

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

FEDERAL RESERVE TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2012

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in qualified support of H.R. 459, the Federal Reserve Transparency Act of 2012. Before addressing the merits of the legislation, I want to pay tribute to its author, the gentleman from Texas, Mr. PAUL, who serves as the Chairman of the Financial Services Committee's Domestic Monetary Policy Subcommittee. His tireless advocacy on monetary policy issues and his crusade for a more open and transparent Federal Reserve have been hallmarks of his congressional career. With that career coming to a close at the end of this Congress, it is appropriate that the House consider this bill.

H.R. 459 is bipartisan legislation which will help promote greater public understanding of the Federal Reserve's operations and the impact of its decisions on average Americans. A more transparent central bank will be more accountable for its decisions, which have broad consequences for the American economy, including consumers, savers and small businesses. By de-mystifying the Federal Reserve, we can enhance public confidence in the institution and help address some of the legitimate questions the American people have in the wake of the extraordinary measures that the Fed took at the height of the financial crisis, which have resulted in a tripling of the size of the Fed's balance sheet since 2008.

To his credit, Chairman Bernanke recognized the need for the Fed to improve the transparency of its operations early on in his tenure, and under his leadership, the Fed has made significant strides in this area. Among other initiatives, the Chairman now holds quarterly press conferences, giving the American public an insight into his thinking on the state of the economy and the basis for monetary policy judgments that would have been unheard of under past Fed Chairmen. The Fed has also achieved a greater level of clarity in policy statements issued by the Federal Open Market Committee, and has become much more explicit in its targeting of inflation.

While these are welcome developments for which Chairman Bernanke should be commended, in a representative democracy, maximum transparency is essential to maintaining the trust of the governed. If we err, it must be on the side of the public's right to know. By removing certain statutory limitations on the current authority of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to audit the Fed's operations, H.R. 459 builds on the reforms that Chairman Bernanke has instituted and will make for a more open and accountable central bank, which is a goal we all share.

Having said that, no legislation is perfect, and there is one aspect of this bill that, if not carefully implemented, runs the risk of under-

mining the Fed's political independence. Specifically, the bill would authorize the GAO to audit the Federal Reserve Board's "deliberations, decisions, or actions on monetary policy matters," thereby removing a limitation that was imposed on the GAO when it was first given statutory authority to audit the Fed in 1978. Proponents of expanding the scope of the GAO's audit authority cite the unconventional policy interventions carried out by the Fed in recent years in its attempt to stabilize the financial system and stimulate the economy as justification for a more robust congressional role in overseeing the central bank's operations. It should be noted, however, that the inclusion in the Dodd-Frank Act of reforms first proposed by Financial Services Committee Republicans that significantly curtail the Fed's emergency lending authorities under section 13(3) of the Federal Reserve Act go a long way toward addressing concerns about the Fed's ability to conduct rescues of individual financial institutions without the review and approval of Congress.

As a general matter, I worry that the level of congressional scrutiny authorized by H.R. 459 may, if not exercised cautiously and responsibly, be incompatible with the need to insulate the Fed from political pressures and ensure that its decisions are based on sound economic principles rather than on jaw-boning from Capitol Hill. I am therefore sympathetic to Chairman Bernanke's argument—which he made in recent testimony before the Financial Services Committee—that a central bank that operates free of such political influence is likely to produce better economic outcomes and a more stable interest rate environment.

Indeed, the danger of allowing political considerations to guide monetary policy judgments was on full display at a recent hearing in the other body, where one of the Senators, citing Congress' inability to reach consensus on how to jump-start our anemic economic recovery, loudly urged Chairman Bernanke to "get to work" and implement a more aggressive monetary easing. This kind of rhetoric underscores the need for the GAO to exercise its expanded audit authority under H.R. 459 prudently, and to resist any efforts by Members of Congress to use this new tool to influence decisions on monetary policy. Failure to protect the central bank's independence from such political pressure will have dire consequences for our economy and for the legitimacy of the Federal Reserve as an institution.

Concerns about the scope of GAO's audits of monetary policy deliberations were never aired in the Financial Services Committee because of a decision by the House Parliamentarian to refer H.R. 459 exclusively to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. This referral, which Dr. Paul and I challenged at the time in extensive written correspondence and in meetings with the Parliamentarians, ignored decades of past precedents recognizing the Financial Services Committee's jurisdiction over legislative proposals affecting the Federal Reserve's conduct of monetary policy. While the Parliamentarian ul-

timately granted the Financial Services Committee a sequential referral of H.R. 459 after it had been reported to the House and scheduled for floor consideration, the initial referral to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform short-circuited the legislative process and denied Members of the Financial Services Committee, including Dr. Paul, an opportunity to fully debate the important issues of Federal Reserve transparency and independence raised by this legislation.

Again, I commend Dr. Paul and Chairman Bernanke for their efforts to bring greater transparency to the Fed's operations.

HONORING ALEXANDRE LOPES

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Alexandre Lopes, for being selected as the Macy's—Florida Department of Education, 2013 Teacher of the Year. Mr. Lopes embodies the merit and dedication required to lead students in today's challenging academic environment. He serves at Carol City Elementary School as a teacher in the Learning Experience Alternative Program. As an educator Mr. Lopes has dedicated his career to special needs students with communication issues. The LEAP program has allowed Mr. Lopes to express his creativity and compassion for teaching by using music and dance to progress the student's communication skills. His courage, vision and passion are contributing factors behind his emergence as a pioneer in education, community leader, and role model amongst his peers. As a former educator I am pleased to honor Mr. Lopes, and wish him the best of luck as he moves into the national competition.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANN
KATHLEEN SIMS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ann Kathleen Sims who helped shape the lives of thousands of young children in the Bay Area. After providing quality and affordable child care for 35 years, Ann is retiring as the founder and director of Bayshore Child Care Services.

Ann built the five day care centers in Daly City with endless passion and dedication offering children a place to learn, be fed, hugged and loved while offering their parents the freedom to work and provide for their families.

Ann grew up near London and received her teaching diploma from Philippa Fawcett College, an affiliate of London University. She

● 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.

started her career as a teacher in the Inner London primary schools. In 1968, Ann immigrated to the United States. She taught first-grade students at Kalamazoo School in Lansing, Michigan and then moved to San Francisco to become the head teacher at Jack and Jill Nursery School.

After Ann had her first child, Frankie, she set up her own day care school in Berkeley. From there she moved across the Bay and became director of the Daly City Community of Children's Services. She established the first local state-funded childcare in the basement of a church in the Bayshore neighborhood in 1978—the birthplace of Bayshore Child Care Services. Never afraid to take on big projects, Ann moved into a dilapidated Navy school built in 1943 and started renovating the new home of her growing child care center. The renovations have been ongoing and even now, a community kitchen is being built in the Midway Center.

The Midway Center became the flagship of Bayshore Child Care Services and Ann won numerous contracts to expand her services to more families in San Mateo County to include the Parkview Center and the 87th Street Center. I had the pleasure to work with Ann when she partnered with the David and Lucile Packard Foundation to build the Mission Center, a custom-designed center that serves infants and toddlers.

Helping parents has always been the priority for Ann. She is a tireless and innovative advocate for families and has embraced father friendly programs, special needs programs, and coordinated services for families. She and the Peninsula community built another custom design, parent friendly preschool and resource center, the Price Street Center or Our Second Home.

Ann has turned a single classroom day care center into five centers serving over 250 children every day and employing 50 individuals, primarily teachers.

As Ann has reached her well-deserved retirement, Bayshore Child Care Services will join forces with Peninsula Family Services. The combined organization will continue the mission of supporting families on limited resources and providing their children with safe and nurturing environments in which to learn and explore.

Ann can now look forward to spending more time with her family including her husband of 29 years, Mike Sims, and their daughter, Frankie S. Crawford.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Ann Kathleen Sims, a dear friend, an outstanding teacher and a powerful family advocate. She has made San Mateo County a better place to live and work for all of us.

COMMEMORATING ORBIS INTERNATIONAL FOR ITS 30 YEARS OF SAVING SIGHT AND REBUILDING LIVES IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend ORBIS International, an organiza-

tion that has been an outstanding member of the global community for 30 years. I am proud to recognize its invaluable service and contributions to some of the most vulnerable populations in the world.

ORBIS International is a U.S.-based global health organization dedicated to saving sight and eliminating avoidable blindness in developing countries. Created in 1982, ORBIS has conducted over 1,000 programs in 88 countries, trained over 288,000 healthcare professionals and touched the lives of 18 million children and adults. Today, we celebrate ORBIS International's 30 years of commitment to preserving and restoring sight by strengthening the capacity of local institutions in developing nations in their efforts to prevent and treat blindness.

The story of ORBIS International is a remarkable one. A grant from USAID and funds from private donors enabled ORBIS to begin its mission by successfully converting a plane into a fully functional teaching eye hospital, and in 1982 it flew to Panama on its first training mission. Today, the world's only Flying Eye Hospital visits 6–8 nations each year conducting programs, training medical personnel, and providing eye care services.

ORBIS is more than a Flying Eye Hospital with permanent programs and regional offices in the countries that have the highest prevalence of avoidable blindness. ORBIS has conducted more than 900 capacity building programs in its 30-year history. These capacity building programs were conducted through its six country and regional-based offices, the Flying Eye Hospital, and ORBIS' in-country, hospital-based training sessions.

In addition to treating a number of diseases of the eye that can cause blindness, ORBIS is also working in Africa to eliminate trachoma, one of the seven Neglected Tropical Diseases. Trachoma, an infectious disease found predominantly in developing countries, starts as an infection and progresses to corneal scarring. ORBIS International teaches surgical techniques and treatment for trachoma in Ethiopia and other developing countries.

Blindness has profound human and socioeconomic consequences. The costs of lost productivity and of rehabilitation and education of the blind constitute a significant economic burden for the individual, the family and society. Investments in avoidable blindness and visual impairment offer not only economic and social returns in global health, but they dramatically improve the quality of life of individuals and families. ORBIS International is a trusted partner in the global coalition of organizations fighting preventable blindness.

ORBIS programs and partnerships provide the skills, infrastructure and on-going support to build the capacity and skills necessary to sustain care at a local level. As a founding member of Vision 2020: The Right to Sight, a campaign led by the World Health Organization and other leading blindness prevention organizations to eliminate avoidable blindness by the year 2020, ORBIS is dedicated to working in partnership to create a world free of needless blindness.

I am honored to join ORBIS International in celebrating its 30 year commitment toward achieving its goal of a world in which no one is needlessly blind, and where quality eye care is available to everyone. I want to thank ORBIS International for the lives it has

touched and its leadership in providing valuable health and training services across the globe.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIP HOUSING

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an outstanding non-profit in San Mateo County, HIP Housing, on the occasion of its 40th Anniversary. This remarkable organization has assisted thousands of disadvantaged and disabled residents giving them shelter and the opportunity to turn their lives around.

Because of HIP Housing, over 1,000 individuals per year have a place to call home which makes for 1,000 stories of transformed lives. These are the stories of struggling mothers with high school educations going back to school, under the guidance of HIP Housing, to earn a degree.

HIP Housing's stories include those of families who, due to illness or a reduction in hours at work, injuries from an auto accident or dozens of other causes, cannot afford rent and are dangerously close to living on the street. HIP Housing offers a helping hand and a steady course to a secure future.

The Home Sharing Program is a creative and effective way to match a home provider with a home seeker who pays rent or provides services. It cuts housing costs, promotes independence, provides companionship and increases security. Many strong friendships have started through the Home Sharing Program, and these friendships have transformed the lives of all involved.

HIP Housing's Self-Sufficiency Program helps low-income families set clear goals to become financially self-reliant within one or two years while receiving housing assistance and support services. Attending a graduation ceremony of this program is certain to make one cry. A long line of graduates traipse up to the microphone and recount how they developed parenting skills, earned a degree and landed a job, or learned the skills to start a business. One woman this year reported that she had moved from being nearly homeless to getting her college degree, and onward to making over \$80,000 per year in hospital administration, all with the help of HIP's counselors. The American Dream is alive at HIP Housing where housing is a right of everyone who wishes to work hard, and a need of all human beings who seek dignity.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor the volunteers, staff, board members and foundations supporting HIP Housing. These are the quiet heroes who allow this organization to make San Mateo County a better place for all of us. HIP Housing is a shining example of what community service can be and can do to transform the world in which we live.

IN HONOR OF SOUTH JERSEY
OLYMPIANS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our South Jersey Olympians: Tamika Catchings, basketball; Rachael Dawson, field hockey; Michelle Vittese, field hockey; Jordan Burroughs, wrestling; and Steve Kasprzyk, rowing. They have traveled to London to compete in the 2012 Summer Olympic Games.

These athletes represent the United States on the world stage, affording them the distinct honor of serving as role models for citizens across South Jersey area and the entire nation. Their success, derived through hard work and dedication, and exemplified through athletic competition, is something every American can aspire to as a shining example of the American dream. In the same way our national ethos rewards fortitude and persistence, these athletes earned the opportunity to compete on the Olympic stage through long hours of training and sacrifice.

Part of the Olympic Creed, originating from a speech by Ethelbert Talbot during the 1908 London Games, states: "The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well." One hundred and four years later, as the Olympics return to London, the message rings as true as ever. Through fierce competition amongst the nations of the world, these athletes continually push the limits of human achievement. The resulting bonds of friendship, gained through equally world-class sportsmanship, enrich both these athletes and their nations.

Mr. Speaker, the dedication of these South Jersey Olympians and their teammates to athletics and sportsmanship should not go unrecognized. I join all of South Jersey in expressing our pride in their efforts.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OFFICER
JEFFREY DICK

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Police Officer Jeffrey Dick who is retiring after more than three decades of protecting citizens in the Bay Area.

Throughout his career Officer Dick has gone above and beyond the call of duty to support fellow officers and to serve our community. He began his law enforcement career in 1979 at the Alameda County Sheriff's Department and has been an officer at the San Mateo Police Department since 1984. He has been a law enforcement liaison and board member for the Northern California Chapter of the Concerns of Police Survivors, an organization that provides assistance to the families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty and in that capacity he travels around the state to attend funerals of police officers and offer their families support. He makes sure they receive the benefits due to them from the state of California. As a member of the San Mateo Police Officers Association Board of Directors, Officer Dick

held the position of president three times. For 16 years he served as team captain for the San Mateo Critical Incident Stress Management Team, a non-profit organization that offers counseling, mentoring and follow-up for emergency personnel after crises. In 2010 he assisted emergency personnel following the San Bruno fire in spite of his fear of fire.

In March 2003 he received the 2002 Peninsula Lions Club Heroism Award related to the pursuit and capture of two bank robbery suspects.

