

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING STANLEY KOSTA

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise Stanley Kosta, a veteran of World War II who was recently honored by the Republic of France with its highest military decoration, the French Legion of Honor. He was named "Chevalier", or Knight, in the National Order of the Legion of Honor and presented with the medal at the French Consulate in San Francisco on January 23, 2012.

The Republic of France is awarding this prestigious honor to United States veterans who helped in the liberation of France in WWII during one of four major campaigns: Normandy, Southern France, Northern France, and the Ardennes (Battle of the Bulge).

Born on May 5, 1917 in San Francisco, California, Mr. Kosta was 26 years old when he was drafted into the United States Army in July 1943. Serving in the 9th Infantry Division, 47th Infantry Regiment, he landed in Normandy in July 1944 about a month after D-Day. For the next nine months he advanced through France, Belgium, and Germany serving as a radio operator on and near the front lines.

He fought courageously in the battle of Saint-Lo and to strategic victory in another key-town in Normandy, Falaise. From there his division crossed the Marne River, just east of Paris for the Ardennes Counteroffensive, also known as the Battle of the Bulge, which was one of the largest and bloodiest of WWII. On January 30, 1944, his unit crossed the Rhine River to enter Germany. Shortly thereafter, he became ill during combat and was sent to a hospital in England.

After the war, Mr. Kosta settled in the West End neighborhood of San Rafael, California. After 35 years of marriage his first wife passed away. Eventually, he found happiness again and remarried. He has two amazing sons, one a former police captain from San Rafael, and the other an artist in Denmark.

Few people discover a lifelong passion at an early age and find time to enjoy it daily, but Stanley was introduced to the accordion by the age of 9 and to this day he plays regularly. Unable to read sheet music, he can still play over 300 songs.

From a young age, he always knew he wanted a job doing physical labor. He was not one cut out for an office. Growing up during the Great Depression, he dropped out of high school during the 11th grade to find a job. He took several odds jobs including selling papers, passing out theater fliers, and constructing mannequins. After the war, he worked for several breweries in San Francisco, California, including Acme, Burgermeister, and Rainier.

In 2004, sixty years after the liberation of France, the Republic of France started recognizing the service of United States Veterans of

WWII for their part in the liberation. Mr. Kosta is joined by several other WWII veterans from Marin and Sonoma Counties who have received the French Legion of Honor and they are: Mr. Reginald Alexander of Kenwood, CA (deceased); Mr. Marion Grohoski of Santa Rosa, CA; Mr. Earl Shanken of San Rafael, CA; Mr. John Thomson of Santa Rosa (recently deceased); and Mr. Gerard Cormier of Corte Madera. Many veterans have applications pending, but even more did not live to see this day.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and awe that I extend my gratitude to Mr. Kosta and his comrades for their service to the United States of America during WWII.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Ms. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National History Day, a year-long academic program in the humanities focused on historical research for 6th to 12th grade students. On Monday, February 13, 2012, President Obama awarded National History Day with the prestigious 2011 National Humanities Medal. The White House recognized this program as one that "inspires in American students a passion for history," and today it is our privilege to echo this commendation.

In doing so, we congratulate Dr. Cathy Gorn, Executive Director of National History Day, the entire National History Day Staff, its board, and its honorary advisory council on their distinguished service. It is quite uncommon for a program—rather than an individual—to win this prominent medal, and it is clear this program is deserving of our acknowledgement.

The National History Day program invites students to conduct primary historical research in libraries, archives, museums, and historic sites. Their analysis ultimately results in original conclusions that culminate in papers, websites, exhibits, performances, and documentaries. These products are then entered into local, state, and national competitions.

Each year, more than half a million elementary and secondary school students participate in this not-for-profit program. The organization operates in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, as well as U.S. territories and is currently in the process of expanding internationally.

Students walk away from National History Day with a wealth of information as well as invaluable research, problem solving, and critical thinking skills. The program has been called "one of the nation's most successful educational efforts in the humanities." In fact, studies have shown that the college and career-ready skills that students acquire through participation in National History Day have resulted in substantially improved performance

on standardized tests across all subjects, including science and math.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize National History Day and to associate myself with its noble cause. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this tremendous program in order to demonstrate our gratitude and to encourage the continuation of its good works.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES MADE BY NANCY DEMBOWSKI

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of a distinguished State Representative, former Mayor and outstanding citizen, Nancy Dembowski of Knox, Indiana. Ms. Dembowski used her background in radio broadcasting to launch a career in public service that has been notable for her ability to communicate with her constituents and understand their concerns. State Representative Dembowski's dedication to community service and her life as the spouse of a steelworker have made her an effective spokesperson for the interests of average working Hoosiers.

Ms. Dembowski began her public life in 1984 as a member of the Starke County Council where her tireless efforts earned her the Starke County Citizen of the Year Award in 1990. After two terms on the Council, she served three terms as mayor of Knox during which her plans for economic development brought 1100 jobs to the area. Also during her service as Mayor, the City of Knox received two Achievement Awards from the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns, a tribute to her efforts to build the Knox Community Center and renovate the historic Gateway Depot.

Ms. Dembowski served as a Senator in the Indiana State Senate from 2002 to 2004 and then moved to the State House in 2006 where she served as the Majority Caucus Chair. While serving in state government, she has championed local education, economic development, pro-life issues and the fight against domestic and child abuses.

As if holding public office was not contribution enough, Ms. Dembowski is also an active member of the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, and Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. She has been the President of the Starke County Junior Achievement Board, Secretary of the Starke County Youth Club, Chair of Starke United and a member of the Steelworkers Organization of Active Retirees. She is a former member of the Starke County Coalition Against Domestic Abuse, where she helped inaugurate a plan to build the Phoenix House, a safe haven for families escaping abuse.

Despite her many professional successes, Ms. Dembowski values most her 43 years of

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

marriage to the late Ed Dembowski, her three children, Michael, Rebecca and Patrick and her eight grandchildren.

It is with great pride and honor that I rise on behalf of the citizens of Indiana to salute not only State Representative Nancy Dembowski's personal achievements and her contributions to our community, but also the generosity, courage and spirit that made her a remarkable public servant and a dear friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANDREA
GORMAN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Andrea Gorman for her tireless advocacy for Social Security. Ms. Gorman is a long-time constituent of mine and a leader within the Local 1584 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers in the East Bay. She has triumphed over adversity, and her story is a compelling reason to protect Social Security.

As a child in the 1940s, Andrea suffered the loss of her father; her mother unable to financially care for her eight children was forced to surrender Andrea and her siblings to an orphanage and foster homes. Fortunately a safety net was there and Andrea's family qualified for Social Security survivor benefits, which would reunite her with her siblings and their mother. Her first encounter with Social Security saved her family; her second, her home.

Forty-five years later, after fighting for her right to work among the men in the male dominated machinist industry, Ms. Gorman was injured on the job and unable to work. She required Social Security disability benefits in order to survive and keep a roof over her head. Once again Andrea was grateful to a social program she calls "her guardian angel".

