

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE GRASSROOTS DEMOCRACY ACT

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will build a new paradigm for the financing of congressional campaigns. The Grassroots Democracy Act is a package of reforms designed to combat the influence of concentrated money in politics, raise civic engagement, and to amplify the voice of everyday Americans in our nation's electoral process. Through a three-pronged, comprehensive approach, we can ensure Americans' voices are heard over the din of big money that has dominated our politics and our public policy for too long.

First, the legislation provides Americans with a \$50 refundable tax credit/coupon to contribute to their preferred candidates for congressional office. With average Americans newly empowered to participate in campaign giving, candidates will have more incentive to re-engage with everyday voters rather than spending disproportionate amounts of time fundraising from moneyed interests.

Next, the legislation multiplies the impact of grassroots donations (\$100 or less). For candidates who forego PAC money and are willing and able to earn broad-based support from grassroots donors in their district or state, a public match will be available on grassroots donations. Suddenly, the \$50 contribution can become a \$300 contribution—matched at a rate of \$5 to \$1. For those candidates who agree to take only grassroots donations, the \$50 contribution can become a \$550 contribution—matched at a rate of \$10 to \$1. By democratizing the donor base and amplifying the impact of grassroots contributions, participating candidates will be able to run a viable, competitive campaign, while staying connected to the needs of the constituents they represent.

Lastly, the legislation prevents super PACs and other big money organizations—the products of the Citizens United and other recent court rulings—from drowning out the voice of the people. In elections where outside spending significantly outpaces national norms, grassroots supported candidates will have access to a People's Fund—to make sure their voice can still be heard. Once total non-candidate spending reaches a certain decibel level, grassroots supported candidates will have the opportunity to apply for an additional 1:1 match on their grassroots base, providing the immediate, supplemental support necessary to ensure the marketplace of ideas remains competitive.

Capitol Hill is full of well-intentioned people who came to Washington with noble goals and deeply held principles. Most ran for Congress out of a strong desire to serve their community

and the broader American public. The problem is the moment they decide to run for office they become distracted—distracted by the endless need for more money to win the election.

The Grassroots Democracy Act represents a path forward. Together, these reforms provide can begin to combat the influence of concentrated money in politics, raise civic engagement, and amplify the political voice of the American electorate. A new paradigm of financing campaigns will liberate candidates from dependence on special interests and big money, ensuring our public policy is truly fashioned in the interest of the public.

RECOGNIZING THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF BARBARA TACHOVSKY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Barbara Tachovsky on her retirement as President of Paoli Hospital after 26 years of service to the Hospital and in the field of healthcare.

Under President Tachovsky's leadership, Paoli Hospital earned accreditation as the only Level II Trauma Center in Chester County, which alleviated the need for victims of traumatic injury to be transported further away for emergency treatment and saved countless lives. Additionally, Paoli Hospital was recognized four times as a Top 100 Hospital by Thomson Reuters and as a Best Regional Hospital in five specialties by US News and World Report. During her tenure, Paoli also received the Premier Award for Quality two years in a row, as well as numerous certifications for providing outstanding care and achieving operational efficiency.

Mr. Speaker, in light of her years of exemplary service to her community and a litany of sterling accomplishments too long to record, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Barbara Tachovsky for her invaluable contributions to the quality of life of the citizens of Chester County, Pennsylvania and the surrounding region.

STOLEN VALOR ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize yesterday's passage in the House of H.R. 1775, the Stolen Valor Act.

I, unfortunately, was not able to vote on passage of this important bill because of a

commitment back in my district. I joined with New Balance associates at the factory in Norridgewock, Maine to press U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk on the importance of preserving current footwear tariffs, which are threatened by the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a multinational free trade agreement that is currently being negotiated. I truly appreciated Ambassador Kirk's visit and the opportunity to join him and New Balance's highly skilled workers, but I regret that this prevented me from helping to pass H.R. 1775, the Stolen Valor Act.

Had I been able to be present for the vote, I would have voted for the Stolen Valor Act. This Act appropriately creates penalties for individuals who benefit from lying about military decorations or medals. Our service members and veterans make an unparalleled commitment to our nation. They earn military honors through their sacrifices, and I am pleased that the Stolen Valor Act has passed the House to better protect the interests of those who have served our country.

THE POWER OF ONE: ODE TO MS. NATASHA TRETHEWEY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following.

One can never underestimate the power of the heart and mind,
One can never make changes if One never puts in the time
One can be as powerful as a nation of many if One desires to be
One can make the difference in being a captive or living free
One can set many on the path to harmony in the universe
One becomes the master musician when One helps others to rehearse
One can be the difference in making war and violence cease
One can be essential for a world of harmony and peace
One can show herself friendly and gain friends throughout the world
One can give words to help mold young boys and girls
One can be the voice of many—urging justice for all
One can make the difference in whether we stand or fall
One can change the world by giving a helping hand
One, such as you, Ms. Trethewey with your love for all of man

For Ms. Natasha Trethewey, 19th U.S. Poet Laureate, Penned July 4th, 2012 by Eric Charles®.

• 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.

RECOGNIZING KAREN RAPP AND
CATHLEEN SCARBOROUGH OF
GOVERNOR MIFFLIN MIDDLE
SCHOOL

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Karen Rapp and Cathleen Scarborough for their establishment and implementation of the "Adopt a Veteran Program" at Governor Mifflin Middle School which served to educate children about our great nation and the heroic citizens who defend it.

In the "Adopt a Veteran Program," led and coordinated by Karen and Cathleen, nine students were appointed by their teachers to interview three Governor Mifflin Middle School staff members who are also war veterans. Comprehensive interviews were undertaken and short biographies written about the veterans and their military experiences. Photographs and other mementos supplemented these biographies and the entire project was posted in a display case for all students to view.

Karen and Cathleen's efforts brought both recognition to the faculty veterans and greater insight and appreciation of America's citizen-soldiers to their students.

Mr. Speaker, in light of their efforts in establishing and implementing the "Adopt a Veteran" program, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Karen Rapp and Cathleen Scarborough of the Governor Mifflin Middle School, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

HONORING THE INAUGURAL MS.
DELILAH BEASLEY TEA AND
HONORING MS. BELVA DAVIS
FOR A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the enduring legacy of two extraordinary, trailblazing women journalists, the late Delilah Beasley and retiring Bay Area icon Belva Davis, as they continue to inspire future generations of young women of color, many of whom will be part of the new Alameda County headquarters of Girls Inc. in Oakland, CA. This extraordinary occasion, hosted by the Progressive Oakland Women for Empowerment and Reform (P.O.W.E.R.), is a testament to what is possible when we work together to celebrate, connect and transform the lives of women: past, present and future.

Today, supporters and friends, including esteemed California Governor, Edmund Gerald "Jerry" Brown, Jr., and venerable faith leader Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Sr., have gathered to pay tribute to women who changed the face of journalism in the Bay Area and beyond

through their intellect and tenacity. Moreover, event proceeds will be donated to the Girls Inc. Building Fund.

In honor of the first annual tea in her name, we recognize American historian and Oakland Tribune newspaper columnist Delilah Leontium Beasley as a true Bay Area unsung hero. Born in 1871, Ms. Beasley's journalism career began by writing short pieces for a black Ohio newspaper called the Cleveland Gazette. In her over 50-year career, Ms. Beasley spent 25 years as a resident of Oakland. And, California and Bay Area communities are forever changed as a result of the far-reaching effects of her transformative work.

She spent nine years scouring University of California, Berkeley library archives to produce *The Negro TrailBlazers of California*, a groundbreaking and prolific chronicle of California Black History throughout the 1800s. Published in 1919, her book focused on the achievements and sacrifices of black pioneers including prominent stories of women. From 1925 to 1934, she continued her commitment to championing communities of color as the first African American woman to be published regularly in a major newspaper. As an Oakland Tribune columnist, Ms. Beasley gained local acclaim for her positive stories about the Black community and her ability to reach mainstream audiences. She was also a long-time local activist who fought for integration in every level of civic and social life, including helping to spearhead California's first anti-lynching bill. Delilah Beasley should be in the halls of every museum and on the pages of every American history book. This annual event represents a new opportunity make her story and achievements known far and wide.

Today, this legacy continues with the presentation of a P.O.W.E.R Lifetime Achievement Award to eight-time local Emmy winner Belva Davis. As the first African-American woman TV journalist in the Western United States, Ms. Davis is a living legend who tore down media barriers and defied racist stereotypes. For nearly five decades, Ms. Davis has continued to forge ahead, protecting the legacy of women like Delilah Beasley and paving the way for girls like those in Girls Inc. She began her bold career in 1964—the midst of the Civil Rights Movement—ignoring risk and personal attack to cover history in the making.

A respected anchor for news programs on KPIX-TV and KRON-TV, Ms. Davis has covered high-profile local, national and global news events, interviewing world leaders and U.S. presidents over the decades. Famed for her strong, 19-year presence as the host of public television's, "This Week in Northern California," Ms. Davis will be sorely missed by a bevy of fans, including community leaders, celebrities, colleagues and Bay Area residents. Though her final broadcast will air November 9, 2012, she will continue her role as a long-time community advocate.

Therefore, on behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, I thank Ms. Belva Davis for a lifetime of service and congratulate her upon receipt of this honor. I thank P.O.W.E.R for their vital work to support the achievement of women and girls, and wish them many more years of successful celebra-

tions of the commemorative, "Ms. Delilah Beasley Tea."

HONORING LINCOLN "ED" BURTON
FOR HIS SERVICE AS STATE
CONSERVATIONIST FOR USDA'S
NATURAL RESOURCES CON-
SERVATION SERVICE IN CALI-
FORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, Representatives FARR, GARAMENDI, MCNERNEY, and WOOLSEY, to recognize Lincoln "Ed" Burton, State Conservationist of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service in California for the past 7 years, and a conservationist with that Agency in numerous western states for the past 48 years. Mr. Burton has dedicated his life to helping farmers and ranchers find conservation solutions to natural resource concerns in ways that respect both the economic and environmental contributions made by agricultural producers.

Mr. Burton has become known for his inclusiveness, diplomacy, and transparent, leadership style in administering and strategically investing \$840 million in federal conservation funding to protect natural resources on cropland, rangeland and non-industrial forestland. He has expanded and enhanced wildlife habitat for common and impaired species—notably the Greater Sage Grouse.

Mr. Burton has contributed to the long-term preservation of farmland, essential to our Nation's ability to feed itself. Under his watch, farmers voluntarily enrolled historical wetlands for long-term protection so that today the Agency is responsible for the restoration of one fourth of California's current functioning wetlands.

Mr. Burton's leadership provided water quality planning and implementation services on more than 1400 dairies in California, helping the industry address the regulatory requirements they faced amid difficult economic times to protect the quality of California's surface and groundwater while helping to maintain economic viability for one of the State's top agricultural industries.

Mr. Burton oversaw a significant expansion in the air quality achievements of the Agency, helping farmers claim emissions reductions of over 1600 tons of nitrogen oxides each year.

Mr. Burton has been a staunch advocate for conservation planning to make the best possible advancements in the management and health of cropland, rangeland and forests, protecting on-farm soil, water, air and habitat resources in a manner that is acceptable and consistent with economic sustainability.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize our public servant, Ed Burton, for his visionary leadership and contributions to California's natural resources and his dedication to our agricultural communities.

RECOGNIZING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF WOMELSDORF

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Borough of Womelsdorf, Berks County, Pennsylvania on its 250th anniversary.

Founded by five German farmers, Msrs. Weiser, Brown, Fidler, Schaeffer and Kobel during the 1720s, the area that would become the Borough of Womelsdorf has enjoyed a rich and storied history. One of these original settlers, Conrad Weiser, came to America in 1709 when his father, Johann Conrad Weiser, migrated from the German principality of Wurttemberg to England before settling on the New York frontier. In 1729, Conrad Weiser brought his wife and children to the Tulpehocken region, settling on 200 acres near the present town of Womelsdorf. In 1749, "Tulpehocken Eisenhammer" was the first industry founded when John George Nickoll and Michael Miller built a forge to produce "barr iron" at a location less than two miles north of Womelsdorf. This establishment was later known as "Charming Forge." In 1760, John Womelsdorf received in conveyance the land that would become the present day Borough of Womelsdorf and, in 1762, sold the first lots in the town he had established.

