blackman deserves a large amount of credit for making this institution a success. Harold will now be tackling new challenges at INL, and I am sure he will bring his exceptional professionalism, listening skills and commitment to success to these new tasks.

Thank you, Harold.

HONORING FRED DAVIS JACKSON

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Fred Davis Jackson of Richmond, California, for his lifetime commitment to serving his community.

Fred Jackson has lived and worked in my congressional district since 1950, a veteran, having moved to Richmond from his home in Mississippi. He was born on February 6, 1938 as the eldest son of devoted and hard working parents, the late Leo Marvis Jackson, who was a seasonal construction and shipyard worker, and the late Idella Villon Jackson. Mrs. Jackson would eventually become single and took on domestic jobs to care for Fred and his three sisters and five brothers. Fred Jackson is a peacemaker, an educator, a song writer and a true community-builder, and each and every day since arriving in the Bay Area, Fred has made a decided difference in the lives of our residents.

Early on in his life, Fred Jackson recognized and celebrated the personal dignity in each individual. His work crossed all race and ethnic lines, all faiths and all ages. As a peace and social justice activist, Fred sat in at lunch counters in the South during the 1960's Civil Rights Movement and worked for peace even as he served our country in combat duty during the Vietnam War.

Fred Jackson is known throughout Contra Costa County as a dedicated advocate for our

families and children. He participated in the walk from San Pablo to Sacramento with the March4Education and then fasted for 19 days with Fast4Education for more equitable school funding. Fred has been a constant anti-death penalty advocate and his work in the community on violence prevention resulted in being awarded the 2000 Peacemaker Award in Contra Costa County. Fred has also taken an active and very personal role in bettering the lives of our senior citizens. He formed critical partnerships in the community, and personally donated the land that allowed the City of Richmond to build the Trinity Plaza Housing complex for low income senior citizens.

Fred Jackson's passion for writing and poetry has led him to express his personal philosophy through the arts. As a writer, he wrote, directed and produced the play *Brother Dap* at the Richmond auditorium in 1994, wrote a novel *An Evolution in Black and White*, wrote his soon to be published reflections, *Thoughts Set Free on the Wings of Expression*, and has written and performed numerous songs, including "One Step at a Time," "Too Early Too Young," and "When the Ozone is Gone."

As an educator, Fred Jackson has worked for many years at Neighborhood House of North Richmond on lead abatement, HIV education, the (Healthy Eating Active Living HEAL) collaborative. Fred volunteered as a trainer of the Peace Empowerment Process for the World Wall for Peace at Helms Middle School, Crescent Park Multicultural Center, and Chris Adams Center and this year introduced a Health Covenant uniting the community and church in a fight against diabetes.

Therefore, it was without hesitation that because of Fred Jackson's commitment to social justice, I selected him to cast the December 2008 electoral vote for the 7th Congressional District certifying the election of Barack Obama as president. He was also nominated for the Sergeant Shriver Achievement Award in 2010 for his work on behalf of low income residents in North Richmond.

Fred Davis Jackson has spent his life making life better for others and he has called on us all to do the same. I invite my colleagues to stand with me and salute the work of a quiet man working tirelessly for justice and thank him for the change he has brought to our community.

A TRIBUTE TO THE GENEALOGY
ASSOCIATION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Genealogy Association of Humboldt for being the recipient of the Cooperation Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Cooperation Award is presented to an organization or entity which led an effort or event that benefited and filled a need in the community through volunteerism.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent the members of the Humboldt Genealogy Association in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE PARTICIPANTS
OF THE VIRGINIA BEACH SPECIAL OLYMPICS

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the participants of Virginia's Area 2 Special Olympics competition in Virginia Beach on Saturday, May 14, 2011.

These talented and hardworking individuals deserve our honor and our congratulations as they compete and use the skills they have worked hard to develop and finesse. My wife and I consider it a high honor to attend Saturday's event, and today, I want to acknowledge each competitor.