Now retired, Andrea continues to advocate for the protection of Social Security and she is a trustee for Local 1584. Andrea's life is a leading example of why Social Security is one of our nation's most vital safety net programs and why we must protect it.

I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing a woman who has overcome adversity and life's struggles through determination, bravery, and hard work. I urge my colleagues to take Andrea's story to heart and work to protect Social Security for future generations.

HONORING CHIEF MICHAEL
FALESE

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to congratulate Bartlett Fire Protection District Chief Michael Falese on being named the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association's "Chief of the Year."

Chief Falese began his career of service and commitment to the community with the Elgin Fire Department in 1983, where he rose

to the rank of Fire Chief, and remained until 2007. In 2010, Falese became a Fire Chief at Bartlett Fire Protection District.

For the past two years, Falese has served as one of the Illinois fire service representatives sent to Washington D.C. to discuss Illinois fire service issues with elected officials. He has also served as a member of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA) Board of Directors for the last two years and will become IFCA's President this coming October. In a large scale train derailment that took place last November, which involved more than 30 local, state, and federal agencies, Falese exhibited strong leadership as in command of the response.

Falese continues to devote his time to the community. He is currently President-elect of the Bartlett Rotary Club. He has made sure that the Fire District is represented at every U.S. troop homecoming in Bartlett. He is an esteemed partner to the Village of Bartlett, DuPage County, and Hanover and Wayne Townships.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Chief Michael Falese for this highly-respected distinction.

HONORING DOROTHY BERTUCCI

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dorothy Bertucci, a leading citizen of Petaluma, CA, who passed away February 23, 2012. She died peacefully at home at the age of 93 after a lifetime in her hometown where she was best known for her promotion of libraries and her kind spirit.

Dorothy was born in Petaluma, at home. Her parents, the prominent Mattei family, owned a men's clothing store downtown, not far from the house. She attended St. Vincent de Paul High school and graduated from UC Berkeley (Cal) in 1941. With a degree in library science and history, she then worked in the libraries at both Cal and UCLA.

Later at Cal, she also met her husband Andy Bertucci. In 1949, the two went to a Cal game on a blind date, married in 1950, and enjoyed a 49-year marriage. Andy worked in the family clothing store, and the couple raised their four children in Petaluma. After Andy's retirement in 1977, the two traveled together frequently and enjoyed many games of golf till Andy's death in 1999.

Dorothy was active in the City, including its political campaigns, but libraries were her true mission. She knew libraries represented the heart of the community, a place where everyone had access to information and a gateway into the magic of reading. She was a librarian and a member of the Library Board of Trustees in Petaluma as well as serving on the Sonoma County Library Commission and the California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners (including a stint as President).

Straightforward, dedicated, and optimistic, she was the ideal person to help in the campaign for a bond measure for a new library in Petaluma. It passed in 1976 on the fourth try, with Dorothy championing the effort all the way. In 1974, she was honored as Petaluma's Citizen of the Year for her involvement.

Dorothy is survived by her four children John, Paul, Tom, and Ann and their partners as well as three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, citizens like Dorothy Bertucci remind us what caring people can accomplish for their communities. Please join me in honoring her life and accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DOUG
SUTHERLAND

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career and accomplishments of Mr. Doug Sutherland, an alumnus of the University of Wisconsin—Superior.

Doug is one of the most accomplished athletes in the history of the school and was recently named to the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) All-Time Team in football. He has also been chosen recently as a member of the inaugural class of the WIAC Hall of Fame.

In 1970, Doug was chosen in the 14th round of the NFL Draft by the New Orleans Saints. He went on to have a 13-year career with the Saints, the Minnesota Vikings and the Seattle Seahawks. He appeared in three Super Bowls with the Vikings and, in 2010, was named one of the 50 greatest Vikings.

In addition to distinguishing himself on the football field, Doug was a six-time conference champion in track and field throwing events and participated in three National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics meets.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to help recognize Doug's incredible athletic record and ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating him on his accomplishments.

OUR HERITAGE FORESTS: AN
AMERICAN LEGACY

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article, which is authored by my friend Jason Hartke, and discusses the important role of our nation's Roadless Areas. Roadless Areas protect 58.5 million acres of pristine wild forests and provide clean drinking water to over 60 million Americans.

OUR HERITAGE FORESTS: AN AMERICAN
LEGACY

(By Jason Hartke)

"If there is one thing that should unite us as a country across generations, parties, an time, it is love of the land." President Clinton made this remark at the National Arboretum on January 5, 2001, where he announced the Roadless Area Conservation Rule which protected the last, best wild lands in the nation. This initiative encompassed 58.5 million acres of forests in 39 states. Combining this accomplishment with the 22 National Monuments that he designated and protected, President Clinton left office having saved more land in the contiguous United States than any administration since Theodore Roosevelt.

Yet, like liberty, the price of environmental protection is eternal vigilance. The individuals and organizations who are fighting to protect these magnificent forests have embraced the dream of President Clinton and millions of people across this country. They will not stand aside while the fight for America the Beautiful is in the balance. From the time of Teddy Roosevelt, leaders have stepped forward to ensure that future generations will inherit an epic legacy of timeless beauty.

In this initiative, as in others, President Clinton operated on the principle that economic progress and environmental protection can and must go hand in hand. He made this point clearly in a speech at Reddish Knob in the George Washington National Forest where he called on the Forest Service to formulate a policy to preserve the roadless areas: "It is no longer necessary to grow a modern economy by destroying natural resources and putting more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. In fact, we can create more jobs by following a path of sustainable development."

President Clinton realized that the country was changing. People were attracted to pristine environments where they saw opportunities for outdoor recreation. Whether it be hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, wildlife photography, or other forms of outdoor activities, people are increasingly seeking out places where they can find solitude, enjoy the wonder and contentment found in nature, and in their own individual way, experience a renewal of the human spirit. To accommodate these popular activities, companies are finding an ever growing and powerful market, giving a helpful hand to local economic interests.

While standing up for the public good is always the right thing to do, it is rarely the easy thing to do. Despite the fact that President Clinton's executive action was steeped in precedent, pioneered by Theodore Roosevelt and other presidents throughout the 20th century, his action was immediately challenged in lawsuits that have spanned the last decade. Some of the opposition may have arisen from the mistaken belief that the Roadless Rule was a last minute action in the final days of the Clinton Administration. In truth, the final adoption of the Rule was the culmination of an exhaustive rule-making procedure, including a thorough and well reasoned environmental impact statement.

As early as December of 1997, one hundred and sixty nine scientists wrote to President Clinton urging him to develop a science based policy for roadless area protection. The public response was enormous. The forest protection idea sparked the largest grassroots environmental campaign in US history, eliciting an unprecedented one million six hundred thousand comments from the public. More than 1.2 million Americans provided comments over a 60 day period alone. Of those comments, an amazing 96% of the citizens voiced support for protecting these irreplaceable natural treasures.

Other opposition wrongly assumed that these forests were crucial to the viability of the logging industry. Yet here again, the truth was that these roadless regions accounted for a very small percentage of the logging industry, while the cost of extraction meant that any effort to log in these areas would have to be subsidized.