His interests include Harley Davidson motorcycles and photography. His community volunteerism is noteworthy. He volunteers for the American Heart Association, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, and other non-profit organizations as a photographer, and he has also volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House for more than 22 years.

In his retirement Officer Dick looks forward to spending more time with his wife, Linda Barstow-Dick. Officer Dick has two grown children, Erin Kristine Templin and Brian Joseph Dick. He also has a grandson, Devin James Templin.

Although Officer Dick is retiring from a long and meaningful career, he will continue to play a vital role in our community. Mr. Speaker, Officer Dick has dedicated his life to protecting residents of the Bay Area. I ask that the House of Representatives to join me in commending him for his extraordinary selflessness and service.

HONORING MARIAN CANNON
SCHLESINGER ON HER 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my constituent, Marian Cannon Schlesinger who will celebrate her 100th birthday on September 13, 2012. I am proud to join her legions of friends and admirers, and her loving family, in honoring her.

She was born the fortunate daughter of Dr. Walter Bradford Cannon, an eminent Harvard physiologist, and Cornelia James Cannon, a noted feminist writer. An alumna of Cambridge High and Latin School and Radcliffe College, she is the mother of four children, Andrew, Christina, Stephen and Katharine. Her rich and balanced life has been full of family, politics, painting, writing, and tennis.

A strong Progressive voice and wise chronicler of her times, Marian Schlesinger has been for almost ten decades a force to be reckoned with in the feisty politics of her hometown, Cambridge, Massachusetts. She canvassed for local politicians as a teenager and later campaigned for Adlai Stevenson. With her husband, the historian Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., she was an active participant in President Kennedy's New Frontier. Still today, she follows political news avidly, committed to democratic principles and Democratic ideals.

Early in her life, she became a landscape and portrait painter of distinction, travelling extensively, painting people and places from China to Guatemala to Manchester, New Hampshire. She wrote and illustrated several children's books. In her 70's she began writing

her memoirs, and she has published two spirited and insightful volumes chronicling a century of notable experiences in Cambridge, as well as her adventures around the world. She attributes her enduring vitality in part to her love of tennis which she played weekly, well into her mid-80s.

With all these achievements, she made no claim to being a "celebrity." She always was and she is today a good citizen. She made her mark with paints and with words, with hard work and political savvy. As Marian Cannon Schlesinger approaches her 100th birthday, she remains an inspiration to us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 95TH
BIRTHDAY OF MARTIN LITTON

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a legendary environmental hero on his 95th birthday. Martin Litton is the quintessential take-no-prisoner environmental activist of his era. Thanks to his perseverance and passion, there is no dam in the Grand Canyon and there is no Disney resort next to Sequoia National Park.

Mr. Litton has been fighting for the environment for decades and still has plenty of fight left in him. He grew up in Gardena near Los Angeles and enjoyed hiking in the Southern Sierra as a child and teenager. When he was 18, he wrote a letter to the LA Times denouncing the diversion of water from Mono Lake to the growing population of Los Angeles. His wrote, "The people of the entire state should rise up against the destruction of Mono Lake. Mono Lake is a gem-among California's greatest scenic attractions." It has been with this sentiment and determination that he pursued all battles in life.

In the 1940s, Mr. Litton worked in the circulation department at the LA Times and started writing environmental freelance articles. He caught the attention of David Brower, executive director of the Sierra Club, who in 1952 hired Mr. Litton for a campaign against the construction of two dams in Dinosaur National Monument. Mr. Litton explored the Green and Yampa rivers in a wooden dory and the resulting publicity helped persuade the Congress to vote against the dams in 1956.

This was the first of many campaigns that stopped the building of dams. In 1964, Mr. Litton led a river trip through the Grand Canyon with David Brower, photographer Philip Hyde and writer Francois Leydet which led to the publication of the book *Time* and the River Flowing with photographs by Ansel Adams and Hyde. The Sierra Club then took out full page ads in the New York Times—Mr. Litton's idea—opposing the building of a dam in the Grand Canyon. Public opposition to the project was sealed.

Mr. Litton started his love affair with the Grand Canyon in 1955. He was only the 185th person to float the Colorado River first pioneered by John Wesley Powell. He continued to run the river for decades. In 1971 he founded Grand Canyon Dories and throughout the 1970s and 80s led commercial trips. Other river runners used rubber rafts, but Mr. Litton preferred the small wooden boats that were

originally used in Oregon and adapted them so they could be used on the Colorado. Mr. Litton sold the business in 1990, but continued to raft the Grand Canyon. Just three years ago he broke his own record as the oldest person to run the canyon in a dory.

From 1954–1968 Mr. Litton was the editor of *Sunset Magazine*. His cover story “The Redwood Country” in 1960 launched a movement that eventually led to the establishment of Redwood National Park. As a life-long pilot, Mr. Litton flew then Governor Edmund “Pat” Brown over the redwoods in Northern California to convince him not to sign a bill that would extend a freeway through the forest. It worked.

Mr. Litton continues to fight for the redwoods. He is deeply engaged in a campaign to stop logging in the Sequoia National Forest and the Giant Sequoia Monument.

Surpassing Mr. Litton’s love for the environment is only his love for his wife of 69 years, Esther.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Martin Litton who has kept some of the most beautiful places in America pristine and in existence for all of us to admire and enjoy. His tenacious spirit serves as an inspiration to all of us.

CONGRATULATING THE SAIPAN SOUTHERN HIGH SCHOOL MANTA RAY BAND’S OLYMPIC PERFORMANCE

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, here is a story to make us all cheer:

46 high school musicians from America’s smallest insular area raise a quarter of a million dollars to go to London and perform during the Olympics—where they win a silver medal.

That is the story of the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Concert Band, who played their hearts out at the London Celebration Music Festival this week in Central Hall Westminster, and came away with silver.

They played throughout the 2012 Summer Olympics: at the main bandstand in Olympic Park, in a torch ceremony in Central London, at storied Westminster Abbey, and at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre nearby Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament.

As they played, we all cheered in the Northern Mariana Islands. Because the Manta Rays represent us all. We are the only U.S. insular area that did not send athletes to London. We sent our students. We sent musicians. And they were awarded silver.

It took silver to send them there. It took bake sales, rummage sales, garage sales, a bowling tournament, tree plantings, car washes, a radio telethon, lunches, and raffles. It took businesses, government, civic organizations, and individual donors—too many to list by name all chipping in to make this possible for the 46 Manta Rays and their 14 chaperones. It seemed an impossible goal for a community of barely fifty thousand, struggling economically, to raise two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. But we did.

Because these Manta Ray musicians dared us to dream—as they have before. They proved to us that with “faith, effort, and determination,” and, of course, the hours of individual diligence, closing out the world, playing scales, practicing their parts, over and over again, that even the seemingly impossible can come to be.

Ten years ago there was no high school band in our islands. Most families in the Marianas could not even afford to buy a band instrument. Then, through the vision of teacher Will DeWitt and the support of the leadership at Saipan Southern High School and the Northern Marianas Public School System a seed was planted. The dream began to grow.

Students begged or borrowed instruments and held them for the first time. They began to make music.

How quickly they learned. They started to win regional competitions in Guam. They gained notice and were invited to perform during the Beijing Olympics four years ago.

They were even called to play at Carnegie Hall, earning second place in the New York International Music Competition.

Then, last year, the invitation came to the 2012 Summer Olympics. And this week the silver medal in London.

Perhaps, nothing better demonstrates how much the Northern Marianas believes in its young people than this bake-sale effort to send the Manta Ray Concert Band to the 2012 Olympics.

Perhaps, nothing better demonstrates how much our young people believe in themselves and in their future than that they took on this impossible, improbable goal—and succeeded.

So, today, we say, “Congratulations, Manta Rays!”

And we say, “Thank you.” Thank you for doing your community proud. Thank you for rewarding our faith in you.

Thank you for confirming that there is no better place to put our hope and hard work than helping in the growth and development of our children.

Here is a story we can all love and applaud: a story of dedicated teachers and students who were inspired to do something they had never done before, something that on its face was “impossible.” This is a story of what makes any of us great: stepping beyond what we imagine we can do, bringing to life a new and unimaginable world.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF NICK’S RESTAURANT

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Gust family that has owned and operated Nick’s Restaurant in Pacifica for 85 years and has made significant contributions to the community. It is undisputed among locals—and some out of towners in the know—that Nick’s serves the best crab sandwich on the coast.

Nick’s 85th Anniversary Bash will go on all week and it reflects the generosity and love of music and food of every member of the family: Charles, Anastasia, Nick, Lorraine, Kathy, Chuck and Lena.

Located at Rockaway Beach in Pacifica, Nick’s has become a destination for visitors drawn by the restaurant’s dramatic setting right on the beach with breakers crashing against boulders, pelicans gliding through the salty air, surfers catching waves and of course, the fabulous food.

The original Gust family member to come to Rockaway Beach was Stalios Karagianis. He left Macedonia, Greece in 1907, arrived in New York by ship and then traveled across the United States to San Francisco. He worked a variety of jobs, including one with the Ocean Shore Railroad which first brought him to the coast. While working as a contractor, Karagianis sent for his wife, Anastasia, to join him. They bought a house in Daly City and had three daughters and a son. In 1927, Karagianis returned to the coast and bought a piece of property on the edge of Rockaway Beach. He opened a small shack selling sandwiches, peanuts and candy to fishermen.

After losing his business to fire twice and rebuilding for the third time, Karagianis and his family decided to move into the business and make it their home to prevent another fire.

Karagianis faced a challenge. Over and over he was told that his name was too difficult to pronounce, so he changed it to Charlie Gust.

After 20 years of running the restaurant, Charlie eventually handed the reins to his son Nick and daughter-in-law Lorraine who continued the family tradition of always improving and expanding the business. Nick and Lorraine turned Nick’s into one of the most unique and pleasant dining spots drawing visitors from all over the world to this beautiful cove on the Pacific coast. Nick served as mayor of Pacifica for four terms and on the city council for ten years ruling the city from the restaurant and bar at Nick’s.

Now Nick’s is in the hands of the third generation of Gusts. Nick’s son Chuck has been running the restaurant for the last 10 years and daughter Lena is working there as well.

What has not changed over the last 85 years is the welcoming atmosphere, the hospitality of the Gust family and the great food. May Nick’s serve its famous crab sandwich for the next 85 years!

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor the Gust family for being an integral part of Pacifica and providing an endless supply of comfort, sustenance and community service. As a long-time friend of the family I am proud and grateful for their many contributions to the vitality and folklore of Pacifica.

RECOGNIZING WASHINGTON STATE ATHLETES COMPETING IN THE 2012 SUMMER OLYMPICS

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Aretha Thurmond, Ariana Kukors, Courtney Thompson, and Tejay van Garderen from the State of Washington for representing the United States and competing in the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London.

The 2012 Games will be Aretha Thurmond’s fourth appearance at the Olympic Games

when she competes in the discus throw. She began throwing discus in high school and competed in her first Olympic games at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia, just after finishing her sophomore year at the University of Washington. She went on to participate in the 2004 Athens Games and 2008 Beijing Games. Aretha has remained one of the top American discus throwers for over a decade.

Ariana Kukors will be making her Olympic debut and participating in the 200M Individual Medley. Shortly after the 2008 Olympic Trials, Ariana continued to train hard and won the 200M Individual Medley at the 2009 World Championships, setting a world-record of 2 minutes, 6.15 seconds.

Courtney Thompson will also make her Olympic debut in London as backup setter for the United States Women's Volleyball Team. Her professional career began when she joined the national team in 2007 and competed in the 2007 and 2009 Federation Internationale de Volleyball World Grand Prix tournaments. Her strong appearance in the 2012 Grand Prix grabbed the attention of many, which led her to this year's Olympic Games. Courtney and the women's volleyball team hopes to improve upon the silver medal they won at the 2008 Beijing Games.

Tejay van Garderen has been named one of the most talented cyclists in America and will compete in this summer's Olympic Games. He was born in Tacoma, Washington and spent the majority of his early years living and cycling in Europe. During his rookie years, he signed with HTC Highroad, which was at the time was the world's top cycling team. Tejay finished third overall in the 2010 Criterium du Dauphine Libre and made his very first appearance at the Tour de France in 2011. He has also competed in the Tour de California and in Colorado's inaugural Pro Cycling Challenge.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I commend these athletes from the State of Washington for their dedication and honor all Olympians taking part in the 2012 Summer Games.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE YEAR OF SERVICE OF MILLBRAE LION CLUB PRESIDENT RON FREDIANI

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Millbrae Lion Club President Ron Frediani upon the completion of his year of service as President of the Millbrae Lions Club. This past year has been one of uncommon accomplishment by the Millbrae Lions, and Lion Ron is a key reason for this year's success.

The Lions worked with other community groups on more than one dozen community events. For example, under Ron Frediani's leadership, the Millbrae Lions were involved in the annual 4th of July barbeque for the Millbrae Historical Society, the collection of gently used books for the Friends of the Millbrae Library, helped to raise funds for a local church, joined with the Millbrae Rotary Club in the Relay for Life event, and ensured that Halloween celebrations continued despite city budget constraints.

The Millbrae Lions, under President Ron Frediani's leadership has been a major source of funding for charity throughout this tight-knit community. For example, the club provides American flags for the city's elementary schools and fingerprints all incoming kindergarteners. President Frediani and his club volunteers also honored all of the volunteers involved in youth baseball, both at dinner and during an annual pancake breakfast. These community events cannot happen without leaders such as Ron Frediani and his able board members who ensure that the Lions remain effective within their community.

Mr. Speaker, it has been my honor to speak before the youth group sponsored by the Millbrae Lions, the Millbrae Leos Club. At this event, I was thrilled to take questions from teens with active minds and a desire to serve their community. Youth leadership leads to community leadership as adults, and President Frediani has been a big part of the success of this group, ensuring that it adheres to boundary and safety rules.

A key duty of any club President is to arrange for speakers at regular meetings. President Frediani was cited by his club as being particularly adept at arranging for great speakers, which also helps build club membership and provides an educational opportunity for the broader community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Millbrae Lions Club President Ron Frediani upon the completion of his year of service to the community of Millbrae. There are many who are called into service involuntarily, but it takes a star to volunteer and then to be a beacon for others to follow. President Ron Frediani is such a star, and the Millbrae Lions Club and the entire community have benefited from his service.

CELEBRATING THE 170TH ANNIVERSARY OF OLD ST. MARY'S CHURCH

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the oldest standing church in Cincinnati, which is appropriately named Old St. Mary's.

The church, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was dedicated to God 170 years ago this month, on July 3, 1842.

It was originally called St. Marien Kirche. Many of the parishioners were German immigrants who lived northwest of the Miami & Erie Canal, in a neighborhood called Over-the-Rhine.