While the Borough of Womelsdorf has changed a great deal throughout its history, it still retains much of the charm from its historic past. Pre-Revolutionary buildings continue to stand in close proximity to modern structures. Today, the Borough of Womelsdorf and its citizens continue to make valuable contributions to the quality of the economic and social life of Berks County while preserving the history of its past.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the Borough of Womelsdorf and its remarkable history on the occasion of its 250th anniversary and to extend best wishes for the Borough's continued prosperity and longevity.

RECOGNIZING TERRY JONES ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE WOLF TRAP FOUNDATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with my colleagues, Rep. FRANK WOLF and Rep. JIM MORAN, to recognize and commend Terrence D. "Terry" Jones on the occasion of his retirement after 17 years of distinguished service as President and CEO of the Wolf Trap Foundation. Terry's career in the performing arts spans more than 40 years, and he leaves a rich legacy both on and off the stage that will benefit the arts community and Northern Virginia for years to come.

During his tenure, Terry helped fulfill and then expand Wolf Trap's mission of providing a world-class platform for aspiring and accomplished artists alike at the majestic Filene Center and the 18th century Barns at Wolf Trap. Thanks to his innovative spirit, the Foundation continues to set new attendance and fundraising records. As the guiding force behind America's only National Park for the performing arts, Terry has positioned Wolf Trap as a leader not only in the arts, but also in connecting education, technology and environmental stewardship through the arts and inspiring passion for those pursuits in a new generation. And though its artistic scope is on the national and global stages, Terry has made sure that Wolf Trap also is a resource for our local communities.

In 2003, Terry helped lead the fund-raising effort to establish a National Center for Education on the Wolf Trap campus. The nonprofit focuses on early childhood arts education but serves as a resource for the entire community, particularly local school children. More recently, Wolf Trap partnered with the U.S. Department of Education on a project to integrate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education into the arts.

Terry also has strengthened Wolf Trap's connection to its environmental roots. In 2007, he launched the Foundation's "Go Green" program with the stretch goal of making Wolf Trap carbon neutral. To date, the program has decreased the park's carbon footprint by 20% and cut landfill waste in half. Wolf Trap has been designated as a Climate Friendly Park by the EPA and National Park Service. Terry also led the effort to establish the National Council on the Arts and Environment and a partnership with the Aspen Institute on a nationwide Summit on the Arts and the Environment.

Prior to taking the helm at Wolf Trap, Terry served as CEO and artistic Director of the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. He previously served as General Manager of Clowes Memorial Hall in Indianapolis, Assistant Dean of the College of Fine Arts at Butler University, and he also founded the Bradford Repertory Theater in Vermont.

Throughout his distinguished career, Terry has received local and national recognition. He received the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from his alma mater, the University of Kansas, was named Washingtonian of the Year in 2006 by Washingtonian Magazine, and was recognized by his peers with the Fan Taylor Distinguished Service Award from the Association of Performing Arts Presenters. During his tenure as Foundation president, Wolf Trap also has received numerous awards and accolades.

Beyond these accomplishments, we want to recognize Terry's exemplary role not just as an arts advocate and executive, but also as an individual. When asked in an interview what he loves most about his job, he said: "People—I don't think you could do this job if you didn't enjoy people and didn't like being around people." We can all recognize and appreciate Terry's unequivocal commitment to his craft and our community.

Mr. Speaker, Terry Jones has left a tangible, lasting imprint on the rich history of our National Park for the Performing Arts, and his

legacy will continue to inspire a new generation of artists. We wish Terry, his wife, Polly, and their family the continued success as he enters this next act of his life, and we ask our colleagues to join us in expressing our appreciation for his tremendous contributions to the arts, our nation and the Northern Virginia community.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR FRANK JACKSON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mayor Frank G. Jackson, the 56th Mayor of Cleveland, for being named the 2012 Black Professional of the Year by the Black Professionals Association Charitable Foundation (BPACF).

Born and raised in Cleveland's Central neighborhood, Mayor Jackson attended Cleveland Public Schools. Upon graduating from Max S. Hayes High School, he served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. Mayor Jackson later earned an associate's degree from Cuyahoga Community College and a bachelor's degree in History and Urban Studies from Cleveland State University (CSU). He also would earn a master's and law degree from CSU.

Prior to taking on his role as Mayor of Cleveland, Jackson held a number of roles in public service. He began his career in the Cleveland Municipal Court Clerk's Office as an Assistant City Prosecutor. Mayor Jackson was first elected to public office in 1989 as a Cleveland City Councilman. He served the residents of Cleveland's 5th Ward in his capacity as a councilman until 2005. He also served as the Cleveland City Council President from 2002 to 2005 before being elected as the Mayor of Cleveland. He took office in January 2006, dedicating the past several years of his life to the residents of the City of Cleveland.

As Mayor of Cleveland, Jackson has made strong contributions to the advancement of equality and has worked tirelessly to increase opportunities for the economically and socially disadvantaged. Mayor Jackson has supported subsidized affordable housing in Cleveland to ensure everyone has a roof over their heads. Moreover he has labored to include low income Clevelanders in the decision-making process, rather than alienating them. Additionally he is focused on improving the education experience of students in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District; safety conditions for residents by improving the relationship between local law enforcement and the community; and tirelessly working on the continued economic development of the City of Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Mayor Frank Jackson on being named the 2012 Black Professional of the Year.

HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE
SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 EASTERN
IOWA HONOR FLIGHT

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, next week, over 80 Iowa veterans of the Greatest Generation will travel to our nation's capital. Accompanied by volunteer guardians, these veterans will travel to Washington, DC to visit the monument that was built in their honor.

For many of these veterans, next Tuesday, September 18th will be the first time they will see the National World War II Memorial. I am deeply honored to be joining them for a rally on September 17th to wish them well on their trip and to personally thank these heroes.

I am proud to have a piece of marble from the quarry that supplied the marble that built the World War II Memorial in my office. Like the memorial that it built, that piece of marble reminds me of the sacrifices of a generation of Americans. When our country was threatened, they rose to defend not just our nation, but the freedoms, democracy, and values that make our country the greatest nation on earth. They did so as one people and one country. Their sacrifices and determination in the face of great threats to our way of life are both humbling and inspiring.

The sheer magnitude of what the Greatest Generation accomplished, not just in war but in the peace that followed, continues to inspire us today. They did not seek to be tested both abroad by a war that fundamentally challenged our way of life and at home by the Great Depression and the rebuilding of our economy that followed. But, when called upon to do so, they defended and then rebuilt our nation to make it even stronger. Their patriotism, service, and great sacrifice not only defined their generation—they stand as a testament to the fortitude of our nation and the American people.

I am tremendously proud to provide an early welcome to the Eastern Iowa Honor Flight and Iowa's veterans of the Second World War to our nation's capital next week. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our country.

HONORING MARGARET SCHUELKE

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, many years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve the citizens in DeKalb County and the state of Georgia; and

Whereas, Ms. Margaret Schuelke began her career in service working diligently to assist citizens in need, as director of Project Community Connections, Inc., she has and continues to assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness with permanent housing placements; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents, giving the citizens

of our district a friend to help those in need, a fearless leader and a servant to all wanting to ensure that the system works for everyone; and

Whereas, Ms. Margaret Schuelke is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Margaret Schuelke for her outstanding leadership and service to our district and to congratulate her for being chosen as a Champion of Change by the White House;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim August 29, 2012 as Ms. Margaret Schuelke Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 29th day of August, 2012.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF CLEVELAND
CATHOLIC CHARITIES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of Cleveland Catholic Charities.

Cleveland Catholic Charities was first established by Cleveland Diocese's Bishop John Farrelly in 1912 as a response to the failing institutions that were designed to assist those in need and Cleveland's orphans. Throughout the past century, Cleveland Catholic Charities has expanded their services to encompass children, adolescents, families, seniors, people with disabilities and the impoverished and homeless. Meal delivery, transportation services, adult day activities, substance abuse support groups, parenting classes, job placement training, and mental health counseling are among a sampling of the programs provided.

Today, the nearly 2,000 employees of Cleveland Catholic Charities work to build a just and compassionate society that respects the dignity of every person. Though Cleveland Catholic Charities' impact on Northeast Ohioans is immeasurable, in the last year alone 330,000 people were served, 100,000 emergency services were provided and more than three million meals were served.

The centennial celebration of Cleveland Catholic Charities will be held on Saturday, September 15, 2012 and will feature the Inaugural Class of the Hall of Hope which includes Bishop John P. Farrelly (Bishop of Cleveland 1909–1921); Bishop Charles H. LeBlond (First Director of Charity in the Diocese of Cleveland, 1912–1933); Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine; Rev. Walter H. Jenne (Secretary for Social Concerns in the Diocese of Cleveland, 1980–1994); and J. Thomas Mullen (Secretary of Catholic Charities Health and Human Services, 1994–2010). Additionally, the event will include a special tribute to the Most Reverend Anthony M. Pilla, Bishop Emeritus, as the "Man of the Century" in recognition of his unwavering support of Catholic Charities.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the 100th anniversary of Cleveland Catholic Charities.

COMMENDING WILLIAM PAUL DIL-
LON ON 40 YEARS OF MINISTRY
AND SERVICE

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to commend Mr. William Paul Dillon, who has dedicated 40 years of ministry and service to Chicago's inner city.

Born into a family devoted to urban ministry, Mr. Dillon's grandfather and father both served as superintendents of the Sunshine Gospel Mission in Chicago, Illinois, a mission where I also had the opportunity to minister. At an early age, Mr. Dillon accepted Christ into his heart and began volunteering at the mission and working as a camp counselor. Though he did not feel a call to ministry, aspiring to work in the aviation industry for the hometown United Airlines, Mr. Dillon's father convinced him to attend Moody Bible Institute to better prepare him for a career as a Christian in business. Intending to only stay for a year, Mr. Dillon stayed for three and earned his diploma in 1965.

Mr. Dillon's time at Moody fostered an appreciation for the city. His studies took him to a startup church on the south side of Chicago, where he taught Sunday school and allowed him to develop his gifts for teaching and administration. Still intending to follow his dreams of working in the airline industry, he continued his studies and eventually earned a degree in Business Administration and an MBA from Murray State University.

Yet even with his MBA in hand, the Lord had a different plan for Mr. Dillon. A down economy meant few jobs in the airline industry, and he found work as the youth pastor of Salem Evangelical Free Church in the Humboldt Park neighborhood of Chicago. It is here that Mr. Dillon grew to love the community and see the challenges faced by inner city youth. Equipped with little beyond his understanding of business, he and his wife, Sandy, started the Inner City Impact ministry to serve and disciple local youth.

Inner City Impact has grown over the years, from an initial focus on young children, to a full-fledged inner city mission that has put down roots in the communities that it serves. Over time, three churches have developed out of the efforts of Inner City Impact, along with high school outreach programs in Humboldt Park and Cicero. Now headquartered in the Logan Square community, Inner City Impact continues to serve some of Chicago's toughest neighborhoods through after school clubs, camps, leadership development programs and sports leagues.

In addition to his ministry work, Mr. Dillon is an author and frequent speaker on college campuses and to other Christian ministries. He also serves as president of People Raising, an organization which helps missionaries and Christian organizations fundraise. The Dillons attend Arlington Heights Evangelical Free Church, and they have three grown children.

In 2005, Moody Bible Institute recognized Mr. Dillon for his service in naming him the Alumnus of the Year. As a fellow Moody alum, I believe this honor is well-deserved, as Mr. Dillon's life testimony captures the essence of

what it means to uncover the truth of God's Word and apply it to life.

Although Mr. Dillon has already dedicated four decades to ministry, from those early days on the sidewalks of Humboldt Park, to his current mission in Cicero, I am confident that the first 40 years are only the beginning, and that his work is not done yet!

GOVERNMENT SPENDING ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I think we can all agree that federal agencies need to be wise and judicious in their use of travel funds, and that past abuses, while very much the exception, were a wake-up call for us to exercise stricter oversight of taxpayer dollars. The Administration itself, through the Office of Management and Budget, OMB, has also sought to curb these abuses by instituting new travel caps and new reporting requirements on all agency travel and I applaud them for taking this seriously.

On the face of it, OMB's directives seem reasonable to most of us, although there is room for debate even here. The scientific community, which includes tens of thousands of federal scientists at agencies such as the Department of Energy and NASA, depend on face-to-face interaction through conferences and workshops to foster innovation and launch new scientific directions. The community, therefore, is rightfully concerned about the unintended consequences of these restrictions stifling innovation and stunting economic growth by preventing federal scientists from participating fully in scientific exchanges with their fellow scientists and engineers from across the country and the world. So I hope OMB follows closely the impact of their own rules as they are implemented.