These old forests are important to people who do not directly use the forests. Scientists have accelerated their documentation of the massive value of free ecological services that are derived from forests. These services help to clean our drinking water, prevent soil erosion, clear the air of pollution, and sequester carbon that otherwise would contribute to climate change.

The old dichotomy between preservationists and utilitarians is increasingly becoming blurred due to the ubiquitous use of these free ecological services. It turns out that everybody has a stake in these ancient forests, because the magnificent landscapes are essential to the integrity of the great life support systems of the planet.

Although forests are under the control of sovereign nations, they also represent a trust responsibility to the world. Deforestation, for example, is one of the biggest contributors to adverse climate change. Forests soak up prodigious amounts of carbon dioxide. Therefore, every person on the earth and all future generations are affected by every forest on earth, regardless of which country they call home.

The eminent historian, Dr. Douglas Brinkley, observed in his book, *The Wilderness Warrior*, that Theodore Roosevelt's conservation record became "the template future presidents followed." His historical perspective rings true.

President Clinton, shortly before he left office, reflected on the environmental policies of his Administration: "We had done our best to be faithful to Roosevelt's conservation ethic and to his admonition that we should always be taking what he called 'the long view . . . Working together, we can ensure that not only our generation, but each generation to come, will have the resources to leave an even better land for those who follow.'"

President Clinton's leadership by example, practicing at home what he advocates abroad, adds to our credibility in the international community and gives hope to people everywhere that living up to our global responsibilities does not impede, but rather sustains economic opportunity and vitality.

Saving the beauty, diversity, and life of the planet is not bad economics; rather, it is fundamental to human survival and the advance of civilization.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF POPE SHENOUDA III

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the passing and celebrate the life of Coptic Christian Pope Shenouda III of Alexandria. For more than forty years, Pope Shenouda was the leader of the Coptic Orthodox Church—a denomination with more than ten million followers in Egypt and throughout the world.

As its religious leader, he ensured that the Egyptian Coptic community was, and is, an integral pillar of Egyptian society. We will miss him, especially during this time of political transition in Egypt, as his voice reminded us of that country's long history of peace and religious tolerance.

I join the members of Michigan's Coptic Community and the St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Church in my district to mourn the passing of Pope Shenouda. As President Barack Obama eloquently stated "we will remember Pope Shenouda III as a man of deep faith, a leader of a great faith, and an advocate for unity and reconciliation."

RECOGNIZING WYNNBROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Wynnebrook Elementary, a school in my district that exemplifies all that is right with America's public education system. Under the guidance of Principal Jeffrey Pegg and his talented faculty, Wynnebrook has been rated an "A" school by the State of Florida nine years in a row.

I toured this fine school on March 15, 2012 and saw for myself everything that makes it great. I met wonderful teachers and spoke to classroom after classroom of happy children who were clearly excited to learn.

Wynnebrook Elementary's students are overwhelmingly minority children, and most come from low-income families. Despite these challenges, writing scores on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) are in the 90th percentile, with reading scores close behind. Scores in nearly all core subjects are over 80 percent as well.

There is no lack of enthusiasm at Wynnebrook. Several teachers were eager to tell me how pleased they are with the continued excellence of Wynnebrook. They are certainly a large part of its success, with several having taught at Wynnebrook for over 30 years. Additionally, the children were eager to ask me questions about my occupation and career. I was especially impressed with the number of students who told me they would like to become doctors or lawyers.

Wynnebrook is proof that when schools get the funding they need, they will turn out intelligent, well-adjusted children who want to succeed in life. What I saw that day served as a reminder of the importance of Title I funding in ensuring that our nation's students receive the education they deserve, regardless of their financial background, and reinforced my determination to work for increased funding for public education as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Principal Pegg, reading instructor Leslie Millar, and all the fine teachers and staff members I met at Wynnebrook Elementary, and I look forward to even greater success from its administrators, faculty, and students in the years to come.

CELEBRATING STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHET DOBIS'S RETIREMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense gratitude and the utmost respect that I take this time to honor a dear friend and one of Indiana's finest citizens, the Honorable Chet Dobis, Indiana State Representative. For his many years of public service and his countless efforts toward improving the lives of Northwest Indiana residents, Chet will be honored at a celebratory reception at Gamba's Ristorante in Merrillville, Indiana, on Monday, March 19, 2012.

Chet Dobis, a resident of Northwest Indiana, attended Merrillville High School and went on to further his education at Indiana University Northwest in Gary. He also studied at the University of Wisconsin, undertaking graduate coursework. In the years to follow, Chet, through hard work and acumen, would become a vice president at Bank One. He has also worked with the Indiana National Guard and the Gary Sportsmen Club. Representative Dobis was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in 1970 and has represented the people of Indiana House District 13 for the past forty-two years. Over the years, he has been a strong leader in the development of Northwest Indiana and has always been a true advocate for the citizens of his district. Among his major accomplishments, Chet was extremely helpful in the establishment of Merrillville, Indiana as a town. He also played a pivotal role in the creation of the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA). This agency has been charged with implementing catalytic economic development projects throughout Lake and Porter counties. Representative Dobis's hard work has materialized as the RDA works with local communities to transform the south shore of Lake Michigan and to expand the Gary/Chicago International Airport. Throughout his career in the Indiana General Assembly, Chet has served as the House Assistant Minority Floor Leader and Speaker Pro Tempore. His current legislative committees include the Committee on Courts and Criminal Code and the Committee on Financial Institutions, and he serves as Chair of the Select Committee on Government Reduction. For his passionate commitment and continuous support to Northwest Indiana, Representative Dobis is to be highly commended.

In addition to his exemplary career, Chet is involved in numerous community and charitable organizations. He has served on the Executive Board of the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission and as a member of the Indiana University Northwest Advisory Board.

Representative Dobis's dedication to Northwest Indiana is noteworthy; however, it is his commitment to his family that is most impressive. Chet and his wonderful wife, Darlene, have two beloved children, Aaron and Ashley, and one adoring granddaughter, Teagan.

I am honored to call Chet Dobis a friend, and we should all be blessed with such wonderful friendships. More importantly, Chet has been a friend to all, a gentleman in the truest sense of that word, and the epitome of a public servant. His is a life we should all seek to emulate.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Indiana State Representative Chet Dobis for his outstanding devotion to Northwest Indiana and in wishing him well upon his retirement. Chet's unselfish, lifelong dedication and exceptional contributions to the community are worthy of the highest praise, and it has been a pleasure to work with him throughout his years in office.

IN MEMORY OF ALEXANDER
HILDEBRAND

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with my colleagues Congressman GEORGE MILLER, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, Congresswoman DORIS MATSUI, and Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI to honor the life of Alexander Hildebrand, who passed away at age 98 on January 23, 2012.

Alex was a father, farmer, engineer, and defender of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Alex graduated with honors from UC Berkeley with a degree in Physics and Chemistry in 1935. Alex went on to have a lengthy career with Standard Oil, working in refining and other areas. During World War II, Alex contributed to the war effort by serving in the Navy Reserves and then as chief engineer at an oil refinery in the Persian Gulf. He took an early retirement from Standard Oil and moved his family to a farm near Manteca in San Joaquin County, California in 1962. Alex loved the land and was working on his farm into his 90s.

