

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MAME REILEY

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a longtime Virginia resident and dear friend, Ms. Mame Reiley, whose decades-long service to the Democratic Party and local nonprofit institutions has had such a positive impact on people's lives both locally and nationally.

In 1989, Mame was the one who convinced me to run for Congress. Because of her legendary ability to make people see the art of the possible, and my confidence in her timing and instincts, we took on a tough race, beating the odds. She served as my Chief of Staff for the next six years, ably guiding me to some major policy successes and a coveted seat on the Appropriations Committee in only my second term.

Mame fell in love with politics as a youngster, cheering Jack Kennedy on to his historic Presidential election and playing a significant role in college for his brother Ted's run. In the years following, she has become a force within the Party, chairing the Women's Caucus for the DNC, and having played a major role in the career of virtually every major Virginia Democrat from Doug Wilder to Tim Kaine. Among her many positions she's held over the years: running inaugural activities for Governor Mark Warner, serving as political director of his PAC, One Virginia, serving as senior advisor to Governor Tim Kaine, and directing my brother Brian's gubernatorial run.

Mame's skill, knowhow, and hard work led Governor Warner to appoint her to the Board of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) in 2002. While on the MWAA Board, she quickly gained the respect of her peers, rising to the position of Chairman of the Board, and the Board's prestigious Dulles Corridor Committee. Her efforts helped pave the way for Rail to Dulles, the largest expansion of the Metro rail system since it was created.

Commitment to public service and the Democratic Party has been the theme of her life's work. Mame's involvement with the DNC and other influential local organizations continues to this day. In 1992, she was elected to the DNC from Virginia. Since that time, she has risen to Chair the Women's Caucus and serves on the DNC's Executive Committee and its highly influential Rules and Bylaws Committee. She is also a member of the Economic Club of Washington and the Federal City Council Executive Committee. In her spare time, Mame has continued to operate the Reiley Group, a well-known public relations and event planning firm.

Mame has garnered the respect of countless individuals and admirers. She is a force to be reckoned with, her honesty and advice frequently sought-out, and if you're in a fox-hole, she's the person you want next to you, protecting your back and bringing levity to even the toughest situation.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of my long time friend and mentor, Mame Reiley.

RECOGNIZING THE MONTFORD POINT MARINES FOR RECEIVING THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Montford Point Marines for their selfless service to our country and for their fortitude in the face of social turmoil. This group of warriors forever remains a testament to the American ideals of bravery, patriotism, and liberty.

Through the courageous efforts of civil rights activists and President Franklin D. Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 8802, race restrictions on the defense industry were eliminated during the buildup of World War II. And in 1941, African Americans wanting to serve their country were given the right to do so.

Though still facing adversity in segregated camps, these brave soldiers answered the call to arms without hesitation and trained to become United States Marines at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Between 1942 and 1949, more than 20,000 men were recruited and enlisted at Montford Point. These Marines would steadfastly serve our country during a time of great social unrest. The example they set and the legacy they left at Montford Point inspired countless future Marines and inspires us all today.

President Truman's signing of an executive order in 1949 desegregating the military is surely a direct reflection of these Marines' role as trailblazers of racial equality. The sacrifice of the Montford Point Marines represented a pivotal step forward for our country and they deserve our utmost respect and admiration.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me today in saluting the Montford Point Marines as they receive the Congressional Gold Medal commemorating their timeless example of valor and American heroism.

HONORING BONNIE LEMOINE

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I have the opportunity to recognize the remarkable 34-year career of Bonnie Lemoine, Procter & Gamble (P&G) External Relations Leader.

Bonnie was born and raised in Central Louisiana and has dedicated her career and life to

the Pineville/Alexandria area. Throughout her career, Bonnie has worked tirelessly to make Louisiana an attractive place to do business and a great place to live.

In addition to her job at P&G, Bonnie served as chair and board member of the Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce, Chair and executive board member of the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, board member of Central Louisiana Economic Development Alliance and Tioga Historical Museum, member of North Rapides Business Alliance and Local Water Board Commissioner, and many others.

Throughout the years, Bonnie has received numerous awards, including: Lantern Award, Intercity Economic Development Award, Cypress Award, Better Business Award and P&G Recognition Shares.

I offer the following testament to Bonnie's kind-hearted and altruistic nature. After Hurricane Katrina, P&G's Folgers Coffee Manufacturing Plant, in New Orleans, was completely flooded as well as many of the employees' homes. Bonnie immediately went into action. She asked employees in the P&G Pineville, LA plant if they would open their homes to the P&G Folgers families displaced by the floods. Everyone needing a roof over their heads was accommodated. Once this was achieved, Bonnie started working to get the plant up and running again. Within weeks, there were 125 FEMA trailers on-site for employees to reside, and power had been restored to the site. The Folgers plant was one of the first manufacturing plants in the area to resume production. It even received a visit from President Bush as he personally recognized the incredible efforts to help employees and their families and get the plant up and running in record time.

Bonnie has earned the respect and admiration of everyone she has met along her journey. It is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Bonnie Lemoine on an exemplary career as she celebrates her retirement. I thank her for her service to our community and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION SAFETY AND INNOVATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 3187, as amended, the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act.

I am proud to represent many of the hard working employees at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and this legislation provides them with the resources to fulfill FDA's mission to protect and advance public health and safety. This bipartisan legislation enables FDA to review drugs and medical devices in a

• 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.

timely fashion, reduces costs by authorizing a new user fee program for generic drugs, and takes important steps to prevent and mitigate critical drug shortages.

As the co-chairman of the Childhood Cancer Caucus, I am pleased that this legislation contains several provisions that will facilitate the development of safe and effective childhood cancer treatments. The legislation makes permanent two key complementary pediatric drug programs—the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act (BPCA) and the Pediatric Research Equity Act (PREA). Both of these programs foster the development of prescription drugs for children and the safe use of drugs by children. Finally, I am pleased that this legislation incorporates the Creating Hope Act, which I introduced with Representatives MCCAUL, BUTTERFIELD, and MYRICK. Under this incentive program, a pharmaceutical company that develops a drug specifically to treat a rare pediatric disease will be rewarded with a priority review voucher for another drug. I'm hopeful that this program will kick start private sector investment in new and innovative treatments for children and families affected by cancer.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support S. 3187 to provide FDA the resources it requires to guarantee the safety of American's prescription drugs and medical devices.

HONORING PETER S. PAINE, JR.

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend Peter S. Paine, Jr. upon his receipt of the Ordre des Palmes Academiques (Order of Academic Palms). This prestigious honor was awarded by the Messieurs Jean-Claude Duthion, Education Attaché of the French Embassy in recognition of his work to preserve Fort Ticonderoga and its international educational mission.

The Ordre des Palmes Academiques is an order of chivalry of France for academic, cultural, and educational figures. Originally founded by Emperor Napoleon to honor eminent members of the University of Paris, it was established as an order in October 4, 1955 by President René Jules Gustave Coty.

Peter's career as a lawyer and strong advocate for the environment first came to the fore when he was named a member of the Temporary Study Commission on the Future of the Adirondacks from 1968 to 1970, and then as a Commissioner of the Adirondack Park Agency from 1971 to 1995. Peter served as the principle draftsman of the Adirondack State Land Master Plan and the NY State Wild Scenic and Recreational Rivers legislation, masterfully displaying his skill and passion for the environment. He also served as a trustee and former chairman of the Adirontack Nature Conservancy, served on the NY State Nature Conservancy Board of Trustees, was founding member and long time general counsel of the Lake Champlain Committee, and also served as one of the founding trustees of what is now Environmental Advocates. He also has served on the Board of Trustees of the Fort Ticonderoga Association and a trustee of the Adirondack Community Trust pay projects and played an important role in numerous land

conservation contracts in the Champlain Valley including the preservation as a bird sanctuary of the Four Brother Islands in Lake Champlain and the addition of the Split Rock Mountain Range to the NY State Forest Preserve. As a major supporter and co-organizer of the Noblewood Park and Nature Preserve Project in the town of Willsboro, along with Assemblywoman Teresa Sayward, he helped create the Coon Mountain Nature Preserve in Westport. Peter lead the Paine family in donating conservation easements to the Adirondack Nature Conservancy starting in 1978 which protected five miles of shoreline on Lake Champlain and the Boquet River as well as some 1,000 acres of farm and forestland.

Peter had a long career in the law with the law firm of Cleary Gottlieb Steen and Hamilton LLP and has served as Chairman of the Champlain National Bank in Willsboro, NY.

Peter is an avid hunter, fisherman, horseman, and wilderness expedition leader. I can tell you from my personal interaction with him over many years that he is a man of uncommon intelligence, clear thinking, and one not afraid to express his opinion on any subject. He performs his duties with alacrity, clarity, and with concern for his environment and fellow man.

Let me offer in conclusion my sincere congratulations on his receipt of the Ordre des Palmes Academiques. I wish him the best of luck in all future endeavors.

"Peter, mes sincères félicitations pour votre prix à l'ordre des Palmes Académiques. Je tiens à vous souhaiter mes meilleures vœux de succès, et je vous prie d'agréer l'expression de mes salutations les plus distinguées."

SUPPORTING THE SELECTION OF IDAHO'S JERRY KRAMER INTO THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to highlight the career and advocate for one of Idaho's most distinguished professional football players, Jerry Kramer.

Jerry graduated from Idaho's Sandpoint High School and attended college at the University of Idaho on a football scholarship. He was a standout player there, garnering selections to both the East-West Shrine Game and the College All-Star Game.

Over a dozen professional football teams courted Kramer and after being drafted 39th overall, he signed on to play guard for the Green Bay Packers in 1958. The Packers of that era, with help from Kramer, are the only team to win three championships in a row. Jerry Kramer made the "Packer Sweep" famous.

Jerry Kramer is perhaps most famously known for "The Block" where he led quarterback Bart Starr into the end zone as time ran out in the 1967 NFL Championship game, defeating the Dallas Cowboys in what is known as the "Ice Bowl."

Jerry Kramer was a five-time All-Pro, a member of five championship teams, including the first two Super Bowls, and a member of

the NFL's 50th Anniversary All-Time team. He was named to the NFL's All-Decade Team of the 1960s at offensive guard and led the NFL in field goal percentage in 1962.

Surprisingly, Jerry Kramer is the only player selected to the NFL's 50th All-Time Anniversary team who has not been inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio

It is time, Mr. Speaker, for this oversight to be corrected. Jerry Kramer is so highly regarded that seventeen current members of the NFL Hall of Fame, many who played against Kramer, have endorsed his nomination and election to the Hall. That list of players includes such greats as Roger Staubach, Frank Gifford, Alan Page, Bob Lilly, Jan Stenerud, Gino Marchetti and Coach Joe Gibbs, to name just a few

Besides his contributions on the football field, Jerry is a highly regarded citizen of Idaho who gives his time to worthy causes including serving on the selection committee for the World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame. Idahoans are proud of his accomplishments and football fans throughout the state support his induction

There is no doubt in my mind that Jerry Kramer's NFL career clearly qualifies him for induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 26th, 2012, I missed rollcall vote 416 for unavoidable reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 416: "no" (Connolly of Virginia Amendment).

ON POINT, SHADES OF BLACK AND GREEN IN HONOR OF THE MONTFORD POINT MARINES AND THE PRESENTATION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Montford Point Marines, were the first enlisted Blacks ever to serve in The United States Marine Corps. Today we honor these magnificent heroes with the presentation of Congress's highest civilian award, The Congressional Gold Medal. These heroes fought on two fronts: at home against discrimination and across the seas to defend our nation. Beginning in 1942 they served in the Pacific Theater, and fought as valiantly as any Americans ever have. Their courageous lives have helped bring this Nation one step closer to equality. I ask in honor of all of these heroes living and deceased, this poem be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ON POINT, SHADES OF BLACK AND GREEN

(by Albert Carey Caswell)

On . . .

On Point!

All in those Shades of Black and Green!

As a war can so be fought on two fronts
sometimes so sadly seen!

As had all of those Montford Point Marines
 . . .
 All in their most magnificent shades, shades
 of Black and Green . . .
 For only The Few, Shall Ever Be United
 States Marines!
 As a Nation's dark deep past so convened!
 All in what discrimination so really means!
 As throughout all of those generations,
 and all of those tears and pain upon a Na-
 tion!
 But, To Be A United States Marine!
 But, some dreams never die as so it seems!
 To walk so proudly and wear those brilliant
 shades of Green!
 And to go so boldly forth,
 all in your most heroic course!
 As A United States Marine!
 And even though what we so did to them was
 a disgrace as seen,
 these fine heroes would not so lost pace,
 these Marines!
 As they so heroically marched off into that
 shadow of death with high esteem!
 While, all of their most brilliant hearts so
 gleamed!
 OohRah!
 Because, discrimination is no match for A
 United States Marine!
 With the world at its edge,
 as Mankind bled . . .
 To Save The World, all in those magnificent
 shades of black and green!
 So that into a future, A King Among could
 so speak of his Dream!
 Because, no more fiercer warrior has so been
 seen!
 Than, all of those Magnificent Montford
 Point Marines!
 As I pity those poor Japanese,
 who had to so face all of their most heroic
 screams!
 As Jesse Owens,
 had already laid the ground work in Ger-
 many it seems!
 When, the second wave came crashing in as
 seen!
 Bringing a setting sun in the land of the Jap-
 anese!
 As what their fine hearts for our country tis
 of thee would mean!
 All in that Pride,
 that which so dwells deep inside of being a
 United States Marine!
 As their courage and their faith,
 put our Nation one step closer to that place!
 Where all of our forefathers' hearts had so
 truly dreamed!
 For all men are created equal all in this
 golden theme!
 So on this day,
 look around you and pray and so say thank
 all of these Marines!
 All in their most magnificent shades of
 Black and Green!
 Whose courage and undying faith,
 so made this our world a much better place
 all of these Marines!
 Listen closely, can you but not hear the lib-
 erty bell!
 Ringing out for the freedoms that they so
 fought for across the shores so well!
 For all these magnificent men where On
 Point,
 as our Lord God knows so very well!
 All in their most magnificent shades of
 Black and Green!
 All of these Magnificent Montford Point Ma-
 rines . . .
 As time and history would tell!