Today, however, I speak to the shockingly onerous requirements in H.R. 4631. While OMB's new directives have a \$100,000 trigger for reporting on any given conference, in this bill, there is no trigger for the excessive laundry list of reporting requirements. And to be sure we understand each other, a conference is defined in this bill as "a meeting, retreat, seminar, symposium, or event to which an employee travels 25 miles or more to attend, that is held for consultation, education, discussion, or training; and is not held entirely at a Government facility." Imagine, then, the very real and very common situation in which a USGS scientist in Reston travels by personal vehicle to a meeting about earthquakes with other agency and non-federal scientists at a non-governmental site such as the American Geophysical Union headquarters in DC. That USGS scientist is entitled to reimbursement for fuel mileage for that trip. Are we really going to pay that scientist and other agency staff to do a complete cost-benefit analysis and meet all of the other reporting requirements in this bill over a \$30 expense? It seems to me that the additional bureaucratic resources necessary to meet this requirement will require far more than a \$30 reimbursement for gas.

Colleagues, I cannot imagine a more inefficient, bureaucratic, wasteful system than the one set up in this bill. If the goal is to make it so hard for any agency scientist to travel anywhere, anytime, for any purpose, then mission accomplished. But let us not underestimate the consequences this will have on the free and open exchange of scientific and technical knowledge and understanding between federal and non-federal scientists and for the innovation and economic benefits that follow. Nor let us underestimate the consequences this has for the ability of science agencies such as the National Science Foundation to conduct proper oversight of the several billion dollars in grants it awards to university scientists and engineers, because this bill also applies to program managers.

I urge my colleagues on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform to address these concerns as the bill moves forward.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FRIENDS OF THE ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Friends of the Israel Defense Forces (FIDF).

Established in 1981 by a group of Holocaust survivors, FIDF is committed to providing for the wellbeing of those who serve in the Israel Defense Forces. It initiates and helps support educational, social, cultural and recreational programs and facilities for the young men and women soldiers of Israel, as well as the families of fallen soldiers. FIDF's headquarters is located in New York City, but also has 14 regional offices in the United States and one office in Panama.

The Ohio Chapter of FIDF was established in 1995 and is led by co-chairs, Richard Sodof and Elie Weiss. On September 11, 2012, the Ohio Chapter of FIDF honored Mr. Robert Goldberg at its Gala Dinner.

Mr. Goldberg is currently the Chairman of the Cleveland American Israel Public Affairs Committee. He is an active member of his Israeli and Cleveland communities. Due to his dedication to the Jewish community, Mr. Goldberg has been the recipient of several awards including the Tree of Life Award, Jewish Community Federation Leadership Award, Eisenmann Award and Young Leadership Award.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Mr. Robert Goldberg and the Ohio Chapter of the Friends of the Israel Defense Forces.

HONORING COLONEL JOHN R. BOULÉ II

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is with great appreciation for his service to the people of my district that I thank and recognize Colonel John R. Boulé II, commander of

the New York district of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. I have known Colonel Boulé since he assumed command of the New York District in 2009 and have been proud to work with him on Long Island to improve navigation and protect our shores, which have a direct effect on the local economy.

Covering not only Long Island, the New York district is responsible for the Corps' water resource development, navigation and regulatory activities in northeastern New Jersey, eastern and south-central New York State, and parts of Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut. The district is also responsible for design and construction at Army and Air Force installations in New Jersey, New York and overseas in Greenland. Colonel Boulé also holds the title of Supervisor of New York Harbor.

Under Colonel Boulé's leadership, my district has directly benefited from maintenance dredging of Shinnecock Inlet, Lake Montauk Harbor and the Long Island Intracoastal Waterway. We have also benefited from the completion of the Orient Harbor (Route 25) emergency shoreline stabilization and the execution of the feasibility cost share agreement with the Town of Brookhaven for the Forge River ecosystem restoration study. Furthermore, we successfully completed an agreement with the U.S. Department of Interior on a tentative federally supported plan for the Fire Island to Montauk Point reformulation study.

Colonel Boulé is originally from Plattsburgh, New York and graduated in 1986 from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point with a Bachelors of Science in Civil Engineering. After earning two masters of science degrees from Stanford University and his professional engineer certification, he taught hydrology in the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering at the United States Military Academy.

Colonel Boulé served in a variety of operational, command and staff assignments in the U.S. and overseas. His most recent assignment was Assistant Director of Civil Works at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' headquarters in Washington, D.C. where he performed numerous duties until attending senior service college at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) where he earned a masters of science in national resource strategy as a distinguished graduate in June, 2009.

Colonel Boulé's previous assignments include serving with the 16th Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Division in Furth, Germany. As a captain, he volunteered for service in Operation Desert Storm with the 27th Engineer Battalion. He then served as a staff officer and company commander with the 41st Engineer Battalion, 10th Mountain Division, deploying his unit to south Florida and Somalia in support of Operation Hurricane Andrew Relief and Operation Restore Hope. After company command, Colonel Boulé performed duties as a division plans officer. As a major, he served as the battalion executive officer of the 1st Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment.

Upon graduating with distinction from the Naval Command and Staff College, Colonel Boulé relocated to Korea, serving as a battalion executive officer for the 2nd Engineer Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. Following this tour, he was assigned to the Pentagon on Army staff, serving in the G-8, with specific duties managing current force modernization and setting the force operations. In June, 2004, Colonel Boulé assumed command of

the 62nd Engineer Battalion at Fort Hood, Texas. Beginning in December, 2005, Colonel Boulé led the battalion on a one-year deployment to Iraq in support of the 4th Infantry Division.

Colonel Boulé's decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, six awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Ranger Tab, and the Combat Action Badge.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident from his long list of accomplishments and accolades that Colonel Boulé has dedicated his life to serving our great nation. I am honored to have worked with him to improve our nation's coastal waterways and the lives of Long Island residents. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors and thank him again on behalf of the First Congressional District of New York.

HONORING PASTOR MICHAEL
BENTON

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service; and

Whereas, Pastor Micheal Benton has given of himself to lead Fairfield Baptist Church these past thirty-five years; and

Whereas, Pastor Micheal Benton under the guidance of God has pioneered and sustained Fairfield Baptist Church as an instrument in our community that betters the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has shared his time and talents for the betterment of our community for the past thirty five (35) years by preaching the gospel, singing the gospel and living the gospel; and

Whereas, Pastor Micheal Benton is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a man of great courage, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared with not only Fairfield Baptist Church, but with DeKalb County and the world his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Pastor Micheal Benton for his leadership and service for our District as he celebrates his 35th Pastoral anniversary;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim September 23, 2012 as Pastor Micheal Benton Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, This 23rd day of September, 2012.

IN HONOR OF MR. DAVID
GREENSPAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of David Greenspan, a member of the

Cuyahoga County Council serving the First District.

Greenspan is a native of Atlanta, Georgia and has lived in Cuyahoga County for the past three years. While living in the Atlanta suburb of Sandy Springs, David served on a committee that organized the incorporation of the new city. In Atlanta, David worked for Atlanta Olympic Broadcasting, Turner Media Consultants, and the PGA TOUR Radio Network.

David currently serves as the Chief Financial Officer for LeanStream Media, Inc. and is also the Managing Partner of Green Elk Consulting Services, LLC. His bachelor's degree in Accounting and Business Administration from Troy University, in addition to his work experience in business and finance, has made him an asset to the Cuyahoga County Council. David is also a member of the Government Relations Committee for the Beck Center for the Performing Arts and Glen's Homeowners Association, and has recently held positions on the City of Westlake's Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring David Greenspan, a member of the Cuyahoga County Council serving the First District.

COMMEMORATING THE 400TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF BIRTH OF ANNE
BRADSTREET

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and join my constituents in commemorating the 400th anniversary of the birth of Anne Bradstreet, who is considered by many to be America's first published poet.

Anne Bradstreet was born in England but is believed to have arrived in America in 1630. Her work, which includes such poems as "To My Dear and Loving Husband" and "Verses Upon the Burning of Our House," has been taught in high school and college classrooms across the country. Anne Bradstreet reportedly lived for several years in North Andover, which is located in my district. In fact, some believe that Anne Bradstreet may be buried in the Old Burying Ground in North Andover.

On the occasion of the 400th anniversary of Anne Bradstreet's birth, Karen Kline of North Andover and other members of the Friends of Anne Bradstreet Steering Committee are continuing their efforts to raise awareness about Anne Bradstreet's work and her contribution to history and the literary canon.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER
MARC A. HONE, AS HE PRE-
PARES TO RETIRE AFTER 21
YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE
UNITED STATES NAVY AND TO
OUR NATION

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Commander Marc A. Hone, as he prepares

to retire after 21 years of service to the United States Navy and to the United States of America.

I have worked with Commander Hone personally over the past 4 years—first in 2009, when he was a Defense Legislative Fellow assigned to my office, and then for 3 years as an Appropriations Liaison in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller). I would like to share with you some highlights of Marc's career.

Commander Hone graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1991 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science. After commissioning, nuclear operator and submarine training, he reported to his first ship, USS *Hammerhead* (SSN 663), where he served as Reactor Control and Fire Control Assistant. After taking the ship to inactivation at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, the Shipyard in my district in Bremerton, he transferred to USS *Atlanta* (SSN 712) as the Chemical and Radiological Control Assistant where he qualified as a Nuclear Engineer Officer. He later served at sea as Navigator and Operations Officer on USS *Olympia* (SSN 717), completing two deployments to the Western Pacific and Arabian Gulf.

Marc also served with distinction in a variety of assignments ashore: as a Flag Aide to the President of the Board of Inspection and Survey; as the Staff Warfare Officer (Submarines) for the British Royal Navy's Maritime Battle Staff in Portsmouth, United Kingdom; as the Executive Officer of Submarine Learning Facility, Norfolk; and as the Deputy Director of Fleet Training at U.S. Fleet Forces Command. In 2007, he served as a Counter IED Liaison Officer in Kabul, Afghanistan—supporting our Embassy and the U.S. military headquarters located there.

After completing a Defense Legislative Fellowship, Commander Hone reported to his current assignment as a Congressional Liaison, managing a diverse portfolio containing the Submarine Warfare, Intelligence, and Navy Energy accounts. For 3 years, Marc has demonstrated exceptional leadership and foresight, engaging Members of the Appropriations Committee and the Defense Subcommittee Staff to provide information essential to resourcing the Navy for its role as the world's preeminent sea power. In an increasingly difficult budget environment, Commander Hone provided essential support in shepherding three Navy budgets through the appropriations process. Marc served the Navy and our Nation with integrity, insight and dedication. My office, the Subcommittee Staff, and I have found him to be a pleasure to work with and all respect his professionalism.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in saying thank you to Commander Marc A. Hone for his extraordinary dedication to duty and steadfast service to this country throughout his distinguished career. We wish Marc, his wife Marie, and his daughters Natasha and Katarina "Fair Winds and Following Seas" as he leaves the Naval Service.

IN HONOR OF SENATOR SHIRLEY
A. SMITH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Senator Shirley A. Smith of the State of Ohio's 21st Senate District.

Senator Smith began her career as a radio talk-show host interviewing prominent politicians and community leaders for a major Cleveland station before changing pace and working for a television network affiliate.

Beginning in 1999, Senator Smith served 8 years as an Ohio House Representative from the 10th district until assuming office in the Ohio Senate in 2007. Throughout her legislative career, she has been a strong advocate for the socially and economically disadvantaged as displayed through her membership on the Senate Health, Human Services and Aging; Finance; Reference; Criminal Justice; and Rules Committees. She also serves as Assistant Minority Leader, acts as State Director for the Women Legislators' Lobby, and has served as both the Secretary and President of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus.

Senator Smith's hard work and dedication throughout the years has earned her a Fannie Mae Foundation Fellowship at Harvard University, the Legislator of the Year Award in 2006 for her work with dental hygiene, a feature in the Crusader Newspaper acknowledging her work to repeal Ohio's use of the death penalty, and interviews on both MSNBC and Fox News Network's "The Morning Show with Mike and Juliet" advocating for the passage of Senate Bill 197, nicknamed the "Second Chance Bill."