2011 VIRGINIA BEACH SPECIAL OLYMPICS—ATHLETES

Daniel Alexander, Douglas Allred, Lara Amerson, Angela Anglen, Tyler Baird, Patrick Baker, Robert "Drew" Barnum, Tony Barrett, Kelly Bateman, Wanda Beasley, Scott Bedzik, Patrick Beil, Maggie Bell, Maggie Bellamy, Robert Bentley, Eddie Beslanovits, Katie Blind, Michael Borza, Brian Boyd, Scott Boyd, Catlin Boylan, Meghan Boylan, Jessica Boyle, Malcolm Boykins, Amy Bozeman, Kelly Bradshaw, Ronnie Bray, Charles Bryant, Ashley Buffington, Jason Buky, Barry Bunch—Emeritus, Matthew Burk, Jason Burnett, Daniel Boyter, Stephen Bradby, Lucius Brown, Tim Brown, Phillip Cabral, Richard Cameron, Anne Carey, Joe Carleaf.

Dianna Cashman, Randy Christie, Catherine Clayton, Mark Clowes, Dianna Cobb, Jay Coffield, Sharon Coffield, Chad Conner, Chris Cook, Samuel Corprew, Stephen Cox, Brian Cullipher, Collin Cunningham, Michael Daniel, Norman Derreberry, Michael Dickins, Claud "CR" Divers, Chandler Doebler, Kristen Dowdy, Neal Doyle, Kunta Drake, Nicholas Driscoll, Rachel Drake, Steven Durica, David Englin, Matthew Earnest, Sherie Elling, Edward Engelman, Samantha Errico, Richard Evans, Max Everton, Christian Felder, Lori Felts, Jackie Ferebee, Donte Fleming, Lynne Foster, Lisa Garrison, David Gaynor, Ross Goldman, Adam Golt, Brandon Gonzales.

Phillip Gonzales, Jada Goodson, Donna Gregory, Luke Grossman, Michael Hackforth, Eric Hardin, Vanessa Harmon, Christopher Harper, Alvin Harrell, Thomas Harrell, Jeremy Harwood, Wendi Harwood, Sherri Haunton, Daniel Haynie, Brian Heald, Patrick Hennessy, Rachel Higgins, Savannah Hinegardner, Marie Hock, Troy Hoeg, Timmy Howard, Jeffrey Hutton, Gavin Ingham, Elizabeth Jackson, Haley James, Elaine Jeffers, Kelly Jones, Kenneth Johnson, Kelli Johnson, Michael Johnson, Ronald Johnson, Hartley Jordon, Maya Jubilee, Christopher Kemp, Robert Klausmeyer,

Sonia Knight, Heather Knapton, Ryan Knapp, Anna Kopf, Robert Lang, Tamara Langill.

Paul Lapke, Al Lassiter, Darlene Laurent, Joey Layton, Michelle Levine, Kathleen Lewis, Anna Llewellyn, Michael Loeb, Peter Lorts, Peter Luke, Jamie Lynch, Jose Maisonave, Dominic Marinello, Damon Martone, Mark Masiko, Jonathan Maurici, Benjamin Meade, Reginald Mercer, Sarah Mielke, Charlton Miles, Amy Miller, Joe Milligan, Korben Mishoe, Eldric Mitchell, Meredith Monahan, Stacy Monroe, Melissa Moore, Nathaniel Morell, James Morter, Jean Marie Murphy, Darrin Moaton, Nicholas Morton, Joel Myers.

Darryl McCain, Ian McCullough, Scot MacEachen, Jillian MacGregor, Michael McKay, Kathryn McLaughlin, Blair McLaren, Kate McLig, Thomas McMahan, Kelly Nolan, Melanie Norris, Eric Nunn, Douglas Oatley, John Orr, Darwin Peele, Hannah Peelen, Celeste Perry, Monica Perry, Patricia Phillips, Patty Piggott, John Polfus, Michele Pollard, (Helen) Page Powell, Grant Prakalapakorn, Sudan Ra II, John Ramsey, Rufina Ann Recator, Jeff Regan.