IN RECOGNITION OF THE EL PASO
 YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the El Paso Youth Symphony Orchestra (EPYSO) and their Diplomatic International Cultural Exchange Tour.

From June 25th through July 2nd, the EPYSO will partner with the Mexican national youth symphony, Sinfonica Esperanza Azteca, in a regional tour that will take them to prestigious venues in southern California. The journey will culminate with a performance aboard the USS *Midway*, honoring veterans and soldiers.

The recognition of the tour would not be complete without mentioning the talented orchestra behind it. This year, Maestro Phillip Gabriel Garcia and his students will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the respected and accomplished EPYSO. With over 3,500 students taught and 200 shows performed, it is amazing to consider that just two decades ago, Phillip was a senior at Hanks High School when he first started this orchestra. EPYSO is now playing nationally in front of thousands. Its philanthropic motive of discovering hidden talent and potential in students throughout the city is also noteworthy.

With the tour underway, the band is focused on providing a phenomenal show. Mayor John Cook and Maestro Garcia have worked with the El Paso musicians to promote the message that they are a band against bullies. Their musical compositions come with a moral that bullying in schools must stop. Their song "I Am Not a Bully" will not only demonstrate and promote equal and fair school policies, but also display to our Mexican counterparts that Americans are more sympathetic than many in the international community label us.

Bullying is an unacceptable and growing problem in our schools. Bullying in all forms is unacceptable and social networks like Facebook and Twitter have only added fuel to the fire. All students suffer when bullying is tolerated, and we need to change if we want to see our youth progress as a generation. Our goal should be to provide students with a safe academic environment where students are comfortable and focused on their social and educational goals. Additionally, as a father and a grandfather, I would not want to witness any child being harassed or picked-on. Being bullied, especially at a young age, has a serious implication on a child's early social development that will negatively impact them for the rest of their lives. Thankfully many activists—like the students in the EPYSO and others—are combating this growing problem.

I am proud of the Diplomatic International Cultural Exchange Tour. As the EPYSO travels across the Southwest with their Mexican counterparts, I hope that their message of tolerance will be one which the cities they visit will embrace and share in their communities.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES
 ON H.R. 4348, SURFACE TRANS-
 PORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF
 2012, PART II

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Black Motion to Instruct.

This motion is a step back for highway safety, and a step back for our country. This country has done a lot to improve highway safety in the last thirty years. We've mandated safety belt use. We've addressed our many of our most dangerous intersections and developed better signage and more visible traffic signals. And we created a federal mandate that raised the drinking age to 21.

But there are new challenges—and distracted driving is one of the most important. This motion is exactly the opposite of what we should be voting on.

We should be doing everything in our power to encourage responsible driving and protect lives. Couching this argument in the 10th amendment is simply cover for irresponsible legislation.

There are numerous grant programs throughout the federal government that provide funding for states based on national policies that Congress wants to advance. To single out a safety program is totally out of left field—or rather, right field in this case.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this motion.

CONGRATULATING MS. STEPHANIE
 ODOM ON THE OCCASION OF
 RECOGNITION AS A UNITED
 HEALTH FOUNDATION DIVERSE
 SCHOLAR

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great pleasure to congratulate Ms. Stephanie Odom for being honored as a United Health Foundation Diverse Scholar. Ms. Odom's unwavering commitment to academic excellence in the field of science, deem her worthy of this recognition.

The United Health Foundation began highlighting Diverse Scholars in 2007 as an initiative to increase the quantity of deserving, yet underrepresented individuals entering the health workforce. In 2009, the Foundation sought to further engage scholars with access to resources by hosting a forum in our Nation's capital with representatives from government, academia, and various industries.

Ms. Odom is a native of Macon, North Carolina. She has excelled at Edward Waters College as an undergraduate biology major. Currently in her second year of education at Edward Waters, Ms. Odom has consistently achieved Dean's List honors by maintaining a minimum 3.5 GPA since her freshman year. As a result, she is a member of the prestigious national honor society, Phi Eta Sigma.

She credits the United Health Foundation scholarship with assisting her goal of completing post-secondary education. She is a

humble, yet gracious leader; when asked about challenges faced while achieving her goal of higher education, Ms. Odom replied that she is challenged daily, but will not allow anything to discourage her dream of becoming a physician.

As a resident of North Carolina's First Congressional District, I am proud to call her one of our own. The United Health Foundation has shown great judgment in selecting Ms. Stephanie Odom as a Diverse Scholar.

Again, congratulations. Best wishes for her continued academic success and commitment to the uplift of science and humanity.

HONORING THE PASADENA JEWISH TEMPLE AND CENTER

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center in Pasadena, California, upon its 90th anniversary.

Incorporated in 1921, Jewish members of Pasadena built their first synagogue, Temple B'nai Israel, on Hudson Avenue in Pasadena. In 1929 the congregation moved to a larger meeting room due to a rapid growth in membership. By 1932 membership had grown to 207 family members. In the 1940's, the congregation purchased land and built a new temple on Altadena Drive in Pasadena, its current location.

David Cohen became Rabbi in 1942, followed by Rabbi Max Vorspan, who served from 1947 until 1952. During this time, the Pasadena Jewish Community was re-named as the Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center (PJTC). In 1952, Maurice T. Galpert became Rabbi, serving until his death in 1988. Rabbi Galpert led the PJTC through growth and modernization, which included building a new sanctuary and school and the ratification of a new constitution. In 1989, Rabbi Gilbert Kollin, long established as a rabbinic leader in the greater Los Angeles Jewish community, led PJTC until his retirement in 2003. Joshua Levine Grater became Rabbi in 2003 and under his leadership, the PJTC has become not only a place to worship but also a positive role model with many service and outreach programs.

Since its inception, the PJTC has provided spiritual guidance to its members and support for the community. In addition to hosting affiliated Jewish organizations such as the Weizmann Day School and B'nai B'rith, there are many service committees including the Sisterhood, United Synagogue Youth, Men's Club, and Israel Committees. The Tikkun Olam & Social Justice Committee coordinates ongoing humanitarian and social action work within PJTC and the greater community, and its efforts include coordinating charitable responses to occurrences such as Hurricane Katrina and ending the genocide in Darfur. Members also volunteer with Union Station Homeless Services and Project Isaiah, a food and clothing distribution program, and provide tutoring to Longfellow Elementary School students in Pasadena.

I consider it a great privilege to represent the Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center and

I ask all Members to join me in congratulating the congregation upon their 90th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL R. HOLLIS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a natural born leader, an entrepreneur, a trailblazer and a very dear friend, Michael R. Hollis departed this life on June 18, 2012, at the tender age of 58, but not before he achieved his goal to "do something in life that would make a difference."

A native of Atlanta, Georgia, Michael was born in Grady Memorial Hospital, a beloved institution that later in life he would help save. From a young age he demonstrated he was extremely gifted. When he was only 15, he led the Atlanta Youth Congress and worked on Sam Massell's mayoral campaign, which earned him a spot on the Mayor's race relations commission. The following year, Michael's talents landed him a coveted job in the Atlanta Braves' public relations department. At 16, he also served as a Georgia delegate to the White House Conference on Youth and led the Young Atlantans for Maynard Jackson during Jackson's 1969 bid for the U.S. Senate. It was only after he accomplished these remarkable achievements that he graduated from Booker T. Washington High School.

Michael went on to graduate with honors from Dartmouth College and earned a Juris Doctorate from the University of Virginia School of Law. While in law school, he continued to demonstrate extraordinary leadership by becoming the first African American to be elected national president of the American Bar Association's student organization.

Following law school, Michael returned home to Atlanta, but his political connections called him into service. President Jimmy Carter appointed him to serve as associate chief counsel to investigate the legal implications of the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident in 1979. In that position, he helped lead the investigative committee to recommend nuclear safety protocols that are still in effect today.

In addition to his political acumen, Michael was an entrepreneur at heart. While serving as Vice President for Public Finance at Oppenheimer & Co. in New York, he incorporated Air Atlanta at the age of 27. He left the investment firm three years later in 1983 to lead his fledgling airline. It folded in 1987, but Michael was not deterred.

In the years that followed, he formed Hollis Communications and helped build a 50,000 watt radio station in Atlanta. He also launched Hanover Credit Company, Blue Sky Petroleum Company and Nevis Securities, LLC.

Michael served on the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority and the Grady Memorial Hospital board. He was founding trustee of Clark Atlanta University and served as a member of the Emory University Board of Visitors.

Michael is survived by his beloved wife, Deena Freeman Hollis; sisters Virginia Hollis and Joan Hollis Mitchell; and brothers, Flem Hollis and Julius Hollis.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in honoring Michael R. Hollis, a

bright light that was dimmed too soon. He was a remarkable example of what one can accomplish if you hold fast to your dreams. In his own words he couldn't "pass through this life and pass up on great opportunities." His many achievements stand as testaments to a life well lived, and will serve as his lasting legacy.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. CALVIN HYLTON SHIRLEY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of an outstanding human being. Dr. Calvin Hylton (Kappa) Shirley passed away on June 23, 2012 at the age of 91. He was my doctor and great friend.

Dr. Shirley was born on January 28, 1921, grew up in Pensacola, Florida and graduated from Florida A&M University. He served as a Navy corpsman in the Pacific during World War II, and went on to earn his degree from Boston College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. Shirley was an accomplished physician who specialized in the fields of obstetrics and family practice. He was among the first black doctors to work in Broward County, starting the historic Provident Hospital in Fort Lauderdale, which was the first medical facility in the city for blacks. Dr. Shirley served there for 54 years and delivered over 6,000 babies. In 1949, he established his own practice, and allowed those who could not pay for his services to offer him crops as payment. Dr. Shirley was a man who lived by his principles, stating that, "A good doctor is one who is concerned with giving service, as opposed to one who's only concerned with the almighty dollar."

In addition to his outstanding service to the community, Dr. Shirley paved the way for African Americans in the medical community. He was one of the first four black physicians in Broward County to have his own medical practice. He was also the first medical advisor to the Sickle Cell Foundation. Furthermore, Dr. Shirley was the first and only black physician to receive the coveted Heideman Memorial Doctor of the Year award, and serve on the Executive Board of the Florida State Health Planning Council as well as serve on the staff of Broward General Hospital. He was also the first black obstetrician-gynecologist in Broward County and the first black staff physician at Broward Health Medical Center.

On top of his professional career, Dr. Shirley was affiliated with many organizations rooted in the South Florida community. He was one of the founding members and first Polemarch of the Fort Lauderdale Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., an organization of which I am a proud member. Additionally, Dr. Shirley was a 32nd Degree Mason, a Shriner of Kazah Temple 149, and a member of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity of Alpha Rho Boule.

My chief of staff Art Kennedy, also a Kappa with Dr. Shirley and myself, remembers him fondly, "Brother Shirley was always a gentleman, very cool and calm, and he loved Kappa."

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to offer my sincere condolences to all

those who have been impacted by the loss of such a great man. My thoughts and prayers are with Dr. Shirley's family and friends during this most difficult time. He was a tremendous individual who selflessly dedicated his life to helping all those around him, and he will be dearly missed.

UNITED HEALTH FOUNDATION'S
DIVERSE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, as we work to modernize our Nation's health care system, it is critical to invest in the next generation of the health care workforce so that they will be properly equipped with the tools and capabilities to improve the quality and delivery of health care. United Health Foundation's Diverse Scholars Initiative has helped multicultural students reach their higher education dreams while inspiring them to pursue careers in health. I would like to congratulate this year's Scholars who are participating in United Health Foundation's Annual Diverse Scholars Forum on their academic achievements and their commitment to enter the health care workforce to create a more culturally relevant and effective health care system, particularly in underserved communities.

Rosilem Barclay, 7th Congressional District of Alabama, Birmingham, Alabama
Gwendolyn Wagner, 1st Congressional District of Arizona, Chinle, Arizona

Karen King, 1st Congressional District of Arizona, Fort Defiance, Arizona

Angela Allen, 2nd Congressional District of Arizona, Surprise, Arizona

Marcus Marable, 3rd Congressional District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona

Paulette Lizarraga, 4th Congressional District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona

Lorraine Sophia Cuesta, 6th Congressional District of Arizona, Apache Junction, Arizona

Luz Marina Bradberry, 6th Congressional District of Arizona, Chandler, Arizona

Osvaldo Amezcua, 12th Congressional District of California, San Francisco, California

Jared Wigg, 17th Congressional District of California, Del Rey Oaks, California

Marizabel Orellana, 34th Congressional District of California, Downey, California

Isidro Landa, 35th Congressional District of California, Los Angeles, California

Jessica Gomez, 38th Congressional District of California, Montebello, California

Trang Vu, 40th Congressional District of California, Westminster, California

Melanie Castillo, 42nd Congressional District of California, Brea, California

Sydney Bailey, 4th Congressional District of California, Roseville, California

Izzybeth Rodriguez, 51st Congressional District of California, National City, California

Briana Truong, 5th Congressional District of California, Sacramento, California

Jillian Canete, 5th Congressional District of California, Sacramento, California

Chinsin Sim, 11th Congressional District of California, Stockton, California

Min Ju Lee, 15th Congressional District of California, Cupertino, California

Adrian Hernandez, 20th Congressional District of California, Bakersfield, California

Linda Sapien, 21st Congressional District of California, Fresno, California

Alice Yotat, At-Large, District of Columbia, Washington, D.C.