Alex was a champion of Delta water and agriculture as the consulting engineer to the South Delta Water Agency. Additionally, he served on numerous boards and committees including the San Joaquin Farm Bureau board, the California Farm Bureau water committee, the Delta Water Users board, the Water Education Foundation advisory board, and the California Central Valley Flood Control Association board. He worked to create the San Joaquin River Flood Control Association and was appointed by Governor Wilson to the CalFed Bay Delta Oversight Committee and the CalFed Bay Delta Advisory Committee. Alex also served as president of the McMullin Reclamation District.

Alex was a valued and respected leader whose understanding of the Delta and California's water challenges was unsurpassed. Alex was always generous with his time and eager to teach new generations of leaders about the Delta and its precious waterways. Alex's work as an unwavering voice in defense of the Delta and its farmers leaves a legacy that will continue to benefit the people of San Joaquin County and the Delta. It is for these reasons that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Alexander Hildebrand and sending our thoughts and prayers to his beloved family and friends.

RECOGNIZING FIRST WESLEYAN
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is a distinct honor to recognize First Wesleyan Christian School in Gastonia, NC, which celebrates 40 years of service and education on April 21, 2012.

First Wesleyan Christian School first opened its doors in 1971 in Gastonia, North Carolina, bringing individualized, Christ-centered education to preschoolers and students of all denominations.

Since 1971, more than 2,000 children have attended First Wesleyan Preschool, and more than 1,800 students have attended First Wesleyan Christian School. Over 250 students have proudly graduated from First Wesleyan Middle School, ready to excel and lead academically and spiritually in high school, college and beyond. Thousands of Gaston-area residents have benefited, and continue to benefit, from the individual instruction, caring and leadership of hundreds of dedicated teachers, staff members, church members and community leaders over the past 40 years.

First Wesleyan students have gone on to serve as outstanding citizens, community partners, professionals, spiritual leaders, missionaries, teachers, parents and grandparents in our region, throughout North Carolina, across the United States and around the world.

I am proud to represent the faculty, student body and community of First Wesleyan Christian School, and congratulate them on their past, present and future success.

CELEBRATING STATE REPRESENTATIVE DAN STEVENSON'S RETIREMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with tremendous respect that I take this time to recognize one of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished citizens, State Representative Dan Stevenson, and to thank him for his service as a member of the Indiana General Assembly. After eighteen years as a member of the Indiana House of Representatives, Dan has decided to retire from elective office. Known for being a great leader and a true public servant, Representative Stevenson's presence in Indianapolis will surely be missed by his colleagues and the people he has so loyally served.

A lifelong resident of Northwest Indiana, Mr. Stevenson graduated from Highland High School in 1977 and later attended Calumet College of Saint Joseph. Later, Dan, like many hardworking people of Northwest Indiana, began working at Inland Steel Company, now ArcelorMittal. It is here where he witnessed the needs of the working class, for whom he tirelessly labored as a public servant. Even outside of his role in the General Assembly, Representative Stevenson has been a steadfast advocate for working men and women. As a member of United Steelworkers of America Local 1010, Dan has served his co-workers as a grievance committee representative. Fully aware of the importance of keeping people informed, Dan has also served as the editor of the union newspaper. Dan Stevenson's dedication to those who toil for a living is to be commended.

First elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in 1994, Dan leaves a lasting impression. Described by his colleagues as a quiet, yet driven leader, it was apparent upon his arrival in Indianapolis that a true champion of working people had arrived. A truly well-rounded legislator, Representative Stevenson currently serves as the Ranking Minority Member on the Utilities and Energy Committee, as well as a member of the Environmental Affairs

and the Interstate and International Cooperation Committees. As a member of the House, Representative Stevenson has fought tirelessly for economic justice, earning him many distinguished accolades, including: the Service to Labor Award from the Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor, the Legislative Achievement Award from Indiana University Northwest, the Legislative Award from the Indiana Library Federation, and the Legislator of the Year Award from the Indiana Association of Police Chiefs.

While his constituents will miss his dedicated leadership, I am certain that Dan will treasure the additional time he will get to spend with his beloved wife, Dawn; his children, Michelle, Lola Ann, and Dan, Jr.; and his adoring grandchildren, Erik, Karen, Austin, and Ethan.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Indiana State Representative Dan Stevenson for his dedicated life of service. Dan's tireless efforts on behalf of those he represented is worthy of our admiration, and it has been a pleasure to work with him throughout his years in office.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF REVEREND GWENDOLYN BOYD

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to pay tribute to Reverend Gwendolyn Boyd, a community leader, humanitarian and a woman of faith, whose legacy continues to enrich the lives of the people around her. Her dedicated community service has brought professionalism and compassion to every endeavor she has so graciously undertaken. Her dedication and commitment to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and the public is the reason for this recognition and celebration.

Rev. Boyd served as the 22nd National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., from 2000–2004. She accomplished many things during her time as president including the building of a home for AIDS orphans in Swaziland, establishing the Delta Computer Training Center in Lesotho and establishing the Leadership DELTA training program. Also, she established project SEE, which promotes the learning of math and science for middle school African American girls.

Rev. Boyd is the perfect example of someone who continues to make a difference, as she has never backed away from a challenge that helps her community or those in need. Her imprint can be found in such worthy initiatives as Children's Research Institute, Children's National Medical Center and Education Across the Miles. She is also responsible for the coordination of HBCU initiatives.

As the first African American to earn a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Yale University, Rev. Boyd championed issues and worked for solutions. Over the years her stature continues to grow as she is an active member on numerous boards, foundations and committees. Her admirable work is as diversified as her many interests, resulting in a positive impact on the community and greater quality of life.

Rev. Gwendolyn Boyd demonstrates in her everyday actions and words that determination is the pathway to success. She is an ordained itinerant elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. She earned her Master's of Divinity degree with honors from Howard University and she serves as the Executive Minister for Church Operations at Ebenezer A.M.E. Church in Fort Washington, Maryland.

Rev. Boyd has dedicated numerous hours to developing and enriching the lives of our youth. She was nominated by President Obama and served on the Board of Trustees of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation. She is an advocate for young people interested in careers in the engineering, science, and math fields. Rev. Gwendolyn Boyd is a passionate, energetic and highly motivated individual and her public speaking has inspired many.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting Reverend Gwendolyn Elizabeth Boyd, a distinguished ambassador for human rights, a role model for our youth and a true heroine for all of America. I salute her for a lifetime of achievement, and am both proud and honored to call her my friend. Thank you, Rev. Boyd, for all you have done, and for all you contribute to our lives.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$15,566,570,829,745.94. We've added \$4,939,693,780,832.86 to our debt in 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

REMEMBERING MARGARET KUCHTA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness and great respect that I take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana's most beloved citizens, former Hobart Mayor Margaret Kuchta. Mayor Kuchta, who was very much committed to making improvements within the City of Hobart and improving the quality of life for its residents, devoted a lifetime of service to her community. Margaret was very well known throughout Northwest Indiana and will truly be missed. Margaret passed away on Thursday, February 23, 2012, but her legacy will continue to live on in the hearts of those she served.