Amber Richard, Alexander Ripley, Tyler Robertson, Antonio Rodriguez, Cathia Romero, Cindy Romero, Jessica Rosengrant, Melissa Rowe, Errick Ruffin, John Russell, Brian Ryland, Theresa Salvato, Jennifer Savell, Katherine Schmidt, Michael Shank, Megan Shephard, Michael Shepherd, Timothy Sherman, David Simpkins, Kandie Skinner, Thomas Skinner, Andre Smith, Earl Smith, Jr., Ian Smith, Joshua Smith, Lamar Smith, Phillip Smith, Steven Smith, Hannah Spruill, Andrew Statz, John Steele, Colleen Stefanowich, Gretchen Stott.

Brooke Stowell, James Strickland, Charles Siffies, David Sutton, Brian Taylor, Donald Taylor, Raymond Taylor, James Thacker, Joshua Thacker, Travis Thereault, James Thomas, Michael Thornton, Stephen Todd, Julie Touhey, Raelen Toupin, Harold Vanwart, William Velazquez, Timothy Voigtsberger, Alexander Ward, Stefanie Ward, Robert Webb, Todd Weeks, Melissa Weisbrodt, John Wells, Bryan Welker, Bruce Wielenbeck, Lynda Whedbee, Randolph Whitehurst.

Stephanie Whitlow, Jerri Williams, Dyshawn Williams, Jonathan Winfree, Savoyie Winstead, Vincent Woodhouse, Dylan Woodruff, Troy Green, Warren H. Lombard III, William Mason, Stephen Bradley, Reginald Turnage, Shekida Williams.

HONORING INDUSTRIES FOR THE
BLIND ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Industries for the Blind as it celebrates 75 years of providing employment, services, and training to individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Industries for the Blind was founded in 1933. Since then, the organization has grown to be the largest advocacy agency for the visually impaired in the country, creating skilled job opportunities for one of America's greatest underused labor resources. Industries for the

Blind gives people the confidence and independence to contribute to society and fulfill personal dreams of having a job. In so doing, they transform lives.

In my Congressional District in Western North Carolina, Industries for the Blind of Asheville has served as an important resource for 20 years. They provide much needed assistance and services such as mobile low-vision eye exams, innovative outreach programs for children and families, and optical services to our veterans. I would especially like to congratulate Industries for the Blind of Asheville on its eighth consecutive win of a Sky High Growth Award from the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce for outstanding growth in sales and employment. The Asheville facility has increased its work force ten-fold since 1991, growing from just 9 employees to 100.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise today to recognize the 75 years of civic leadership that Industries for the Blind has provided the visually impaired in Asheville, North Carolina and throughout the country. Their commitment to helping others live meaningful lives is courageous and uplifting. I am honored to celebrate Industries for the Blind's inspirational role in our community.

A TRIBUTE TO DOTTIE AND
DARRELL RUSHER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dottie and Darrell Rusher for being the recipients of the Family Tradition Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Family Tradition Award is presented to a family who demonstrates support and devotion to the community through volunteerism. Dottie and Darrell have truly exhibited both support and commitment to Humboldt County for many years.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Dottie and Darrell in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and I wish them continued success well into the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 11, 2011, I was unexpectedly detained for one vote.

Had I been present I would have voted: on rollcall No. 302—"no"—Hanabusa of Hawaii

amendment No. 4, an amendment to H.R. 1229, Putting the Gulf of Mexico Back to Work Act.

CELEBRATING THE THIRD ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE INAUGURA-
TION OF TAIWANESE PRESIDENT
MA YING-JEOU

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, May 20, 2011 marks the third anniversary of the Inauguration of Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou.

Much has transpired in those three years. Wars continue to plague our society. However, in the Taiwan Strait, tensions have abated and much of the credit must be given to President Ma for the courageous efforts he has made to lessen the tensions between China and the Republic of China (Taiwan).

While protecting the interests of the people of Taiwan, President Ma has made marked progress in the dialogue between the People's Republic of China (mainland China) and the Republic of China (Taiwan), thereby advancing peace in the Pacific.