Lelia Uchuya, 19th Congressional District of Florida, West Palm Beach, Florida

Laura Martin, 25th Congressional District of Florida, Hialeah Gardens, Florida

Monica Fernandez Junco, 25th Congressional District of Florida, Miami, Florida

Gretchen Betancourt, 2nd Congressional District of Florida, Tallahassee, Florida

Arielle Watson, 13th Congressional District of Georgia, Marietta, Georgia

Sharmori Lewis, 3rd Congressional District of Georgia, Hampton, Georgia

Kristen-Kaye Goulbourne, 4th Congressional District of Georgia, Conyers, Georgia

Ashley Turner, 5th Congressional District of Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia

Jesse DeMonte Andrews, 5th Congressional District of Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia

Saba Tesfariam, 5th Congressional District of Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia

Brandi Turner, 7th Congressional District of Georgia, Dacula, Georgia

Carolina Gonzalez, 2nd Congressional District of Idaho, Pocatello, Idaho

Dave Cervantes, 15th Congressional District of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois

Charniece Martin, 2nd Congressional District of Illinois, Calumet City, Illinois

Sally Mei, 3rd Congressional District of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois

Shahrose Rahman, 5th Congressional District of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois

Stacey Pereira, 7th Congressional District of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois

Sophia Phuong Le, 1st Congressional District of Iowa, Davenport, Iowa

Aaron Alvarado, 2nd Congressional District of Kansas, Leavenworth, Kansas

Tracey Lynn Thomas, 6th Congressional District of Louisiana, Baker, Louisiana

Awawu Ojikutu, 4th Congressional District of Maryland, Hyattsville, Maryland

Andrea Leiva, 8th Congressional District of Maryland, Silver Spring, Maryland

Nelson Hernandez, 1st Congressional District of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts

Victoria Okuneye, 3rd Congressional District of Minnesota, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota

David Koffa, 5th Congressional District of Minnesota, Robbinsdale, Minnesota

Kimber Cain, 9th Congressional District of Missouri, Kirksville, Missouri

Aura-Maria Garcia, 13th Congressional District of New Jersey, Jersey City, New Jersey

Gene Wright, 3rd Congressional District of New Jersey, Willingboro, New Jersey

Sheridan Cowboy, 1st Congressional District of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Justine Correa, 2nd Congressional District of New Mexico, Laguna, New Mexico

D'Ayn DeGroat, 3rd Congressional District of New Mexico, Crownpoint, New Mexico

David Martin, 15th Congressional District of New York, New York, New York

Elizabeth Fuentes, 16th Congressional District of New York, Bronx, New York

Jing Lin, 5th Congressional District of New York, Flushing, New York

Maria Zaida Beltran, 7th Congressional District of New York, East Elmhurst, New York

Francisco Narvaez, 4th Congressional District of New York, Floral Park, New York

Stephanie Odom, 1st Congressional District of North Carolina, Macon, North Carolina

Diego Motta, 11th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Scranton, Pennsylvania

Alicia Henriquez, 1st Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Milan Davis, 2nd Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Elkins Park, Pennsylvania

Rochanne Johnson, 6th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania

Hector Colon-Rivera, At-Large, Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Adrienne Harris, 5th Congressional District of Tennessee, Nashville, Tennessee

Abigayle Banda, 10th Congressional District of Texas, Elgin, Texas

Marisela Alejandra Soto, 12th Congressional District of Texas, Fort Worth, Texas

Julia West, 16th Congressional District of Texas, El Paso, Texas

Ana Diaz, 20th Congressional District of Texas, San Antonio, Texas

Laura Bordallo, 20th Congressional District of Texas, San Antonio, Texas

Vincent Job, 25th Congressional District of Texas, Austin, Texas

Megan Gingoyon, 2nd Congressional District of Texas, Humble, Texas

Jennifer Duran, 6th Congressional District of Texas, Mansfield, Texas

Elzary Asberry, 9th Congressional District of Texas, Houston, Texas

Joanne Lane, 9th Congressional District of Washington, Federal Way, Washington

SECURING MARITIME ACTIVITIES
THROUGH RISK-BASED TARGETING FOR PORT SECURITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mr. CONYERS. I rise today to provide some additional views on H.R. 4251, the "SMART Port Security Act." I strongly support many of the provisions in this bill, which will streamline and strengthen our Nation's port security. In particular, I am pleased to see that this bill makes needed reforms to the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) program by streamlining and reforming the process of enrolling, issuing, and renewing worker credentials. This legislation will spare workers the financial and procedural burden of renewing their application until the Department of Homeland Security issues a final rule on biometric readers and implements the infrastructure needed to make the program fully functional.

I want to express my concern about the possible consequences of Section 114 of the bill, which would create a new pilot program aimed at accelerating the deployment of medium-sized unmanned aircraft along the northern border. While improving our Nation's surveillance capabilities along our border is a laudable goal, law enforcement and border security officials have a responsibility to ensure that any use of drone technology in domestic airspace does not unnecessarily or illegally invade the privacy of ordinary citizens who happen to live close to the border.

This legislation and the recent reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration are both components of a significant recent legislative effort aimed at significantly loosening

regulations and other legal barriers that have, until now, limited the deployment of drones domestically. Before this technology is deployed along the border and elsewhere within the United States, Congress must put in place common sense protections that ensure that the privacy and due process rights of Americans are protected. For example, drones should not be deployed for open ended surveillance or law enforcement purposes. If a drone will intrude on reasonable privacy expectations, a warrant should be required. Legal protections should be put in place that clearly outline how personally identifiable information is collected and retained by a drone program. The process by which our country develops these policies and protections should be transparent and include all stakeholders.

This technology has the capacity to dramatically change the character of public life in our country. We must ensure that a legal structure is put in place that will allow us to reap the benefits of this technology, while still preserving the freedoms and values that make our country great.

INTRODUCING THE SES REFORM
ACT OF 2012

HON. JAMES P. MORAN
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Senior Executive Service Reform Act of 2012. To put it simply, this bill will make the Senior Executive Service more attractive to senior General Schedule employees by reforming SES compensation, improving SES career management, reforming the SES hiring process, and increasing diversity within the SES.

Today approximately 64 percent of the nearly 7,100 Senior Executives will be eligible to retire by 2016. According to officials at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), there are insufficient numbers of candidates to replace outgoing Senior Executives. The Senior Executive Service is not broken, but needs reform to continue to attract, retain, develop and reward our nation's most talented civil servants.

Although Senior Executives can earn more at the upper ranges, lower-level Senior Executives have significant pay overlap with upper-level GS-14 and 15 employees, who receive locality and overtime pay. Pay compression, as the phenomenon is known, reduces the attractiveness of joining the SES, where employees work longer hours and are more susceptible to being geographically relocated.

To address pay compression, this bill would provide an automatic pay raise equal to the annual average GS pay raise for any SES that receives a "fully successful" rating. Additionally, this bill would allow Senior Executives to count performance awards and bonuses towards their High-3 annuity calculation. Each reform is intended to alleviate pay compression, making the SES more financially attractive for high-performing GS employees.

Mr. Speaker, more attention needs to be given to ensuring that Senior Executives receive continuing professional development throughout their careers. This bill will require each agency to establish onboarding pro-

grams for newly appointed Senior Executives. Agency programs must include an overview of the mission, priorities, strategic plan of the agency and the roles and responsibilities of the new appointee.

To improve the hiring process, agency heads will also be required to advertise vacancies for a sufficient period of time to allow a larger pool of applicants to apply. The bill will reduce the exhaustive amounts of paperwork that needs to be submitted into a more manageable process that will allow agencies to provide timely notification to applicants regarding the status of their application.

Finally, I am proud that this bill will require each agency to create plans to increase diversity within their agencies. The plan, which will need to be updated biennially, will maximize the opportunities for the appointment of minorities, women and individuals with disabilities to the SES.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce the SES Reform Bill of 2012 with my colleagues Representatives GERRY CONNOLLY and CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, who have been such great leaders on federal employee issues.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING
PUBLIC SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF RETIRING ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS OFFICIAL
MARIE MCCULLOUGH

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the distinguished career of a devoted public servant, steadfast patriot and personal friend of mine. On June 30, 2012, Marie McCullough will transition into retirement after 29 years with the Army Corps of Engineers and over 33 years as a federal government employee. Marie has spent the last three-plus decades strengthening our communities and inspiring public trust in government.

Marie began her career in the federal government with the IRS. From there, she went to work for the Army in Nuremberg, Germany as a Payroll Liaison Clerk and Lead Military Personnel Clerk. In 1983, Marie joined the Army Corps of Engineers. She worked in the Corps' Pittsburgh District office for several years in a number of different capacities before joining the Programs and Project Management Branch in 2007. While working in Project Management, she adeptly managed several critical Environmental Infrastructure Programs, including the Section 313 South Central Pennsylvania Environmental Infrastructure Program. Under Marie's stewardship, this program—which was created by my mentor and predecessor, the late Congressman John P. Murtha—provides grant funding for numerous water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection projects.

Marie managed more than 30 projects involving over \$28 million during her 5 years in Project Management. Furthermore, when the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) became law in 2009, she managed \$8.5 million of additional funds to further assist our communities throughout southwestern Pennsylvania.

Through her energetic and agreeable personality, Marie has served as a skilled com-

munity liaison for the Army Corps of Engineers and has done a great deal to improve southwestern Pennsylvania's environmental infrastructure and resource conservation capacity. The impact of her outstanding work will undoubtedly continue to be felt throughout our region for years and years to come.

Mr. Speaker, we should all strive to emulate the passion and skill Marie has exhibited throughout her long and successful career in public service. I wish her the best of luck as she begins a new chapter in her life.

HONORING SHAUNTIERA DOUGLAS
ON THE OCCASION OF HER NATIONAL TITLE

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Ms. Shauntiera Douglas, a resident of Garfield, New Jersey, and a fine young scholar-athlete on the occasion of her earning a national title at the New Balance Nationals Track and Field Championship. Ms. Douglas, a senior at Garfield High School, placed first in javelin at Nationals on June 15th and 16th.

Inspired by the memory of her niece, Destynne, Ms. Douglas has achieved great recognition in athletics in both Track and Field and basketball. Shauntiera was named "Female Athlete of the Week" by the Bergen Record this past February for her leadership and performance on Garfield High School's girls basketball team, in addition to numerous accolades in her main sport, javelin.

Ms. Douglas won her first javelin state championship this past year at the New Jersey State Meet of Champions, throwing 150 feet and 3 inches. Her championship is Garfield High School's first javelin state championship and only the second track and field championship in the history of the school.

Shauntiera's most important honor, however, came just one month ago at the New Balance National Track and Field Championship in North Carolina, where she threw 148 feet 7 inches, a full 9 inches further than her next competitor, to capture the national championship, beating out the previous record-holder. This high honor is a fitting finish to an impressive, undefeated season.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Shauntiera on her state and national championship titles. Her accomplishments on the field demonstrate her commitment to her team, her love of her sport, and her determination to succeed. I join with all of my constituents in New Jersey in honoring her achievements and wishing her continued success in her athletic and academic endeavors.

OBAMACARE

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, since its creation in 2009, a majority of patients in this country have been united behind

a single truth—they do not want ObamaCare. Young people don't want it because it increases their costs—making them pay high prices for care they don't need or cannot afford. Patients with chronic illnesses don't want it because it allows a board of bureaucrats to restrict access to life saving treatments if they cost too much. Seniors don't want it because it takes \$575 billion out of the Medicare program and will make it harder for them to find a physician or hospital for treatment when they are sick.

Tomorrow, the Supreme Court will rule on the constitutionality of ObamaCare. Mr. Speaker, we have a lot of work ahead of us but one thing is certain: my former patients do not want ObamaCare in any way, shape, or form.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, because my scheduled flight into Washington was cancelled yesterday afternoon, I was absent from the House Floor during four rollcall votes taken on Tuesday.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcalls 412, 413, and 415, and "no" on rollcall 414.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS' BENEFITS IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, I submit the attached June 19, 2012 letter from Chuck Canterbury, National President of the National Fraternal Order of Police, in regards to H.R. 4018, the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Improvements Act of 2012.

NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

Washington, DC, June 19, 2012.

Hon. PATRICK J. LEAHY,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,

U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. LAMAR S. SMITH,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,

House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMEN: I am writing this letter on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our support for H.R. 4018, the "Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Improvements Act," introduced by Representative Michael G. Fitzpatrick (R-PA), and S. 1696, the Senate companion bill introduced by Chairman Leahy. It is our understanding that both committees have agreed to compromise language and we are pleased to offer our support for this bipartisan, bicameral bill.

The legislation, which has received a neutral score from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), will reduce claims processing delays, reduce administrative costs, and make explicit that beneficiaries of Federal death or disability benefits must offset one award with another. The legislation as crafted and considered by the Judiciary Committees in both chambers is widely supported in the law enforcement and public safety community.

It was distressing in the extreme to learn that further action on the legislation is being deliberately blocked by Senator Thomas A. Coburn, MD (R-OK), who has taken his anti-public safety agenda to new lows by calling for the repeal of the PSOB program or to at least restrict it to Federal officers. The FOP views this not as a politician embracing the principle of federalism, but as a transparently cynical and cowardly ploy to place even greater strain between law enforcement and other public safety officers that serve on the local and State level and their colleagues employed by the Federal government. When a police officer puts himself in harm's way, he does not stop to think about jurisdiction. He does not ask the offender if he is committing a local, State or Federal crime. He acts in the best interest of the safety of those he has sworn to protect. A family that loses a loved one in the line of duty should not just be left adrift, their sacrifice ignored because their loved one was a local firefighter or State Trooper and not a Federal agent.