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the achievements of Ohio Senator Shirley A. Smith.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF
PEOPLE FOR PUGET SOUND

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the work of the People for Puget Sound organization. For twenty years, this organization has been a strong voice for protecting one of the Pacific Northwest region's most valuable assets: the Puget Sound. After achieving many victories to protect the waterway, People for Puget Sound is transferring its programs to other organizations and concluding its operations.

Established in 1991, People for Puget Sound has worked to restore the fish and wildlife in the Puget Sound by creating clean and healthy land and waters that can be enjoyed by future generations. The organization worked to educate people who work and live throughout the Puget Sound basin about the shared responsibilities in protecting this resource.

Throughout its history, People for Puget Sound hosted countless events to bring volunteers out to restore habitats. Restoration ecologists worked throughout the Puget Sound

region to give citizens the tools to protect the Sound where they work and live.

In addition to educating and engaging the public, People for Puget Sound has been a fierce advocate for the protection of environmental safeguards. For years, volunteers have gathered annually to speak with their representatives about steps that could be taken to clean up the Puget Sound.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the valuable work of People for Puget Sound. Although the organization is dissolving, I know the values and dedication of its staff and thousands of members from across the region will continue to protect the Puget Sound.

HONORING PASTOR MARQUES L.
FLETCHER

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, Pastor Marques L. Fletcher is celebrating thirteen (13) years in ministry this year as Pastor of Young Street Community Baptist Church; and

Whereas, Pastor Marques L. Fletcher, under the guidance of God has pioneered and sustained Young Street Community Baptist Church, as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Pastor Fletcher is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our District and the world his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Pastor Marques L. Fletcher as he celebrates his thirteenth Pastoral Anniversary at Young Street Community Baptist Church;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim September 16, 2012 as Pastor Marques L. Fletcher Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 16th day of September, 2012.

IN HONOR OF COUNCILMAN
TERRELL PRUITT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Councilman Terrell Pruitt, who is currently serving as the representative for Ward 1 on the Cleveland City Council.

Councilman Pruitt has been representing Ward 1, which includes the Lee-Harvard and Miles neighborhoods on the southeast side of Cleveland, since 2008. Since coming to office,

the Councilman has focused on the continued development of his community. He has worked tirelessly to maintain a safe community in which Clevelanders can thrive while making constituent services a top priority.

Councilman Pruitt has been a strong advocate of education and understands the impact that it can have on a community. He has maintained a close relationship with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and supports policies that will increase the quality of education in the District. He has volunteered his time and service to the Governor's Close the Gap Campaign which helps supports students at the local high school to ensure their educational success. Along with his support of education, Councilman Pruitt continues to work towards ensuring a positive job outlook for his constituents by providing job training and continuing education opportunities.

Outside of his position as Councilman, Pruitt served tours in Afghanistan, led hurricane relief missions in Louisiana and serves as the Captain in the Ohio Army National Guard.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring Cleveland City Councilman Terrell Pruitt.

FISA AMENDMENTS ACT
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the FISA Amendments Reauthorization Act of 2012. Clearly, we must work to ensure that our intelligence and law enforcement communities continue to have the tools they need to protect American citizens. It is critically important, however, that in our effort to defend the liberties we cherish, we not enact measures that erode the very freedoms we seek to protect.

This legislation, in its current form, still contains flaws which fail to ensure robust oversight of this program. Specifically, some of the amendments offered by my colleagues on the Judiciary and Intelligence Committees to increase transparency and shorten the sunset should have been included in the final bill. Unfortunately, we are considering this legislation under a closed rule, and no amendments can be offered to the full House.

We must work to reauthorize this program in a balanced way that provides our experts with the authority they need to protect Americans while upholding the values enshrined in our Constitution. I look forward to working with our colleagues in the Senate to reform these provisions so that we don't need to make the false choice between security and freedom.

INTRODUCING MEDICARE
TRANSITIONAL CARE ACT OF 2012

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, together with a group of bipartisan cosponsors,

I am proud to introduce the Medicare transitional Care Act of 2012, legislation to aid patient transitions from one care setting to another within our health care system. The legislation will improve patient health outcomes, reduce hospital readmissions, and save valuable healthcare resources.

When people leave the hospital after an operation or illness, they are often overwhelmed by a complicated and risky road to recovery. Patients frequently report difficulty remembering clinical instructions, confusion over medications, and in cases where multiple providers are involved, can receive conflicting instructions from different providers.

A study published in April 2009 in the *New England Journal of Medicine* found that almost one third of Medicare beneficiaries studied who were discharged from a hospital were re-hospitalized within 90 days. Additionally, one-half of the individuals re-hospitalized had not visited a physician since their discharge, suggesting a lack of follow-up care. The study estimated that Medicare spent \$17.4 billion in 2004 on unplanned re-hospitalizations.

In its June 2012 Report, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, MedPAC, highlighted the need for an explicit payment for transitional care services, given the documented evidence that effective and coordinated care transitions improve health outcomes, reduce readmission rates, and generate significant savings to the U.S. health care system. The Congressional Budget Office has echoed these findings. In a report documenting lessons from Medicare's demonstration projects, the CBO emphasized that "programs that smoothed transitions (for example, by providing additional education and support to patients moving from a hospital to a nursing facility or between a primary care provider and a specialist) tended to have fewer hospital admissions."

There are some well-established and peer-reviewed programs that could be adopted. For example, the Transitions Care Model, which assigns a transitional care nurse during the transition period, has resulted in cost savings of approximately \$5,000 per patient. Other models also have demonstrated savings, such as the Care Transitions Intervention model, which provides patients with a transitions coach and self-management tools, has reduced hospital readmission rates from 20 percent to 12.8 percent, while Project Better Outcomes for Older adults through Safe Transitions, BOOST, which provides hospitals with management tools and mentoring programs to improve the discharge transition process, resulted in lower rates of mortality and 30-day readmissions rates dropped from 25.5 percent to 8.5 percent for those under age 70.

It is our hope that stakeholders involved in the care delivery system will carefully evaluate this legislation and provide comments or suggested improvements to me and the other sponsors. We are interested in ensuring that the legislation's terms are adequately tailored to the different circumstances and settings in which these transitions occur.

Providing a transitional care benefit within Medicare will help coordinate care, develop a care plan for patients and their caregivers, identify potential health risks, and prevent unnecessary hospitalizations. I thank my cosponsors and look forward to working with my colleagues to advance this legislation.

IN HONOR OF MR. DALE MILLER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dale Miller, a member of the Cuyahoga County Council serving the Second District.

Councilman Miller was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1949 and graduated from Garfield Heights High School in 1967. He attended Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, earning a bachelor's degree in psychology. Dale later earned a doctoral degree in clinical psychology from the University of Utah, before eventually returning to his hometown of Cleveland shortly after graduation.

Dale has been active in public service throughout his life. As a college student, he was an intern for United States Senator Howard Metzenbaum. He served on the Cleveland City Council for nine terms beginning in 1979, in the Ohio House of Representatives from 1997 to 2006, and in the Ohio Senate from 2006 to 2010. He chose not to seek reelection to the Ohio Senate in 2010, deciding instead to run for the new Cuyahoga County Council.

Throughout his career, Miller has been honored on numerous occasions. He is the recipient of a Louis Stokes Award, State Leadership Award, and Community Leadership Award. He was also named the Legislator of the Year by the AFL-CIO and Public Children's Association of Ohio in 2005.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring my friend, Dale Miller, a member of the Cuyahoga County Council with a proven dedication to serving his fellow Ohioans for more than 30 years.

HONORING GEORGE BROWN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, George Brown has served as the City Clerk of the City of Mount Vernon since 2009 and before that as Deputy City Clerk from 2004. He is a native son of the City who received his primary education there. He went on to graduate with an Associates Degree in Applied Science from the Business Institute of Westchester and a Bachelor of Science Degree from Manhattan College.

He retired from Consolidated Edison to bring his 32 years of corporate experience in Customer Service, Accounting, Conflict Resolution, and Corporate Safety to City governance. He is involved with and received awards from many community and civic organizations. He has volunteered as a Celebrity Chef Cook for the YMCA and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, was Event Co-Chairperson for Mount Vernon Relay for Life of the American Cancer Society, and Team Captain of Harlem Relay for Life of American Cancer Society.

He is a District Leader of the Mount Vernon Democrat City Committee, a member of the Black Democrats of Westchester, Past Vice President of the Mount Vernon Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors, Prince Hall Mason of

the State of New York, St. Joseph Lodge #117 F&AM, having served 12 years as Grand Lecturer under five Grand Masters. He received the 33rd Degree, the highest degree in Masonry in May 2009. He has been a member of Elejmal Temple #185 of the AEAONMS INC. since 1994 and in December, 2011 was elected Illustrious Potentate of Elejmal Temple #185.

George Brown is first and foremost a family man and one who loves laughter. He is also devoutly spiritual and every Sunday you will find him at the Greater Centennial AME Zion Church, where he is a proud member.

He is a man of the community, one who is unselfish in giving to his community. It is because of people like George Brown that communities grow and prosper and I am proud to join in honoring him for his service to his community.

INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION
CORPS ACT OF 2012

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join my colleague ANDER CRENSHAW in introducing the "International Conservation Corps Act of 2012" (ICCA), legislation that will mobilize our large and growing community of retired conservation experts, in a voluntary capacity, to support the efforts of developing countries to sustainably manage their natural resources.

There is a significant deficit in the capability of most developing countries to successfully manage their natural resources, which is fundamental to sustainable development, poverty alleviation, conflict avoidance, good governance, and regional security. Countries with a great wealth of natural resources are often cursed with devastating poverty, corruption and civil war arising from disputes over control and distribution of these resources.

The International Conservation Corps Act will harness the vast experience of the United States in natural resource management and connect it with developing countries to help them operate and develop more sustainable programs. Modeled after the Peace Corps, the ICCA program would offer retired land managers, both public and private sector employees, geologists, biologists, and park rangers the opportunity to volunteer their services to the foreign country. The ICCA would cover the expenses necessary to deploy volunteers in other countries such as airfare, food, and lodging. The program will utilize volunteers who have long practical experience and are respected in their fields, and who are enthusiastic about opportunities to apply their knowledge and skills to assist other countries.

Under this proposal, the State Department would screen foreign government requests for assistance. Cleared requests would be forwarded to the Interior Department which would craft a prospectus that awards competitive grants to the nonprofit that assembles the best volunteer team and most meritorious application. Federal administrative costs would be minimal, ensuring tax payer funds are spent almost exclusively on "boots on the ground." No more than \$10 million could be appropriated per year. The cost of this program

would be fully offset with savings from unexpended balances.

This proposal will be both a modest commitment and highly effective way to stretch our foreign aid dollars in advancing our national security interests of environmental stewardship, conflict avoidance, sustainable development and poverty alleviation.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation. Let's take advantage of this unique opportunity represented by the wave of highly qualified retiring U.S. professionals to help developing countries establish good governance.

IN HONOR OF OHIO STATE
REPRESENTATIVE BILL PATMON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor State Representative Bill Patmon of Ohio's 10th House District.

Representative Patmon served as a member of the Cleveland City Council for 12 years between 1990 and 2001. During his time as a Councilman, he served as Chairman of the Council Finance Committee and the Employment and Affirmative Action Committee as well as Vice Chairman of the Safety, Community Development, and Utilities Committee. Following his tenure as Councilman, Representative Patmon was then elected to the Ohio State Congress in 2011 where he sits as a member of the Education; State Government and Elections; and Transportation, Public Safety, and Homeland Security Committees.

Representative Patmon has been a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a member of the Board of Trustees for the Regional Transit Authority, a Special Consultant to the late Councilwoman, Fannie M. Lewis, and a member of the Harvard University Professional Fellows Program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government.

He is currently the President of East Erie Enterprise LLC which provides professional consulting in regards to community, economic development, and municipal finance. He is also a political analyst for the local Channel 3 News station. Representative Patmon is the proud recipient of such honors as the 1997 National League of Cities Cultural Diversity Award.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the achievements of State Representative Bill Patmon.

HONORING SUSAN BRADLEY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Forty years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Federal Government at the Centers for Disease Control; and

Whereas, Ms. Susan Bradley began her career with the CDC with a willingness to lead

and a passion to serve. Today she retires after providing exemplary service to the CDC and our community; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents, giving the citizens of our district a friend to help those in need, a fearless leader and a servant to all wanting to ensure that the system works for everyone; and

Whereas, Ms. Susan Bradley is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Susan Bradley on her retirement from the CDC and to wish her well in her new endeavors;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim August 30, 2012 as Ms. Susan Bradley Day In the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, This 30th day of August, 2012.