For this he is to be congratulated and commended and we wish him much continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO LEROY AND JAN
JORGENSEN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Leroy and Jan Jorgensen for being the recipients of the Neighborhood Beautification Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Neighborhood Beautification Award is presented to recognize an individual or group who has set an example by improving, beautifying and restoring Humboldt neighborhoods. Mr. and Mrs. Jorgensen were nominated this year because of the enjoyment the residents of Humboldt receive from their gardens. They are often kind enough to host programs on gardening to assist others beautifying their homes and neighborhoods.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Leroy and Jan in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

HONORING U.S. ARMY STAFF SER-
GEANT MATTHEW HERMANSON'S
SERVICE IN AFGHANISTAN

HON. REID J. RIBBLE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. RIBBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life and sacrifice of Staff Sergeant Matthew D. Hermanson of Appleton, Wisconsin, who died on April 28, 2011, in Wardak Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Staff Sgt. Hermanson was assigned to A Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Polk, Louisiana.

Mr. Speaker, Staff Sgt. Hermanson embodied the best qualities of a true American soldier. His service has made Northeast Wisconsin and his country proud. He was selfless, dedicated and brave. During his service, Matthew earned the respect of his peers and numerous medals and honors for valor including the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He is remembered by his family and friends as a man of strong character, a dedicated husband and son who believed in family and community.

It is my honor to commemorate him and I urge my colleagues to join me today in honoring the life of Staff Sergeant Matthew D. Hermanson for the sacrifice he has made for the United States.

A TRIBUTE TO SALLY GORDON

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Sally Gordon. At the age of 102, Sally concluded 37 years of dedicated service to the Legislature of State of Nebraska when she retired as its assistant sergeant-at-arms on April 26, 2011.

Known for colorful hats and scarves, her signature flair, Sally has a long history in Lincoln, Nebraska. She watched the Nebraska Capitol being built from 1922 to 1932 and served as secretary to three governors. But in 1984, she became an institution in the Nebraska Legislature. Sally became the state's first female sergeant-at-arms, a role she relished. She helped maintain order and deliver messages from constituents to state senators on the floor.

Sally's quick wit and sunny disposition was admired by all who met her, including myself. It was my honor to work with Sally when I served as a Nebraska State Senator because she was always friendly, helpful, and inspiring. Sally's character is best reflected when she said, "I've been working for 84 years and I've had many interesting jobs. I've met movie stars and presidents, but the people of Nebraska are the ones I love."

In 2010, Sally was named "America's Outstanding Oldest Worker" by Experience Works, and for good reason. Often called the "Energizer Bunny," Sally is a Nebraska treasure who models a productive life no matter your age.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending the career of Ms. Sally Gordon as she begins her well-deserved retirement.

HONORING LT. MICHAEL P.
MURPHY

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Lt. Michael P. Murphy. Lt. Murphy grew up in the Long Island town of Patchogue and fulfilled his dream of becoming a (U.S.) Navy SEAL in 2002. He served honorably in Jordan, Qatar, Djibouti, and made the ultimate sacrifice during his deployment to Afghanistan. Lt. Murphy and three of his fellow SEALs were killed during their mission to find a key Taliban commander. Lt. Murphy posthumously received the Medal of Honor for his "undaunted courage, intrepid fighting spirit, and inspirational devotion to his men in the face of certain death."

I am proud to stand with the Navy which decided to name its newest warship in honor of Lt. Murphy on what would have been his 35th birthday. The USS *Michael Murphy* DDG-112, a guided-missile destroyer, will be able to carry on the legacy of its namesake by performing a multitude of tasks including crisis management, sea control, and power projection. It will also be able to conduct air, surface, and below surface operations in support of maritime warfare.

It was fitting that the christening ceremony of the USS *Michael Murphy* occurred just one week after the successful operation to hunt down and kill Osama bin Laden. We owe a great deal of thanks to people like Lt. Murphy, the Navy SEALs, and all the men and women of our military. These brave individuals put their lives at risk everyday to keep us safe. May God Bless America and all the brave men and women who protect us at home and overseas.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. HARMON AND
DR. ILLG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Dean Harmon and Dr. James Illg for being the recipients of the Friends of Animals Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Friends of Animals Award is presented to those whose acts of compassion ensure the health and well-being of our animal friends for conservation practices and efforts in the interest of preserving our wildlife. Doctors Harmon and Illg have consistently used their talents to support 4-H and ensure the safe purchase of auction animals in Humboldt County.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Dr. Harmon and Dr. Illg in the United States Con-

gress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU'S
THIRD ANNIVERSARY IN OFFICE

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of President Ma Ying-jeou's third anniversary in office this May 20, I wish to express my congratulations to the leaders and the people of the Republic of China.