Since Senator Coburn was sworn in as a U.S. Senator, seventeen police officers have been killed in the line of duty in Oklahoma. Seventeen families lost a son, father or brother, and I am sure some or all of these families relied on the PSOB program to help them through the financial hardships they faced after the loss of their loved one. Senator Coburn would punish the families of the fallen—the heroes who put their life on the line and paid the ultimate price.

I know both of you reject Senator Coburn's call for the repeal of the PSOB program, and I commend you both of your constant support of the program and of the rank-and-file officers that protect our homes and neighborhoods. The legislation will improve the ability of the PSOB Office to process death and disability claims more swiftly and efficiently, providing the families of our fallen with the help they need. On behalf of the more than 330,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I thank you both for your dedication and outstanding leadership on this issue. If I can be of any further assistance on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in my Washington office.

Sincerely,

CHUCK CANTERBURY,
National President.

HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL OF FORT ROSS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bicentennial of the establishment of

the Russian colony at Fort Ross. Founded in September 1812 by Russian explorers, Fort Ross was the southernmost Russian settlement in North America and the first European settlement in Sonoma County. After the fort's assets were sold to John Sutter in 1841, Fort Ross became a shipping hub and tourist destination and in 1909 it was established as one of California's first State Historic Parks.

This year we commemorate the natural, cultural, and human history of Fort Ross, which has been influenced by diverse groups of people, including Russians, Kashaya, Pomo, and Miwok Natives, Spaniards, Mexicans, and Americans. These diverse groups, who settled at Fort Ross or lived in the surrounding area, made important contributions to early California history: they built California's first ships and windmills, introduced glass-paneled windows, created the first brickyard, and catalogued the local plant and animal life. At Fort Ross, Native people of various tribes lived, hunted, and labored alongside the Russian colonists; many learned Russian and intermarried with both Russians and Natives of other tribes. The story of the people of Fort Ross is unique, and it serves as an excellent example of the best that California and Sonoma County have to offer the world: a rich history, diverse cultural legacy, beautiful nature, and dedicated people.

Today, Fort Ross is a National Historic Landmark visited by 150,000 people each year. It also still serves as an important connection between Sonoma County and Russia. In 2010, California State Parks signed an agreement with Russia's Renova Group, creating a public-private partnership to provide financial support for Fort Ross. The Fort Ross Renova Foundation continues to provide support for maintenance, educational programs, cultural events, and other initiatives for the enhancement of Fort Ross.

Mr. Speaker, Fort Ross is an important cultural and historical landmark celebrating the two hundredth anniversary of its founding. Please join me in honoring the bicentennial of the establishment of Fort Ross.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GARY C. SAIN

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute today to a good friend and national leader for tourism, Mr. Gary C. Sain. Gary passed away unexpectedly on Friday, May 4th after addressing a dinner event in support of the Central Florida Boys and Girls Club, which was one of his community efforts, where he provided vital leadership in support of our youth. I was at that event and spoke to Gary as he shared his excitement about Central Florida

being the leading national tourist destination. Everyone in our region will testify that we have never had a better champion for tourism in Central Florida.

Gary began his career in the hotel industry and held positions at several of the hotel industry's top brands for more than 40 years. He diversified his career to the cruise industry, serving as marketing director for one of the industry's top brands. As a well-respected marketing expert, Gary then went to work for a top international hospitality marketing agency. In February 2007 Gary was selected to chief executive of Visit Orlando.

As the leader of the organization that markets and sells the Orlando area as the number one family leisure destination in the world, and one of the top meetings and convention destinations in America, Gary is credited with Orlando reaching a record 51.5 million visitors in 2010, the first U.S. destination to surpass the 50 million visitor milestone. In 2011 Orlando set another record with more than 55 million visitors.

Gary sat on national and international boards of directors including the U.S. Travel Association, Visit Florida, Destination Marketing Association International and Meeting Planners International. He was a resource for members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate, providing information on travel issues affecting America domestically and internationally. Gary was a great husband to Pam and the proud father to two lovely daughters, Olivia and Vanessa. He remains with us in spirit, fond memory and appreciation for sharing his friendship.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and memory of Gary C. Sain.

CHAMPIONSHIP EXEMPTION PROTECTION ACT

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support Chairman Tim WALBERG as an original co-sponsor of H.R. 5969 and H.R. 5970. These two pieces of legislation reaffirm the importance of maintaining access to quality, affordable, in-home companionship care.

Last year when the Department of Labor first proposed a rule to change the in-home companionship care exemption under the Fair Labor Standards Act, I introduced a preemptive piece of legislation, H.R. 3066, that sought to clarify some issues the Secretary of Labor is seeking to change through regulation.

The Secretary, not surprisingly, did not listen. Her department continues to run roughshod over the will of Members of Congress and what is best for patients that rely on this important service.

When testifying before a Senate panel earlier this Congress, the Secretary admitted that her agency had not consulted with State Medicaid officials on how the proposed regulation would impact them. Independent economic analysis has proven that this regulation will end up driving more people into having to use Medicaid to utilize nursing home care and further exacerbate that budgetary crisis many states are in.

H.R. 5969 preserves the companionship services exemption by clarifying what these

services entail and who specifically the third party employers in this space are. H.R. 5970 reaffirms that the Secretary of Labor shall not finalize her proposed rule, titled "Application of the Fair Labor Standards Act to Domestic Service." I hope she chooses to listen and re-evaluate.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker on Tuesday June 26, 2012, I was away from Washington. If I were here, the following is how I would have voted on the votes listed below.

Rollcall 412 (PQ on H.R. 5972 and H.R. 5973)—I would have voted "no."

Rollcall 413 (H. Res. 697—Rule for H.R. 5972 and H.R. 5973)—I would have voted "no."

Rollcall 414 (Democratic Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 4348—Mr. HOYER)—I would have voted "yes."

Rollcall 415 (Republican Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 4348—Ms. BLACK)—I would have voted "no."

H.R. 5972—Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2013:

Rollcall 416 (Connolly Amendment)—I would have voted "yes."

Rollcall 417 (McClintock Amendment)—I would have voted "no."

Rollcall 418 (Garrett Amendment)—I would have voted "no."

Rollcall 419 (Capps Amendment)—I would have voted "yes."

Rollcall 420 (Gosar Amendment)—I would have voted "no."

Rollcall 421 (Broun Amendment #1)—I would have voted "no."

Rollcall 422 (Broun Amendment #2)—I would have voted "no."

Rollcall 423 (Broun Amendment #3)—I would have voted "no."

HONORING COLONEL DENNIS L. BEATTY

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievement and career of Colonel Dennis L. Beatty. Beatty is the current Deputy Command Surgeon, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill. In this capacity he serves as AMC Command Surgeon in the Surgeon's absence to advise and represent the AMC commander on all aspects of the command's medical service mission. This includes supervising and monitoring the peacetime healthcare at AMC's 12 community-based medical treatment facilities comprised of approximately 6,600 medical personnel who provide health care for more than 429,000 beneficiaries using an operating budget of \$672 million and assets exceeding \$1.3 billion. He also serves as 18th Air Force (AFTRANS) Surgeon.

After serving assignments in Texas, Colonel Beatty was competitively selected for an Air

Force Institute of Technology scholarship in 1992 and was admitted to the Washington University Health Administration Program in 1993. In 1994, he was accepted into the Washington University School of Engineering under a dual degree program in Information Management. He successfully completed masters' degrees in Health Administration and Information Management in June 1995, both with honors.

Upon graduation, Colonel Beatty was selected for assignment to the 375th Medical Group at Scott AFB, Ill., as the Resource Management Flight Commander. He was assigned to the Medical Manpower Division, Directorate of Programs and Resources, Office of the Surgeon General, Bolling AFB, D.C. from June 1997 to July 2001. Colonel Beatty served as commander of the 45th Medical Support Squadron from July 2001 to July 2003. In July 2003, he assumed command of the 42nd Medical Support Squadron at Maxwell AFB, Ala. In July 2005, Colonel Beatty became Chief of the Medical Programming Division, Directorate of Plans and Programs, Office of the Air Force Surgeon General. Colonel Beatty became the commander of the 6th Medical Group on 3 July 2008. From Dec. 2009 to June 2010 he was deployed as the Deputy Group Commander of the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group at Joint Base Balad, Iraq.

Colonel Beatty was the previous commander (CEO) of the new clinic at MacDill Air Force Base (6th Medical Group) from 2008–2011. In his current position at Air Mobility Command headquarters in Tampa, FL, he continues to oversee medical operations at MacDill as well as all other Air Mobility Command hospitals and clinics at Travis AFB, CA; Scott AFB, IL; McGuire AFB, NJ as well as others.

The Tampa community and MacDill Air Force Base are proud to recognize Colonel Beatty for his outstanding career and his many significant contributions to the Air Force and our country. His determination and hard work have made him an inspirational leader within our nation's Armed Services. I ask that you and all Americans recognize such a remarkable patriot for his service to his country.

RECOGNIZING THE MONTFORD POINT MARINES

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments and valor of the Montford Point Marines as they are awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor bestowed by the United States Congress. During an era when African-American men faced racism and Jim Crow segregation, these Marines left home to defend the United States during World War II.

In 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued an executive order barring government agencies from denying employment in defense efforts based on race, creed, color or national origin. The military was required to recruit and enlist African-Americans and a year later, recruitment began for African-American Marines who would train at Montford Point.

Thousands of African-American men enlisted, despite widespread segregation and discrimination both in and outside of the military. From 1942 until 1949, approximately 20,000 African-American men enlisted in the Marine Corps and trained at a segregated facility, Camp Montford Point, near Jacksonville, North Carolina.

Successfully completing training was a substantial feat for these Marines. While their white counterparts may have been required to run ten miles, Montford Point recruits often had to run twenty. These challenges gave them the endurance, both physical and emotional, to serve. As Marines, they bravely fought in theatres from the Pacific to Europe.

In 1948, President Harry S. Truman ordered the desegregation of the United States Armed Forces. In 1949, recruit training at Montford Point was discontinued as all recruits, regardless of race, were sent to other integrated training facilities.

Many Montford Point Marines continued their service as Marines after the conclusion of World War II, including in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I honor the Montford Point Marines. Their legacy has paved the way for African-Americans to serve proudly in all branches of the United States Armed Services.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, on the Legislative Day of June 26, 2012, upon request of a leave of absence, I missed a series of votes. Had I been present for these rollcall votes, I would have voted “No” on rollcall 412—the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule providing for consideration of H. R. 5972 and H. R. 5973; “No” on rollcall 413—H. Res. 697—Rule providing for consideration of both H. R. 5972—Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2013 and H. R. 5973—Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration Appropriations Act, 2013; “Yes” on rollcall 414—Hoyer Motion to Instruct Conferees on H. R. 4348; “No” on rollcall 415—Black Motion to Instruct Conferees on H. R. 4348; “Yes” on rollcall 416—the Connolly Amendment; “No” on rollcall 417—the McClintock Amendment; “No” on rollcall 418—the Garrett Amendment; “Yes” on rollcall 419—the Capps Amendment; “No” on rollcall 420—the Gosar Amendment; “No” on rollcall 421—the Broun Amendment #1; “No” on rollcall 422—the Broun Amendment #2; and “No” on rollcall 423—the Broun Amendment #4.

HONORING MARION MEREDITH BEAL FOR HIS SERVICE TO THIS NATION

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Ms. BASS of California. Mr. Speaker, today I honor an extraordinary individual from my

home district—Marion Meredith Beal for his receipt of the Congressional Gold Medal for his dedication and contribution to the United States Marine Corps. A seasoned leader in his community, he serves as an outstanding example to the Los Angeles area and the nation, demonstrating profound service and devotion to the betterment of his family, his community members, and his country.

Mr. Beal was born in East Texas, moved to Los Angeles in the early 1950's, and acquired his bachelor's degree at Bishop College and Master's at Pepperdine University. He served his country honorably in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1943 to 1945 being named “Honor Man” of his platoon, as he served as an original Montford Point Marine during World War II. He later established himself as Chief Clerk at the Montford Point Marine Corps headquarters serving as the only African American on his staff. Among many other notable achievements, he was also the first enlisted African American to perform duty in the U.S. Marine Corps headquarters in Washington D.C. Mr. Beal helped set the foundation for integration into the U.S.M.C. during a very crucial time for the U.S. Military.

After his service, Mr. Beal continued to demonstrate commitment to his community and country through his work with the Veteran's Administration Hospital in West Los Angeles, and his time with the Los Angeles Unified School District as Assistant Supervisor of Student Body Finance, among other positions. He also helped found the 78th Street Block Club, and the Cub Scout and Boy Scout troops in his neighborhood. Mr. Beal is devoutly dedicated to the Greater New Light Baptist Church and is passionately devoted to his family. He is a very powerful and influential role model with over 50 years of active involvement in his community and he continues to be a positive example with a caring and genuine character that has dedicated himself to the well-being and improvement of Los Angeles.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to have such an inspirational community leader like Marion Meredith Beal as a part of California's 33rd Congressional District and I congratulate him on the receipt of this award.

H.R. 2578—CONSERVATION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH ACT

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 2578. This bill threatens the environmental integrity of millions of acres of federal lands, including the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Voyageurs National Park in Minnesota. These lands are among our state's greatest treasures and must be protected and maintained for future generations. This misguided legislation is a politically-motivated assault on the environment, not a national security imperative as my Republican colleagues claim.