Margaret Kuchta's service in an official capacity began when she was elected clerk-treasurer for the City of Hobart, a position she held from 1976 to 1987. Margaret then served as Hobart's first elected female mayor from 1988 to 1991. Following her tenure as mayor,

Mrs. Kuchta remained an active member of the community and later served as councilwoman for the fifth district from 1996 to 2000, as well as a member of the Hobart Township Board from 2002 to 2010. At the time of Mrs. Kuchta's election to the city council, she established her place in Hobart's history as the only person to hold all three elected offices: council member, clerk-treasurer, and mayor. Mrs. Kuchta was also a part of many other organizations and boards, dedicating her life to making a difference in the lives of others. Mrs. Kuchta is remembered as a great leader and committed volunteer, but many also recall her as a mentor and trusted political advisor.

When I began my public career I had few resources and minimal chances of success. Margaret did not care, and her encouragement, tireless effort, and strong public support in the face of great opposition is one reason I am able to address you today as a Member of Congress.

The kindness Margaret showed to me as a friend is illustrative of her caring heart and lifetime of devotion to improving the lives of others; sometimes very privately for one individual or family, sometimes very publicly for many, but always selflessly. Each of us, our community, and our nation, are enriched because Margaret Kuchta walked among us.

Margaret is survived by her beloved sons: Robert, Richard, and Michael. She also leaves behind seven beautiful grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and many other dear friends and family.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in remembering the great life of Mrs. Margaret Kuchta. Her dedication to the people of her community and the city of Hobart is inspirational and most worthy of our admiration and Northwest Indiana will forever be grateful for all that she has done.

TRIBUTE TO REV. GEORGE ST. ANGELO

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Rev. George St. Angelo, a resident of the state of Illinois, who dedicated his life to being a civil rights and social justice advocate.

In 1955, St. Angelo was the first chaplain at North Central College where he encouraged discussion of social justice issues by inviting a variety of important speakers to the college's campus. These speakers included "Freedom Ride" organizer and Committee on Racial Equality founder James Farmer, Morehouse College President Benjamin Mays, and St. Angelo's good friend Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Despite local opposition, two weeks after the first historic voting rights march that ended in the "Bloody Sunday" beating of citizens in Alabama, St. Angelo took a group of students from the suburban Chicago college to participate in the third Selma to Montgomery voting rights march, which ended at the state capitol with Dr. King's "How Long, Not Long" speech.

I have profound respect for St. Angelo's devotion to the civil rights movement. He dedicated his life to service and remained personally involved in promoting intercultural understanding until his death.

Thank you, Rev. George St. Angelo, for remaining steadfast in the fight for voter equality in this country. The people of Michigan, and all of those who you helped and fought for, will always remember your kindness, courage, and dedication to this just cause.

CELEBRATING THE GIRL SCOUTS
OF AMERICA 100TH YEAR ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate the Girl Scouts of America on reaching your 100th Anniversary. This is truly a great organization that is dedicated to enriching the lives of girls across the globe. For over a century, the Girl Scouts have promoted strong and successful girls and helped them along the way to becoming proud and prominent women.

New Hampshire is proud to have the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains teach our young ladies new and varied skills from archery and camping, to engineering and banking. With the well rounded merit badge system and great role models, many of these girls discover and explore techniques they would otherwise miss. Our communities have been immeasurably impacted by the good deeds the scouts do while earning badges and working toward the highest achievement of the Gold Award, and I commend them for their great success and the influence they have had on the public.

I congratulate the Girl Scouts of America for their continued dedication and leadership to the girls of our nation and the Granite State. I wish you all the best for continued success in the future.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY
MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I rise today to honor Women's History Month and its 2012 theme: Women's Education and Empowerment. Recently, President Barack Obama once again called upon Americans to observe Women's History Month and to celebrate the many contributions and accomplishments of American women throughout our nation's history. During this month, we are also reminded of the many struggles women have faced in search of equality.

The remarkable dedication and strength of influential women from not only the United States but from around the world has shaped today's current state of freedom and equality for every woman. They have played an irreplaceable role in changing our country for the better. In our nation's history, we have fine examples of courageous women who, in the face of tremendous opposition, have paved the way to success, freedom, and equality. We are reminded of women like Elizabeth Cady Stanton,

a leading figure in the Women's Rights Movement, Susan B. Anthony, the great leader who helped introduce women's suffrage in the United States, and Sojourner Truth, the women's rights activist and abolitionist who would not be silenced because of her race or gender. These exceptional women paved the way for great leaders such as Jeanette Rankin, the peaceful Montana native who would become the first woman to serve in the United States Congress, and Sandra Day O'Connor, the first female Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

These pioneering figures, as well as many other brave women throughout the United States and beyond, have brought to light the struggle for human rights. Throughout history in America, women have faced enormous obstacles with regard to educational opportunities. Although it was once an unimaginable statistic, in American colleges and universities today, women outnumber men in overall enrollment. Reflecting upon the 2012 Women's History Month theme, Women's Education and Empowerment, it is fitting that we pay tribute to all of the great leaders in the movement to ensure that the opportunity to learn is an opportunity for all. If these individuals had not stood up for what is right, many of the great advances brought about by women in the fields of medicine, business, law, and science, to name a few, would never have become realities. Today, thanks to the outstanding examples that have been set for them in the past, many proud women are empowered to continue their fight.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join in celebrating Women's History Month and to recognize the tremendous contributions women have made to improve the lives of generations to follow. In search of equality, these brave women have carried on to create an influential legacy unlike any other. I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in remembering the countless women that have persevered and those who continue to do so today. They are worthy of the highest praise. We will continue to move forward in our nation and our world due to their dreams of, and struggles for, equality and freedom for women everywhere.

HONORING MAXINE KORTUM
DURNEY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Maxine Kortum Durney, who passed away on January 24, 2012, at her home in Petaluma, California. Durney was a lifelong naturalist, a leader in the Sonoma County conservation movement, and a tireless advocate for the unique natural environment that makes our region such a special place to live.

Durney was born in Santa Cruz in 1921 and raised in Petaluma, a community to which she returned regularly even after her family and career took her elsewhere across Northern California. After studying at Santa Rosa Junior College and UC Berkeley, Durney became a librarian at Petaluma Public Library. She later worked in libraries in Red Bluff, Fremont, and

Santa Rosa, where she developed her passion for local history, and public service, and the preservation of our natural heritage.

In 1972, Durney was recruited by her brother, Dr. Bill Kortum, into an active role in the campaign for California's Proposition 20. The successful Proposition led to the establishment of the California Coastal Commission and a landmark change in our approach to conservation and development in threatened public spaces. Durney's work was vital in the hard-fought victory, and in ushering in a new era for environmentalism in California.