CONGRATULATING DR. THOMAS K. MCINERNEY, THE NEW PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my esteemed honor and privilege to recognize Dr. Thomas K. McInerney of Rochester, N.Y., as the next elected President of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). The AAP is the nation's largest pediatric organization, with a membership of 60,000 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists, and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety, and well-being of infants, children, adolescents, and young adults.

Dr. McInerney is Associate Chair for Clinical Affairs and Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Rochester Medical Center and Golisano Children's Hospital, and has worked as a primary care pediatrician at Panorama Pediatric Group in Rochester, N.Y., for 40 years. After earning his medical degree at Harvard Medical School, Dr. McInerney completed his residency at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Boston Children's Hospital. Dr. McInerney has held numerous elected and appointed positions, including the AAP Task Force on Mental Health, the Task Force on Immunization, and the Steering Committee on Quality Improvement and Management. He has served as President of Chapter I, District II (Upstate NY), Treasurer of District II, and has served on the board of directors and as chief medical officer of the Rochester Community Individual Practice Association, a physician-run organization dedicated to maintaining a community-wide panel of health care professionals to provide high quality, cost-effective, and accessible health care to 500,000 residents of the Greater Rochester Area.

It is our responsibility to ensure that children grow up in a safe and healthy environment—protecting children's health must be our top priority. This is why I am so pleased to see that dedicated doctors such as Dr. McInerney are recognized for their achievements.

Dr. McInerney has spent decades working to protect the children and families of the Roch-

ester area and now has the opportunity to broaden his positive impact nationwide. As President-elect, Dr. McInerney has stated that he will work with legislators and stakeholders to ensure that children have access to quality health care. I am confident that Dr. McInerney will be a strong and dedicated leader in protecting the health of our nation's children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in warmly congratulating Dr. McInerney upon his election as President of AAP.

IN HONOR OF OHIO STATE
REPRESENTATIVE MIKE DOVILLA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor State Representative Mike Dovilla of Ohio's 18th House District.

In addition to being a State Representative, Mr. Dovilla is also a U.S. Navy veteran, small business owner, adjunct professor and non-profit leader.

Representative Dovilla is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Reserves with over eight years of commissioned service, including a 12-month deployment to Iraq. While in Iraq, he served as Deputy Officer-in-Charge leading a 25-person Baghdad-based intelligence headquarters which acted as a counter-improvised explosive device brigade. His reserve assignments have included a position with the Chief Naval Operations and the Office of Naval Intelligence. He is currently serving with a U.S. Forces, Japan reserve unit in Akron, Ohio. His military awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal.

Outside of the military, Representative Dovilla has served as a Presidential appointee at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management; a senior advisor to former U.S. Senator, George Voinovich; a Presidential Management Fellow at the U.S. Department of State; a manager of The Dovilla Group—his strategic consulting firm; a German Marshall Fund of the United States' American Marshall Memorial Fellow; a volunteer at University Hospitals Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital; and a member of the Kiwanis Club of Berea, American Legion Post 91 in Berea, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3445 of Strongsville. He was elected to the Ohio General Assembly in 2010 where he is currently serving his first term.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the achievements of State Representative Mike Dovilla.

IN RECOGNITION OF
BARCELONETA, PUERTO RICO

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Barceloneta, Puerto Rico on its recognition at the Puerto Rican Heritage State-wide Parade of New Jersey's 51st Annual

Banquet Gala and Puerto Rican Ilustres. Please join me in welcoming the representatives of Barceloneta to the State of New Jersey.

Founded in 1881, Barceloneta is named for its founder Bonocio Llenza Feliu's hometown of Barcelona, Spain. Due to the vast pineapple plantations across much of the town, it acquired the nickname of La Ciudad de las Piñas, or pineapple city. Barceloneta is located at the northern end of Puerto Rico, along the Atlantic Ocean and is traversed by the Grande de Manatí River.

Today, Barceloneta is known as the Industrial City as it once served as the largest pharmaceutical complex in the world with 14 industries present. It is an ideal location for the facilities because it has underground water reservoirs and the purity of Barceloneta's water requires little treatment to produce their products. Many manufacturers remain today, including Merck Sharp and Dohme; Pfizer; and Abbott Laboratories. Barceloneta is a unique commercial area with the first and one of the largest outlet malls in Puerto Rico, which also serves as a travel destination. Its tourism is also bolstered by its famous black sand beaches, most popular among them Playa La Palmita, Playa Puerto de las Vacas and Playa Las Criollas.

Many notable individuals hail from Barceloneta, including Sixto Escobar, Puerto Rico's first boxing world champion. The Honorable Wanda J. Rosario Soler was elected as Barceloneta's first female mayor in 2012. Mayor Rosario Soler is focused on economic development and tourism to ensure the continued success of Barceloneta.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating Barceloneta, Puerto Rico and thanking the Puerto Rican Heritage Statewide Parade of New Jersey for honoring the town at its 51st Annual Banquet Gala and Puerto Rican Ilustres.

A TRIBUTE TO STOCK CAR RACING LEGEND DUMONT SMITH

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to stock car racing legend Dumont Smith of Satellite Beach, Florida who passed away on Labor Day at the age of 81.

A hard-working building contractor by trade, Dumont Smith was born near Union Cross, North Carolina, and at an early age developed a love for racing. In 1946, at just 15 years old, Dumont began his stock car racing career on the dirt oval speedways in North Carolina. He won the first race he ever entered, after starting 44th in the field with a car he built in his back yard with his cousin Jimmy Caudle. Then, after hanging around and watching High Point, North Carolina driver Fred Harb work on his car at a nearby shop, Dumont refined his car-building skills.

A big part of Dumont Smith's early racing was done at Bowman Gray Stadium in Winston-Salem, NC, where he was racing fairly regularly by 1948. That year was also NASCAR's very first year of operation, and Dumont was one of its pioneer members. In fact, when Dumont surrendered his NASCAR

license after coming to Florida to race on the independent tracks, it was Richard Petty who took over Dumont's registered car number 43.

Dumont's racing career in Florida saw many titles and track championships as he raced for various car owners and excited fans across the state. He won the Florida State Late Model Governor's Cup in 1967 at the Golden Gate Speedway in Tampa, the Late Model Championship in 1968 and 1969 at the Palm Beach Fairgrounds Speedway in West Palm Beach and the 1969 Late Model Championships at New Smyrna Speedway in New Smyrna Beach and Treasure Coast Raceway in Fort Pierce.

At the Eau Gallie Speedway in Melbourne, a local track I once owned and raced on many times, Dumont won a staggering 6 late model championships in 1962, 1963, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1969. He was also the Platinum Coast 100 annual event winner for five years and held the track record in 1967. In all, his racing career in Florida lasted through 1976.

As a building contractor, Dumont along with his brothers, Percy and Jack, plus his cousins Percy Hedgecock and Jimmy Caudle, founded Satellite Beach by developing most of the initial housing neighborhoods. Dumont actually built his first house in North Carolina in 1948 at the age of 17. Just the year before, he had met his wife-to-be, Sarah. They were married in 1949, and December of 2012 would have been their 63rd anniversary. Dumont is survived by his wife Sarah, his son Lance, his daughter Linda and three grandchildren Brandon, Amber and Grant.

My favorite Dumont Smith story is from the 1966 Governor's Cup, the year before he won. Dumont was running second to Bobby Brack with just a few laps to go. Instead of driving through Bobby, running him off the track, Dumont made a bold choice—risk second place and try to pass on the outside around the turn. But the track was very slick from all the grease and leaky oil, and Dumont lost the number two position to ultimately finish fourth.

One of the spectators next to me commented that it wasn't a smart move; that Dumont gave up a sure second place. I simply replied that Dumont didn't race to finish second, he came to win. And Dumont was an honorable racer. He raced to win straight-up, no dirty tricks or rough driving. That's just one of the many qualities I liked so much about Dumont and why he had so many fans.

HONORING BISHOP EDDIE L. LONG

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, Bishop Eddie L. Long, is celebrating twenty-five (25) years as pastor of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church this year and providing leadership to his church on an international level; and

Whereas, Bishop Eddie L. Long, under the guidance and calling of God began preaching the word of God to members of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church as pastor in 1987 and today is celebrating a milestone; and

Whereas, from North Carolina to Atlanta, Georgia, he has transformed, trail blazed and

taught the gospel; fed the hungry and assisted those in the community in need; and

Whereas, this man of God has been a blessing to us as a spiritual leader, an educator and a community leader; and

Whereas, Bishop Long has given of himself these past twenty five years to build up the community and has spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to recognize Bishop Eddie L. Long, as he celebrates his 25th Pastoral Anniversary;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim August 19, 2012 as Bishop Eddie L. Long Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 19th day of August, 2012.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 65TH BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the United States Air Force for 65 years of innovative progress and strong, steadfast defense of our nation. Over the last 65 years, the brave men and women who have served in the Air Force have made significant contributions in defending our homeland and safeguarding our liberties.

A celebration commemorating the 65th Birthday of the Air Force will be held at the Museum of Aviation at Robins Air Force Base in Georgia on Saturday, September 15, 2012, at 6 p.m. Lieutenant General Andrew Busch, Vice Commander of the Air Force Materiel Command will be the guest speaker for the evening.

The United States Air Force was officially founded on September 18, 1947. However, its history and legacy go back even further. Less than four years after the Wright brothers flew the world's first airplane, the U.S. Army Signal Corps formed an Aeronautical Division in 1907. Known by several different titles and serving a number of purposes, the precursors of the Air Force were instrumental in World War I and especially World War II. Today, the United States Air Force, with its cutting-edge technology and distinguished manpower, is a superior and well-respected authority of air and space.

Shortly before the establishment of the Air Force, on September 1, 1941, construction began on the new Georgia Air Depot located sixteen miles south of Macon, Georgia. At the time of its dedication in 1943, the Depot Commander, Col. Charles E. Thomas, renamed it the Warner Robins Army Air Depot in honor of his mentor and the "father of logistics" of the Air Force, Brig. Gen. Augustine Warner Robins. Now known as Warner Robins Air Logistics Center and Robins Air Force Base, this former dairy farm pastureland would become the largest industrial installation in Georgia and one of the nation's finest defense assets.

Robins Air Force Base employs a workforce of over 25,584 civilians, contractors and members of the military. It is a vital part of the economy in Middle Georgia and brings in billions of dollars each year to the surrounding

communities. Through my ongoing interaction with Robins Air Force Base personnel, one of the things I have come to admire most is their remarkable interaction with the people of Middle Georgia.

Furthermore, Robins Air Force Base, along with the United States Air Force, is a strong advocate of diversity and hence is able to recruit and train the most talented men and women to become the most distinguished officers and personnel in the United States Armed Forces.

The vast success and numerous achievements and victories of the Air Force would not be possible without the talented manpower that drives, or rather, flies, it. The ideas that manifest into state-of-the-art technology, the hands that build and operate it, and the minds that make the decisions that impact one life or millions of lives are all due to the diligence, creativity, and dedication of a people united in sharing and protecting the ideals of America.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to the men and women who, over the last 65 years, have served or currently serve in the United States Air Force. Their outstanding valor and patriotic service have made the United States Air Force the best in the world.

HONORING JACQUELINE C. ALLEN

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following.

Whereas, Jacqueline C. Allen, the reigning matriarch of our family was born seventy-five years ago on June 26, 1937, in St. Louis, Missouri; and

Whereas, in the early 50's "Jackie" and her family made the decision to move from Missouri to Wisconsin. "Jackie" and her family resided in what I call the "center of the universe" Racine, Wisconsin for approximately three years before moving to what is now the 4th Congressional District of Wisconsin, which includes the City of Milwaukee; and

Whereas, Jackie continued her education in Milwaukee receiving certification in Early Childhood Development from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee; and

Whereas, not only did Jackie work creatively and lovingly with children from infancy to K-5, but Jackie also distinguished herself in the following careers: as a Housing Counselor for the City of Milwaukee where she assisted hundreds of residents in peril of foreclosure; Jackie was also a compassionate and competent Special Liaison with the Milwaukee District Attorney's office in outreach and support of battered women; and

Whereas, Jackie was honored by being selected as "Queen of Protocol" for the opening ceremonies of Milwaukee's historic African World Festival; and

Whereas, in the early 70's Jackie was one of the original organizers of the Welfare Warriors, a group that empowers predominantly women of every race, creed and color and continues to impact our country and community to this present day; and

Whereas, a portrait of Jackie has been on display in the Milwaukee Public Library system

for several decades as a tribute to Jacqueline C. Allen as one of Milwaukee, Wisconsin's most "positive people"; and

Whereas, as a family we are well aware that not only is Jackie positive but she is also persistent and powerful. Jackie has positively impacted her family decade after decade and generation after generation.