Instead of protecting our border and our environment, this bill, and especially the Title XIV National Security and Federal Lands Protec-

tion Act in it, causes irreparable harm to our most cherished places. It exempts the Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection, CBP, from federal environmental regulations while performing border-security operations. It blocks the Department of Interior, DOI, and Department of Agriculture, USDA, from enforcing over 30 environmental protection laws that protect our fish and wildlife, national parks, forests, and other historic places. In addition, this legislation would give CBP the authority to construct offices, roads, fences and other infrastructure within 100 miles of the U.S. border with Canada and Mexico—an area that includes at least 54 National Park System properties, 228 national wildlife refuges and 122 wilderness preserves. It undermines these essential protections based on the false premise that it is somehow impossible to secure our national borders while also protecting our national heritage.

According to Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano, this legislation is “unnecessary” and “bad policy.” On July 8, 2011, the US Customs and Border Patrol, CBP, testified before Congress that, “CBP enjoys a close working relationship with the Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture that allows us to fulfill our border enforcement responsibilities while respecting and enhancing the environment.” Importantly, the Border Patrol made clear in its testimony that, “Border Patrol agents have the authority at any time to conduct motorized off-road pursuit in the event of exigency/emergency involving human life, health, safety of persons within the area, or posing a threat to national security.” It is clear that the federal agencies that would receive this unfettered authority don't want it, don't need it, and shouldn't have it.

In my state of Minnesota, the National Park Service; U.S. Forest Service; and the Red Lake, Grand Portage and Boise Forte Tribal Governments work cooperatively and openly with Homeland Security to minimize border issues. The National Park Service at Voyageurs National Park and Grand Portage National Monument already enjoy a good relationship with the local Border Patrol and work with them on a range of issues in a cooperative fashion. However, if Border Patrol is exempt from following existing protections, resources will be lost and tourism important to the local economy will decline.

Title XIV would also affect the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, a world-renowned area within the Superior National Forest. This legislation would allow the Border Patrol to erect roads and bridges in a sacred place where people from around the world come to enjoy Minnesota's Greats Outdoors.

We must also recognize the many tribal nations on lands near Minnesota's Canadian border, including the Grand Portage Band of Chippewa, Red Lake Band of Chippewa, Boise Forte Band of Chippewa. This bill unacceptably threatens existing treaties and tribal sovereignty.

This is an unnecessary and bad bill. I oppose H.R. 2578 and urge my colleagues to do the same.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5972) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chair, I rise to urge my colleagues to work together to pass a comprehensive transportation bill before current law expires at the end of this week. The First District of Oregon is home to some of the country's most innovative thinkers, many of whom work at the technology giant Intel. Unfortunately, one of the biggest challenges of their workday often comes before it even starts, and continues after it ends: it is their commute. The roads leading to the "Silicon Forest," as the technology cluster in Oregon is known, can back up for miles—a good sign for the economy, but bad for our transportation infrastructure.

The City of Hillsboro is home to many innovative tech companies. When the City applied for a TIGER grant to improve mobility and reduce congestion in the Silicon Forest, I supported their application. Infrastructure investments like this make it easier for people to get to work and they facilitate efficient transport of goods to market. This project wasn't selected by the Department of Transportation, but the application highlighted an important point. Investing in our transportation infrastructure is an economic multiplier. Not only do we employ hard-working Americans by building and maintaining infrastructure, we also improve the productivity and vibrancy of the workers who rely on the infrastructure to get to their workplace every morning.

Infrastructure improvements are important for safety as well. The Portland metro area is nationally renowned as a bike-friendly community, and our companies attract highly qualified employees in part because of the safe, multimodal transportation network in our region. Maintaining this infrastructure is critical to continuing to bring new businesses into our communities; investment in infrastructure will help to keep our roads and transportation routes safe.

So now, even though virtually every elected official talks about jobs as a first priority, somehow this transportation bill is stalling. We all agree that passing a surface transportation bill will create jobs. Let's do what is best for our constituents and pass a bill that keeps our construction workers on the job, reduces congestion for our commuters, and supports our struggling economy.

CONGRATULATING THE NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES DULLES CHAPTER 1241 ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Dulles Chapter 1241 on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. The Northern Virginia region is home to more than 160,000 federal employees and a large number of retirees who have chosen to stay in the region. Throughout their careers, these dedicated civil servants give their time and effort to serving their fellow Americans, and NARFE consistently has provided them with coordinated support.

NARFE is increasingly important in these challenging budgetary times when many proposals would seek to single out federal workers and retirees and make draconian cuts to federal retirements and health care. The federal government, regardless of the size one feels is appropriate, cannot function efficiently or effectively without the hard work and expertise of dedicated employees. Federal workers devote years of their lives in service to the nation; the government could not function without their expertise, and it is imperative that they are treated fairly. For the past 40 years, NARFE Chapter 1241 has ably advocated on behalf of the dedicated civil servants in the Northern Virginia region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating NARFE Chapter 1241 for 40 years of service to our federal workers and to wish them continued success protecting the rights of current and future federal workers and retirees.

IN SUPPORT OF RESTORING FUNDING FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING PROGRAMS FISCAL YEAR 2013 TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of restoring funding for Native Hawaiian housing programs.

The bill before us zeroes out funding for Native Hawaiian housing programs.

This is disappointing for the Native Hawaiian community and the families that need assistance from these programs.

It is also disappointing because Congress has a long history of bipartisan support for Native Hawaiian housing—and a responsibility to continue this legacy.

It has been nearly a century since the passage of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. Congress passed this Act in 1921 at the urging of Hawaii's Delegate to Congress, Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole. That legislation set aside some 200,000 acres of land to provide homesteads specifically for Native Hawaiians.

With the enactment of the Statehood Act of 1959, the control and administration of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act was transferred from the federal government to the new State of Hawaii. A year later in 1960, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, DHHL, was created to administer the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act.

Then in 2000, Congress passed the American Homeownership and Economic Opportunity Act.

This legislation established two programs to help provide housing to Native Hawaiians: The Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant, NHHBG, Program and the Section 184A loan guarantee program.

Hawaii has some of the most expensive real estate prices in the country. At the same time, more than 33,200 Native Hawaiian households are considered low-income. So without support from the NHHBG and 184A programs, many Native Hawaiians would not have access to quality, affordable housing. The grant funds are used primarily to develop infrastructure on Hawaiian Home Lands, which tend to be in the most isolated parts of our islands, typically in rural areas, and some with terrain that is difficult and costly to develop.

Not only are these programs necessary but they are effective.

For example, in FY2011 Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant funds were used to build 55 new homes, acquire 12 homes, and rehabilitate 12 homes. In addition, the Section 184A program has supported 255 home loans totaling \$64.4 million. This program also has a strong track record, with a foreclosure rate below 1 percent.

That's 79 new units of housing and 255 opportunities for Native Hawaiians to access financing for their own homes that would not have existed absent the NHHBG and 184A programs. These are real people in real homes—They are not statistics.

The bottom line is that these programs don't just provide housing—they expand opportunities for homeownership.

Owning a home has long been a pillar of the American dream. This is a dream that people do not forget, and do not give up on.

In fact, over 26,000 eligible families are currently on waiting lists for an opportunity to live on their home lands.

There are many stories of Native Hawaiians who have been on waiting lists for decades. In fact, some have died waiting to see this dream fulfilled.

Eliminating these funds—Which total \$14 million for the two programs—won't solve our budget woes. All it will accomplish is closing off opportunities for a community that utilizes federal funds effectively.

This is the type of program that makes a difference in the lives of people by supporting strong communities and expanding opportunity.

There is a continued need for Native Hawaiian housing programs and I urge my colleagues to carry on Congress's bipartisan support for making the American dream of homeownership possible.

I hope that this matter will be resolved as the House and Senate negotiate a final Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2013.

Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much).

HONORING NELSON BENTON

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEYOF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Wednesday, June 27, 2012*

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Nelson Benton, who will soon retire after 40 years of service at The Salem News in Salem, Massachusetts.

Since he was hired in 1972, Nelson has worked as a reporter, city editor, managing editor, and editorial page editor. Nelson's weekly political column, which has been a fixture in the paper for more than 25 years, is widely read and discussed throughout the region. Nelson was recognized by the New England Society of Newspaper Editors in 2008, when they awarded him the prestigious Yankee Quill award. He was also inducted into the New England Press Association Hall of Fame in 2009.

For four decades, Nelson has covered issues impacting our community, from the Blizzard of '78 to issues of education and transportation to the careers of Mayors, State Lawmakers, and Members of Congress. Nelson has been quick to adapt his content to new technologies and formats. Even in his upcoming retirement, I am confident that Nelson will be blogging and tweeting with the best of them.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Nelson Benton, a seasoned journalist, on his retirement. I wish Nelson and his wife Laurie, who has served as a longtime public school teacher in our community, the best of luck as they move west to Arizona.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN LEWISOF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Wednesday, June 27, 2012*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on June 26, 2012, I was detained and missed votes. In my 26 years in Congress, I have taken pride in having missed very few votes. Had I been here, I would have cast the following votes:

On rollcall 412, on ordering the Previous Question for consideration of the FY13 Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 413, on H. Res. 69, the rule for consideration of the FY13 Agriculture and Transportation Appropriations bills, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 414, the Hoyer Motion to Instruct Conferees on the surface transportation reauthorization bill, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 415, the Black Motion to Instruct Conferees on the surface transportation reauthorization bill, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 416, an amendment offered by Mr. Connolly of Virginia to H.R. 5972, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 417, an amendment offered by Mr. McClintock of California to H.R. 5972, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 418, an amendment offered by Mr. Garrett of New Jersey to H.R. 5972, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 419, an amendment offered by Ms. Capps of California to H.R. 5972, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 420, an amendment offered by Mr. Gosar of Arizona to H.R. 5972, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 421, the first amendment offered by Mr. Broun of Georgia to H.R. 5972, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 422, the second amendment offered by Mr. Broun of Georgia to H.R. 5972, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 423, the fourth amendment offered by Mr. Broun of Georgia to H.R. 5972, I would have voted "no."

JUDGEMENT DAY FOR THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL**HON. TED POE**OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Wednesday, June 27, 2012*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Justice Department, with the aid of the ATF, facilitated the smuggling of over 2,000 weapons to the drug cartels south of the border—the national enemy in Mexico.

Hundreds of Mexican nationals died as a result of this operation.

Mexican Attorney General Morales says she was left in the dark about Operation Fast and Furious.

And she wants those officials who were involved to be extradited and sent to the U.S. for prosecution.

She is more interested in Fast and Furious than our own Attorney General.

Our own Attorney General says he still doesn't know who authorized this reckless and deadly operation and doesn't want any help from Congress to find the answers.

Tomorrow is the day of reckoning for AG as he still refuses to turn over the evidence.

What is he hiding? And why is he hiding it. The time of hiding is over. It's time for Congress to hold someone accountable. We call it contempt.

Tomorrow is Judgment day for the Attorney General.

And that's just the way it is.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Wednesday, June 27, 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 \$15,782,570,144,097.96. We've added \$5,155,693,095,184.88 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

On this day in 1950, President Harry Truman ordered air force and naval forces into the Korean War. A robust economy supported our powerful military. We must balance the budget in order to support our troops more fully.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLEROF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Wednesday, June 27, 2012*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in my family, I missed the following Rollcall Votes: No. 379 through No. 411 during the week of June 18–June 21, 2012.

If present, I would have voted:

Rollcall Vote No. 379—S. 684, To provide for the conveyance of certain parcels of land to the town of Alta, Utah, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 380—S. 404, To modify a land grant patent issued by the Secretary of the Interior, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 381—On Ordering the Previous Question, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 382—On Agreeing to the Resolution, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 383—DeFazio (OR) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 384—Markey (MA) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 385—Grijalva (AZ) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 386—H.R. 2578, On Motion to Recommit with Instructions, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 387—H.R. 2578, To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act related to a segment of the Lower Merced River in California, and for other purposes, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 388—H.R. 2938, Gila Bend Indian Reservation Lands Replacement Clarification Act, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 389—H. Res. 691, On Ordering the Previous Question, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 390—H. Res. 691, On Agreeing to the Resolution, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 391—On Walz of Minnesota Motion to Instruct Conferees, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 392—Hastings (WA) Amendment, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 393—Waxman (CA) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 394—Connolly (VA) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 395—Green (TX) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 396—Rush (IL) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 397—Holt (NJ) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 398—Connolly (VA) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 399—Amodei (NV) Amendment, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 400—Markey (MA) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 401—Landry (LA) Amendment, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 402—Rigell (VA) Amendment, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 403—Holt (NJ) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 404—Wittman (VA) Amendment, "aye."

Rollcall Vote No. 405—Bass (CA) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 406—Capps (CA) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 407—Speier (CA) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 408—DeLauro (CT) Amendment, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 409—On Motion to Recommit with Instructions of H.R. 4480, "nay."

Rollcall Vote No. 410—H.R. 4480, Strategic Energy Production Act of 2012, “aye.”

Rollcall Vote No. 411—On McKinley of WV Motion to Instruct Conferees, “aye.”

IN HONOR OF THE MONTFORD
POINT MARINES

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the Montford Point Marines and the sacrifices they made in service to our Nation.

The Montford Point Marines were the first African-Americans to serve in the United States Marine Corps. The United States of America owes these heroes a debt of honor that can never be repaid.

In June of 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt issued an Executive Order that opened the doors for African-Americans to enlist in the United States Marine Corps. Between 1942 and 1949, approximately 20,000 African Americans earned the right to call themselves Marines at Camp Montford Point in Jacksonville, North Carolina. Today, we honor them.

I would especially like to recognize a few of the surviving members of the Florida Chapter of the Montford Point Marines. I would like to commend Marines Wilfred Carr of Palm Coast; Eli Graham, Jr. of Daytona Beach; James Huger of Daytona Beach; James Sharpe of Palm Coast; Robert Blanks of Orange City; and John Steele of Daytona Beach who have all helped keep the memory and service of the Montford Point Marine's alive in the State of Florida.