Mr. Ma Ying-jeou was inaugurated as President of the Republic of China on May 20, 2008. During the last three years, Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou has steadily and dramatically improved Taiwan's relations with the Chinese mainland. There are now 370 direct flights from cities in Taiwan to cities in China every week, relaxation of China-bound investments, more visas for mainland tourists and more exchange in many areas.

Committed to pursue reconciliation with the People's Republic, President Ma believes in a systematized dialogue between the two sides, the development of healthy cross-strait relations and the advancement of regional peace and stability. He argues that Taiwan and the PRC can co-exist while maintaining their differences. A win-win situation, President Ma opines, is in the best interest of all Chinese people and the world. As a result of his vision, peace is prevailing in the Taiwan Strait today.

Business is also good for both the Taiwanese and Chinese people. Taiwan and China inked the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) last summer and President Ma has restarted the institutionalized cross-strait talks. As Members of this body, we thank President Ma for his courage and wisdom in initiating and continuing a pragmatic and yet flexible approach in handling cross-strait relations.

While cultivating a peaceful development across the Taiwan Strait, President Ma has also been working closely with the U.S. government. Our mutual relationship is strong and we applaud Taiwan's cooperation with us, especially in the war against global terrorism.

We are confident that relations with Taiwan will grow even stronger in all areas, including trade, science and technology, educational exchange, military sales and Taiwan's participation in international agencies. For the last three years, U.S.-Taiwan relations have been excellent, far superior to any period in recent memory.

I am pleased that Taiwan was once again invited to attend this year's World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva, Switzerland as an observer and I am hopeful that Taiwan's continued participation in the WHA will lead to Taiwan's participation in the activities of other international organizations such as the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

In celebrating President Ma's third anniversary in office, I credit him for these successes and join with my colleagues in extending our best wishes to him for his continued success.

RECOGNIZING ROD DOLE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Representative MIKE THOMPSON, to honor Rod Dole of Sonoma County, California, who is retiring May 31, 2011, after 25 years as the County's Auditor-Controller. During his long tenure, Mr. Dole was responsible for overseeing a wide variety of County financial operations, including serving as Treasurer-Tax Collector when those positions were consolidated with his office 5 years ago.

With a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration and certification as both an Internal Auditor and a Government Financial Manager, Rod Dole was hired as an auditor in 1976. He was appointed to the Auditor-Controller post in 1985 and subsequently elected. He continued to be re-elected by residents who appreciated his confident and sure hand in this key position. He has served in a number of related organizations including Chair of various committees in the State Auditor-Controllers and Treasurer-Tax Collector Associations, the State Controller, and the State Treasurer as well as President of the State Auditor-Controllers Association.

Locally, Mr. Dole has worked with a variety of service clubs and non-profit organizations, on the board of Redwood Credit Union, and on the boards of both the Sonoma State University School of Business and Economics and the President's Advisory Committee.

A man of many accomplishments in his field, he is particularly known for authoring State legislation for the "Teeter Credit" regarding property tax payments to local agencies; chairing State committees on property tax guidelines and spending limits; and most recently for administering the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program (SCEIP), a national model for a mechanism permitting loans for energy efficiency upgrades through property taxes. He advocated strongly for the program in the face of Federal restrictions on such loans, and SCEIP has won numerous awards as well as a \$3 million grant from the California Energy Commission.

It is a key component of Sonoma County's leadership in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and saving energy and has provided hundreds of local construction jobs.

Rod Dole looks forward to his retirement with Kathie, his wife of 35 years, and will have time to appreciate his cabin at Lake Almanor and his hobbies of golf, fishing, boating, tennis, and woodworking. He also has two children, Laura and Michael.