Parishioners who were master craftsmen built the church at the intersection of 13th and Clay streets. The cornerstone was laid on March 25, 1841—the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The clock tower of Old St. Mary's rises 170 feet, and it is the oldest in Cincinnati. The interior features hand-carved wooden statues, marvelous stained glass, and magnificent oil paintings, making the church one of the most beautiful in the city.

My parents, Jeannette and Gus Hoffman, often attended worship services at Old St. Mary's. Peter Schmidt and I were married

there, and our daughter, Emilie, was baptized there.

Today, Over-the-Rhine is a thriving multicultural neighborhood, and Old St. Mary's has embraced this diversity. On March 25, 1988, parishioners established the Mary Magdalen House to help the poor and homeless. This nonprofit provides a place for needy people to shower, shave, and have their clothes laundered.

In 2001, to help disadvantaged youths become community leaders, the pastor of Old St. Mary's opened the St. Peter Claver Latin School for Boys. The late Father Albert Lauer envisioned the school as the cornerstone for renewal of the neighborhood. St. Peter Claver was officially recognized this month as the 114th Catholic school of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Mr. Speaker, Cincinnatians appreciate their city's history and their own heritage. Many Catholics of German ancestry who live in distant neighborhoods travel to Over-the-Rhine to worship at Old St. Mary's. Sunday Mass is still offered in German—as well as in Latin and English.

Today, I want to celebrate the 170th anniversary of Old St. Mary's. I applaud the Cincinnatians who have ensured that this landmark remains relevant to Over-the-Rhine. It is my hope that the church will continue to uplift the city's residents—in body and soul.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF PENINSULA FAMILY SERVICE'S SENIOR PEER COUNSELING PROGRAM

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 25th Anniversary of a program in San Mateo County that has eliminated loneliness and provided support, guidance and joy for thousands of seniors.

Peninsula Family Service's Senior Peer Counseling is an outstanding example of how to best help seniors with transitions and life changes, health concerns, mobility issue, care provider questions and grief. A senior in need is paired up with a trained volunteer of a similar age, experience, values, wisdom and culture. In all of its work, Peninsula Family Service empowers families and individuals to become or remain self-sufficient and to be contributing members of our community.

Senior Peer Counseling was started in 1987 by Delia McGrath as part of the San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Recovery Program. The county recognized a need to provide an integrated and coherent set of services for older adults that would ensure they could live in the community as long as possible while maintaining their independence, connection and high quality of life. Delia McGrath was quickly joined by Carol Blomberger, a skilled art therapist, and the two set the groundwork for Senior Peer Counseling. They taught future counselors life skills that prepared them to help seniors in very difficult situations. Delia McGrath pointed out that the most important skill was listening; it built the foundation for trust and a peer relationship.

Today, all peer counselors must be at least 55 years old and are required to receive 60 hours of training to provide one-on-one and group counseling to older adults that covers social and family relationships, self awareness, listening skills, understanding depression, substance abuse and other challenges of aging.

Initially the Senior Peer Counseling served English speakers, but in 1989 it was expanded to Spanish speakers with the La Esperanza Vive component which Teresa Hurtado coordinated for over twenty years.

In 2008, the county put Peninsula Family Service in charge of Senior Peer Counseling which expanded the services to additional underserved seniors in the Chinese, Filipino and LGBT communities. Now a total of 80 peer counselors support over 300 seniors under the leadership of Susan Houston and Howard Lader and their dedicated staff.

Peer counseling deeply touches the lives of the people involved. One senior who was dependent on his electric wheel chair rarely left his home and became increasingly isolated. His social worker requested a senior peer counselor hoping it would help his social life and get him involved in a senior center close to his home. After six visits the senior asked the counselor to assist him in arranging transportation with Redi-Wheels and to join him at the senior center for the first couple of visits. The senior now happily goes to the center twice a week.

Patti Garber began volunteering as a counselor a few years ago. As a cancer patient herself, she says the work gives her a sense of purpose. "I get more back than I put in," she says. "I like solving problems and providing a web of connections." And that she does whether she helps a senior find food, apply for Social Security online, find a pet or get a wheel chair.

Arleen Henriksen who passed away last year at age 92, credited her long life in part to her volunteer counseling. Arleen, whom I had the privilege of knowing when she volunteered in my legislative offices, dedicated over 20 years and much of her energy to the program. In 2009, she told the San Mateo Daily Journal, "It's more rewarding for the counselor than the people you help." She added, "People get scared thinking that, to do this, they have to be psychologists. That's not the case; you don't have to be anything more than a caring person."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor the caring people at Senior Peer Counseling who for 25 years have provided a remarkable service that has brightened the lives of thousands of seniors in San Mateo county. May it thrive for the next 25 years and serve as a model for other communities.

**RED TAPE REDUCTION AND
SMALL BUSINESS JOB CREATION
ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 4078) to provide that no agency may take any significant regulatory action until the unemployment rate is equal to or less than 6.0 percent:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, this legislation is an amalgam of seven dangerously misguided bills designed to shut down a breathtaking number of safeguards and protections citizens rely on—from the quality of health care seniors receive to the safety of infant formula babies drink to the benefits our veterans have earned. As former Republican Congressman Sherry Boehlert has warned: "It's difficult to exaggerate the sweep and destructiveness of . . . (this) . . . bill."

The core of H.R. 4078 proposes to freeze most regulatory action until the nation's unemployment rate hits 6 percent—as if the quality of seniors' health care, the safety of infant formula or the availability of veterans' benefits should depend on where the nation's unemployment rate is. Another provision of H.R. 4078 would block so called "midnight rules" issued in the final days of an outgoing administration—without any apparent recognition that the offshore drilling bill the majority brought to the floor of the House just yesterday was itself largely proposed as a "midnight" regulation in the final days of the Bush Administration. Still other provisions in H.R. 4078 would tie up the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission with additional paperwork, thereby diverting already scarce resources from other critical functions, like ensuring transparency and accountability in our financial markets.

Mr. Chair, I am not opposed to regulatory reform. Where a regulation is truly wasteful, unnecessary or duplicative, we should fix it or get rid of it. But, like the comedy of errors surrounding the numerous typos leading up to consideration of this bill, H.R. 4078 is a poorly conceived, hastily thrown together mess. The American people deserve better.

**IN HONOR OF THE CENTRAL ELECTRIC
COMPANY OF WATSONVILLE,
CALIFORNIA**

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Central Electric Company of Watsonville, California, on the occasion of its centennial anniversary. For 100 years, the Central Electric Company pioneered and improved safe electrical installations for residential, commercial, and agriculture customers around our beautiful Monterey Bay region.

In 1912, starting with just a bicycle, \$100.00 in cash, and a 5-foot ladder, John Stanovich and Edith DuFour Stanovich began selling fixtures and appliances, and installing electrical wiring. At that time the demand for electrical work was very limited, but with the growing acceptance of the Edison light, plus John and Edith's hard work, the business grew. The next generation joined the company in 1926 with the addition of Edith's son, Alfred DuFour. The Central Electric Company survived the great depression and the shortages of World War II by supplementing their contracting business selling products such as irons, washing

machines, and toasters, also china and crystal.

With the end of the war, the Central Electric Company focused on growing communities and industries in need of electricity. The next two decades would see the continuation of that post-war growth and the introduction of the company's third generation with Steve DuFour, who joined the company in 1958 after serving as a lieutenant in the United States Navy.

The seventies, eighties, and nineties saw continued growth and changes to the electrical industry, many of which were driven by the digital boom. Growth and change also came when Steve and his wife Joan were joined by Tony Kulich, Patty (DuFour) Kulich, Mark Jurach, and Sharon (DuFour) Jurach in the daily operations at Central Electric. In 1989, the company survived the Loma Prieta earthquake and rallied to aid the surrounding communities in their recovery. In 1999, Tony and Patty Kulich and Mark and Sharon Jurach, the son-in-laws and great granddaughters of John and Edith, purchased the Central Electric Company from Steve and Joan, passing the torch to the fourth generation.

The turn of this century saw the Central Electric Company's enjoyment of unprecedented growth, including the completion of a \$3.5 million contract for a local college campus. This was the largest contract in the company's 100 year history. This new century has also ushered in the fifth generation, when great, great-grandsons Matt and Mike Kulich joined Central Electric as electricians.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to hold up the Central Electric Company as an example of the American Spirit. Enduring the hardships of war, economic downturns, and natural disasters, they have shown that people are more important than profit. They have shown us that when communities and families work together in difficult times, we can continue to face the challenges that have made this Nation great. May Central Electric's continued success inspire many more generations to enter the business arena, and in doing so, secure our Nation's posterity and its bright future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to state for the record that my vote against the Holt amendment, Roll No. 504, to H.R. was made in error. I support this amendment, which would strike a provision that requires the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a single multi-sale environmental impact statement for all of the new areas opened for drilling by the underlying bill.

**HONORING THUNDER BAY
COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE**

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the First District of Michigan, I

wish to commend the Thunder Bay Community Health Service (TBCHS) for 30 years of dedicated service to comprehensive and preventative health care.

Over the past three decades, TBCHS has been committed to the vital work of bringing high quality, cost effective, and accessible health care to Northern Michigan. Working out of five centers in the Northeastern Lower Peninsula, TBCHS ensures that residents of Northern Michigan receive first rate medical care. It is fitting that TBCHS celebrates this important milestone during National Health Center Week. Community health centers, like TBCHS, are at the core of our health care system.

Since seeing their first patient in 1982, the dedicated providers and administrators of TBCHS have continually adapted their care to meet the changing needs of Northern Michigan families. By providing preventive services and comprehensive primary health care, TBCHS keeps our families healthy while also preventing costlier health care alternatives such as emergency room treatment.

The doctors, nurses, and other providers of TBCHS cannot do this alone, but are supported by dedicated staff and board members. The TBCHS team has been a trusted community partner, from providing nursing services in local schools to conducting senior companion programs.

As a doctor who has treated patients for nearly 30 years and as a life-long resident of Northern Michigan, I greatly appreciate the commitment of TBCHS to empower healthier communities by making quality health care more affordable for Northern Michigan families.

On behalf of the over 13,000 patients who receive its care each year, I wish to thank Thunder Bay Community Health Service for 30 years of commitment and care. I know these successes will continue for the next 30 years and beyond.

HONORING JEANNE J. GRIMMETT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this occasion to recognize the outstanding achievements of Jeanne J. Grimmatt, a career legislative attorney with the American Law Division of the Congressional Research Service, who will be retiring from CRS on August 31, after 41 years of distinguished government service. Jeanne, for decades, has been the leading legal expert on trade law at CRS, and she has made invaluable contributions to the work of the U.S. Congress in this critical policy area.

After receiving a B.A. from the College of New Rochelle in New York, Jeanne began her government service at the Library of Congress in 1971. She obtained a J.D. from George Washington University in 1978, and joined CRS that same year. She chose to specialize in trade law and related subjects soon thereafter and received an L.L.M. from the London School of Economics in 1986.

During her career, Jeanne has prepared numerous memoranda, reports, and provided briefings for Members and Congressional

committees, working collaboratively with colleagues in other divisions of CRS, while contributing legal analysis for the Congress during the key trade debates that were held over the years. Jeanne was also a section head in the Courts Section of the American Law Division for several years, coordinating requests and reviewing work related to the Iran-Contra investigation and various judicial nominations.

As a legislative attorney, Jeanne provided direct support to Members, Senators, and major Congressional committees on the complex legal issues related to U.S. participation in the NAFTA, the World Trade Organization, and various U.S. free trade agreements, most recently the Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. The depth and breadth of her expertise is demonstrated by noting the subjects she has addressed for the Congress during her tenure at CRS: trade with nonmarket economies; dispute settlement under trade agreements; trade and environmental issues, including climate change; antidumping and countervailing duty law and other trade remedies; customs and country-of-origin legislation; Federal and State economic sanctions; trade sanctions reform; foreign assistance and foreign public debt authorities; export controls administered by various U.S. agencies; trade in encryption technology; the scope of U.S. extraterritorial jurisdiction and, in particular, jurisdiction over foreign defendants; investment treaties and investor-State dispute settlement; and the U.S. law of international agreements in general.

Jeanne also contributed to the House Ways and Means Committee "Blue Book" of trade laws, as well as to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee print, *Treaties and Other International Agreements: The Role of the United States Senate*, the primary reference source on this subject. She has also mentored new attorneys in trade law and given numerous presentations on trade law subjects in the American Law Division's semi-annual Federal Law Update series for Members of Congress and their legal staff.

Jeanne Grimmatt has provided exemplary service to the Congress throughout her distinguished career at CRS. I believe that all in the Congress who have benefited from her expertise and counsel join me in wishing her the very best in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROB RIGSBY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Mr. Rob Rigsby as he retires from the United States General Services Administration and his post at the Robert T. Matsui United States Courthouse. As his wife Marilyn, his friends and colleagues all gather to celebrate his outstanding career, I ask my colleagues to join me in tribute to Rob and his almost four decades of public service.

Throughout his 37-year career in federal service, the last 13 years at the Robert T. Matsui United States Courthouse, Rob has become a well-loved and respected leader among his colleagues and building occupants. Rob began his post as Building Manager the day the building opened in 1999. Since then,

he has been a loyal and hard working member of the building team and has devoted his time to making Sacramento's federal courthouse the remarkable building that it is today.

My late husband, Congressman Robert Matsui, and I have had our district offices in the courthouse that Rob manages. I have got to know him over the years and always appreciated his attention to detail and customer service. Rob is no stranger to my district staff, who I know share my appreciation for his work. We will always be thankful for all that he has done to make both the Robert T. Matsui United States Courthouse and my district office an inviting place for all of my constituents.

Beyond his work, Rob has always had a passion for travel and upon his retirement, he will be leaving us to embark on a new journey as the owner of Ships and Trips Travel. I also understand that he will be taking a much deserved cruise.

Mr. Speaker, as Rob Rigsby prepares to retire from federal service, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him good fortune in his future endeavors. Rob has truly been a wonderful member of the federal family and will be missed by all of his friends and colleagues. I wish him well on the next chapter of his life.

HONORING FRANK C. FRANCO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the service of Mr. Frank Franco or as we affectionately call him, "Franco". Frank Franco's many years of dedicated service to the community and our nation's veterans exemplifies his reverence for our country and truly demonstrates the best of what America has to offer.

Frank Franco was born in El Centro, California. He joined the United States Army at age 17 and honorably served his country with two tours of service in Vietnam.

A tireless advocate for helping people, Franco has been with Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission, EOC, for over 30 years. He is a hard worker and has held many leadership positions in the community. Franco is a past director of the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District, is on the Mayor's Advisory Committee and is a past recipient of the Key to the City of Fresno.