The Congressional Gold Medal is a fitting tribute to the Montford Point Marines. It not only serves as an appropriate tribute to these trailblazing heroes, but also marks our Nation's endeavor toward a more perfect union, and I am pleased to offer my support.

A TRIBUTE TO MS. SUZANNE GOSS
OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA—
PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF CLEAN WATER
AGENCIES

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Ms. Suzanne Goss, Government Relations Specialist for JEA (Jacksonville Electric, Water & Sewer) on her election as the new President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, NACWA.

Ms. Goss is an accomplished leader and committed environmental steward who played a prominent role in seeking a sound direction for the implementation of the Clean Water Act. Throughout her career in the water industry, Ms. Goss has exemplified what it means to be a public servant. She is ideally suited to serve as President of one of the nation's leading associations responsible for environmental policies that advance clean water. Ms. Goss will continue to ensure that Florida's, and the nation's, clean water agencies are sustainable,

that the environment continues to improve, and that public health is protected.

At JEA, Ms. Goss works for an advanced publicly owned water, electric, and sewer utility, providing invaluable services to approximately 420,000 people in Northeast Florida. Ms. Goss effectively engages in complex state and federal legislative and regulatory issues involving wastewater and drinking water with an in-depth knowledge of the affordability concerns of her community and the need for a partnership between all levels of government. She also manages JEA's Grant Program.

A member of NACWA's Board of Directors since 2007, Ms. Goss has served as the organization's Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President, and has been a member of many NACWA committees and workgroups. She has played a leading role in NACWA's pretreatment program and is also one of the drivers behind the organization's funding efforts. In 2005 she received the President's Award for her work as Vice Chair of the Clean Water Funding Task Force.

Ms. Goss has experience in both the energy and water fields, as JEA provides both services to its customers. As the clean water industry and NACWA increasingly define the “Water Quality Utility of the Future,” JEA and public servants like Ms. Goss exemplify the need to break down traditional silos and move toward a watershed approach, as well as a focus on the energy-water nexus. JEA stands as a model for other utilities seeking to adopt these ideas.

In addition to her work with NACWA, Ms. Goss is an active member of local, regional, state and national professional organizations. These include the American Water Works Association, the New Water Supply Coalition, the Florida Municipal Energy Association, the Florida Water Environment Association, the Florida Energy Coordinating Group, the Pinellas County Sewer System and the Advisory Council on Environmental Policy and Technology Sustainable Infrastructure.

Ms. Goss has selflessly shared her time, passion, energy and ideas to carry out the objectives of the Clean Water Act.

It is my sincere pleasure to congratulate Suzanne Goss on becoming President of NACWA, and I am certain her actions will ensure continued water quality progress for the Jacksonville area, the state of Florida and the nation.

THE RETIREMENT OF SPIROS
DROGGITIS

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Spiros Droggitis, a Bethesda, Maryland resident who retired from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on December 31, 2011 after 35 years of service in the Federal Government, including three years working in the U.S. Senate. During his three decades with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mr. Droggitis provided support, advice, scheduling and planning for a variety of programs and two NRC Commissioners.

Since July 2007, Mr. Droggitis served as associate director for Federal and External Af-

fairs in the Office of Congressional Affairs at NRC. In that position, he was the primary point of contact for communications and outreach with other Federal agencies and external organizations, including public interest groups, non-governmental organizations, and the nuclear industry.

During his distinguished career at the agency, he served in several senior positions and received numerous performance awards and accolades for his contributions. Among his many accomplishments, he was recognized in 1988 for his participation in the agency's 10-year effort to consolidate NRC offices scattered across the Washington metropolitan area to a single location in Rockville, Maryland. More recently, he was a member of the Headquarters Fukushima Support Team that assisted in communicating information about the nuclear accident in Japan following the March 11, 2011 9.0-magnitude earthquake and subsequent tsunami.

After graduating in 1974 from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, Mr. Droggitis began his career as an assistant press liaison for the U.S. Senate under the Sergeant-at-Arms and also worked as a researcher in the office of Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine. He later joined Senator Muskie's staff full time as a personal assistant during the 1976 reelection campaign, doing advance work for campaign events, traveling with the Senator, and interacting with the media and the public. Following the election, he became an assistant to the Senator and was given a special assignment analyzing data on a state-wide energy questionnaire. He also developed a method of providing more timely responses to constituent mail that was approved and instituted by his supervisor.

Mr. Droggitis joined the NRC in 1979 as a congressional liaison officer in the Office of Congressional Affairs. He then served as a special assistant to Commissioner James K. Asselstine from 1982 until 1987. At the end of Commissioner Asselstine's term in 1987, Mr. Droggitis went to work in the State, Local and Indian Tribe Programs in the Office of Governmental and Public Affairs, where he served as a senior intergovernmental programs analyst responsible for developing and maintaining relationships with state, local and tribal governments. Mr. Droggitis was selected as special assistant to Commissioner Jeffrey S. Merrifield in September 2002 and became his executive assistant in October 2004.

Throughout his career, Mr. Droggitis has demonstrated a dedication to the NRC's organizational values of integrity, service, openness, commitment, cooperation, excellence and respect. He and his wife, Ottilie, plan to return to his native state of Maine to spend time with friends and family. I offer both of them my best wishes and thank Mr. Droggitis for his service to our nation.

AMERICA'S SHAMEFUL HUMAN
RIGHTS RECORD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I submit a timely op-ed from Former President Jimmy Carter on the ramifications of drone strikes on America's human rights record.

[From the New York Times, June 24, 2012]

A CRUEL AND UNUSUAL RECORD

(By Jimmy Carter)

ATLANTA.—The United States is abandoning its role as the global champion of human rights.

Revelations that top officials are targeting people to be assassinated abroad, including American citizens, are only the most recent, disturbing proof of how far our nation's violation of human rights has extended. This development began after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and has been sanctioned and escalated by bipartisan executive and legislative actions, without dissent from the general public. As a result, our country can no longer speak with moral authority on these critical issues.

While the country has made mistakes in the past, the widespread abuse of human rights over the last decade has been a dramatic change from the past. With leadership from the United States, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in 1948 as "the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world." This was a bold and clear commitment that power would no longer serve as a cover to oppress or injure people, and it established equal rights of all people to life, liberty, security of person, equal protection of the law and freedom from torture, arbitrary detention or forced exile. The declaration has been invoked by human rights activists and the international community to replace most of the world's dictatorships with democracies and to promote the rule of law in domestic and global affairs. It is disturbing that, instead of strengthening these principles, our government's counterterrorism policies are now clearly violating at least 10 of the declaration's 30 articles, including the prohibition against "cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

Recent legislation has made legal the president's right to detain a person indefinitely on suspicion of affiliation with terrorist organizations or "associated forces," a broad, vague power that can be abused without meaningful oversight from the courts or Congress (the law is currently being blocked by a federal judge). This law violates the right to freedom of expression and to be presumed innocent until proved guilty, two other rights enshrined in the declaration.

In addition to American citizens' being targeted for assassination or indefinite detention, recent laws have canceled the restraints in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to allow unprecedented violations of our rights to privacy through warrantless wiretapping and government mining of our electronic communications. Popular state laws permit detaining individuals because of their appearance, where they worship or with whom they associate.

Despite an arbitrary rule that any man killed by drones is declared an enemy terrorist, the death of nearby innocent women and children is accepted as inevitable. After more than 30 airstrikes on civilian homes this year in Afghanistan, President Hamid Karzai has demanded that such attacks end, but the practice continues in areas of Pakistan, Somalia and Yemen that are not in any war zone. We don't know how many hundreds of innocent civilians have been killed in these attacks, each one approved by the highest authorities in Washington. This would have been unthinkable in previous times.

These policies clearly affect American foreign policy. Top intelligence and military officials, as well as rights defenders in targeted areas, affirm that the great escalation in drone attacks has turned aggrieved families toward terrorist organizations, aroused civil-

ian populations against us and permitted repressive governments to cite such actions to justify their own despotic behavior.

Meanwhile, the detention facility at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, now houses 169 prisoners. About half have been cleared for release, yet have little prospect of ever obtaining their freedom. American authorities have revealed that, in order to obtain confessions, some of the few being tried (only in military courts) have been tortured by waterboarding more than 100 times or intimidated with semiautomatic weapons, power drills or threats to sexually assault their mothers. Astoundingly, these facts cannot be used as a defense by the accused, because the government claims they occurred under the cover of "national security." Most of the other prisoners have no prospect of ever being charged or tried either.

At a time when popular revolutions are sweeping the globe, the United States should be strengthening, not weakening, basic rules of law and principles of justice enumerated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But instead of making the world safer, America's violation of international human rights abets our enemies and alienates our friends.

As concerned citizens, we must persuade Washington to reverse course and regain moral leadership according to international human rights norms that we had officially adopted as our own and cherished throughout the years.

Jimmy Carter, the 39th president, is the founder of the Carter Center and the recipient of the 2002 Nobel Peace Prize.

HONORING MCKENZIE JOANN
POLLOCK

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a phenomenal young woman, Ms. McKenzie JoAnn Pollock, daughter of Philip and Cheryl Pollock. Throughout her time in high school, McKenzie has been extremely devoted to both her academics and extracurricular activities.

McKenzie's motivation to excel prompted her to do anything she could to ensure that she would be successful academically. In accordance with this, she took Advanced Placement classes throughout high school and she maintained all "A's" throughout her high school career. As a result of McKenzie's work ethic, she was rewarded numerous scholarships to college. She received the Lucky Day Citizenship Scholarship and the Choral Service Award from the University of Southern Mississippi, as well as the Best Buy Scholarship Award, the Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant, and the Mississippi Tuition Assistance Grant.

Not only has McKenzie excelled academically, but she has also been heavily involved in numerous extra-curricular activities. She served as the Warren Central Hall of Fame Club President, Student Government Senior Class Secretary; was a member of the Mock Trial Attorney and Witness team, Mu Alpha Theta Society, Varsity Choir, the Band, Drama Club, School Musical, National Honors Society, Youth Advisory Council, and she worked with the Children of the American Revolution

and Fundraising for the Children's Miracle Network. She also works for the U.S. Army Engineering Research and Development Center as a Civil Engineering Technician.

McKenzie has competed in several competitions in addition to her other responsibilities. She was the Poetry Out Loud School winner in 2009, and she has received the Gold Medal at the Mississippi Music Teachers' Association Evaluations (MMTA) and Federated Music Clubs of America for her singing. In 2011, McKenzie was crowned Miss Vicksburg's Outstanding Teen, and she went on to finish in the top ten in the Miss Mississippi's Outstanding Teen Scholarship Pageant.

Per her interest in the performing arts McKenzie is an active theatre participant. She has performed in many productions at the Vicksburg Theatre Guild and the Westside Theatre Foundation. McKenzie strongly believes that the performing arts should be an integral part of a child's education, and she enjoys every opportunity that allows her to introduce children to the arts. During summer of 2011, she was an assistant instructor in the Southern Cultural Center's Spectrum summer arts camp, which allows children the opportunity to explore the arts.

To culminate her high school career, McKenzie is honored to be named Valedictorian of the Warren Central High School's senior class of 2012. In the fall, McKenzie plans to attend the University of Southern Mississippi, where she will major in Music-Vocal Performance with a minor in dance.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in honoring the Valedictorian of Warren Central High School's senior class of 2012, Ms. McKenzie Joann Pollock an outstanding young woman.

IN HONOR OF THE 10 YEAR ANNI-
VERSARY OF PLANTATION HOME

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor David Stein on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of his interior design business, Plantation Home. Located in downtown Lakewood, Plantation Home offers a unique selection of home furnishings, gifts and accessories. At a time when scores of companies have closed their doors due to turbulent economic upheaval, Plantation Home has weathered those hardships and continues to be one of Lakewood's most successful and community driven companies.

Mr. Stein has graciously committed himself to the betterment of the Lakewood community in which he has lived since 1989. Stein has been a sponsor of the Lakewood Relay for Life, contributes to the Beck Center for Performing Arts, opened his home for the Lakewood Historical Society Home and Garden Tour and served on the City of Lakewood Community Relations Board where he designed a program to establish modern and artistic bus stops. He is the current board President of the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance where he directs efforts to revitalize and enrich the merchant environment with efforts including a City Wide Street Sale, Spring Stroll and Fashion Show, Streetwalk, Chocolate

Walk, Gingerbread House Tour and Scavenger Hunt and "Light Up Lakewood" during the holiday season—an effort to create beautifully decorated storefront windows reminiscent of Cleveland's downtown department store windows of years past. Annually, he awards a \$500 scholarship to one boy and one girl, the king and queen of the Light Up Lakewood festival, to put toward college, asking only that they dedicate 20 hours of community service to Lakewood in return.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Stein for his leadership, loyalty, civic pride and above all, caring for his community and what he and his business has meant to the City of Lakewood and Northeast Ohio for the past ten years.

HONORING EVANGELIST PIA
HAYNES WILLIAMS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of Evangelist Pia Haynes Williams, to the Texas Northeast First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ, Inc. Evangelist Williams is being installed as the Jurisdictional Supervisor of Women, where she will oversee the work and ministry of over 35,000 women and youth in 300 congregations throughout North Texas.

Evangelist Williams has a proven record of service to the church. In keeping with her lifelong dedication to advance her faith, Evangelist Williams is founding President and CEO of her own international evangelistic ministry. Evangelist Williams also oversees the Women's and Youth ministries at the Love Sanctuary Church in Fort Worth, alongside her husband of almost thirty years. There, she continues to focus her efforts on empowering women to succeed in their personal and spiritual endeavors.