Mr. Speaker, we ask you to join us in commending Rod Dole's 35 years of service to the people of Sonoma County. We wish him an enjoyable retirement with his family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 11, 2011, I was inadvertently detained and thus I missed rollcall vote

No. 309. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

A TRIBUTE TO DALLAS CLARK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize NFL tight-end Dallas Clark for being the recipient of the Youth Champion Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Youth Champion Award is presented to an adult individual who has generously given time, talent and energy to promote and further activities for youth in the community. Dallas has not only taken the time to share his talents with the youth of Humboldt County, but as also served as an exemplary role model for the young people that he continues to inspire.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Dallas Clark and his family in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending Dallas for his sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

HONORING THE PUERTO RICAN PHOTOGRAPHERS OF NEW YORK

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to recognize the lasting impact of the photo-journalists of the New York City Puerto Rican Community, as recently displayed at the 2011 New York Photo Festival.

The renowned exhibition features eight photographers, who during the 1970's and 80's catalogued the daily lives and growth of their community. Frank Espada, Joe Conzo, Pablo Delano, Perla de Leon, Ricky Flores, David Gonzalez, Maximo Colon and Francisco Reyes II all became voices of the community through their art. They captured on film the diaspora that makes New York City truly special as well as the everyday pioneers whose struggles inch our nation closer to our founding ideals.

During the decades that span these photos, the Puerto Rican community in New York rose up against prejudices that prevented them from enjoying their equal rights and established a more inclusive pride in their cultural heritage. Amidst the upheaval and hardships, these photographers captured the beauty in their surroundings. Today their work reveals a unique perspective into the rise of the New York's Hispanic Community.

I have attached for the record a recent Daily News article, written by Carolina Gonzalez previewing the exhibition.

Mr. Speaker, these photographers and their work must not be forgotten. Thanks to the efforts of Adriana Teresa Letorney, people from all over the district, the city, the country can discover the visual evidence of the Puerto Rican community in transition, from outcasts to vibrant, integral parts of our great nation.

[From the New York Daily News, May 11, 2011]

EXHIBIT SSHOWCASES WORK OF 8 PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO DOCUMENTED PUERTO RICAN COMMUNITY IN '70S AND '80S

(By Carolina Gonzalez)

Several people carry oversize papier-mâché puppets representing the Three Wise Men while others, dressed as shepherds, herd actual sheep. They walk into one of the arched passageways along upper Park Ave., making tracks in a dusting of snow.

This scene from Dia de Reyes is instantly recognizable to longtime New Yorkers familiar with El Barrio folkways. The image, taken in 1978 by Frank Espada, is representative of several dozen on display at a new exhibit dedicated to eight Puerto Rican photographers documenting their community.

Titled "Dia"—not after the Spanish word for "day," but after the Greek word for "across"—the show is presented at the FotoVisura Pavilion as part of the annual New York Photo Festival, which opens today at DUMBO Arts Center, 111 Front St., Brooklyn, and runs through Sunday.

The images are primarily from the 1970s and 1980s, set in the South Bronx, East Harlem and the lower East Side. Many were taken when the photographers were in their 20s.

"What I was looking for was a moment in time that the Puerto Rican community took a stand in who they were and started to develop its own voice," said curator Adriana Teresa Letorney.

"It's important for my generation to see that, how this group became a voice of a community."

Letorney, who arrived from San Juan eight years ago to study art, created FotoVisura, the organization sponsoring the show, as a service for new and veteran photographers, offering online space to show and share photographs.

"Dia" is her first show dedicated entirely to U.S.-based Puerto Rican photographers.

Some of Joe Conzo's shots document protests against the 1981 film "Fort Apache, the Bronx," which many community members saw as exploiting stereotypes of Bronx Puerto Ricans as savage criminals.

An image by Espada of young dancers from Ballet Hispanico, arms in the air and heads back, is as tender as any by Degas.

Some shots have elements burned into the popular imagination as representative of Puerto Rican communities: burned-out buildings, run-down businesses, dirty streets.