Each year, Franco travels to our nation's capital with the Fresno Council of Governments One Voice-DC trip. Franco has over 50 proclamations and awards he has received throughout the years. In addition to his civic leadership, Franco is also a proud member of Veterans of Foreign War, VFW, Post 8900 in Fresno. He serves on my Veteran Leaders Advisory Group and participates in numerous local veterans' events, such as the Veterans Stand Down. Franco is always helping, always working.

I applaud Frank Franco for his many years of tireless work on behalf of the community, on behalf of veterans and their families and the Central Valley. We know Franco will enjoy more time with his wife, Maria, his children, Jack Arthur, Madelene, and Tina, and his grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it should be noted that in addition to his countless gifts to the community,

Franco is my good friend and he is a true champion of the people. He has always been available to discuss issues and work together to make our Central Valley a better place to live and work. I extend to him my very best wishes and ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the commitment, dedication, and success of Frank C. Franco.

RECOGNIZING RYAN HARDY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize one of Central Ohio's very own hometown heroes, cancer survivor, Ryan Hardy.

Ryan's long, difficult journey finally came to an end when he joyously rang the bell to signify his final chemotherapy treatment last month at Nationwide Children's Hospital. He was diagnosed with a brain tumor at the young age of two and was later diagnosed with leukemia when he was only eight years old.

Ryan was extremely courageous, enduring treatments for almost 10 years with the love and support of family, friends, and the hospital's staff. Ryan and the people around him never gave up hope. He tried to live life as normally as possible by taking part in activities like playing on the youth football team.

Ryan's story reminds us that we shouldn't take life for granted. With faith, hope and endurance we can overcome many obstacles in life. I am proud to represent heroes like Ryan Hardy in Ohio's 15th Congressional District. I commend him for his courage and am happy to hear that he was able to finally ring the bell.

HONORING ARMY STAFF SERGEANT MATTHEW J. WEST AND MARINE SERGEANT DAVID P. DAY

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, Sunday, July 29, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., the citizens of Gaylord, Michigan, gathered to rededicate their Fallen Heroes Memorial and pay tribute to the lives of two service members who lost their lives in service to their country during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Army Staff Sergeant (SSG) Matthew J. West grew up in Gaylord, Michigan, and graduated from Gaylord High School in 1992. He returned to Gaylord after graduating from Northern Michigan University in 1997, and enlisted in the Army in June of 2004.

SSG West completed three tours in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and was highly decorated. His honors included the Bronze Star, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, two Army Commendation Medals, Meritorious Unit Citation, two Army Good Conduct Medals, National Defense Service Medal, two Afghanistan Campaign Medals, Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on

Terrorism Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, two Overseas Service Ribbons, NATO Medal, Combat Action Badge and the Senior Explosive Ordnance Disposal Badge.

SSG West died on August 30, 2010, in the Arghandab River Valley, Afghanistan. SSG West was killed by an improvised explosive device, along with four other soldiers from his unit. He served with the 71st Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group, tasked with locating and eliminating bomb threats.

SSG West was laid to rest, with full military honors, in Arlington National Cemetery. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn, their three young children, sons Tyler and Joseph, and daughter Annaliese, as well as a large extended family.

Marine Staff Sergeant (SSgt) David P. Day was born in Englewood, Colorado, on November 13, 1984, and grew up in Gaylord, Michigan. A 2003 graduate of Gaylord High School, he excelled in hockey and served as co-captain for the Otsego County Recreational Hockey Team. SSgt Day married Nicole Makins on October 6, 2009. SSgt Day enlisted in the Marine Corps immediately following high school and was a seven-year veteran, serving two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. He was an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Technician for the elite Marine Force Recon. SSgt Day died on April 24, 2011, while conducting combat operations in Badghis Province, Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 2nd Marine Special Operations Battalion, Marine Special Operations Regiment, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command, Camp Lejeune, NC.

SSgt David P. Day's Awards and Decorations include the Bronze Star and Combat "V" for Valor (posthumously), Purple Heart Medal (posthumously), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with the V device, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Gold Star, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terror Service Medal, the NATO Service Medal, Parachutist (Jump) Wings, Expert Marksmanship Badge and EOD Badge.

SSgt Day is survived by his wife, Nicole, his parents Don and Kathy; sister, Samantha Day; grandparents, Janice and Pirie Benson of Gaylord and Grace Day of Missouri; mother and father-in-law, Robert and Patricia Makins; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

These men were combat hardened, professional soldiers. They willingly enlisted in the United States Armed Forces in order to defend their country. They both became experts in explosive ordnance disposal despite the elevated risks associated with the job. SSG West and SSgt Day made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom and have earned the lasting gratitude of this community and of our nation.

"He which hath no stomach to this fight let him depart. But we in it shall be remembered. We few, we happy few, we band of brothers!! For he today, that sheds his blood with me, shall always be my brother."—William Shakespeare

HONORING MAJOR KHIEEM JACKSON

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and pay tribute to Major Khieem Jackson, United States Marine Corps, on the occasion of his transfer from the Marine Corps Liaison office. I and many of my colleagues have had the pleasure of working closely with him over the past three years, as he has served as part of the Marine Corps' Office of Legislative Affairs and as the Deputy Director of the Liaison Office in the U.S. House of Representatives. He has done exemplary work in this capacity, working tirelessly in behalf of not just his fellow Marines, but also the Members and staff of this Chamber, and the American people.

Many Americans may not be aware of the tremendously important role of the Marine Corps Office of Legislative Affairs. By acting as a conduit between the Marine Corps and the Congress, this hard-working team provides a vital link between our military leaders and the American people's elected representatives. Major Jackson stepped into this role with extraordinary dedication and enthusiasm. He was able to develop and execute legislative strategy for the United States Marine Corps that was instrumental in creating a fiscal and policy landscape conducive to training and equipping the Nation's most elite fighting force and ensuring its success on the battlefield. His candor and expertise were essential in developing close working relationships with many Members of the House of Representatives and Committee Staffs—a cornerstone of Commandant of the Marine Corps' strategic vision and a vital aspect of civil-military relations.

Throughout his tour, Major Jackson personally supervised the response to hundreds of congressional inquiries, some of which gained national-level attention. Through his exceptional inter-personal skills and broad knowledge in a wide range of military affairs, he assisted the Director, Marine Corps Liaison Office, in gaining the Members' support and trust on critical issues.

Major Jackson also successfully planned, coordinated, and escorted an extensive number of international and domestic missions for Congressional and Staff Delegations. I had the pleasure of leading many such CODELs that Major Jackson helped to organize, under the auspices of the House Democracy Partnership. His impressive attention to detail and anticipation of requirements allowed our delegations to focus exclusively on our mission to promote the building of sound democratic institutions around the world. Major Jackson was an invaluable member of our team, and we remain deeply grateful for his tremendous work.

Through his exceptional personal efforts, Major Jackson has contributed immeasurably in the Marine Liaison Office here on Capitol Hill. I wish him well in all of his future endeavors, and look forward to hearing of his many successes to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID
BOSTON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Boston, a talented and respected builder from Crossroads, Texas. After many years of private custom home building, and ten years of employment with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Mr. Boston is retiring.

Mr. Boston was a sought-after custom home builder in Denton for many years. After retiring from that profession, he accepted a part-time position with FEMA in 2002. Four years later in 2006, Mr. Boston accepted a full-time position with the agency. He served as a National Hazard Mitigation Specialist where he investigated properties that were damaged by disasters like Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Ike. In his tenure at FEMA, he investigated over 46,000 sites.

Due to his prior experience building private homes, Mr. Boston was able to deal favorably with sub-contractors. Because of this advantage, he saved FEMA and American taxpayers nearly \$25 million. In addition to his commitment and dedication to FEMA, Mr. Boston was always equally dedicated to the home owners and businesses with whom he worked.

Mr. Boston retired in May, 2012 after ten years of service. Upon his retirement, he will serve as a Republican precinct chair beginning in August of 2012. As Mr. Boston retires from a long and dedicated career, I would like to recognize his accomplishment and service, as well as congratulate him on a job well done. His experience and skills are evident to all he worked with. It is an honor to have the opportunity to recognize and represent Mr. Boston in the U.S. House of Representatives.

RETIREMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL
GINA FARRISEE

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize the dedication and selfless service of Major General Gina Farrissee, who will culminate her 34-year Army career as the Commanding General of Human Resources Command in Ft. Knox, Kentucky.

As a Member of Congress, a Kentuckian, and a former Army Officer, it is an honor to recognize Major General Farrissee today before the United States House of Representatives. She is a native of Virginia, a 1978 graduate of the University of Richmond and the National Defense University in 1998. She was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, serving her career as an Adjutant General Officer.

Major General Farrissee's career highlights include a variety of command and staff positions at Army installations around the world to include Germany, Ft. Bliss, TX; Ft. Lewis, WA; Ft. Benjamin Harrison, IN; and Ft. Jackson, SC. During several key assignments in the Pentagon she worked for the Chief of Staff of

the Army, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management Policy and four years as the Army's Director of Military Personnel Management. Her highly successful command assignments included battalion command at Ft. Lewis, brigade command at Ft. Benjamin Harrison and the Army's Soldier Support Institute at Ft. Jackson. Most recently, Major General Farrissee headed Army Human Resources Command, at Ft. Knox in my district. Her selfless service, professionalism and expertise were highlighted while assigned as the 61st Adjutant General of the Army.

Throughout her service, Major General Farrissee has been a shining example for our Nation. It has been my pleasure to highlight Major General Farrissee's long and decorated career today. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I join my colleagues today in commending and thanking Major General Farrissee for a lifetime of service during peace and wartime to her country. Her sacrifices and contributions will be forever remembered in the Soldiers and families she mentored and inspired. Those same Soldiers will miss her leadership, technical competence, mentorship and enthusiasm, as well as her daily inspiration—"It's a Great Day to be a soldier. . . . Hooah!"

For all she and her family have given to our country, we are in debt. We wish her and her husband David, all the best as they continue their journey.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION IN
SUPPORT OF THE XIX INTER-
NATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution in support of the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012), which takes place from July 22, 2012, through July 27, 2012, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC. AIDS 2012 is organized by the International AIDS Society (IAS) and brings together more than 20,000 delegates from nearly 200 countries, including 2,000 journalists. My resolution supports a stronger international response to HIV/AIDS that seeks to prevent the transmission of HIV, increase access to testing, treatment, and care, improve health outcomes for all people living with HIV/AIDS, foster greater scientific and programmatic collaborations around the world to end HIV/AIDS, and protect the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS.

According to UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, there are approximately 33.4 million people living with HIV worldwide, and nearly 30 million people have died of AIDS since the first cases were reported in 1981. The United States is heavily engaged in both international and domestic efforts to address the HIV/AIDS pandemic, including the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. Taxpayers in the United States have paid more than \$45 billion through PEPFAR and the Global Fund, which have enjoyed broad bipartisan support in Congress.

Since 1985, the now biennial International AIDS Conference has brought together lead-

ing scientists, public health experts, policymakers, community leaders, and individuals living with HIV/AIDS from around the world to enhance the global response to HIV/AIDS, evaluate recent scientific developments, share knowledge, and facilitate a collective strategy to combat the HIV/AIDS pandemic. AIDS 2012 is a tremendous opportunity to strengthen the role of the United States in global HIV/AIDS initiatives within the context of significant global economic challenges, reenergize the response to the domestic epidemic, and focus particular attention on the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS that continues in the United States.

The theme of AIDS 2012, "Turning the Tide Together," embodies the promise and urgency of utilizing recent scientific advances in HIV/AIDS treatment and biomedical prevention, continuing research for an HIV vaccine and cure, and increasing effective, evidence-based interventions in key settings to change the course of the HIV/AIDS crisis. AIDS 2012 seeks to engage governments, non-governmental organizations, policymakers, the scientific community, the private sector, civil society, faith-based organizations, the media, and people living with HIV/AIDS to more effectively address regional, national, and local responses to HIV/AIDS around the world and overcome barriers that limit access to preventative care, treatment, and other services.

My resolution supports the goal of bringing renewed awareness of, and commitment to, addressing the HIV/AIDS crisis in the United States and abroad. In particular, it recognizes that formulating sound public health policy, protecting human rights, addressing the needs of women and girls, directing effective programming toward the populations at the highest risk of infection, ensuring accountability, and combating stigma, poverty, and other social challenges related to HIV/AIDS are key to overcoming HIV/AIDS. It also encourages the ongoing development of innovative therapies and advances in clinical treatment for HIV/AIDS in the public and private sectors.

Mr. Speaker, 25 years after the III International AIDS Conference was held in Washington, DC, we are now at a point where we have the tools necessary to prevent the spread of HIV and bring an end to the crisis. Now is the time to commit. HIV/AIDS is not a partisan issue. But it will take a bipartisan effort to overcome HIV/AIDS as a nation once and for all. Continued commitment by the United States to HIV/AIDS research, prevention, and treatment programs is crucial to protecting global health. I urge my colleagues to support my resolution, which recognizes the importance of the XIX International AIDS Conference in the global effort to end the HIV/AIDS pandemic and create an "AIDS-free generation."

DAVID HERMAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud David Herman for his service to our community.

David Herman, a native of Wheat Ridge, Colorado, is a world-class BMX rider and a

contender in the 2012 London Olympics. David has been passionate about BMX since he was eight years old, and received his first factory sponsor in sixth grade. He is currently taking time off from pursuing his college degree in Denver to focus on his Olympic career.

David has been a household name in the world of BMX since he burst onto the scene in 2007. He is known as one of the fastest starters in the sport, and has two World Cup wins under his belt. After placing 22nd in the 2011 World Championships in Copenhagen, David began pushing himself harder and harder toward his dream of joining Team USA in the 2012 Olympics. His hard work and dedication paid off in the 2012 World Championships in England, where he finished fifth to become the first U.S. BMX rider to book his place in London.

David's dedication to his sport is mirrored by his dedication to his family in Colorado. Though he prepares for the Olympics with his coach Greg Romero at the Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista, California, David makes sure to divide his time between California and the Denver area.

I extend my deepest congratulations to David Herman for his hard work and perseverance. It is an honor to see a native of Colorado rise to this Olympic level. David embodies the best our country could hope for in the next generation of Americans. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GEORGIA PEANUT COMMISSION

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to extend a heartfelt congratulations to the Georgia Peanut Commission as it celebrates 50 years of providing support to Georgia farmers. The Commission will be celebrating this great milestone with a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Commission's new location in Tifton, Georgia on Tuesday, July 31, 2012.