Considered a true "Daughter of the Church," Evangelist Williams also comes from a rich familial heritage, filled with loyalty and service to the Church. Evangelist Williams is the granddaughter of the founding Jurisdictional Bishop and First Lady of the Texas Northeast First Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ, while her father currently sits on the General Board of Bishops. Despite this highly decorated past, Evangelist Williams has remained a humble and compassionate servant of the church and its followers.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor the work of Evangelist Pia Haynes Williams as she continues to provide spiritual guidance for thousands of North Texans. Her dedication to her community and faith will serve her well in this new capacity, and I wish Evangelist Williams continued success at the Texas Northeast First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MR. JOSEPH
M. GAUL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mr. Joseph M. Gaul, the former Mayor of Fairview Park, Ohio.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio to Leroy and Gertrude Gaul, Joseph was a lifelong resident of Northeast Ohio. He attended Cathedral Latin High School and graduated from John Carroll University in 1957. Between graduating from high school and attending college, Mr. Gaul bravely served his country during the Korean War with the United States Air Force from 1951 to 1953, during which time he was stationed in Panama.

In 1958, Mr. Gaul moved to Fairview Park and became active in politics. He was elected Ward 2 Councilman in 1965 and served until he was elected Councilman-at-Large in 1969. In 1971, Mr. Gaul was elected Council President and served in that role for four years. Mr. Gaul was elected the Mayor of Fairview Park in 1975 and would be reelected twice. He ended his career after more than thirty years in 1992. During his tenure as mayor, Mr. Gaul was instrumental in developing Willowood Manor, Fairview Park's Senior Citizens residential complex and in annexing RiverEdge Township.

In addition to his political accomplishments, Mr. Gaul also served as the Vice Chair of the RTA Board of Directors and worked as sales manager for Wolverine Express, Central Transport, Inc. He was a parishioner at St. Angela Merici Church for more than fifty years and was member of the Parish Council. In 1996 the Ohio State Senate named Mr. Gaul the "Irishman of the Year."

I offer my condolences to his former wife of 46 years, Joan Adler; brothers, William and Leroy; children, Joseph Jr. (Meg), Patty, Eileen (Bart), Brian (Kathy), Kathleen (Mike), John (Marybeth), Michael (Julie), and Megan; and twenty-two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mr. Joseph M. Gaul, who bravely fought for his country and valiantly served the residents of Fairview Park.

HONORING ELAINE WALKER
MAYOR OF LOVETTSVILLE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Loudoun County's longest-serving mayor, Elaine Walker of Lovettsville. At the end of the month, Mayor Walker will step down after serving as mayor of Lovettsville for nearly 22 years.

Mayor Walker's accomplishments during her tenure as mayor include acquiring land for a 92-acre county park, helping develop the Lovettsville bike and pedestrian path and most recently making the town's veterans memorial a reality. I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Elaine for many years. She has been an outstanding mayor and her leadership and steady hand will be missed.

Public service is one of our nation's highest callings and I extend my deepest gratitude for her service to our community. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

I also submit the following article from Leesburg Today on Mayor Walker's final council meeting.

LOUDOUN MAYORS PAY TRIBUTE TO WALKER

[From Leesburg Today, June 22, 2012]

It was all hugs and tributes in Lovettsville Thursday night as Mayor Elaine Walker received flowers and praise from a bevy of well wishers, including four of her fellow mayors, in what was her final council meeting.

Walker, who did not seek reelection in May, steps down June 30 after 10 years on the Lovettsville Town Council and almost 22 as the town's mayor—a governance record that is unlikely to be matched any time soon.

The mayors of four other Loudoun towns attended the meeting as well. "It was a complete surprise, I had no idea," Walker said of the appearance of Purcellville Mayor Bob Lazaro, Leesburg Mayor Kristen Umstaddt, Middleburg Mayor Betsy Davis and Hamilton Mayor Greg Wilmoth. Hillsboro Mayor Roger Vance and Round Hill Mayor Scott Ramsey were unable to be present.

Davis said Walker's first reaction was to say to the group "What are you doing here?"

Lazaro led the delegation, presenting Walker with a plaque honoring her service. "We knew this was your last meeting and we wanted to say thank you for those 30 years," and for being a good friend and colleague to local government.

Davis told Walker "how much I will miss you as a friend, seeing you at all our [Coalition of Loudoun Towns] meetings. Thank you for all you've done for the county."

"But, we'll still have lunch," Umstaddt said to her longtime colleague, also expressing her appreciation of Walker's service. Umstaddt, who has been Leesburg's mayor for 10 years following service on the Town Council, will take over as the most tenured Loudoun mayor.

Wilmoth, the newest mayor in the group, said he appreciated all the help Walker has given him. "You have set the bar high for the rest of us," he said.

Walker's husband Cliff Walker, who served on the council in the 1970s, was present as was Lazaro's wife Carolyn—who both would get together during Virginia Municipal League conferences. "They're VML soulmates," Lazaro teased.

Walker said she did not plan to go away into the sunset. "I hope to still do some conferences, including the VML meetings. I love the camaraderie," she said.

Vice Mayor Bob Zoldos, who will become Lovettsville's mayor July 1, invited everyone to share some sweet-toothed goodies in recognition of the occasion.

The tributes went on with more flowers being presented—by the Lovettsville Fire-Rescue Squad in appreciation for Walker's long support, while Bob Zoldos' fifth grade son Bobby also presented a bouquet of flowers and read aloud a poem he had written in Walker's honor.

The last tribute came from Lovettsville's Community Police Officer, Sheriff's Office Deputy Bryan Wacker, who is being transferred to a new assignment. He thanked Walker for her assistance and said she had been "a great ally." He said his time with the mayor had been "one of the best working relationships" he'd ever had.

IN HONOR OF H.E. AMBASSADOR
SAMEH SHOUKRY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of H.E. Ambassador Sameh Shoukry, who is ending his tenure as the Arab Republic of Egypt's Ambassador to the United States of America.

Born on October 20, 1952 in Cairo, Egypt, Ambassador Shoukry is a second generation diplomat. He graduated from Ein Shams University in 1975 with a law degree and specializes in disarmament and non-proliferation issues. Just a year later, in 1976, Ambassador Shoukry joined the Egyptian Diplomatic Corps. Throughout his more than 30-year career, he has served in the Egyptian Embassies in London, Buenos Aires and the Permanent Mission of Egypt in New York.

Prior to being appointed Egypt's Ambassador to the United States in September, 2008, Ambassador Shoukry served as Egypt's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva, Egypt's Ambassador to Austria and as Permanent Representative to the International Organizations in Vienna. He has also served as the Director of the Minister of Foreign Affairs cabinet and led the department of the United States and Canada in the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring H.E. Ambassador Sameh Shoukry, the Arab Republic of Egypt's Ambassador to the United States, as we bid him farewell.

RECOGNITION OF GENERAL (RET.)
BRUCE CARLSON, DIRECTOR OF
THE NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today we recognize General (ret.) Bruce Carlson, who will step down as the Director of the National Reconnaissance Office in July 2012 after three years of exemplary leadership.

General Carlson leaves a legacy of remarkable accomplishments with the National Reconnaissance Office including, the most aggressive launch campaign in a quarter of a century, all major systems acquisition programs operating at or below budget, a corporate process for making critical budget and space architecture decisions, and a significantly more healthy space reconnaissance constellation. General Carlson's dedicated leadership; integrity and hard work have positioned the National Reconnaissance Office for continued success that will have an enduring impact on our national security.

Prior to his time at the National Reconnaissance Office, General Carlson had a distinguished career spanning over 37 years with the U.S. Air Force. He began his military career as a commissioned officer in 1971 after graduating with distinction from the Air Force Reserve Officer Training program at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. He is a com-

mand pilot with more than 3,700 flying hours in ten different aircraft, and saw combat as a forward air controller in the OV-10 Bronco. His various flying assignments included commanding the 49th Fighter Wing at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico, the Air Force's first stealth fighter wing. His staff assignments included positions at Tactical Air Command, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, and the offices of the Secretary of the Air Force and Secretary of Defense. He also served as the Director of Force Structure, Resources and Assessment on the Joint Staff; Commander, 8th Air Force, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana; and Joint Functional Component Commander for Space and Global Strike, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Nebraska. Prior to his retirement from the U.S. Air Force, General Carlson served as Commander Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, which is responsible for development, testing, acquisition and sustainment of Air Force weapons systems. In that role, he had responsibility for 74,000 people and \$59 billion annually. He was promoted from Lieutenant General to General, pinning on his fourth star, on September 1, 2005.

He and his wife, Vicki, are very proud of their three children and ten grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Bruce Carlson has been a dedicated public servant, both in his service to his country in the U.S. military and as a senior executive at the National Reconnaissance Office. It is appropriate that we honor him today for his many contributions.

IN RECOGNITION OF WIRE-NET

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize WIRE-Net, Cleveland's West Side Industrial Retention and Expansion Network, on the event of its annual meeting on Wednesday June 27, 2012.

WIRE-Net is a premier business-led organization, one of the few that focuses on the shared interests of manufacturing companies and urban communities. Its mission focuses on providing programs and services that strengthen manufacturing to create healthy communities and fuel economic growth.

WIRE-Net is a membership organization with 260 members. WIRE-Net was organized in 1988 to help manufacturing businesses—and jobs—stay in the community at a time when plant closings and downsizing were commonplace. Its staff went straight to the source, visiting almost 200 companies to better understand their challenges. WIRE-Net found that even though manufacturing companies, most with fewer than 100 employees, provided about 60 percent of the community's jobs, they had been overlooked and under-appreciated as community assets. WIRE-Net helped businesses get organized to win attention from federal, state and local government, and built relationships between business leaders and public officials. This effort helped get streets repaved, improved neighborhood safety, and led to new programs like Cleveland's Industrial Retention Initiative (CIRI) to support manufacturing. WIRE-Net also effectively blocked efforts to weaken industrial zoning on Cleveland's west side.

At this year's annual meeting, WIRE-Net recognizes its Executive Director, John Colm, for his 25 years of service to the community through the organization. WIRE-Net will also present its 2012 Mission Builder Award for plant expansion, new business growth, and/or creating jobs to: Electric Cord Sets; Miceli Dairy Products; Nestle Professional—L J Minor Division; Norlake Manufacturing; National Safety Apparel (NSA); and Philips Healthcare. This year's keynote speaker is Rob Atkinson, founder and president of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, who will discuss his work promoting U.S. based manufacturing and organizing the American Manufacturing Charter, which is supported by a broad coalition of labor, business, and economic policy leaders.

Mr. Speaker and respected colleagues, please join me in recognizing WIRE-Net, its long-time Executive Director John Colm, the winners of its 2012 Mission Builder Awards, and its influential speaker Rob Atkinson at WIRE-Net's Annual Meeting on June 27, 2012.

HONORING LEMUEL McWILLIAMS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, Lemuel McWilliams. Mr. McWilliams is the third of five children born to Mrs. Eva McWilliams and the late Mr. Milton McWilliams of Ruleville, Mississippi. He was born in Clarksdale, Mississippi. Mr. McWilliams is a member of Merry Grove Missionary Baptist Church where he is a Sunday School Teacher, usher, and he is also active in other church auxiliaries.

From the time Lemuel entered school he always worked to excel. While at Ruleville Middle School he received numerous academic awards and graduated Salutatorian of his class. When Lemuel entered high school he continued to make education his priority, and has received numerous awards. He received the highest average in English III, Algebra II, Advance Placement History, and Creative Writing; and Lemuel was also awarded the Sunflower County Chamber of Commerce scholarship, and both the Principal's and the Superintendent's Scholar Awards.

As a member of the Leaders Envisioning a Future, he has also been involved in community service projects. Mr. McWilliams has been a mentor to fellow classmates by encouraging and helping them reach their educational goals. He wants to encourage younger students that they can accomplish any of their goals as long as they are committed to working hard to achieve it.

Mr. Williams received full scholarships to Jackson State University and Alcorn State University. In the fall he plans to attend Jackson State University where he will major in PreMed and Biology. After obtaining his degree, Lemuel wants to become a Pediatrician.

Mr. Lemuel McWilliams credits his parents for encouraging and supporting him to pursue his dreams of becoming a physician. His siblings Toni, Rahman, Ivan, and Ezra also encourage him to achieve his educational and career dreams, because they understand

Lemuel's passion for achieving his goals and helping others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Lemuel McWilliams as the 2012 Valedictorian at Ruleville Central High School Class.

IN RECOGNITION OF CLEVELAND
PRIDE FESTIVAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Cleveland Pride Festival, just one of countless celebrations taking place throughout the country during LGBT Pride Month. June marks the 43rd anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, an event which is largely regarded as the catalyst for the modern day LGBT movement for equality.

There is a long history of systematic discrimination against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and questioning community in every state in the union. Discrimination against someone based on any part of their identity means that anyone who is expressing themselves can be discriminated against. It means we are creating a system in which everyone has to be the same, and everyone has to express themselves the same way. Boring and wrong!

Fortunately, over the last several years, we are beginning to see responses to the growing demand for protection against discrimination in all forms, including workplace protections to prevent discrimination based on actual or perceived gender identity and sexual orientation.

As a strong proponent of LGBT rights, I have supported legislative initiatives that work toward codifying equality for members of the LGBT community. I strongly support legislation such as the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), the Student Non-Discrimination Act, the Respect for Marriage Act and the Social Security Equality Act, initiatives that simply provide members of the LGBT community with the same privileges, protections and benefits as everyone else. As one of over 100 members to sign onto an amicus brief challenging the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) in court, I applaud the recent decision by a federal appeals court to rule DOMA unconstitutional.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me as people throughout the City of Cleveland and the country celebrate LGBT Pride Month. Let us work to ensure that all people are treated equally regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
SAFETY AND INNOVATION ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 5651, the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act, to reauthorize the Prescription Drug User Fee Act and the Medical Device User Fee Act.