But as in several images by Pablo Delano, Perla de León, Ricky Flores and David González of happy children at play in these settings, it is clear that where others saw ruins, these shooters saw life.

For all the photographers, the work comes from a period when they began to see themselves as serious shooters with a responsibility to document their communities. But not all ended up as fine-arts photographers.

Flores continues to work in journalism. González is better known for his journalistic writing, primarily at the New York Times. De León is known as a filmmaker. Conzo's day job is as an emergency medical technician, although he continues to document hip-hop and salsa culture as a hobby.

Delano continues to work as a documentary photographer and as a professor at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. And Espada,

at 80 the oldest in the group, considers himself "half-retired."

The show is presented as a projected slide show, not a traditional exhibit of printed photos. "Having it be a slide show in a way represents how this was a transient stage in our lives, the impermanence of things," Flores said.

"Why aren't more people outside of our community aware of what happened? How did our history get swept away?"

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF WILLIE L. SMITH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great public servant who has dedicated his entire career to protecting the public. Over the last 40 years, Chief Willie L. Smith served in the military and as a law enforcement official. His commitment to serving the public has never waned. Chief Smith is being honored for his years of service on June 18, 2011, and I am pleased to add my voice to the many who are thanking him for his lifetime of accomplishments.

Willie L. Smith was born on August 12, 1949 in Marion, South Carolina to H.B. and Ruth McCummings Smith. He was educated in the public schools of Marion County and graduated from Johnakin High School in 1967. In May 1969, he was drafted into the United States Army and reported to Fort Jackson for his advanced infantry training. After graduation, he was sent to Fort Bragg and joined the 18th Airborne Corps with B Battery, 4th Battalion, and the 73rd Field Artillery.

Chief Smith served a tour in Vietnam where he was assigned to the 1st Cavalry 2nd Brigade Aviation Platoon, the helicopter unit that flew convoy escorts and sniffer missions. He spent a year in Vietnam, and returned to his hometown in 1971. That year, he was hired at the Marion Police Department, where he worked his way up through the ranks to Lieutenant.

Smith's career then took him to the Alcohol Beverage Control Commission where he served as an ABC agent for five years. His service there earned him many honors. One of his highest commendations came for outstanding service to the South Carolina Alcohol Beverage Control Commission for his participation in the investigation of the George Wells Gambling Organization in Berkeley County.

Mr. Smith returned home, where he was hired as Marion's Chief of Police, a position which he held for 34 years. Chief Smith earned numerous commendations, awards, and certificates. Twice he earned the Best of Marion, and was given the U.S. Marshal's Service Award, the Palmetto State Law Enforcement Award, the Marion Chamber of Commerce Award, the District 6 Service Award, and the Woodman of the World Community Service Award. He was also voted the most professional law enforcement officer in Marion in 2007, and received the City of Marion Outstanding Public Service Award given by Mayor Bobby Gerald and the City Council.

Chief Smith is married to Elista H. Smith and they have two children, Craig L. Smith

and Tara Nicole Smith-Hughes. They are also blessed with five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chief Smith for his 40 years of service. He has served with dignity and a great sense of duty. He regularly put his life on the line to protect others and ensure his country, his state, and his community were safe and secure. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I offer a sincere and humble thank you for his lifetime of tremendous service.

HONORING OLDER AMERICANS OF
THE FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

HON. RICHARD B. NUGENT

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, May is National Elder American Month; and

Whereas, the longer, healthier lives older Americans are living have allowed them to be more engaged in our society and contribute even further to the country for which they have already given so much; and

Whereas, older Americans continue to play a significant role in supporting and enriching our communities; and

Whereas, an appreciation for seniors and the sacrifices they have made for our Nation must be reflected through our efforts to meet their needs and goals; and

Whereas, this month citizens and leaders gather to acknowledge the many ways seniors have improved the lives of Americans; and

Whereas, the Partners Club at Oak Hill Hospital is holding a special event to recognize the occasion;

Therefore, I, RICHARD B. NUGENT, Member of Congress representing the Fifth Congressional District of Florida, do hereby express my support for efforts to recognize elder Americans in Florida and across this Nation.