The Commission, funded by Georgia peanut growers, began operations in 1961 and has represented farmers through programs in research, promotion, education, and communication. For 50 years, Georgia peanut farmers, through the Commission, have been successful in improving the profitability of peanuts and peanut products by reducing the cost of production through research and by working to promote and increase consumption. The Commission is recognized nationally and internationally by its little red bags of peanuts found in all Georgia Congressional offices on Capitol Hill.

When the Commission was first formed in 1961, farmers harvested 475,000 acres of with an average yield of 1,200 pounds of peanuts per acre. In 2011, farmers harvested 475,000 acres with an average yield of 3,520 pounds per acre, a 300 percent increase and a testament to the hard work on behalf of the Georgia Peanut Commission.

I take much pride in the fact that Georgia leads the Nation in production of peanuts with

nearly 50 percent of the annual peanut crop. Georgia has 14,000 farms with peanuts and about 4,500 active farmers. Approximately 200 businesses in Georgia are peanut-related. Two million bags of peanuts are distributed annually and the industry contributes more than 50,000 jobs and an estimated \$2 billion to the economy of the State of Georgia.

Since George Washington Carver discovered the many uses for the peanut in the early twentieth century, peanuts have become a household food staple and a source of dietary fiber, protein and other healthy nutrients. Although peanuts are produced in other parts of the country, I am a firm believer that no peanuts are of higher quality or more delicious than Georgia peanuts.

On a personal note, I would like to thank Don Koehler, Executive Director of the Georgia Peanut Commission, and the rest of the wonderful staff as well as Chairman Armond Morris and all those who serve on the Board of Directors. Their hard work and dedication has contributed to the success of the Commission in many ways.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District, the state of Georgia, and all those nationwide and worldwide who enjoy our tasty Georgia peanuts, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to the Georgia Peanut Commission for their exemplary services and dedicated efforts to support Georgia's 4,500 peanut growers over the past 50 years.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF CARL ADDISON

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to commemorate Mr. Carl Addison on the occasion of his 95th birthday, which he and his loved ones will celebrate on August 8. Mr. Addison has led an incredible life, truly worthy of this distinction.

In 1939, Mr. Addison joined the 6th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Oglethorpe, Georgia. The "Fighting Sixth" became an integral wing of Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army during World War II. Mr. Addison's group landed in France on June 8. This team served as a reconnaissance squad as they moved across Europe, and was there when Gen. Patton made his heroic run to Bastogne to rescue U.S. troops.

At Bastogne, Mr. Addison was wounded from a gunshot wound to the knee and was sent to England for medical treatment. Though scheduled to return to the United States for further treatment, he went back to France to rejoin his group. His superior officer ensured Mr. Addison could stay with the 6th Cavalry, where he remained until the allies claimed victory in Europe.

Mr. Addison returned home to Monroe, LA. in 1945 and married Bea Shamblin in the following year. They have one child together, Carl Addison, Jr.

As his family and friends prepare to join together to honor Mr. Addison, he continues to exemplify a strong character of leadership and dedication. I ask my colleagues to join me in

congratulating Mr. Addison on this truly significant birthday.

MISSY FRANKLIN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Missy Franklin for her service to our community.

Missy Franklin, of Aurora, Colorado, will compete in seven events at the 2012 London Olympics and will be the first U.S. female to swim that many races at the games. Missy has been a competitive swimmer since an extremely young age, and qualified for her first Olympic trials at the age of 12.

In 2011, Missy competed at the first long-course World Championships of her career, and won a total of five medals, three of which were gold. Shortly after, Missy won the 100m freestyle and 100m backstroke titles at Nationals. Later in 2011, she broke her first world record at a FINA World Cup meet in Berlin.

Missy consistently impresses those around her with her tireless dedication to her sport. As a 17-year old high school student, Missy is faced with the formidable task of balancing high school life with a world-class athletic career. Her ability to stay grounded and focused in both aspects of her life shows incredible strength and maturity. Missy attributes much of her success to her wonderful parents in Colorado, who encourage her to make education a priority even after an exhausting day in the pool.

I extend my deepest Congratulations to Missy Franklin on your hard work and perseverance. It is an honor to see a native of Colorado rise to this Olympic level. Missy embodies the best our country could hope for in the next generation of Americans. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

A TRIBUTE TO BRITTANY WIEBEBECKE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Brittany Wiebbecke of Nashua, Iowa for being awarded the Girl Scout Gold Award.

The Gold Award is the highest award that a high school-aged Girl Scout can earn. This is an extremely prestigious honor, as less than 6 percent of all Girl Scouts will attain the Gold Award's rigorous requirements.

To earn a Gold Award, a Girl Scout must complete a minimum of 80 hours towards a community project that is both memorable and lasting. For her project, Brittany assisted a local animal rescue center by providing supplies and learning materials for new pet owners. The work ethic Brittany has shown to earn her Gold Award speaks volumes about her commitment to serving a cause greater than herself and assisting her community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young woman and her supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication

and perseverance. I am honored to represent Brittany and her family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating her on obtaining the Gold Award, and will wish her continued success in her future education and career.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EARL
CAMPBELL

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise before you today to recognize Earl Campbell, one of the best football players to ever play the game and a visionary businessman who started from the bottom and worked his way to the top. The Tyler Rose is a living legend in the state of Texas, and it gives me pleasure to recognize him before Congress and this Nation.

Earl was born in Tyler, Texas, the "Rose Capital of the World." In 5th grade he began playing football as a kicker, before realizing that he enjoyed delivering the hits. Earl became a star linebacker and led John Tyler High School to the Texas 4A State Championship in 1973. When coaches moved his strength and intensity to the offense, he became one of the most powerful running backs in history.

Naturally many colleges all wanted someone with the leadership abilities and strong work ethic that Earl possessed. He chose to stay close to home and play with legendary Coach Darrell Royal at the University of Texas in Austin. Earl had a celebrated career at Texas, winning the Heisman Trophy, college football's highest honor after his senior year in 1977. He was a two-time All-American choice and finished his career with 4,443 yards and 41 touchdowns. Earl restored the Longhorn dynasty to its rightful place among the top collegiate programs in the country.

The Houston Oilers made Earl the first overall draft pick in 1978, once again keeping him close to home in Texas. His punishing running style made an immediate impact on the team, leading them to a 10–6 record and a playoff appearance. They lost in a classic game against the Pittsburgh Steelers now known as the "Ice Bowl." Despite the loss, Earl finished the season with 1,450 yards and 13 touchdowns, earning the Rookie of the Year Award and the Offensive Player of the Year Award. Most importantly, he helped shepherd in the "Luv Ya Blue" era that had the Astrodome rocking and brought pride to the city of Houston.

For the 8 years that Earl played in the NFL, he was one of the most feared yet respected players. Opponents feared his tough, physical style of play. His 5'11", 244-pound frame was described as a "one man demolition team." Teammates respected his leadership and dedication. When they needed him, he was there, missing more than two games a season only once. He would finish his career with 9,407 yards, 74 touchdowns, 5 Pro Bowl appearances, 3 All Pro teams, and the Most Valuable Player Award in 1979. Earl is a member of both the College and Professional Football Hall of Fame and will be remembered as one of the greatest players to ever hit the gridiron.

The dedication to success that Earl displayed on the field translated off of it as well. In 1991, after hearing raves about his sausage recipes, he took \$150,000 and started his own company, Earl Campbell Meat Products, Inc. The small business is the heart of the American economy, and Earl worked hard to make sure that his company stood out. He drove hundreds of thousands of miles, all over Texas and the south, to promote his products. Today, they are one of the largest sausage manufacturers in the country, selling over 11 million pounds a year.

While being one of the most famous Texans around, Earl has never lost the small town values that helped shape him. He married his high school sweetheart, Reuna, and they have two sons, Christian and Tyler. After Tyler was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, the family rallied together and became ambassadors for the National MS Society. They have helped raise thousands for research and remain committed to fighting the disease. He also helps mentor athletes at the University of Texas, preparing them for the life-altering changes they will soon experience. The State of Texas and our Nation is a better place because of people like Earl.

Earl Campbell is a shining example that the American Dream is possible for anyone. Through tireless effort and internal fortitude, he became a world-class athlete, respected businessman, and noted philanthropist. I am honored to recognize Earl, a true Texan, for his lifetime of inspiration and service to the community.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING
MILITARY SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT
GENERAL CHARLES E.
STENNER, JR. ON THE OCCASION
OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize Lieutenant General Charles E. Stenner, Jr., upon his retirement after 39 years of distinguished military service to our Great nation in the United States Air Force and the United States Air Force Reserve.

General Stenner was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in 1973 and went on to fly the F–4, A–10, and F–16 aircraft. General Stenner's last military assignment was as both Chief of the Air Force Reserve, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, DC, and Commander, Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia. As Chief of the Air Force Reserve, he served as principal adviser on reserve matters to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force. As Commander of Air Force Reserve Command, he had full responsibility for the supervision of all U.S. Air Force Reserve units around the world.

General Stenner led a modernization effort of the Air Force Reserve which increased combat effectiveness and improved response capabilities to humanitarian crises and disaster relief operations in the United States as well as operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa, Libya, Japan, Haiti, and numerous

other locations around the globe. General Stenner moved the Air Force Reserve from a Cold-War-model, or "Strategic Reserve," to a full partner major command through his Air Force Reserve 2012 initiative. Creating a cultural shift in both Active and Reserve Components, he was able to rebuild the Air Force Reserve's infrastructure to support its newly evolved twin missions of being first and foremost a "Strategic Reserve" that can be leveraged to support daily operations as an "Operational Reserve."

After conducting more than 20 years of continual combat operations, the Air Force Reserve's success is evident today. General Stenner's efforts were critical to implementing new policies supporting Air Force Reservists, their civilian employers, and their families who were impacted by increased Reserve operations. Thanks to his continuous dialogue with Congress, reservists now get improved health care, new credits toward retirement, inactive duty training travel pay, and post-9/11 G.I. Bill benefits.

Because of General Stenner's visionary leadership, planning, and foresight, the Air Force, the Department of Defense, and the United States will long reap the benefits of his many years of service. I thank General Stenner for his many years of dedicated service I wish him and his wife Dee the very best as they enter retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO DIANA ZHANG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Diana Zhang for being named a state winner of the Library of Congress's Letters about Literature program.

Letters about Literature is a national reading and writing program that is sponsored by the Library of Congress. The program asks students to write to the past or present author of a book that has affected their life. Approximately 59,000 young readers from across the country submitted letters last year to compete for the state-level awards for 2012.

A panel of judges that can include published authors, editors, publishers, librarians, teachers, and even state officials chose Diana's letter as a state winner. Diana wrote a letter to author Catherynne M. Valente to explain how Valente's two novel series, *The Orphan's Tales*, affected her life. Valente's acclaimed novels spoke to Diana, and now Diana's letter to Valente has earned her recognition in her community as well as here in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young woman demonstrates the rewards of harnessing one's talents and sharing them with the world. Diana's efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent her and her family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating her on her achievement and will wish her continued success in her future education and career.

CONDEMNING THE ATROCITIES
THAT OCCURRED IN AURORA,
COLORADO

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to join my colleagues in honoring and remembering all of the victims of the tragic shootings in an Aurora, Colorado movie theater last Friday, July 20, 2012, and to condemn the senseless and abhorrent violence that took their lives or left them wounded. The victims' friends and families can count on the unyielding support of their fellow Americans as we come together to mourn the loss and heal the wounds caused by the heinous acts of that day.

We must also recognize the heroic efforts made by those inside the theater to protect others. Their courage, along with the quick and decisive actions of the hundreds of first responders, law enforcement officials, and hospital workers, undoubtedly saved lives. I join my colleagues in offering my thoughts and our prayers to those touched by this horrible event.

A VOTE AGAINST H.R. 459

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I voted against H.R. 459 because our economy requires an independent central bank, free of short-term political pressures. Congress established the twin policy goals of maximum employment and price stability for the Federal Reserve, and it is important that the institution pursue monetary policy in support of those goals independent of political influence.

Congress conducts regular and robust oversight of the Federal Reserve and expanded the Government Accountability Office's audit authority in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. In that legislation, Congress expanded the types of audits GAO may conduct of the Federal Reserve and the data that must be shared with the public. The Federal Reserve's financial accounts have long been subject to audit both by the GAO and an outside, independent audit firm.

I wish to make clear, however, that the independence of the Federal Reserve has no bearing on the scrutiny that Congress must exert over the large commercial banks. Roughly four years ago, the banks were dragging the American people into a financial storm the like we have not seen since the Great Depression. The recession cost \$19.2 trillion in lost household wealth—40 percent of the net wealth of American households. Thirty-one percent of homeowners with a mortgage are underwater, owing a bank far more than their house is worth.

As the magnitude of the rot, the corruption, the shady practices, the greed, misplaced institutional incentives unfolded, we experienced a near-meltdown of our economy. The sec-

ond-guessing began even when we were in the midst of devising remedies to stop the fall. That controversy continues, but we're in the midst of a much larger question: "What is it that we do now to speed the recovery and make sure that it never happens again?"

The crush of special interests and the near constant political campaigns places people with limited expertise in the worst possible circumstances as they make these decisions. New scandals have continued to unfold. The most recent is the LIBOR scandal that we are only beginning to unearth, where massive international banks gamed the system for their own financial advantage, to stave off regulatory action, to avoid a negative market response, or to gain an unfair advantage as they placed their own financial bets.

In response, we must move toward performance-based regulation—providing greater clarity of what we want and linking those goals to clear measures. My acquaintances in the business community with long financial expertise suggest that we can start by actually enforcing the existing rules and providing the regulatory capacity to make sure they are enforced.

We must give adequate personnel and resources to the existing regulatory agencies—the SEC, the CFTC, the FDIC and the Treasury, among others—to allow them to better supervise the financial sector. Pay them fairly so they are not poached by the industries they regulate. In turn, they must prosecute financial felons and send people to jail.

There are people sentenced to prison for years who broke into a home or used a gun. But all of these crooks put together have not robbed the American public of a third of their wealth the way the financial crisis did. It is doubtful that all of the people in all of America's prisons have stolen a fraction of the money that disappeared from the balance sheet of America's families. But we see continue the fraud, collusion, sharp practices, and outright theft in the financial sector that has destroyed families, bankrupted businesses, and stunted people's futures. The sooner we bring the perpetrators to justice, the less risk we are going to have in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO NYEMASTER,
GOODE, P.C.

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise once again to recognize the Des Moines-based law firm, Nyemaster Goode, for being named a recipient of the 2012 Freedom Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Nyemaster Goode was nominated in 2011 by Doug and Kristina Stanger.