These critically important laws have improved patient access to important therapies and expedited the FDA's approval times while upholding the most rigorous standards for patient safety.

The Prescription Drug User Fee Act, PDUFA, was enacted in 1992 when drug review times were lagging and FDA simply couldn't keep up with the flood of new drug applications. Through user fees paid by applicants, the FDA gained resources it needed to hire and support more staff. The program has been successful at reducing review-time backlogs, and expediting safe and effective therapies to patients.

Along with faster drug approvals, Congress also recognized the need to study drugs in children. As the original author of the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, BPCA, and the Pediatric Research Equity Act, PREA, I'm proud of how successful these programs have been in treating children, resulting in new dosing information, new indications of use, new safety information, and new data on effectiveness. Before BPCA and PREA, the vast majority of drugs, more than 80 percent, used in children were used off-label, without data for their safety and efficacy. Today, that number has been reduced to 50 percent.

We know that children are not just small adults. They have unique medical needs and drugs react differently in their bodies. That's why in this year's reauthorization, it was important for us to look at areas in need of improvement. The bipartisan legislation gives FDA the tools it needs to ensure companies are thinking about pediatric populations as early as possible in the drug development process, and that they're able to enforce timelines that are routinely missed. The language encourages further study into untested age groups, like neonates, and clarifies any confusion over what some see as "loopholes" to allow companies to access the market exclusivity incentive without completing additional studies.

The legislation also ensures that companies routinely submit their pediatric plans earlier in the process by establishing a clear timeline and expectations.

I thank my House colleagues, Representatives MIKE ROGERS and EDWARD MARKEY who have worked very hard with me to improve these programs. I applaud the bipartisan and bicameral efforts of the House and Senate staffers who were able to combine the bills from both chambers to produce strong consensus language that has broad support from Members and stakeholders.

I have confidence that the bill we vote on today will improve BPCA and PREA to benefit children for generations to come, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

IN HONOR OF GREATER
CLEVELAND COMMUNITY SHARES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of the Greater Cleveland Community Shares for their years of service and dedication to social justice.

Community Shares of Cleveland is a workplace giving federation with a focus on social

justice. It generates the operating funds for nonprofit organizations that work for positive community change such as providing education, promoting health care, and protecting women and children.

Founded in 1984, Community Shares is Cleveland's only such fund, and is the second largest in the country. Its philosophy is based on the power of participation and the individual's ability to shape change. Community Shares keeps its administrative costs low so that each contribution is responsive directly to the community's needs. It is governed by a Board of Directors which consists of representatives from member organizations and Community Directors. Greater Cleveland Community Shares is a member of Community Shares USA.

Greater Cleveland Community Shares has 41 area member organizations and more than 160 area employers include Community Shares in their annual workplace charitable campaigns.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Greater Cleveland Community Shares.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
JUDGE PAUL A. RASMUSSEN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedicated public service and esteemed legal career of Judge Paul A. Rasmussen upon his retirement from Florida's First Judicial Circuit Court in Escambia County. Judge Rasmussen spent his career serving the people of Northwest Florida, and I am proud to recognize his dedication and service.

Judge Rasmussen first came to Florida in 1968 with the United States Navy to attend Aviation Officer Candidate School at Naval Air Station Pensacola. After graduating and completing his training at Naval Air Station Glynco, in Georgia, he went on to serve four years on active duty with the Navy, completing successful tours of duty in Guam and Vietnam. After Judge Rasmussen was honorably discharged from the Navy, he returned to Florida where he attended the University of Florida College of Law.

Following his graduation from law school, Judge Rasmussen began his public service as a State's Attorney in Pensacola. He later entered private practice with then future Judge John T. Parnham, now retired from the bench in the First Judicial Circuit. Judge Rasmussen also served as legal counsel to the city of Gulf Breeze and the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services. In 1990, Judge Rasmussen was elected to Florida's First Judicial Circuit Court where he has served the people of Northwest Florida for the past 22 years. In 1998, he was recognized by the Children's Home Society of Florida as Child Advocate of the Year.

Judge Rasmussen's service to Northwest Florida does not stop at the bench. He is also actively involved throughout the community, most notably as a Sunday School Teacher at First Baptist Church of Pensacola and as a committeeman for Boy Scout Troop 10 in Pensacola.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize Judge Paul A. Rasmussen for his many years of service to the people of Northwest Florida and his dedication to his family and community. Throughout his career, Judge Rasmussen has served with honor and distinction, and his unwavering commitment to the fair administration of the law and to public service is a shining example of our legal system working at its finest. My wife Vicki and I wish him, his wife, Jean, their children and grandchildren all the best.

IN HONOR JOANNA TRZECIAK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joanna Trzeciak of Cleveland, Ohio, who placed among the final four contestants in the International category of Canada's Annual Griffin Poetry Prize Contest.

The Griffin Poetry Prize Contest accepts poetry that is either written or translated from other languages. The contestants are in either the Canadian or International category of the competition. Ms. Trzeciak competed with her translation of a book of poems by the Polish poet Tadeusz Rozewicz. Rozewicz was born in Ramomsko, Poland in 1921 and published his first collection of poems when he was 26. Rozewicz was Trzeciak's father's favorite poet.

Ms. Trzeciak is a native of Poland and currently lives in Cleveland Heights. She is a professor in the Implied Linguistics, Institute for Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies at Kent State University.

Trzeciak's scholarly research has been awarded Fulbright and Woodrow Wilson Fellowships. Her translations have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, *Harper's Magazine*, and *The Atlantic Monthly*, among others. Placing among the top four final contestants, Ms. Trzeciak won \$10,000 and gained exposure for Rozewicz.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Joanna Trzeciak and congratulating her on her accomplishments in the field of poetry and in Canada's Annual Griffin Poetry Prize Contest.

AZERBAIJAN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to draw my colleagues' attention to the tiny nation of Azerbaijan, which is a giant in world affairs.

Situated between Iran and Russia, Azerbaijan stands as a friend of the United States and that friendship frequently concerns nearby nations.

Part of what makes Azerbaijan a remarkable ally for the United States is that some 20 million Iranians are of Azeri descent, a large part of northern Iran is frequently referred to as "southern Azerbaijan" as a reminder that the territory was—for centuries—part of Azerbaijan.

The development of Azeri oil and gas in the Caspian Sea, along with the major Azeri export pipelines that pump energy to Western markets, makes the region all the more strategic as a U.S. ally.

But it is their geographical location to Afghanistan that makes them absolutely an essential ally for the U.S. Azerbaijan provides a crucial transit route to supply our troops in Afghanistan. With the expected closing of Manas air base in 2014, this route will be even more essential to our troops. They are a Muslim nation that is our friend, and our ally in the world.

This Muslim nation is the example for a secular society of religious diversity. A majority Muslim nation with a significant population of Jews, Azerbaijan is an ally of Israel. Just this month, on the anniversary of Pope John Paul II's visit to Azerbaijan, the Vatican's Cardinal Fernando Filoni spoke at the Catholic Church of Baku, reminding us that "An atmosphere of exemplary tolerance exists in Azerbaijan."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the importance of Azerbaijan—both to the United States and to the world.

IN HONOR OF THE 21ST ANNIVERSARY OF SLOVENIAN STATEHOOD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the 21st anniversary of Slovenian Statehood. I am also pleased to be joined by the Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia, Mr. Jure Zmauc and his wife, Mrs. Janja Zmauc, to celebrate Slovenian Statehood Day.

The twenty-fifth of June is Slovenian Statehood Day, an annual celebration of Slovenia's independence and the sovereignty it gained in 1991. It is a commemoration of the struggles and triumphs of the people of Slovenia. It also serves as an opportunity for residents of Northeast Ohio to celebrate the customs, traditions and contributions of Slovenian Americans to our community.

This year's celebration of Slovenian Statehood Day will be held at the Rotunda at Cleveland City hall and is sponsored by the City of Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson and Councilmen Michael Polensek and Joe Cimperman. This year's celebration will feature a musical performance by composer and saxophonist, Professor Oto Vrhovnik.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the 21st anniversary of Slovenian Statehood. Slovenia has grown in many facets over the years and should be recognized for its prosperity.

HONORING LEMUEL MCWILLIAMS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, Lemuel McWilliams. Mr. McWilliams is the third of five children

born to Mrs. Eva McWilliams and the late Mr. Milton McWilliams of Ruleville, Mississippi. He was born in Clarksdale, Mississippi. Mr. McWilliams is a member of Merry Grove Missionary Baptist Church where he is a Sunday School Teacher, usher, and he is also active in other church auxiliaries.

From the time Lemuel entered school he always worked to excel. While at Ruleville Middle School he received numerous academic awards and graduated Salutatorian of his class. When Lemuel entered high school he continued to make education his priority, and has received numerous awards. He received the highest average in English III, Algebra II, Advance Placement History, and Creative Writing; and Lemuel was also awarded the Sunflower County Chamber of Commerce scholarship, and both the Principal's and the Superintendent's Scholar Awards.

As a member of the Leaders Envisioning a Future, he has also been involved in community service projects. Mr. McWilliams has been a mentor to fellow classmates by encouraging and helping them reach their educational goals. He wants to encourage younger students that they can accomplish any of their goals as long as they are committed to working hard to achieve it.

Mr. Williams received full scholarships to Jackson State University and Alcorn State University. In the fall he plans to attend Jackson State University where he will major in PreMed and Biology. After obtaining his degree, Lemuel wants to become a Pediatrician.

Mr. Lemuel McWilliams credits his parents for encouraging and supporting him to pursue his dreams of becoming a physician. His siblings Toni, Rahman, Ivan, and Ezra also encourage him to achieve his educational and career dreams, because they understand Lemuel's passion for achieving his goals and helping others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Lemuel McWilliams as the 2012 Valedictorian at Ruleville Central High School Class.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GUST GALLUCCI COMPANY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Gust Gallucci Company and its strong commitment to the Cleveland community.

The Gust Gallucci Company opened in 1912 when Gust Gallucci emigrated to Cleveland from Faeto, Italy. Mr. Gallucci longed for the authentic Italian food that he had been raised on and soon discovered that he was not the only one. Mr. Gallucci began selling his products from a large wooden cart which became so popular that he moved into his first store on the west side of Cleveland.

While the location of the store changed four times, Mr. Gallucci's friendly personality and great food kept Clevelanders coming back for more. The business has remained in the family, passed down from Mr. Gallucci to sons Frank and Ray after he passed away in 1952. Now the fourth generation has become involved and has worked to move the store into the 21st century.

Over the last 100 years, the Gust Gallucci Company has become ingrained in the lives of Clevelanders. Families have been enjoying the authentic Italian cuisine for generations. The Gust Gallucci Company has always maintained that it is neither an “East” or “West” business but a Cleveland business.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Gust Gallucci Company on its 100th anniversary and in honoring its never-ending support of the Cleveland community.

RECOGNIZING THE HUDSON LADY
HORNETS FOR WINNING THE
TEXAS 3A SOFTBALL CHAMPION-
SHIP

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is with enormous pride that I recognize and congratulate the Hudson Lady Hornets on an amazing 2012 softball season in which they captured the Texas State Class 3A Softball Championship. These tenacious Lady Hornets have

reached the pinnacle of success in Texas softball with their first state championship.

The Lady Hornets demonstrated just how powerful they were as a team, playing as one well-tuned machine. The final game saw the Hudson Lady Hornets defeat an outstanding Henderson Lady Lions team with an 8–4 win. The championship game showed the strength of each team as they both played scoreless for the first half of the game. They then unloaded the sticks and went at it in the final innings. Henderson represented themselves very well, but Hudson came out triumphant as an outstanding example of a great east Texas Champion.

There is no doubt that player, coach, and supporting person involved with the success of the Lady Hornets was inspired to experience the amazing outcome when they give absolutely all the effort that have to their team and to achieve a mutual goal.

Clearly a team does not get to such a level of excellence without a coaching staff that knows its players, what they can accomplish and just how far they can be pushed. This tribute goes out to all of the athletic staff including Coach Jimmy Eby, and Assistant Coaches Wes Capps and Amanda Malone.

The team members achieving this memorable accomplishment included Freshmen

Madison Jeffrey, Adrianna Mosley, Bryli Lee and Marie Mireles; Sophomores Kaylee Parker, Ashley Davis and Madison Selman; Juniors Cassidy Brasuell, Alyssa Dotson, Kayla Caldwell and Kelsee Selman; and Seniors Lauren Gilcrease, Kelsey Moulder, Elizabeth Pierce, Marlee Guidry, and Jade Havard.

No athletic team ever becomes a champion without unwavering support, and that is exactly what the Lady Hornets experienced from the Hudson Independent School District staff and the entire community. That is why congratulations go to all who contributed in any way to the success of the Lady Hornets during the 2012 season. Throughout the season, they were empowered by the scripture as revealed in Philippians 4:13 which reads, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

May God continue to bless all of their efforts both in school and as they one day finish high school and use that same drive and determination to make this country even stronger. Congratulations to the State Champion Hudson Lady Hornets, as their legacy is now recorded in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 28, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 29

Time to be announced

Finance

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Mark J. Mazur, of New Jersey, and Matthew S. Rutherford, of Illinois, both to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and Meredith M. Broadbent, of Virginia, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission.

Room to be announced

JULY 10

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JULY 11

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the impact on competition of exclusion orders to enforce standard-essential patents.

SD-226

JULY 12

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine creating positive learning environments for all students.

Room to be announced

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold a closed meeting to consider certain intelligence matters.

SH-219