Durney brought the same attention to her work locally, where she was instrumental in cleaning up creeks and watersheds, and in engaging the public to better appreciate and care for our shared resources. In her role on the board of the Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District, Durney also demonstrated a collaborative approach to environmental stewardship. She understood that everyone has a stake in sustainable water and land management, and she made a particular effort to share that message with Sonoma County youth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing a woman who has made immense contributions to our environment. Maxine Kortum Durney's legacy lives on in the revitalized watersheds and wild California coastline that will be treasured by generations to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF
TOBY AND DIANNE MILLER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today—the 50th wedding anniversary of Toby and Dianne Miller. This event will take place on March 13th.

Toby and Dianne were married in Buchanan, Georgia on March 13, 1962, and have three children, Hugh Dudley Miller, II, Alesia Miller Sherrow and Patrick Dean Miller. They have also been blessed with eight grandchildren.

Toby and Dianne first met on at Sunday afternoon at a local restaurant in Anniston, Alabama, The Goal Post. Toby attended school in Oxford and Dianne attended Anniston High.

In 1970, Toby and Dianne established Miller Funeral Home. In 1972, Congressman Bill Nichols selected Toby to be Oxford's Outstanding Young Man of the Year.

Toby also organized the Oxford Rescue Squad which operated out of the funeral home. It is the only independently owned and operated funeral home in Calhoun County. In 2010, Miller Funeral Home was awarded Calhoun County's Sustaining Business Award. Dianne Miller operated Miller Florist which was founded in 1983.

I salute this lovely couple on the 50th year of their life together and join their friends and family in honoring them on this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO CIRO GIUSEPPE
RANDAZZO

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Ciro Giuseppe Randazzo, for receiving the prestigious Federazione Siciliana Del New Jersey "Trinacria D'Oro" Award and for his contributions to the State of New Jersey. As a distinguished medical professional, professor, and lecturer, Dr. Randazzo has dedicated his life to bettering the lives of others.

Dr. Randazzo graduated from John's Hopkins University in 1997, receiving his Bachelor's degree in Biology. Not stopping there, Dr. Randazzo went on to receive both his Master's in Public Health and Doctor of Medicine from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Upon graduation, Dr. Randazzo started as an intern and ultimately became a fellow at the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Currently, Dr. Randazzo serves as an Assistant Professor at Thomas Jefferson Medical College. Dr. Randazzo also serves as the Division Director for Neurology at the Thomas Jefferson Medical.

Dr. Randazzo is a distinguished lecturer and has been invited to speak on numerous occasions regarding pressing neurological issues and breakthroughs. He is also a published author and a well respected resource on neurological issues throughout his profession.

On March 11, 2012, Dr. Randazzo will be receiving the Federazione Siciliana Del New Jersey "Trinacria D'Oro" Award. This award is the Federazione Siciliana Del New Jersey's highest honor.

Federazione Siciliana Del New Jersey is a non-profit organization based in Bergen County, New Jersey. They aim to promote a harmonious relationship between the Region of Sicily and the State of New Jersey. As the proud Chair of the Italian-American Congressional Delegation, it is a great honor to recognize Dr. Randazzo and Federazione Siciliana Del New Jersey.

Dr. Randazzo and Federazione Siciliana Del New Jersey are shining examples of the continued contributions Italian-Americans make in communities in the State of New Jersey and throughout the country.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating the achievements of individuals like Dr. Ciro Giuseppe Randazzo.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Dr. Randazzo's family and friends, all those whose lives he touched, and me, in recognizing Dr. Ciro Giuseppe Randazzo.

JUMPSTART OUR BUSINESS
STARTUPS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3606) to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies:

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chair, I rise to support H.R. 3606, the Jumpstart Our Business Startups (JOBS) Act, but in lending my support, I must insist that we do more to protect consumers and investors than this bill currently provides.

Small businesses are the backbone of Oregon's economy and many have been devastated by the recent recession. This Congress must take swift action to ensure that they have access to capital and can invest in job creation. This bill recognizes that a one-size-fits-all approach to regulation can stifle small business growth. The JOBS Act will ease the cost and complexity of some securities regulations, and open greater access to capital so that startups and emerging companies can thrive. This bill is a good, but small, step in the right direction.

More work must be done to accelerate hiring, and more work, still, must be done with this bill to improve consumer and investor protections. A number of my colleagues offered amendments with this goal in mind. I supported those amendments, and I am disappointed that they were not accepted. By ensuring that we are expanding flexibility for the smallest startups where it is most needed, and establishing and encouraging standards for transparency and disclosure, we can both help small businesses grow while also protecting consumers and investors. These are achievable goals, and I remain committed to working with my colleagues in the House and the Senate on these issues as this bill moves forward.

Strong consumer and investor protections strengthen our economy by building confidence in the market. Our work to stand up for consumers and reenergize the economy cannot and must not stop here.

CELEBRATING THE ANNIVERSARY
OF THE HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION

HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, on the anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1848–1849, I would like to salute the people of Hungary, a trusted ally of the United States, for the great heritage of those freedom fighters who stood up against tyranny and risked their lives in the name of liberty. I know that Hungarians today are no less committed to the principles of freedom, self-reliance and national sovereignty than our heroic ancestors.

As an American of Hungarian origin I recognize that celebrating 1848 is nothing less than

celebrating freedom. And indeed, it is the ideals of freedom and liberty that have linked our countries so inextricably together for centuries.

It is a little known fact, that after the Revolution was crushed with the help of the Russians, it was the United States that negotiated Kossuth's release and thanks to this, the great freedom fighter could sail across the Atlantic to raise public awareness about the situation in Hungary. And this year marks the 160th anniversary of his Congressional address which he delivered in these very chambers to U.S. Representatives.

In his address he said: "Your generous part in my liberation is taken by the world for the revelation of the fact, that the United States are resolved not to allow the despots of the world to trample on oppressed humanity." Even in the most difficult times, when domestic affairs in Hungary were hard to decipher, Americans found the proper and prudent way both officially and unofficially to help those who were truly committed to freedom against those who strove to ignore the will of the people.

Hungarians in 1848 took up arms in order to reclaim their national sovereignty, an ideal that I know Hungary's current government values very much. As Kossuth said while in America, "The sovereign right of whatever nation to dispose of itself to alter its institutions, to change the form of its government, is a common public law of nations, common to all, and therefore put under the common guarantee of all." Americans treasure our own independence and share in the celebration of the Hungarian revolution.

FOURTH ANNUAL NACDS
RxIMPACT DAY ON CAPITOL HILL

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. ROSS of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, the Fourth Annual NACDS RxIMPACT Day on Capitol Hill is a special day where we recognize pharmacy's contribution to the American healthcare system. The event, organized by the National Association of Chain Drug Stores, takes place on March 21–22. Hundreds from the pharmacy community—including practicing pharmacists, pharmacy school faculty and students, state pharmacy leaders and pharmacy company executives—will visit Capitol Hill to share their views with Congress about the importance of supporting legislation that protects access to neighborhood pharmacies and utilizes pharmacists to improve the quality and reduce the costs of healthcare.

Two of these attendees from more than 40 states who have traveled to Washington are from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Pharmacy. These important healthcare providers are here to urge Congress to recognize the value of pharmacists and protect access to these medication experts as a part of our valued healthcare delivery system.