The Freedom Award is the greatest honor bestowed on employers by the Department of Defense for "exceptional support" of Guard and Reserve employees. In 2011, the ESGR received an incredible 3,236 nominations from across the Nation, in the hopes their employer would be chosen among the Nation's best companies for Guard and Reserve employees. Earlier this month, it was confirmed that Nyemaster Goode would receive this prestigious award with 14 other companies from

across the country that will be honored in Washington, D.C. this September at the 17th annual Freedom Award Ceremony. Nyemaster Goode can now count itself among the 175 elite employers that have won this award since its establishment in 1996.

Doug and Kristina Stanger, both members of the Army National Guard, nominated Nyemaster Goode because they knew firsthand that the efforts the company took to accommodate our citizen soldiers were truly something special. Doug and Kristina felt that Nyemaster Goode represented the "perfect example" of how employers should go above and beyond to support our local heroes in their companies and communities. After weighing the merits of more than 3,200 nominations, the Department of Defense has wholeheartedly agreed with the Stangers and proudly recognized Nyemaster's job-well-done on a national level.

Mr. Speaker, Nyemaster Goode's receipt of the 2012 Freedom Award highlights the rewarding Iowa traditions of hard work and commitment to our neighbors. I thank Doug and Kristina for their nomination of Nyemaster Goode, and I thank Nyemaster Goode for setting a pristine example for employers across our great Nation. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me again in congratulating Nyemaster Goode for their outstanding accomplishment and wish them continued success in the years ahead. May God continue to watch over all of our soldiers and their families, across the world and here at home.

IN HONOR OF BRUCE WOOLPERT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and my colleagues, Representatives ESHOO, LOFGREN, and HONDA, to honor the life of Bruce Woolpert, a remarkable businessman, a noted philanthropist, and a stalwart of the Monterey Bay and San Francisco Bay Area communities. As the leader of the Granite Rock Company, Bruce will be remembered for his integrity and his generosity, not only to his employees, but to the community where he was raised and in which Graniterock was based.

Bruce Wilson Woolpert was born on May 30, 1951 to Mary Elizabeth "Betsy" Wilson Woolpert and Bruce Gideon Woolpert. Betsy's father, Arthur Roberts Wilson incorporated Granite Rock Company in 1900 after seeing an opportunity with a small granite quarry located in Aromas, California. Bruce was a native to Watsonville, California, the beacon of the Pajaro Valley. He attended MacQuiddy Elementary School, E.A. Hall Junior High School, and graduated from Watsonville High School in 1970. He went on to study economics and mathematics at the University of California, Los Angeles, graduating summa cum laude. He obtained a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Stanford University in 1976, graduating first in his class, and going on to work for Hewlett Packard. By 1986, he returned to Graniterock to serve as President and CEO.

It was at Graniterock that Bruce sought to make a company where its workers were delighted to come to work every day. He was a

gifted leader and renewed the company's core values of safety, dedication to excellence in customer service, the growth and development of Graniterock people, honesty and integrity, continuous improvement, and lifelong learning. As a result, the company was awarded the United States Department of Commerce's Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award in 1992, the first winner of the California State Quality Award, the Construction Innovation Forum's NOVA Award in 1994, and consistently ranked in the top 25 of Fortune Magazine's 100 Best Places to Work.

Among other charitable pursuits, Bruce maintained a special interest in supporting education in the Pajaro Valley, where he was instrumental in the creation of the Committee for Good School Governance. He realized that his role as a leader to his employees expanded far beyond the asphalt of the company's driveway and went through the streets of the city, seeking to make a better life for all.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I speak on behalf of the entire House, when I offer the nation's deepest sympathies to Bruce's wife, Rose Ann, his daughter Marianne, his son Arthur, his brother Stephen, and his extended Graniterock family. He was a hero and a leader that sought to change the world one rock at a time.

CELEBRATING THE 200TH
ANNIVERSARY OF RIPLEY, OHIO

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 200th anniversary of a village that sits quietly on the banks of the Ohio River: Ripley, Ohio.

James Poage settled on 1,000 acres there in 1804, not yet aware of all the natural advantages that the mighty Ohio River and its nearby creeks would provide. Soon after, Poage and his family would name the town Staunton. But in 1816, it was renamed Ripley—after an American officer of the War of 1812, General Eleazar Wheelock Ripley. General Ripley would later serve as a member of Congress.

Ripley might be best known these days as the site of the annual Ohio Tobacco Festival, but those who know Ripley's history understand the importance that this little town played in the fight against slavery.

Mr. Speaker, many of the early residents of Ripley shared a hatred of slavery, understanding that all men are created equal. Some risked their lives and property in ferrying enslaved people across the Ohio River to freedom in the North.

Threats were made against compassionate and courageous villagers such as the Rev. John Rankin and the inventor/entrepreneur John Parker (a former slave), but the words and actions of these members of the Underground Railroad established Ripley's reputation as a lighthouse of liberty.

Ripley's charm is evident in its many stately homes, delightful restaurants, and interesting antique stores, but fascinating tourist attractions such as the Rankin House State Memorial museum and the John P. Parker Museum are the true legacy of this village.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 200th anniversary of the remarkable village of Ripley, Ohio, and I hope they also will join me in commending this community for its historic role in the battle against the sin of slavery.

A TRIBUTE TO EDWARD AND
VERGENE DONOVAN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Edward Donovan, and his wife, Vergene Donovan, on the special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. This special day will take place on August 24, 2012, and they will be celebrating this landmark occasion on August 26th in Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Donovan met by chance in southern California in July of 1942. A 19-year-old Edward approached a pretty 18-year-old girl named Vergene on the street and asked if he recognized her from Iowa. She confirmed she was from Spirit Lake, and the two spent the rest of the afternoon getting to know each other over soda at a nearby drug store. When Edward made it home that night, he told his best friend he had met the girl he wanted to spend the rest of his life with. Edward proposed to Vergene on their second date, and they have never looked back since saying "I do" in Long Beach, California on August 24, 1942.

After moving back to Iowa, Edward began work with a small fishing supply company known as Berkley and Company in 1950. Over his time with Berkley, Edward's creativity, passion and coordination helped lead the company to international expansion and dominance in the fishing industry. Edward would eventually leave Berkley as the Executive Officer of Operations in 1987. Meanwhile, Vergene discovered a strong passion for politics and continues to be involved with the Dickinson County Republican Party and Republican Women.

Edward and Vergene currently reside in rural Orleans, Iowa and have raised four children—Edward, Jim, DeEtte, and Scott. Their children have blessed them with nineteen grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren. The Donovans continue to be an active and important part of their community and it is truly an honor to represent them in the United States Congress.

Edward and Vergene's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. I salute this lovely couple on their 70th year of life together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

TRIBUTE TO THE ALABAMA
SCHOOL OF MATH AND SCIENCE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Alabama School of Math and Science,

which was recently named one of the best public high schools in the state of Alabama.

In May, Newsweek magazine scored the Alabama School of Math and Science, located in Mobile, 182nd among the nation's 1,000 high schools that are the most effective in turning out college-ready graduates. The school scored third in the state of Alabama.

The 220 students at the ASMS take college level courses, including Advanced Placement classes in chemistry, biology and art. The Alabama School of Math and Science will soon expand their curriculum to also include Advanced Placement American History and English 11.

Typically, 100 percent of the graduates of Alabama School of Math and Science go on to college with 92 percent of those graduates receiving scholarships. This is an amazing accomplishment which speaks well of both the dedication of the students, as well as the determination of the school's faculty to provide excellence in the classroom.

In 1989, the Alabama State Legislature established the Alabama School of Math and Science. Mrs. Ann Bedsole, then a Republican State Senator from Mobile, was the chief sponsor of the legislation. The idea for the school came from Senator Bedsole and other Mobile citizens who felt the community needed to create a school that could give back to the state. Each year, over 260 students enroll in the school. These students come from all 67 counties in the state of Alabama.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I wish to extend my congratulations to school president Dr. Larry V. Turner, principal Ann Hilderbrandl, the teachers and other administrators and especially the students of the Alabama School of Math and Science. Their academic achievement is proof positive that Alabama schools and students are among the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 60TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF
KYLE AUSTIN AND ORELEE
CLEMENTS KIRBY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today—the 60th wedding anniversary of Kyle Austin and Orelee Clements Kirby.

Mr. Kirby was born in Halls Chapel, Alabama on February 1, 1932 and Mrs. Kirby was born in Blue Mountain, Alabama, on November 30th the same year.

They were married on September 8, 1952 in Columbus, Mississippi and from there moved to Springfield, Massachusetts. They later moved where Mr. Kirby was stationed at Hickham Air Force Base, Tennessee, and to Florida. They currently reside in Anniston, Alabama.

The Kirbys have raised four children, and have 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. They will have an event in Anniston on August 25th to celebrate this milestone.

I salute this lovely couple on the 60th year of their life together and join their family in honoring them on this special occasion.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY GOLDEN JUBILEE OF HARLEM'S BELOVED SYLVIA'S RESTAURANT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I stand to honor a venerable Harlem institution, Sylvia's Restaurant, on its 50th anniversary. Founded by the late Sylvia Woods, Sylvia's is nationally and internationally famous, yet its soul remains in Harlem.

On Wednesday, August 1, 2012, to kick off Sylvia's Restaurant's 50th Anniversary Golden Jubilee, the Woods family salutes the Harlem community with a complimentary Southern-style sidewalk breakfast party featuring Cake Man Raven complete with a voter registration drive, children's programming, live entertainment, guest speakers, prize giveaways and plenty of "Dancing in the Streets." The celebration continues with The Golden Jubilee Parade, featuring the awesome Brooklyn Steppers, which begins at Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Harlem State Office Building African Village Plaza from 125th Street and 7th Avenue to Sylvia's Restaurant at 127th Street and Lenox Avenue.

I'd like to include in this CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, in celebration of this milestone occasion the obituary that was prepared in remembrance of Mrs. Sylvia Woods.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SYLVIA WOODS,
FEBRUARY 2, 1926–JULY 19, 2012

If ever there was a woman who defined strength, ambition and determination coupled with enough entrepreneurial spirit to uplift and inspire generations, it was Sylvia Pressley Woods, 'The Queen of Soul Food.' Encapsulating family traditions of love, unity, female empowerment and of course soul into her business ventures, she not only established an imprint with her famed restaurant Sylvia's, but the visionary blazed a trail for an entire community to emulate. After a blessed 86 years with us, Sylvia Woods departed this world and reunited with her late husband, Herbert Deward Woods, on July 19, 2012.

On February 2, 1926, Sylvia Woods was born to Van and Julia Pressley in Hemingway, South Carolina. Three days after Sylvia's birth, her father succumbed to chemical-weapons injuries; he worked to ensure financial stability. When Sylvia was three years old, her mother left her in the care of her grandmother and the greater community of Hemingway as she went to Brooklyn, New York in search of work and increased opportunities. It was the notion of strength and that sense of family togetherness which ultimately defined who Sylvia Woods became. Julia returned to Hemingway a short time later whereby she raised her children, Sylvia, Louise, whom she adopted, Christine (Tiny), and Janie (Cout), whom she also raised.

In an era where women were fighting for equal footing, Sylvia's grandmother already had a farm and instilled the value of ownership in Julia and later in Sylvia herself. Widowed after her husband was falsely accused of a robbery and hung, her grandmother later remarried and eventually fought to maintain control of the property after the second husband passed away. It was on that land, on that farm that Sylvia Woods absorbed an impeccable work ethic along with her cousins and other children from the com-

munity. It was under the hot sun that she picked beans every day after school and first fell in love with food. And it was there that Sylvia initially met her future husband at the tender age of 11 as she worked alongside him on the farm. You could say it was destiny.

Sylvia's mother Julia worked tirelessly as a laundress in New York and saved nearly every penny with the aim of purchasing the property adjacent to her own mother. That dream ultimately came to fruition. She returned to South Carolina when Sylvia was still an adolescent. Julia bought property next to the farm and had her own house constructed.

Together, as a family unit, they worked the farm and provided living examples of strong, independent, Black land owning women for young Sylvia to one day replicate.

In addition to their domestic work and maintenance of the farm, both Sylvia's mother and grandmother were midwives for Hemingway during their prime. Despite being unable to read or write, her grandmother was the community's only midwife at the time. This unyielding persistence to rise above adversity was a quality passed down to Sylvia, as was a sense of humility and gratitude for all of life's blessings. Sylvia herself once recounted that as a young child, she considered herself extremely lucky to be able to study by a lamp, for many in her neighborhood could not afford electricity. It was these humble beginnings that allowed Sylvia to continue to cherish each and every success and never waver in support of the less fortunate.

During her formative years in Hemingway, Sylvia observed a community that lived and worked for the benefit of all. It was commonplace to adopt someone's child if the need arose, or to help out in a person's home if necessary. Sylvia's mother and grandmother had both adopted children at various points in their lives. It was in this environment where Sylvia's dedication to hard work was fine tuned, as her mother made sure she stayed busy even on rainy days when the beans could not be picked. Learning to sew and mend, Sylvia started replacing buttons and repairing worn out clothing for herself and the family. But soon enough, that transitioned into a new creative outlet. Without the benefit of patterns to duplicate, or any formal training, Sylvia began making clothes—complete outfits—and tapping into the ingenuity that played a key role in all her life's work.

Whether she was expressing her innovative side, or working on the farm, Sylvia's childhood also centered on one other main factor: food. Watching her mother, grandmother, relatives and neighbors pour their hearts into the dishes they served, she understood that great food didn't just emerge; it required passion, love and soul. As different folks added their own ingredients and made their own specialties, Sylvia soon learned that cooking was a creative and artistic process unto itself. It was those recipes that were in turn handed down from generation to the next. And no matter what the occasion, it was food that brought everyone together.

When Sylvia was 16, her grandmother sent her to cosmetology school in Brooklyn in order to find work as a beautician. The youngest person to graduate in her class, Sylvia then returned to South Carolina. After a few years honing her beautician skills while still assisting her family at home, she made the difficult decision to return to New York. In addition to parting ways with relatives, Sylvia faced the heart-wrenching reality of saying goodbye to her beloved Herbert. Possessing the same sentiments as Sylvia, Herbert joined the Navy

shortly thereafter with the hope that he might one day sail to Brooklyn and reunite with his love. Although he never quite made it to Brooklyn through the Navy, the two married soon enough and moved to the village of Harlem.

On the tough and often unforgiving streets of New York, almost everyone was chasing after a dream. But it was the incomparable lessons of integrity, sacrifice, dedication and courage of her childhood that laid the foundation for Sylvia's eventual empire in Harlem and was an imprint for the nation. When the Woods first moved uptown, Herbert drove a cab to earn a living, while Sylvia worked a factory job on Long Island. Exhausted for her commute, she seized an opportunity to work as a waitress at Johnson's Luncheonette on Lenox Avenue. It was a decision that later proved invaluable.