Therefore, it is with the utmost pride that I will stand on the floor of the House of Representatives in Washington, DC and convey to my colleagues and residents across the country the love and joy that I shared on July 22, 2012 on the occasion of the 75th Platinum Birthday Jubilee of my loyal constituent and my loving sister, Ms. Jacqueline C. Allen.

To God be the Glory!

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, this Continuing Resolution will fund the government through March 27, 2013, avoid a government shutdown and maintain critical programs and services for the American people. It is not in every respect the bill I would have written, but it is consistent with the Budget Control Act of 2011 and reflects the bipartisan and bicameral agreement that is possible at this time.

H.J. Res. 117 funds the government at an annualized rate of \$1.047 trillion, meets the President's request for Overseas Contingency Operations and includes modest increases for activities including cybersecurity, wildfire suppression and processing disability claims at the Veterans Administration.

While I am gratified that today's legislation also includes a clean, six-month extension of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, I regret that H.J. Res 117 continues to block common sense light bulb efficiency standards that would benefit consumers and the environment. Additionally, after two years of frozen pay, I believe federal workers should receive President Obama's recommended .5% cost-of-living adjustment at the beginning of the fiscal year.

HONORING DEACON ELI MCKENZIE

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following US. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, we are saddened by the death of Deacon Eli McKenzie, Jr., Ph.D., because our lives have been touched by the life of this one man; and

Whereas, Deacon Eli McKenzie's work is present in our district and his church, Fairfield Baptist Church in Lithonia, Georgia; also through the work of his beloved fraternity, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; and

Whereas, this highly effective motivator utilized his skills to aid in the growth and development of his church and community; and

Whereas, he gave of himself, his time and talent as he served his family, friends and community; and

Whereas, Deacon Eli McKenzie, Jr., Ph.D., was a husband, a son, a father, a brother and a friend; a man of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of our community; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a special recognition on Deacon Eli McKenzie, Jr., Ph.D., for his leadership, friendship and service to all as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby attest to the 112th Congress of the United States that Deacon Eli McKenzie, Jr., Ph.D., of Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition" by declaring Deacon Eli McKenzie, Jr., Ph.D. U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 25th day of August, 2012.

NEIL ARMSTRONG TRIBUTE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my gratitude to the great American and Astronaut, Neil Armstrong.

Neil Armstrong is a name that will forever be a testament to our nation's will to prevail in the challenge for successful space exploration and push the boundaries—going where no man has gone before.

Neil Armstrong was truly an American hero and icon. He represented the ingenuity and the passion for exploration and discovery that is the hallmark of our nation.

It may have been a "small step," but when he became the first person to set foot on the moon, it changed the course of history, making the impossible possible. His legacy will live on each time we dare to dream beyond what seems possible.

I am sure that everyone in this House and around this great nation has some memory of where they were and what they were doing when they saw Neil Armstrong become the first human being to walk on the Moon as commander of the *Apollo 11* mission.

Neil Armstrong was born in Wapakoneta, Ohio on August 5, 1930. He joined the Navy and flew as a naval aviator from 1949 until 1952. In 1955 he made the decision to join the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics' Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory and later transferred to the high speed flight station at Edwards Air Force Base, California to become a civilian aeronautical test research pilot for NASA.

Mr. Armstrong, along with his fellow astronauts, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collin, shared the most significant accomplishment of modern man—they were the first people to successfully complete a voyage to and walk on the Moon.

On July 11, 1969, Armstrong, boarded the *Apollo 11* spacecraft and departed for the Moon. Four days later he arrived landed our lunar module in the Moon's sea of tranquility.

While Astronaut Collins remained with the orbiting Mother Ship, Neil Armstrong, said

"One small step for man, one giant leap for Mankind," and took the first step on the Moon's surface. At that moment Neil Armstrong changed Mankind and the Earth.

At that moment in history, America along with the world celebrated the fantastic milestone—science fiction had become science fact—Neil Armstrong and his fellow Astronauts had accomplished through the help of thousands back on earth and Heaven's blessings.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that in honoring Neil Armstrong, we as Americans will renew young people's interests preparing for careers in mathematics and science.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST CLEVELAND MOSQUE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 75th anniversary of the First Cleveland Mosque.

The First Cleveland Mosque was founded in 1937 by Al Hajj Imam Wali Akram, and is among the oldest Islamic organizations in the U.S. Imam Wali Akram's goal in establishing the mosque was to have a place to entertain and educate the Muslim community.

In 1984, Al Hajj Imam Mahmoud A. Akram took over as the Imam of the First Cleveland Masjid and served until 1989. Since 1989, the grandson of Imam Wali Akram, Imam Abbas Ahmad, has been leading a congregation of hundreds of members. The First Cleveland Mosque embraces and propagates the fundamental teachings of Islam through service to the community according to the Quran and Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad.

In celebration of the First Cleveland Mosque's 75th anniversary, members will gather for a number of events being held on September 14th and 15th, 2012. Events include prayer, several speakers, a silent auction and a banquet.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in the First Cleveland Mosque, as it celebrates 75 years of serving as a place of worship for hundreds of Greater Cleveland residents.

RECOGNIZING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONGRESSIONAL MANAGEMENT FOUNDATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Congressional Management Foundation (CMF) for its 35th anniversary. Over the past 35 years CMF has aided this body so that the Members can provide our constituents with better services both here in DC and in districts all across this nation.

Through online webinars and publications on best practices, CMF provides many services that improve communications between DC and district staffers. Keeping it Local—the Congressional Management Foundation's detailed guidebook on managing state and dis-

trict offices—allows local managers and staff to maximize their involvement and productivity with constituents.

Among the many pieces of advice Keeping it Local has to offer, some of the most important items include its step-for-step instruction on how to establish and carry out a coordinated agenda, manage citizen outreach, organize district events while also maintaining superior communication networks between offices. The materials provided in this book and other CMF publications have helped my staff run our offices more effectively both at home and on Capitol Hill. On behalf of my staff, I would like to personally thank CMF and congratulate them on their 35th anniversary of serving Congress.

CONGRATULATIONS TO YORKTOWN HIGH SCHOOL FOR BEING NAMED A NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an exemplary school in Indiana's Sixth Congressional District. Yorktown High School in Yorktown, Indiana, has been named a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. Yorktown High School earned this recognition for its excellence in education, showcased through its high-performing students as measured by state assessments or nationally-normed tests.

Yorktown High School has been a staple of the community, serving students in grades 9–12 for more than 100 years with a dedication to core beliefs, including that curriculum and instruction will be research or evidence-based with student achievement being measured to ensure continuous progress. Also, it holds fast to the core belief that school leaders will expect and support ongoing improvement of teaching and student performance and that students will learn and perform best when stakeholders maintain high expectations. Not only does Yorktown High School boast a graduation rate of 95 percent, but in 2011, seniors at Yorktown High School passed AP exams at a rate of 30 percent, compared to the national average for public schools of 18.1 percent.

I want to congratulate Yorktown High School students, administrators and teachers for earning this prestigious award. You have made not just Yorktown, but the entire Hoosier state proud.

A TRIBUTE TO THE 132ND FIGHTER WING

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the outstanding work being done every day in Des Moines, Iowa by members of the 132nd Fighter Wing of the Iowa Air National Guard.

As we are well aware, the U.S. Air Force has recently proposed a reduction of hundreds

of Iowa Air Guard positions and the retirement of the Wing's F–16 aircraft, included in cuts to the Air National Guard nationwide. In the face of this uncertainty, the fine men and women that make up the 132nd Fighter Wing have done what Iowans do best—let their work ethic speak for itself. I am honored to congratulate them on the four major national level awards they have attained in the last six months alone. The awards include the NGAUS Distinguished Flying Unit, Major General John J. Pesch Flight Safety Trophy, Maintenance Effectiveness Award in the Medium Category, and the ARC Logistics Activity of the Year Award. These awards affirm the 132nd as the Top Logistics Readiness Squadron and Top Maintenance organization in the entire Air National Guard.

Yesterday, this House passed H.J. Resolution 117 with my support which contained a crucial provision that places a moratorium on the proposed retirement of the 132nd Fighter Wing's F–16s, along with other proposed aircraft retirements from the Air National Guard. I do not believe that the Air Force's recommendation to close this fighter wing was based on thorough cost-benefit analysis. I will continue working to ensure that defense spending decisions are based on solid data and strengthening our national security, and working to fight for the permanent protection the members of the 132nd Fighter Wing deserve.

Mr. Speaker, the men and women that comprise the nationally acclaimed 132nd Fighter Wing in Des Moines are some of the most experienced in the Air Force. They are crucial contributors to our nation's security, both at home and abroad, and this body is wise for standing with them and pressing for more accountable decision making by the Pentagon. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating the Iowa Air Guard on their recent achievements as we look forward to many more to come. May God continue to watch over all of our soldiers, and their families, across the world and here at home.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM COMMISSION ACT OF 2012

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the National Women's History Museum Commission Act of 2012. I am proud to be joined in this effort by my friend and colleague Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, as well as by Senator SUSAN COLLINS.

This bipartisan bill, which has also been introduced by Senator COLLINS, creates a new commission to examine the feasibility and cost of building a National Women's History Museum, NWHM, on or near the National Mall.

This commission will be a bipartisan, eight member body comprised of two members appointed by the Senate Majority Leader, two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, two members appointed by the Minority Speaker of the Senate, and two members will be appointed by the House of Representatives Minority Leader. All appointees will need to demonstrate a commitment to the research and study of women's history.

Most importantly, no federal dollars will be spent on this important, new museum. The work of the NWHM Commission would be paid for entirely with private funds.

Women's history has taken a backseat to the hundreds of years of written and available narrative focusing on men. Women are largely missing from textbooks, memorials, and museum exhibits. Of the 210 statues in the United States Capitol, only 9 are of female leaders. Across the country, less than 5 percent of the 2,400 national historic landmarks chronicle women's achievements.

The museums and memorials in our nation's capital reveal what we as Americans value. Today, we have museums dedicated to many important people and issues of interest, including flight, postage stamps, and law enforcement. But we still do not have a museum dedicated to woman's history and their contribution to building our great country.

A vital part of achieving equal rights for women is acknowledging and commemorating the deep and lasting impacts women have made in history. This bill would provide us with a blueprint of steps to take in order to finally honor 53% of our population. Certainly, women should be honored for their many contributions that are the very fabric of our country.

I urge my colleagues to join me in filling this void and honoring our Nation's foremothers by cosponsoring the National Women's History Museum Commission Act.

HONORING MAJOR WALTER D. GRAY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one man . . . who has given of himself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, U.S. Air Force Major Walter D. Gray served our nation with honor and gave his life answering a call to duty; and

Whereas, Major Gray never asked for fame or fortune, nor found a job too small or too big; but gave of himself, his time, his talent and his life to uplift those in need by demonstrating unwavering commitment to protecting and serving the citizens of the United States of America; and

Whereas, he was a husband, a father, a son, a brother and a friend; he was also our warrior, a man of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting and service to our nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Major Walter D. Gray as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Major Walter D. Gray is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor" by declaring Major Walter D. Gray U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 17th day of August, 2012.

RECOGNIZING RUMFORD INDUSTRIAL GROUP

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on July 25, 2012, the Committee on Small Business held a hearing examining how, despite the harrowing recession and tough economy, some small business owners have grown by innovating and strategically adapting their business models in order to find success. In the days leading up to the hearing, the Rumford Industrial Group, a small firm in Centerville, Ohio, sent me a letter highlighting their successes as well as noting the tough choices their company must make every day. As our Nation's job creators, small businesses, continue to struggle with economic uncertainty, I rise today to submit the Rumford Industrial Group's statement as a testament to the perseverance, innovation, and hard work accomplished by America's small business men and women every day. Their commitment to their businesses, employees, and communities is critical to this nation's future success.

RUMFORD INDUSTRIAL GROUP,
Centerville, OH, July 20, 2012.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
House Small Business Committee,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GRAVES: Thank you for the opportunity to discuss our successes and our concerns during this challenging time.