Pharmacists are the nation's most accessible healthcare providers and nearly all Americans live within five miles of a community retail pharmacy. There are 116 chain pharmacies and 108 independent pharmacies in

my own Congressional District in Arkansas. Pharmacy has a long history of receiving, filling, billing and dispensing prescriptions in tandem with counseling. But pharmacists, utilizing their specialized education, also play a major role in medication therapy management, disease state management, immunizations, healthcare screenings, and other healthcare services designed to improve patient health and reduce overall healthcare costs.

We have a responsibility to adopt policies in recognition that pharmacists help patients adhere to their medications to improve health outcomes and reduce the risks of adverse events and unnecessary costly hospital readmissions and emergency room visits. Congress recognized the important role of local pharmacists when it included a Medication Therapy Management (MTM) benefit in Medicare Part D. As we have seen the increasing power of this benefit in improving patient health outcomes, I support community pharmacy's efforts to strengthen the MTM benefit so it is available for seniors and others struggling with chronic conditions and other illnesses.

We also have a responsibility to implement fair reimbursement for pharmacies for the cost effective medications that they dispense. Furthermore, we have a responsibility to protect American consumers and the pharmacies that serve them from corporate middlemen known as Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs). Despite their claims to the contrary, PBMs drive up prescription drug costs, restrict consumers' choice of pharmacy, use gimmicks to delay payments to pharmacies and use private and sensitive health information for illegitimate purposes. Nothing is more important to chain pharmacy than the health and safety of their patients and the well-being of the American public.

Today, I celebrate the value of pharmacy and support efforts to protect access to neighborhood pharmacies and utilize pharmacies to improve the quality and reduce the costs of healthcare. In recognition of the Fourth Annual NACDS RxIMPACT Day on Capitol Hill, I would like to congratulate pharmacy leaders, pharmacists, students, and executives and the pharmacy community represented by the National Association of Chain Drug Stores for their contributions to the good health of the American people.

IN RECOGNITION OF G.W. CARVER
HIGH SCHOOL WOLVERINES BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING
THE 6A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to the G.W. Carver Wolverines Men's Basketball team in Montgomery, Alabama, who recently won the Alabama High School Athletic Association Class 6A State Championship.

After years of state tournament disappointment, including the last two seasons, the Wolverines grasped their first state title since 1984. The Wolverines record was 29 wins and three losses, but ended the season with a 23-

game winning streak. Mr. James "J.J." Jackson is the Head Coach. The members of the team are: Jeremy Johnson, Anthony Jarrett, Zachary Rumph, Craig Sword, Brandon Davis, Tony Armstrong, Brandon Murphy-Blackmon, Brandon Austin, Jose Duncan and Tony Cole.

All of us across Montgomery County and east Alabama are deeply proud of these talented young Alabamians. I'd like to congratulate the team, coaches and G.W. Carver High School on this outstanding achievement.

CONGRATULATING THE ALVIS
HOUSE ON ITS 45TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Alvis House on its 45th anniversary of providing exceptional service to the Columbus community.

Since 1967, Alvis House has displayed a genuine commitment to its motto, "Reconnecting Families, Restoring Communities and Reinvesting in Ourselves."

From its programs that help individuals re-enter the community after their involvement in the criminal justice system, to the assistance Alvis House provides to families affected by having relatives in jail or in prison, this facility has definitely proven its ability to have a positive impact on the community.

Alvis House also provides a range of individualized habilitation and behavioral support services to those with developmental disabilities that works to help them engage in our communities. For that, I commend the facility.

The work of Alvis House helps to brighten the future by unlocking each individual's potential and investing in the resources that attain results. Alvis House and its accomplishments benefit the communities in which we all live, and I look forward its continued tradition of excellence and service.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S.
RECOGNITION OF THE REPUBLIC
OF CROATIA

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, April 7, 2012, marks the twentieth anniversary of the United States recognition of the Republic of Croatia as a sovereign country.

Two decades later, the Republic of Croatia has shown its firm and steady commitment to freedom, democracy, and prosperity for all its citizens.

The United States has been a consistent supporter of these endeavors, to which the House of Representatives, and especially the Croatian Congressional Caucus, have played a crucial role.

Over the past twenty years, Croatia has come a long way and the House of Representatives has been there to recognize and encourage its integration into Euro-Atlantic institutions. On December 14, 2005, the House of Representatives approved House Resolu-

tion 529, which recommended and encouraged Croatia's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). In addition, House Resolution 529 commended Croatia for its progress in meeting the political, economic, and military requirements. Finally, the resolution recognized Croatia's contribution to the global war on terrorism and for its constructive participation in the United States-Adriatic Charter.

This was followed up by approval of House Resolution 1266 on July 30, 2008, congratulating Croatia on being invited by NATO to begin accession talks. In the three years since Croatia joined NATO, Croatia has contributed to NATO-led peace-keeping missions and offered its strong support to allied forces, especially in Afghanistan, where Croatian troops are assisting in bringing stability and security to the country.

Currently, we are witnessing another vital moment for our Southeast European ally. They have entered the final phase in its accession negotiations with the EU. Along with forging its Euro-Atlantic future, Croatia has proven to be an ardent advocate for the rest of the Balkan region. Success for Croatia will be success for the region and a beacon for eventual EU and NATO membership for all these countries, once all the conditions and benchmarks have been met.

The 20-year relationship between the U.S. and Croatia has been based on shared values and friendship, and I am confident that it will continue.

I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Croatia on all it has accomplished since becoming a sovereign nation. I look forward to our continuing partnership.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEPHEN
WILLIAMS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Stephen Williams of Franklin, MA on his 38 distinguished years as a member of the Franklin Police Department, culminating in his recent retirement after 8 years as Chief.

Mr. Williams has been tied to Franklin since birth. He grew up in Franklin, attended Franklin High School, and got an associate's degree at Franklin's Dean College before later earning bachelor's and master's degrees at Westfield State College.

After playing college football for Boston University, Mr. Williams served in the Army as a member of the military police in the Vietnam War, putting him on a lifelong course as an advocate of public service and safety.

In his 38 years working for Franklin, 8 as chief, Mr. Williams was an invaluable, highly respected community leader, not only in public safety matters, but in the school system, and in the veterans' community.

He was an early proponent of E911 in Massachusetts, as well as an instrumental leader for the regional South Suburban Police Institute.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Mr. Williams for his lifelong contributions to his community. His

commitment to public safety, and his passion for Franklin is truly remarkable. I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the lifetime work of Chief Williams upon his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. JAMES A.
KUYKENDALL

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the continued contributions of Rev. Dr. James A. Kuykendall to the State of New Jersey and to our Nation. As a spiritual leader, mentor, and community servant, Dr. Kuykendall has dedicated himself to bettering the lives of others.

Dr. Kuykendall is a native of my hometown, Paterson, New Jersey. He attended Eastside High School, where he was an assistant drum major for the school marching band. Dr. Kuykendall went on to study at Montclair State University and Ramapo College. Ultimately, Dr. Kuykendall obtained his Doctor of Divinity degree from Shiloh Theological Seminary in 1999.