When Sylvia first accepted this waitressing job, it was yet another daring move not only because she was inexperienced, but because she had never set foot inside a restaurant before. Growing up in the Deep South at a time when most restaurants barred Blacks and Black-owned restaurants were basically nonexistent, she had no knowledge of the complexities of the fast-paced industry. But Sylvia was a quick learner.

In 1962, when the owner of this luncheonette was leaving to focus on other ventures, he offered to sell Sylvia the establishment. After her initial shock, Sylvia realized the potential this venue could have for a community that was still yearning for a place to call home. Remaining true to the ideals of working as a family, Sylvia went to her mother who then mortgaged the family farm and allowed her daughter's concept to become a reality. On Aug. 1, 1962, Sylvia's opened its doors. It had 15 stools and six booths.

Having a business is no small feat, let alone a restaurant vying to survive during a period when many were forced to close their doors. It was Sylvia's faith and unbelievable relationship with Herbert that allowed her to overcome any obstacle big or small. From the fields of South Carolina where they looked after one another, through an enduring marriage that saw the birth of four children—Van, Bedelia, Kenneth and Crizette—the Woods had a bond that few will ever experience in their lives. Both were born in Hemingway, and both lost their fathers as babies. And in an added twist of fate, both Sylvia's mother and Herbert's mother were born on the same day, January 1, 1906.

During the 1960's, Harlem was an unpredictable and ever-changing neighborhood. As many restaurants struggled to remain open, Sylvia's found a niche with its southern cuisines of collard greens, peach pies, fried chicken, cornbread and other soul foods. But it was the warmth and love with which Sylvia welcomed patrons into the restaurant and that extra touch of care added into her dishes that won the hearts of the community. Her establishment was so well respected in fact, that during the riots of the '60s, as businesses were set ablaze, hers remained protected and intact.

"Sitting idle is not an option" is what Sylvia's mother used to say, and it's what Sylvia herself exemplified throughout her time on earth. As her restaurant grew in popularity, so did her efforts towards expansion. Sylvia's currently seats over 450 patrons, and the powerhouse behind it all had branched off into other business endeavors. She purchased the remaining stores on the restaurant's Lenox Avenue block, as well as several nearby brownstones. She packaged her own signature line of food products that found their way into grocery stores across America and remain of the few truly Black owned businesses in food production today.

And she somehow found time to publish two successful cookbooks.

In 2001, Sylvia said goodbye to her best friend, the love of her life, Herbert Woods. In his memory, the Woods family founded the Sylvia and Herbert Woods Scholarship Fund offering collegiate scholarships to Harlem and local residents. To date, the fund has dispersed 76 scholarships and will continue to live up to its mantra: "a higher level of education should not be a high-end luxury, but a right to all those who seek it".

After the death of her soul mate, Sylvia once again turned to her faith for renewed empowerment. Growing up in a strong Christian home, she came to know God as a young child. She was a firm believer in the notion that no matter what the adversity, God would see you through. It was a value and belief system she passed down to her children and grandchildren. Sylvia was a member of Abyssinian Baptist Church for many years, and later joined Grace Baptist Church as it was more convenient for her to attend there. She was instrumental in the construction of her home church, Jeremiah Methodist, in Hemingway.

In 2007, Sylvia received a Congressional honor acknowledging her immense contribution to American society. She appeared in numerous national and international media outlets and has been saluted by President Bill Clinton, New York Governor Pataki, New York Mayors Ed Koch, David Dinkins and Mike Bloomberg, the New York Stock Exchange, among others. She was also recognized by the NAACP and received numerous awards.

Sylvia's has proudly served Presidents—including the first African American President, Barack Obama—international dignitaries, celebrities, Harlem residents and tourists the world over. It is owned and operated by three generations of the Woods family that remain committed to the work ethic, devotion, and entrepreneurial spirit of its founder. 2012 marks the 50th anniversary of Sylvia's.

A relentless fighter and champion first for her family, community, and minority/female-owned businesses, Sylvia is now reunited with her mother, grandmother, husband Herbert, adopted sister Louise Thomas and half-brother McKinley Preston, all of whom have passed on. She is survived by her four children, Van (Brenda Woods) Bedelia, Kenneth (Sylvia Woods) and Crizette; one step-daughter, Linda Woods; 18 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; two special cousins, Christine Cameron and Janie Cooper; one sister-in-law, Evelyn Woods; a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins and a nation that will forever be indebted to a woman who reminded us to never lose sight of the key ingredient for any success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in commemorating the 50th anniversary of the founding of this esteemed Harlem institution. May it continue its long run of excellence for another 50 years and more.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD L. GRANT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Richard L. Grant, who recently retired as the Vice President and Region Manager of Boise White Paper Alabama Operations on May 31, 2012. Mr. Grant knows the value of

hard work, as well as the importance of loyalty to one's company.

Mr. Grant began his career after graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies at the University of Maine in 1977. After graduation, he began a long journey, ultimately taking him from the East coast to the West and finally down to Alabama.

He began work with Boise as the Pulp Mill Day Supervisor in 1987 in Wallula, Washington. He then became the Power and Utilities Superintendent from 1988 to 1989 at Smurfit Newsprint Corporation in Oregon. In 1989, Mr. Grant moved to the Alabama Operations, where he held a variety of positions from 1989 to 2008 which included: Operations Manager, Production Manager, Paper Machine Superintendent, Recycle General Superintendent, Utilities Superintendent and Region Manager of the Alabama Operations, before being promoted to Vice President in November of 2008.

In addition to being a leader in safety, Mr. Grant has made many outstanding and lasting contributions to Boise and his community. He has been a leader in the development of people's character, mentoring many of the key managers within the Boise Paper family. These contributions to the company will be greatly missed.

Rick has been a tremendous and positive force in his community and the Boise Paper Company. He has set a high standard of leadership that will be difficult to replace.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of South Alabama, I would like to extend a job well done, as well as our very best wishes to the Rick and his wife, Sissie, for all their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 531 I inadvertently voted "aye" when I intended to vote "no" on the Fitzpatrick Amendment to H.R. 4078. I would like the record to reflect this error, and to reiterate my opposition to efforts to undermine the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Sarbanes-Oxley has been an important bill that improves corporate transparency and helps to ensure confidence in our financial markets, and I continue to support this vital legislation.

HONORING REV. WILLIAM F. HARRELL

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a Southern Baptist minister in Georgia's Tenth Congressional District, Rev. William F. Harrell. After serving as Senior Pastor of Abilene Baptist Church for the past 31 years, Rev. Harrell, or Brother Bill, as he is lovingly referred to by his church congregation, is entering retirement.

Under his leadership, Abilene Baptist has grown to nearly 2,900 members, and the min-

istry includes a region-wide television program, entitled "Strength for Today." Its building stands as a stunning landmark, and the reputation of its members is a powerful testimony to the greatness of God. The church's success and strength is due, in large part, to Rev. Harrell's faithfulness and care in serving the community of the Central Savannah River Area and first and foremost, our Lord Jesus Christ. He has served a total of 39 years in ministry, holding a number of positions in the Augusta Baptist Association, Georgia Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

For this reason, and on the occasion of his retirement, it is my honor to acknowledge Rev. Bill Harrell, for his outstanding career and significant contributions to Christian ministry. Furthermore, I extend my sincere appreciation to a servant leader in whom I value his friendship and hold in the highest regard. Rev. Harrell is a man who is certain of his calling, consistent in his ministry, and committed to doing the work of the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I applaud the great work of Rev. William Harrell and congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA MEN'S GOLF TEAM

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the University of Alabama's men's golf team which placed runner up to the National Champion Team from the University of Texas, on June 3, 2011. The Crimson Tide's record of accomplishment this season is the best in the history of the University's golf program.

Although the Tide was behind all day, they fought hard to come back. Senior Hunter Hamrick, from Montgomery, was able to put points on the board for the Crimson Tide with a 6 and 5 win. Sophomore Bobby Wyatt, from Mobile, played a dramatic hole with a birdie chip on 18 winning his match 1 up. Sophomore Cory Whitsett tied the final match with a birdie on 17. And, on 18, Texas player Dylan Frittelli needed to sink a 20-foot-putt to beat the Crimson Tide in the final match.

With such an outstanding performance, the Alabama golf team completed their most successful season in the school's history by placing runner-up at the NCAA Championship. The team also won its third SEC Championship, the school's second regional title, as well as finished first in the stroke-play portion of the NCAA Championship over Texas by 10 shots.

The 2012 men's golf team members are Hunter Hamrick, Lee Knox, Tom Lovelady, Trey Mullinax III, Scott Strohmeyer, Justin Thomas, Cory Whitsett, and Bobby Wyatt.

The coaching staff consists of Head Coach Jay Seawell, Assistant Coach Scott Limbaugh, and Team Chaplain Stephan Bunn.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I wish to extend personal congratulations to Coach Jay Seawell, the coaching staff, and the men of the University of Alabama Men's Golf Team for their tremendous accomplishment.

HONORING NATALIE DELL AND
CHRISTA HARMOTTO FOR MAK-
ING THE USA OLYMPIC TEAM

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring two outstanding athletes selected to the United States Olympic Team from the 9th Congressional District of Pennsylvania: Natalie Dell and Christa Harmotto.

Natalie Dell, raised in Clearville, PA was a standout track star throughout her high school career. Upon attending Penn State University, Dell decided that she had reached her full potential in track and field and wanted to pursue another competitive sport. She chose to begin rowing where she quickly fell in love with the sport. After graduation, she continued to hone her strength and technique and joined the Riverside Boating Club in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Although Natalie was less experienced than the rest of her peers, her talent and status advanced rapidly as she soon became a member of the U.S. National Rowing Team. Her rigorous training and the perfection of her skill proved to be well worth the effort. Dell achieved a position on the 2012 Olympic Women's quadruple skulls boat and is the first alumnus from Penn State to row for the USA National Rowing Team. Her six day per week, two-a-day training has aptly prepared this courageous woman to represent the United States and the 9th district of Pennsylvania.

The second great Olympian from our district is Christa Harmotto. Harmotto was brought up in Hopewell Township, PA where she excelled at sports from a young age. In high school, as a multiple year letterman for volleyball and basketball, Christa won the Pennsylvania Gatorade Player of the Year. She then transferred her high school success to that at Penn State, where she chose to continue her pursuit of volleyball. Her student athlete career was one of great success and achievement, as she acted as an integral member of a two-time national championship team, while simultaneously attaining All-American status for four straight years. A prominent figure on the squad as a middle blocker, Christa makes her Olympic debut in 2012. I am positive she will fight valiantly and work hard for her side in their journey to win the gold medal.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate these two heroes of Pennsylvania's 9th district. With their effort and determination, these two women are destined to do great things for our country and the 9th district of Pennsylvania. I am very proud of their hard work and determination to win for the United States Olympic Team. I hope you join me in wishing them and the rest of our Olympic athletes well in their respective competitions at this year's Games.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
HISTORIC TOWN OF EATONVILLE

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 125th Anniversary of the

Historic Town of Eatonville, the Oldest Incorporated African American Municipality in America. Eatonville is a source of pride for the entire State of Florida and it gives me great pleasure to represent them in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Eatonville is a town rich in black history, tucked away just north of the city of Orlando and home to more than 2,000 people.

Eatonville is known as one of the first incorporated black towns and was formed after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Eatonville is named for Union Army Captain Josiah Eaton. He owned the land and sold it to a group of African-American men who wanted to start their own city.

On August 15, 1887, twenty-seven registered voters—all African-American men—met and voted to incorporate their parcels of land, creating the first African-American town in America.

The city thrived in music and arts and in 1897, the Robert Hungerford Normal and Industrial School was founded. For years, the school was the most important school for blacks in the state of Florida. Boys and girls from all over the state came to Eatonville to learn about great poets, writers, painters, and composers.

It stayed a private school until 1950 when the courts gave it to Orange County as a public trust, and is now known as Robert Hungerford Preparatory High School—Orange County's first all-magnet high school.

Eatonville hosts the annual Zora Neale Hurston Festival. Indeed, the Zora Neale Hurston Festival of Arts and Humanities in Eatonville, Florida is simply a prize for Eatonville and for the State of Florida.

People come from throughout the country and from around the world to visit and to participate in this great annual event, to celebrate not only the legacy of Zora, but of the cultural contributions made by African Americans around the globe. There have been twenty-three annual festivals and I have yet to miss one!

Please join me in honoring the Town of Eatonville, and I look forward to celebrating this town and its rich history for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO UNIVERSITY OF ALA-
BAMA ATHLETIC DIRECTOR MAL
MOORE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Coach Mal Moore, the respected, longtime Athletic Director of The University of Alabama who was recently named the 2012 recipient of the John L. Toner Award from the National Football Foundation (NFF) and the College Hall of Fame.

The Toner Award is presented annually by the NFF to an Athletic Director who has demonstrated superior administrative abilities and shown outstanding dedication to college athletics, particularly college football.

For those who closely follow University of Alabama athletics, there is little doubt that Mal Moore deserves this tremendous honor. As

Alabama's Athletic Director since 1999, he has guided the University's sports program to a new era of success, made improvements to athletic facilities and overseen numerous conference and national championships. This year alone, under his leadership, Mal Moore has been instrumental in the Crimson Tide winning four national championships in football, women's gymnastics, women's softball and women's golf.

Long a prominent figure in the "Alabama family," Coach Moore played quarterback under legendary head football coach Paul "Bear" Bryant, beginning in 1958, and was a member of the 1961 national championship team. A secondary and, later, quarterbacks coach for Coach Bryant's Crimson Tide, Coach Moore became a fixture on the 'Bama coaching staff until Coach Bryant's retirement in 1982 when he was hired to be an assistant coach at The University of Notre Dame. In 1990, he returned to Alabama to serve as offensive coordinator under Coach Gene Stallings. All total, Coach Moore has been a part of nine of Alabama's 14 national championships.

As Athletic Director, Mal Moore directs a \$100 million budget and 21 men's and women's varsity sports teams. His record of leadership speaks for itself. Since 1999, the University has notched countless NCAA championships and even more SEC championships. Also during Coach Moore's tenure as Athletic Director, the Crimson Tide football team has won two national championships (2009 and 2011), posted six 10-win seasons, a 5-4 bowl record, appearances in four Bowl Championship Series (BCS) bowl games and SEC championships in 1999, 2009 and 2011.