Rumford Industrial Group is a small industrial distribution company located in Dayton Ohio. Incorporated in 1980 by Jim Rumford we are your typical sales organization. The economic climate in 1980 wasn't very favorable for starting a company. Interest rates were around 18% and banks just weren't lending anyway.

We've made investments over the years to stay ahead of the competition and as our company grows, we hire. Our group currently numbers 40 over a 5 state territory.

As a sales organization it is our responsibility to provide certain functions to support our sales staff. These include but aren't limited to: Office/warehouse (of which we're about to break ground on a new 8500 sq ft facility); accounting/bookkeeping department; shipping/receiving capabilities; customer service; order taking; marketing department; technical support; sales consultants; application company.

By having a fully functional office to support our sales field we are able to increase our presence in our industrial accounts by making our sales staff more efficient. This increases our sales and allows us to expand our internal and external organizations.

In 2009 when the economy tanked we lost 40% of our business. We chose to use our savings accounts to keep people employed instead of laying them off. We believe most small businesses in this country would do the same if they had the option. We were fortunate when in August of 2010 business started picking up and we were able to gain back 25% of the previous year's losses. Still down but not as far. In 2011 we were up 25% over 2010 and so far for 2012 we are running at a 35% increase in business. How are we managing this? Well, we went back to the basics. We started calling our customers, knocking on doors and sending email newsletters to let the customer base know about our capabilities. Basically we implemented a great marketing campaign.

Typically in economic downturns our business does very well as we rebuild and salvage

component equipment in the industrial sector. This last downturn didn't just close factories and facilities, they were torn down. Automotive plants that covered hundreds of acres of land are gone. The industries that support big business were just gone. We were fortunate to survive and one of the main reasons for this is that we carry no debt. By not having debt to service we can focus on our mission of effectively educating employees and customers on providing reliable lasting solutions for the repair and reclamation of buildings, structures, machinery and equipment.

I'd like to make an important note. Our success and our survival as a small business is in no part due to the actions of the government. Indeed, the government could have eased lines of credit for small businesses and reduced the paperwork burden to obtain temporary financing, but it either did not happen or the bureaucracy was too burdensome.

During the economic downturn between 2008 and 2011, we tried to expand our business into the military, specifically the Army. Our focus was to improve the preservation and maintenance of Army equipment and we had numerous meetings with Army officials. Unfortunately, the Army has little focus on reducing the life cycle cost of their equipment and focuses more on quick fixes, thus spending more on maintenance and equipment over time. Indeed, there are few in the government capable of making life cycle determinations during acquisition decisions. After three years of trying to have meaningful discussions and meetings to change the Army's maintenance focus, we returned to our basic commercial roots working with companies who are interested in saving money. We are disappointed by a general lack of business acumen in the government.

The tax code needs to be completely abolished and rewritten to either a fair or flat tax where everyone pays their fair share, not just the wealthy.

In discussions around our community here are some bullet points that other small business owners would like to see us share with you.

1) Keystone Pipeline needs to be completed.

2) Fracking needs to be allowed to move forward.

3) SBA—Guarantees were put in place during the financial crisis and then removed. We'd like to see them reinstated.

4) Obamacare is proving to be burdensome, expensive and doesn't solve the health care problems.

5) Frustration with lack of federal budget and imbalance in receipts vs. expenditures.

6) Extend Bush tax cuts for all. This gives us the ability to make plans.

7) The unceasing attacks by the administration and certain members of Congress on the hard won success of numerous small business men and women who are the backbone of employment in our nation is despicable. To call successful small persons wealthy and to add additional tax burdens such as the Obama Health Plan will hurt employment and investments.

8) We would like the paperwork associated with small business loans significantly reduced.

Small businesses can grow and improve the nation's unemployment situation if we have the same access to capital at rates similar to large companies. There is a difference between low risk and no risk and too many financial institutions have taken the no risk approach.

Rumford Industrial Group is proud of its accomplishments. We have weathered poor economic conditions through hard work and sacrifice, reducing debt, and by making prudent financial decisions. It has not been easy

and many of the government's policy decisions have not improved conditions. We look for actions the House Small Business Committee can take to reduce burdensome rules and regulations that will help small business gain faster access to credit, reduce bureaucratic oversight, and promote a tax structure that encourages small businesses to grow in both revenue and employment. Small business is the cornerstone of the great American success story where personal sacrifice can lead to a better life for all the citizens of America.

With Respect,

STEPHANIE RUMFORD.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, due to the birth of my daughter's first child, my first grandchild, I was unable to be in Washington, DC for votes on Thursday afternoon and Friday, September 13 and 14, 2012. Had I been present for votes those days, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 576: I would have voted in favor of the Van Hollen motion to recommit with instructions, legislation that would eliminate sequestration entirely, provided that subsequent deficit reduction is enacted that equals or exceeds sequestration's deficit reduction over 10 years. The Motion would also provide that such subsequent deficit reduction legislation be balanced by requiring upper income taxpayers pay their fair share, protecting middle class tax cuts, and including targeted spending cuts.

Rollcall vote 577: I would have voted against H.R. 6365 that would irresponsibly have offered a cuts-only approach to deficit reduction and placed the enormous burden of those cuts solely on the non-defense discretionary budget and, by extension, squarely on the backs of the most vulnerable.

Rollcall vote 578: I would have voted in favor of the Barber motion to recommit that would add a provision to the bill that extends the funding for Military, Reserve, and National Guard personnel for the full fiscal year, as well as extending coverage of disability examinations and the treatment and additional services for homeless and mentally ill veterans.

Rollcall vote 579: Despite certain reservations, I would have voted in favor of H.J. Res. 117—Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 to continue funding the government's operations for six additional months.

Rollcall vote 580: I would have voted in favor of S. 3245 bill to extend by 3 years the authorization of the EB-5 Regional Center Program, the E-Verify Program, the Special Immigrant Nonminister Religious Worker Program, and the Conrad State 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program.

Rollcall vote 581: I would have voted in favor of the DeGette Amendment to make changes to the findings section of the bill, demonstrating that the loan restructuring complied with the law and highlighting that the projects funded to date are expected to create 60,000 jobs.

Rollcall vote 582: I would have voted in favor of the Waxman Amendment allowing the program to continue to provide financing to innovative energy projects.

Rollcall vote 583: I would have voted in favor of the Motion to Recommit, which would require that 75 percent of any materials used in projects receiving funding under the Incentives for Innovative Technologies program be produced in the United States. In addition, the Motion to Recommit would require the enactment of H.R. 6213 to be contingent on extension of the Production Tax Credit, which would further stimulate the clean energy economy.

Rollcall vote 584: I would have voted against H.R. 6213, the No More Solyndras Act, which arbitrarily picks winners and losers in the alternative energy field. By setting a cut-off date of December 30, 2011, House Republicans are prioritizing older technologies—those most likely to fail—at the expense of newer, more innovative projects.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for one vote in the House of Representatives on Thursday afternoon (September 13).

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 575—H.R. 1775—Stolen Valor Act of 2011.

HONORING MARSHALLS DISTRIBUTION CENTER

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, we encourage viable businesses in our community to provide our citizens with the goods and services they need to survive and thrive; and

Whereas, in 1982, Marshalls Distribution Center set up shop in Decatur, Georgia to serve the citizens of DeKalb County, Georgia and communities far and near; and

Whereas, the lives of thousands have been touched by this good corporate citizen which is an active partner in the community; and

Whereas, Marshalls Distribution Center continues to be a resource for citizens in DeKalb County with excellent service, providing employment opportunities and providing products that contribute to the local and national economies; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia is officially honoring and congratulating Marshalls Distribution Center on their 30th Anniversary as a business anchor in our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim September 14, 2012 as Marshalls Distribution Center Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 14th day of September, 2012.

A TRIBUTE TO IOWA'S RED BULLS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Iowa National Guard's own Red Bulls for being awarded the Citizen Patriot Unit Award by the U.S. Department of Defense. The Citizen Patriot Award for Distinguished Service is a prestigious award that is given annually to only one individual and one military unit across the entire Department of Defense.

The Iowa National Guard's Red Bulls, formally known as the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division, set themselves above the rest through their substantial contributions to the security and defense of the nation while serving in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The Red Bulls have a storied history as some of the most dependable soldiers in the Army, and the Citizen Patriot Award truly reflects the nation's gratitude for what they have accomplished together.

In July 2010, the Red Bulls' unit departed Iowa in one of the largest single deployments since World War II. After arriving in Afghanistan in November of that year, Task Force Red Bulls conducted comprehensive counter insurgency operations and also partnered with the Afghan National Security Forces. These men achieved the mission goals they were assigned at the highest possible standard amidst the painful loss of four servicemembers who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Sergeant Brent M. Maher of Honey Creek, Specialist Donald L. Nichols of Shell Rock, Staff Sergeant James A. Justice of Grimes, and Sergeant 1st Class Terry L. Pasker of Cedar Rapids are Iowan heroes who will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I am in awe of the Red Bulls' commitment and sacrifices in order to make our country safer. Each and every member of this elite unit represents the best of Iowa's work ethic and patriotism. They make me proud to be an Iowan, and I thank them from the bottom of my heart. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating the Red Bulls on attaining the Citizen Patriot Unit Award and welcoming them home. We will forever appreciate their extraordinary service.

HONORING VIRGINIA CHAMBLEE'S 40 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Virginia Chamblee for her 40 years of service as a City of Bedford employee. It is an honor for me to celebrate Ms. Chamblee's remarkable career with my fellow colleagues in Congress.

Virginia Chamblee began her career with the City of Bedford on May 5, 1972, working at the city library. In 1982, the City of Bedford opened a new senior center located at 2819 R.D. Hurt Parkway. Prior to the opening of the senior center, the Bedford city leadership

deemed her as a perfect fit as the center's supervisor. On July 1, 1982, Ms. Chamblee transitioned into the center supervisor role, and on October 17, 1982, the center opened under her care and guidance.

Virginia Chamblee established programs that have become senior center traditions. In the first week of the center's opening, the Monday Night Dance was established where it has continued to this day. Likewise, the Christmas Luncheon began in 1982 and has developed into one of the largest North Texas senior community pot luck lunches. Another notable tradition from the opening year was the weekly jam sessions, which began as music lessons but developed into a community orchestra of nearly 20 members.

Virginia Chamblee has spent the majority her life serving her community. Throughout her distinguished career, she has been a dedicated and conscientious employee who has always championed seniors. She is known for her kindness, gentle spirit, and willingness to listen to any problem and extend a helping hand.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring Virginia Chamblee for her 40 years of public service with the City of Bedford.

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES OF
THE OFFICERS AND THE INSPECTOR
GENERAL OF THE U.S.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITH 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO
THE HOUSE AND RECIPIENTS OF
THE HOUSE EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGEN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize outstanding employees of the Officers (Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, and Chief Administrative Officer) and the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives who have reached the milestone of 25 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as the recipients of the House Employee Excellence Award.

The House's most important asset is its dedicated and exceptional employees, whose work, often behind the scenes, is vital in keeping the operations and services of the House running smoothly and efficiently. The employees we recognize today are acknowledged and commended for their hard work, dedication, professionalism, support of House Members, their staffs and constituents, and for their contributions day-in and day-out to the overall operations of the House. These employees have a wide range of responsibilities that support the legislative process, ensure the security of the institution, maintain our technology and service infrastructure, and contribute to a more effective and efficiently operating House support structure. They have accomplished many great things in a wide range of activities, and the House of Representatives and its Members, staff, and the general public, are better served because of them.

We honor the individuals named below for 25 years of dedicated service to the House.

Collectively, this group has provided four hundred and twenty-five (425) years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives:

Kevin M. Allison, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Harold Blakney, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Thomas H. Blatnik, Office of the Sergeant at Arms

Clarence G. Butler, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

David Carreiro, Office of the Clerk

Darren Dahlstrom, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Scott Derrick, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Kelda Y. Dunklin, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Wesley D. Jones, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Kent Kahler, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Kevin S. Kelley, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Ronald M. Mullvain, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Sandra Q. Pilkerton, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Deborah M. Robertson, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Joe T. Taylor, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Kimberly von Harders, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Richard E. Wright, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

We also recognize and congratulate four House employees for receiving the Employee Excellence Award. This is a merit-based award, given to one employee from each House Officer organization, and the Office of Inspector General. Selected employees exhibited outstanding overall job performance and displayed a willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty throughout the last year. We honor the individuals named below for receiving this prestigious award.