Dr. Kuykendall also proudly and honorably served in the United States Army. He was stationed in Seoul, South Korea and completed his tour of duty as a financial specialist.

In 1987, Dr. Kuykendall established the Agape Christian Ministries Church. He is the

founder and pastor of one of the most multi-cultural and popular ministries in the City of Paterson.

However, Dr. Kuykendall's message and goodwill is not confined to the Agape Christian Ministries Church on 76 Ward Street in Paterson, New Jersey. His weekly ministry broadcast is telecast to over 120 cities throughout New Jersey and New York. The Agape Christian Ministries Church also has one of the most generous college scholarship programs in the State of New Jersey. This has made higher education a reality to countless bright and talented students.

Currently, Dr. Kuykendall serves as Chaplain to the Paterson Police Department and as Chief Chaplain to the Passaic County Jail. He serves on numerous community and civic boards. Dr. Kuykendall has received numerous awards and honorary resolutions for his civic and religious work throughout New Jersey.

Dr. Kuykendall is married to Rev. Kathy Kuykendall of Paterson, New Jersey. They could not be more proud of their daughter Tanisha Vonetta and of their grandchild Te'ras Trae Samuels.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating the achievements of individuals like Dr. James Kuykendall.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Dr. Kuykendall's family and friends, all those whose lives he touched, and me, in recognizing Dr. James Kuykendall.

IN RECOGNITION OF JACKSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LADY GOLDEN EAGLES BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 4A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to the Jacksonville High School Lady Golden Eagles Women's Basketball team in Jacksonville, Alabama, who recently won the Alabama High School Athletic Association Class 4A State Championship.

The Lady Golden Eagles are the first girls' basketball team in Calhoun County history to win a state title. The team began the season unranked, but proved during the season and post-season to be number one. Their overall record was 31 wins and four losses. The Lady Golden Eagles are led by Head Coach Ryan Chambless and his assistants Nate Lyons and Megan Snider.

All of us across Calhoun County and east Alabama are deeply proud of these talented young Alabamians. I'd like to congratulate the team, coaches and Jacksonville High School on this outstanding achievement.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 20, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 21

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Tracey Ann Jacobson, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kosovo, Richard B. Norland, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to Georgia, Kenneth Merten, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, Mark A. Pekala, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia, and Jeffrey D. Levine, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Estonia, all of the Department of State.

SD-419

Appropriations

Department of Homeland Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine balancing prosperity and security, focusing on challenges for United States air travel in a 21st century global economy.

SD-138

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine retooling government for the 21st century, focusing on the President's reorganization plan and reducing duplication.

SD-342

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine convicting the guilty and exonerating the innocent.

SD-226

Armed Services

Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine military construction, environmental, and base closure programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA), Non Commissioned Officers Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Vietnam Veterans of America,

Wounded Warrior Project, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, and The Retired Enlisted Association.

SD-G50

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Department of Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Army.

SD-192

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine Verizon and cable deals.

SD-226

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine prerequisites for progress in Northern Ireland, focusing on the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, and the current challenges to full implementation of the agreement and the action that is necessary for continued confidence and progress in the peace process.

2247, Rayburn Building

2:30 p.m.

Appropriations

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the National Nuclear Security Administration.

SD-192

Appropriations

Financial Service and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine strengthening market oversight and integrity, focusing on fiscal year 2013 resource needs of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

SD-138

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

Armed Services

Strategic Forces Subcommittee

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

SR-222

MARCH 22

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

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

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine international harmonization of Wall Street reform, focusing on orderly liquidation, derivatives, and the Volcker Rule.

SD-538

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Commerce.

SD-192

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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

To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Organization, Efficiency, and Financial Management to examine problems in Army military pay.

2154, Rayburn Building

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine stay-at-work and back-to-work strategies, focusing on lessons from the private sector.

SD-430

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 2159, to extend the authorization of the Drug-Free Communities Support Program through fiscal year 2017, and the nominations of Richard Gary Taranto, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Robin S. Rosenbaum, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Gershwin A. Drain, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, and Gregory K. Davis, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi, Department of Justice.

SD-226

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine small business investment companies and their role in the entrepreneurship ecosystem.

SR-428A

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Air Force Sergeants Association, Blinded Veterans Association, American Veterans (AMVETS), Gold Star Wives, Fleet Reserve Association, Military Officers Association of America, and the Jewish War Veterans.

345, Cannon Building

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Scott H. DeLisi, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Uganda, Michael A. Raynor, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Benin, and Makila James, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Swaziland, all of the Department of State.

SD-419

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 1898, to provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to the Maniilaq Association located in Kotzebue, Alaska, and H.R. 1560, to amend the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act to allow the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe to determine blood quantum requirement for membership in that tribe.

SD-628

2:30 p.m.
 Appropriations
 Legislative Branch Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Secretary of the Senate, the Sergeant at Arms and the U.S. Capitol Police.

SD-124

Energy and Natural Resources
 Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 303, to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to require the Bureau of Land Management to provide a claimant of a small miner waiver from claim maintenance fees with a period of 60 days after written receipt of 1 or more defects is provided to the claimant by registered mail to cure the 1 or more defects or pay the claim maintenance fee, S. 1129, to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to improve the management of grazing leases and permits, S. 1473, to amend Public Law 99-548 to provide for the implementation of the multispecies habitat conservation plan for the Virgin River, Nevada, and to extend the authority to purchase certain parcels of public land, S. 1492, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in Clark County, Nevada, for the environmental remediation and reclamation of the Three Kids Mine Project Site, S. 1559, to establish the San Juan Islands National Conservation Area in the San Juan Islands, Washington, S. 1635, to designate certain lands in San Miguel, Ouray, and San Juan Counties, Colorado, as wilderness, S. 1687, to adjust the boundary of Carson National Forest, New Mexico, S. 1774, to establish the Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Management Area, to designate certain Federal land as wilderness, and to improve the management of noxious weeds in the Lewis and Clark National Forest, S. 1788, to designate the Pine Forest Range Wilderness area in Humboldt County, Nevada, S. 1906, to modify the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program as the program applies to units of the National Forest System derived from the public domain by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees, S. 2001, to expand the Wild Rogue Wilderness Area in the State of Oregon, to make additional wild and scenic river

designations in the Rogue River area, to provide additional protections for Rogue River tributaries, S. 2015, to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to the Powell Recreation District in the State of Wyoming, and S. 2056, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain interests in Federal land acquired for the Scofield Project in Carbon County, Utah.

SD-366

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

MARCH 27

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

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

SD-106

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services

Airland Subcommittee

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

SR-222

MARCH 28

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

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

SVC-217

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

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

SR-418

2 p.m.

Armed Services

Personnel Subcommittee

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

SR-232A

Armed Services

Personnel Subcommittee

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

SR-232A

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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

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

SD-342

MARCH 29

10 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Contracting Oversight Subcommittee

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

SD-342

CANCELLATIONS

MARCH 21

9:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Securities, Insurance and Investment Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine investor risks in crowdfunding.

SD-538

POSTPONEMENTS

2 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps and Global Narcotics Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine press freedom in Latin America, focusing on the fourth estate under attack.

SD-419