Winning is not his only legacy; however, the face of the University of Alabama campus has also been transformed during Coach Moore's tenure with more than \$200 million in improvements to the athletic infrastructure. Alabama has erected new stadiums for soccer, softball and tennis; new facilities for women's basketball and volleyball; a new golf clubhouse; and improved facilities for every other sports team, in addition to the renovation of the Bill Battle Center for Athletic Student Services and Coleman Coliseum. In 2007, The University of Alabama Board of Trustees officially dedicated the facility formerly known as the Football Building as the Mal M. Moore Athletic Facility. Coach Moore also oversaw the expansion of Bryant-Denny Stadium in 2006 and 2009, pushing the venue's capacity to 101,821, which ranks fifth nationally.

Mal Moore will be officially honored at the 55th NNF awards dinner at Waldorf-Astoria in New York City on December 4, 2012. He was elected to the State of Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 2011.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Alabama and the entire Alabama Congressional Delegation, I would like to commend Coach Mal Moore for his exemplary leadership and congratulate him for receiving the John L. Toner Award. I know Coach Moore's daughter, Heather, his granddaughter, Anna Lee and grandson, Charles, as well as his many, many friends and associates around the country share in this proud and well-deserved honor.

THE UNFINISHED WAR

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleague a recent article by my good friend Richard Leone, the former President of the Century Foundation. In his article "The Unfinished War" Leon reminds us all that "by ignoring the poor we undermine the welfare of everyone in the 99 percent living from pay check to pay check." As Congress debates taxes, government investments, and countless other issues, I hope all of my colleagues will keep his sage words in mind.

[From the Huffington Post, July 6, 2012]

THE UNFINISHED WAR

Nearly 50 years ago President Lyndon Johnson rallied the nation in support of a "War on Poverty." It was a goal widely accepted as necessary and realistic. While total "victory" might not have been unachievable, the effort was embraced and pursued by many leaders of both parties. The Nixon administration, for example, played a key role in advancement of the earned income tax credit and Ronald Reagan reached an agreement with the then Democratic Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill, to strengthen Social Security's finances for another generation (today, about half of the nation's elderly would fall below the poverty line without Social Security).

While Johnson's initiatives and subsequent policies didn't end poverty, they sure made a dent in it. Americans began the 1960s with 22.4 percent of the population living in poverty, but by the early 1970s that percentage had been cut in half. Not unconditional victory, but a major policy triumph nonetheless. Since that time the poverty rate has fluctuated between about 11 percent and 15 percent, reaching the upward proportion during the Reagan years and the lower end of the range during the administration of Bill Clinton. This may seem like a fairly narrow band—unless you're one of the millions who fall into poverty as the nation moves from the bottom of the range to the top. Right now, as we struggle to recover from the financial crisis of 2008–2009, the share of Americans living in poverty is back to levels not seen since 1993.

So is a renewal of the war against poverty in the offing? The current balance of political forces suggests that, rather than muster all the weapons we have to fight for the poor, many are willing to settle for uneasy neutrality. This is one "war of choice" we choose not to wage. Austerity is the watchword of the day defined somewhat differently but accepted by the mainstream of both parties as the bedrock of policy for the foreseeable future.

With lower expectations of growth projected for the next several years and continuing competitive pressures from abroad it is hard for most observers to see an optimistic scenario in which recovery accelerates to the point of leading to a new 1990s style period of prosperity. While this clearly sets limits on what is possible, it also opens up opportunities for those who wish to use the current difficulties as a lever to win arguments that are geared to their core values. Deregulation, weakening of unions, and further cuts in taxes for the wealthy and corporate America are all part of an ideological agenda that seems practical only because of the shifts of political forces and the imperatives of the financial weakness. To be sure there will be resistance to cuts in education,

reductions in infrastructure spending, the weakening of Medicaid, and other radical departures from previous policies. But the defenders of the social contract seem at a distinct disadvantage. And what is not present in the debate, indeed has become virtually invisible in the media, is the issue of poverty.

In fact, the United States has proven over several decades to be more tolerant of poverty and of homelessness and other associated ills than is the case in other industrialized countries. One can only conclude from the current reality that even discussing the issue of reducing poverty is a luxury. Like support for the arts, it is off the table during these difficult times. Workers have largely lost their past generous instincts about social programs after a generation of stagnant wages. Slightly further up the ladder, families who were until recently considered themselves solidly middle class now are scrambling to maintain their standard of living—and even their jobs.

Yet, the United States is still a wealthy country, by all measures among the wealthiest in the world. And it clearly has the resources to provide a decent standard of living for its workers and citizens, its children and elderly. Other countries do so without much fuss. We, on the other hand, have rationalized increasing concentrations of wealth and income as somehow producing results that will be better for everyone. At the same time, our expenditures on the things that might change the circumstances of average Americans are meager by international standards. Elementary and secondary education, an historical strength, is being squeezed by budgetary problems at the state and local level. College aid and support for public higher education is shrinking. And, retraining programs for those who have lost their jobs due to the globalization of manufacturing and markets are nowhere close to what is available, for example, within the European Union.

Overall, the United States has achieved levels of inequality not seen for generations and now ranks near the top among industrial nations in inequality. These are not trivial statistics for they reflect very different perceptions of what is important in the world of politics and government. Perhaps it's not a coincidence that those who can afford it pay for our campaigns and reap the rewards while average citizens, frustrated and angry, turn against their government because they don't see it helping them. Facts seem irrelevant; the U.S. has lower tax rates than almost all of the other industrialized countries and government employment has dropped sharply in the past few years, yet the explanation for hard times is that the government is taxing too much and spending too much. In this hostile environment it may be no wonder that new programs to help the poor get short shrift. In this Darwinian environment, we simply can't afford to help them.

It's past time to connect the dots and see that by ignoring the poor we undermine the welfare of everyone in the 99 percent living from pay check to pay check. We must revive our generous national nature. And more selfishly come to see that we might find ourselves in their shoes. It may be that the poor will always be with us, but that doesn't mean it's OK to ignore them.

HONORING THE NATIONAL CHAMPION UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the University of Alabama's softball team which captured its first national championship during a down to the wire late night victory on June 6, 2012.

The Tide was able to triumph over the Oklahoma Sooners after a rain delay brought out a special determination on the part of the ladies from Alabama to take home the trophy. Down early, Alabama came back to score four runs, and at 12:31 a.m., Alabama pitcher Jackie Traina struck out a Sooners player to end the game.

With its 5 to 4 win in the Women's College World Series in Oklahoma City, the Crimson Tide softball team also garnered the University of Alabama its fourth national championship of the year—a school record. Alabama also made history as the first Southeastern Conference team to clinch the national softball title.

Since the creation of the Southeastern Conference (SEC) softball tournament in 1997, Alabama has claimed five SEC titles, including the 2012 season. The team ended their year with an impressive 60–8 record overall; 23–5 in the SEC.

This was the eighth time the University of Alabama has traveled to the Women's College World Series. This year's team is dominated by freshmen and sophomores who proved that heart and hard work can make the difference.

The victorious 2012 team members are Chaunsey Bell, Catcher; Jackey Branham, Infielder; Kayla Braud, Outfielder; Courtney Conley, Infielder; Keima Davis, Outfielder; Kendall Dawson, Catcher; Jennifer Fenton, Outfielder; Olivia Gibson, Catcher; Danae Hays, Infielder; Kaila Hunt, Infielder; Ryan lamurri, Infielder; Leslie Jury, Pitcher; Amanda Locke, Utility; Jazlyn Lunceford, Outfielder; Jordan Patterson, Catcher/Infielder; Cassie Reilly-Boccia, Outfielder/First Base; Danielle Richard, Infielder; Lauren Sewell, Pitcher; Jady Spencer, Utility; and Jackie Traina, Pitcher/Utility.

The coaching and support staff is led by Head Coach Patrick Murphy. Assisting him are Alyson Habetz, Associate Head Coach; Stephanie VanBrakle, Assistant Coach; Adam Arbour, Volunteer Assistant Coach; Kate Harris, Director of Operations; and Nick Seiler, Athletic Trainer.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama delegation, I wish to extend personal congratulations to Coach Patrick Murphy, the coaching staff and the ladies of the University of Alabama Softball Team for their tremendous accomplishment. Along with a large fan base that traveled to Oklahoma City to cheer on the Crimson Tide was University of Alabama Athletic Director Mal Moore and Interim President Dr. Judith L. Bonner. Roll Tide!

IN HONOR OF DODGER STADIUM
IN RECOGNITION OF ITS 50TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Los Angeles' greatest landmarks, Dodger Stadium, home of the Los Angeles Dodgers. The 2012 season marks the 50th anniversary of Dodger Stadium.

It ranks as the third oldest, continually-used park in Major League Baseball and still one of the most attended and highly regarded stadiums in America. Dodger Stadium has hosted more than 143 million fans since it opened its doors in 1962. The club topped the 3.85 million attendance mark in 2007, which stands as the all-time franchise record.

Ever since Brooklyn Dodger President Walter O'Malley decided to move his team to Los Angeles in 1958 and bring Major League Baseball to California for the first time, this stadium has been home to some of the most memorable events in Dodger history. Many Dodger fans still recall Sandy Koufax's perfect game in 1965, the rise of Fernandomania, and Kirk Gibson's walk-off home run in Game 1 of the 1988 World Series.

Since opening its gates, Dodger Stadium has hosted eight World Series and the Los Angeles Dodgers have won four World Championships, eight National League pennants, 11 National League Western Division crowns and two National League Wild Card berths. From 1992 to 1996, the Dodgers set a major league baseball record with five consecutive players being named Rookie of the year: Eric Karros, Mike Piazza, Raul Mondesi, Hideo Nomo and Todd Hollandsworth.

Dodger Stadium has awed spectators with a breathtaking view of downtown Los Angeles to the south; green, tree-lined Elysian hills to the north and east; and the San Gabriel Mountains beyond. Walter O'Malley and architect Emil Praeger designed the 56,000-seat stadium, the second privately financed ballpark in baseball history. Its wavy roof atop each outfield pavilion, cantilevered grandstands and unique terraced-earthworks parking lot behind the main stands make Dodger Stadium one of the most innovatively designed baseball stadiums.

Besides being home of the Los Angeles Dodgers, the stadium has played host to the Major League Baseball All-Star Game in 1980 and the Olympic Games' baseball competition in 1984. The eight-team competition during the 1984 Olympic Games marked baseball's greatest involvement in the Olympic Games to that point. The Olympic spirit returned to Los Angeles again in 1991, as Dodger Stadium hosted the Opening Ceremonies for the United States Olympic Festival. In 2004, the Olympic Torch relay in Los Angeles concluded at Dodger Stadium as Rafer Johnson lit the cauldron at Chavez Ravine.

Dodger Stadium has also been the site of numerous non-baseball major events. On Sep-

tember 16, 1987 Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass at Dodger Stadium to a crowd of 63,000 people. Entertainers from around the world have performed here as well, such as Madonna, The Beatles and Michael Jackson. Dodger Stadium also staged one of the world's greatest entertainment events in 1994, when internationally-renowned tenors Jose Carreras, Placido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti reunited for a spectacular concert performance "Encore—The Three Tenors" with conductor Zubin Mehta.

Without a doubt, Dodger Stadium is one of America's treasured venues. It continues to be a major part of the history and tradition of the Dodgers. It has been the home of one of professional sports' most storied franchises, a destination for a worldwide fan base and an enduring monument for a bustling, multicultural city. For 50 years in the heart of Los Angeles, Dodger Stadium has truly been a home for both a team and a community. I am honored to have such an organization and landmark in the 31st Congressional District of California.

Mr. Speaker, it is with deep pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the "Golden Anniversary" of one of America's great landmarks, Dodger Stadium.

TRIBUTE TO FLOMATON POLICE
CHIEF DANIEL THOMPSON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Police Chief Daniel Thompson of the Flomaton, Alabama Police Department for his heroic efforts to save the life of a 3-year-old boy on July 7, 2012.

While off-duty at the house of a friend, Chief Thompson was alerted by calls for help from a neighboring house. He acted quickly to reach a child who was unresponsive after falling into a swimming pool. Chief Thompson promptly performed CPR on the boy for several minutes until the boy regained consciousness. Other rescuers soon responded and took over care of the child. Due to Chief Thompson's well-trained and swift efforts, the young boy was able to be air lifted to Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola where he made a full recovery.

Chief Thompson began his career in law enforcement seven years ago, and he is quoted as saying, "I always wanted to do something to help people." His actions serve as a model for others, and also show that public servants are never truly off duty. While we often take their service for granted, it can truly be a blessing when they are nearby in our time of need. While Chief Thompson may not have been wearing his badge at the time of the incident, his actions reflect a man who wears the motto "to protect and serve" in his heart.

This incident also illustrates the importance of being trained in CPR. One may never use the skill; however, when faced with a crisis situation, it may mean the difference between

life and death. Flomaton Fire Chief Steve Stanton called Chief Thompson "a real hero," and I think we all share his sentiments. I would like to echo his comments.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama delegation, I wish to extend personal appreciation to Chief Thompson for his quick action to save a life, and to all those who serve us every day in our communities. We can never thank them enough.

IN RECOGNITION OF COL. TIMOTHY
SULLIVAN'S CHANGE OF COM-
MAND

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Colonel Timothy Sullivan who will have a change of command from Anniston Army Depot in August.

Sullivan received a commission as an Ordnance Officer in 1988 after graduating from Jacksonville State University. He later earned a Master of Science Degree in Information Systems Management from Florida Tech University in 2001 and a Master of Strategic Studies from the Air War College, Air University in 2010.

His previous assignments include Platoon Leader, 503rd Maintenance Company, 530th S&S Battalion, 1st COSCOM; Platoon Leader and Shop Officer, Charlie Company, 782nd Maintenance Battalion, 82nd DISCOM, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C.; Company Commander, 520th Maintenance Company, 194th Maintenance Battalion, 23rd Area Support Group, Camp Humphrey's Korea; Operations Officer and Brigade Executive Officer, 59th Ordnance Brigade, Redstone Arsenal, Ala.; RTD Team Chief, 351st Infantry Battalion, 158th Infantry Brigade, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla.; Support Operations Officer and Battalion Executive Officer, 13th Corps Support Battalion, 3rd Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Benning, Ga.; APMS, Auburn University Army ROTC; Commander, 13th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 3rd Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division; Chief, Logistics Division, Special Operations Command, Joint Forces Command (SOCJFCOM), SOCOM, Suffolk, Va.; and, most recently, graduate of the Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

While at Anniston Army Depot, he safely helped execute millions of direct labor hours while helping overhaul and maintain our nation's critical combat equipment. His hands-on leadership for the workforce helped ensure our nation's military was provided the best possible equipment available to keep them as safe as possible while allowing them to accomplish their vital mission.

Mr. Speaker, we will miss Colonel Sullivan in Anniston, but wish him the very best.