Monica Barnabae, Paige Beatty, and The HRCCC Staff, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Stefan J. Bieret, Office of the Sergeant at Arms

Charles M. McGee, Office of the Clerk

Joseph C. Picolla, Office of Inspector General

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend congratulations and once again recognize and thank these employees for their professionalism and commitment to the U.S. House of Representatives as a whole, and in particular to their respective House Officers and the Inspector General. Their long hours and hard work are invaluable, and their years of unwavering service, dedication, and commitment to the House set an example for their colleagues and other employees who will follow in their footsteps. I celebrate our honorees, and I am proud to stand before you and the nation on their behalf to recognize the importance of their public service.

NATIONAL SECURITY AND JOB
PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the so-called National Security and Jobs Protection Act. This legislation is another attempt by House Republicans to force severe spending cuts that would harm middle class families, while protecting tax breaks for millionaires.

This bill is an election year talking point, not a genuine solution to preventing massive across-the-board budget cuts looming in January 2013. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office determined this legislation would do nothing to prevent budget sequestration. H.R. 6365 cannot take effect unless a separate bill implementing the policies of the House Republican Budget becomes law. The House Republican Budget turns Medicare into a voucher program, runs deficits for 29 years, provides trillions of dollars in additional tax cuts to millionaires and billionaires, and forces layoffs for thousands of police officers, firefighters, and teachers. President Obama and the Democratic Senate would never impose such a radical and destructive plan on America's families and communities.

The American people should be thankful H.R. 6365 will never become law, since it embodies the same flawed policies as the House Republican Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Resolution. It seeks to replace the budget sequester House Republicans originally supported with cuts to America's women, children, seniors, and middle class families. H.R. 6365 insulates the Defense Department from spending reductions even though the Pentagon's budget doubled over the past decade and the war in Iraq is over. H.R. 6365 refuses to ask millionaires and billionaires to share the sacrifices it demands of middle class families.

The budget sequester must be prevented from taking effect. House Democrats are ready to compromise and vote to replace the sequester with a balanced deficit reduction plan that includes a combination of spending reductions and revenue increases. Every mainstream economist agrees this is the only approach that will reduce long-term deficits and avoid plunging the economy back into recession. Regrettably, the bill on the floor today chooses ideology over compromise and prolongs the wait for the solutions our economy needs to grow and create jobs.

I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 6365.

HONORING CARLA LAEMMLE ON
HER 103RD BIRTHDAY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise in recognition of Carla Laemmle on the occasion of her 103rd birthday.

Carla is the niece of Carl Laemmle, who founded Universal Studios. She grew up on the Universal Studios lot in the early days of

the San Fernando Valley, the area I now represent. She began her long professional acting career at the age of 16 with an uncredited role as the prima ballerina in the original silent film version of the Phantom of the Opera, demonstrating her many years of training in classical dance. Carla is perhaps best known for her role in Dracula, starring Bela Lugosi. Her role in Dracula made her the person who spoke the first line of dialogue ever in a horror movie. She is now the last surviving cast member of both films.

Carla acted and danced in many more films, including Broadway Melody, in which she danced out of an oyster shell in a scene designed by famous artist and fashion designer Erté. That film became the first musical to win a Best Picture Oscar at the Academy Awards. And, more than eighty years after her debut on the silver screen, Carla will return to theaters soon in a new horror movie, Mansion of Blood.

Carla continues to make her home in Hollywood, CA—a place that is home for her in a way that few others will ever experience. She will celebrate her remarkable milestone with four generations of Laemmle family members, many of whom have remained in Los Angeles.

Please join me in wishing Carla a very happy birthday and many happy returns.

CRANIOFACIAL ACCEPTANCE MONTH

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize September as Craniofacial Acceptance Month.

Today, there are approximately 100,000 babies born in the United States each year with a craniofacial disorder affecting the head, neck, extremities, and/or organs. It can be caused by a birth defect, disease or trauma. In many cases, reconstructive surgery can correct these problems early, often while the children are still infants. Additionally, over the past 30 years, the medical community has made great strides in improving the quality of life for those affected by this disorder.

Craniofacial disorders not only take a physical, mental, and social toll on the individual, but on family and friends as well. Being accepted by others is a natural human desire, but it's not always easy for children born with these facial disfigurements to fit in, especially in school and social settings. Craniofacial Acceptance Month encourages individuals and organizations to promote awareness and acceptance in their community and support programs and services available to individuals with facial differences. We must always remember there is a heart beyond each face.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the organizations, such as Children's Craniofacial Association, and the American citizens who have aided those affected by a craniofacial disorder.

HONORING THE VOLUSIA HONOR AIR PROGRAM, VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Volusia Honor Air program. This program is designed to honor and recognize the veterans we often refer to as the "Greatest Generation."

Over the past 5 years, the Volusia Honor Air program has provided an opportunity for our World War II Veterans from the central Florida area to travel to Washington, DC to visit the memorial built in their honor. That one-day event for these World War II heroes is one of the most special in their lives and is certainly well deserved.

Since the first flight in 2008, the program has accommodated more than 1,000 veterans in hosting a special visit to their memorial. The flight on September 29, 2012, will mark the 10th and final flight for the program.

I would like to first recognize the Volusia County Rotary Clubs who helped arrange and underwrite this program. Let me also pay special tribute to Volusia Honor Air Chairman Bill Mancinik for his leadership and the countless others whose services and donations have been essential to making the program such an overwhelming success.

While it is impossible to list every guardian who accompanied the veterans, I would like to thank each and every one of them for their time and dedication in honoring these heroes.

However, I would like to specifically name the leaders of each flight and those committee members whose tireless efforts in organizing these intricate trips to Washington have made the events go so smoothly.

The leaders of the ten flights are Chairman Bill Mancinik, Ray Heffington, Mike Hill, Bernadette Britz-Parker, Brad Strickland, Roger Baumgartner, Morgan Gilreath, Mike Brooks, Geof Felton and Wayne Gordin.

Serving on the Volusia Honor Air Committee are Chairman Bill Mancinik, Jeff Bumb, Mike White, John Cheney, Gloria Denston, Paul Goldberg, David Brannon, Russell Kelton, Andy Grose, Bob Lloyd, Mary Kay Everts, Judi Whitaker, and Jack Ross.

As we all know, it takes more than just the dedication of those who volunteer; specifically it takes a lot of money to make these events happen. Thankfully, the Volusia Honor Air program has had a host of generous donors over the years helping to underwrite the expenses for our WWII Veterans to make their trip to Washington.

These generous donors include the County of Volusia, Florida, the Paul B. and Constance D. Hunter Charitable Foundation, Inc., Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Cambata Aviation International, LLC, Florida Game Promotions, LLC, Coggins Auto Group, American Legion Posts and Auxiliaries, VFW Posts and Auxiliaries, the Rotary Club of Daytona Beach, the DeLand Breakfast Rotary, R. Michael Hill, Staed Family Associates, Steve and Bernadette Parker, the Rotary Club of DeLand, the Rotary Club of Downtown DeLand, Daytona State College, Morgan and Beth Gilreath, Meeting Matters Plus, Inc., TD Bank, Wayne Gordin, Homewood Suites by Hilton, the

DeLand Elks #1463, Conrad Yelvington, Majors Medical Supply, Inc., Sweetwater Medical Central, Halifax Hospital, and Florida Hospital in Ormond Beach.

It has been my honor and pleasure to accompany our veterans during most of these trips to Washington and I will always remember the satisfaction, joy and solace I have witnessed in these remarkable men and women and often their family members as they visited our most cherished memorials in our nation's capital.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and congratulating the Volusia Honor Air Program and the service of all of our World War II veterans.

REMEMBERING WILLIAM F. FAHERTY, JR. FOR A LIFETIME OF DEDICATED SERVICE

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of William F. Faherty. Bill dedicated his life to his family and often answered the call of public service. Born in Trenton, Bill was raised in New Jersey, graduated from Rutgers University and has more recently lived in Allamuchy.

Bill became a leader in the government of his home city of Trenton and was a banking executive with First National Bank. He was later called to serve in many positions in state government. He was appointed deputy commissioner of the Department of Banking and Insurance by Governor Richard Hughes. He was named executive director of the New Jersey European Trade Mission to England, France and West Germany by Governor Brendan Byrne. Governor Tom Kean selected him to be executive director of finance for the Governor's Management Improvement Firm. He was involved in planning that continues to bring enjoyment to millions of people being instrumental in the development of the Meadowlands, home of his beloved Giants, and the birth of gaming in Atlantic City. He selflessly served governors of both parties putting service ahead of partisanship.

Bill also was a man of charity. He raised many funds for the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Foundation and the State Council on the Arts and was a trustee of the New Jersey State Police Memorial Association. He was a member of various boards of directors, including those of the Waterloo Foundation, Hackettstown Community Hospital and the Battleship New Jersey Commission and was a member of the board of trustees for Rutgers Business School, the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey and the Drumthwacket Foundation.

Bill was devoted to his loving wife, Saralan, his predeceased son William F. Faherty III, daughters, Faith Faherty Cust and Hope Faherty, son-in-law, Jack Cust, brother, Patrick, and four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

I join William Faherty's family and friends in remembering him for his public service to the State of New Jersey, his love of his family and the lives touched by his philanthropic work.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MADISON'S
SHAKESPEARE THEATRE OF
NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, Madison, Morris County as they begin their 50th Anniversary season this year.

The proud tradition of the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey began in 1963, when Paul Barry and Phillip Dorian formed the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival in Cape May. Their Festival was met with such success that the group was offered a permanent home on the campus of Drew University in Madison, New Jersey in 1972.

The Shakespeare Theatre has been dedicated to bringing the classics of Shakespeare and classical playwrights alive for audiences for 50 years. The Theatre's plays and outreach programs have showcased live theater to diverse audiences throughout the state and have also served as the training ground for the newest talents on the stage.

To improve the theater experience for all patrons, the Theater has undergone a number of lasting and unique changes over its history. The first of these changes was the construction of the F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre in 1998. This space arose out of the Shakespeare Theater's desire to create a lasting performing space that could meet the artistic demands of its schedule and provide an intimate setting for patrons to view the performances. This state of the art facility features modern theater lighting, sound and seating as well as complete handicapped accessibility. With just over 300 seats none of which is more than 32 feet from the stage, the F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theater provides a truly unique venue to view theater.

Debuted in 2002, the Shakespeare Theater of New Jersey's Outdoor Amphitheater on the campus of the College of St. Elizabeth, allows patrons to view the arts from a whole new perspective. The outdoor space takes its inspiration from the Theater of Dionysus in Athens and hopes to transport viewers back in time through a wide range of classical theatrical offerings and is one of the only theatres of its kind in the United States.

The Theatre's newest addition is a 49,000 square foot renovated factory in Florham Park that will serve as a training and rehearsal space. The new facility will be filled with office spaces, scene and costume shops as well as multiple rehearsal and classroom spaces, greatly enhancing the educational and outreach capacities of the Theatre. This space will allow the Theatre to enhance current stage offerings and provide a future of unique performance and shows.

Through its mission statement and commitment to the arts in New Jersey, the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey has proven to be a pillar of the local community and a large contributor to the arts in New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Shakespeare Theater of New Jersey, Madison as they celebrate their 50th season and their continuing contributions to New Jersey's vibrant arts community.

HONORING KEVIN FRECHETTE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, at the request of the colleagues and friends of Kevin Frechette of Howell, New Jersey, I submit the fitting tribute they composed following the sad news of his passing at the young age of 52.

KEVIN FRECHETTE, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS EXECUTIVE, NEW JERSEY PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVIST, LIFE-LONG MONMOUTH COUNTY RESIDENT PASSES AWAY

Kevin Frechette, 52, of Howell, NJ, passed away peacefully at his home on September 5, 2012. Mr. Frechette, who leaves behind a beloved son, Kyle Frechette, also of Howell, a student at Ramapo College, was a Senior Vice President and General Manager at MWW, an independent global public relations firms with offices across the nation including a headquarters in East Rutherford and an office in Trenton, NJ.

Mr. Frechette ran MWW's Trenton office and worked for the company for 12 years. As a member of the firm, Mr. Frechette was influential in the creation and funding of NJ211, a toll-free, state-assisted hotline that directs New Jersey residents to available community resources, and was critical in successful efforts to curb the privatization of the New Jersey Turnpike. A respected and knowledgeable figure at the Statehouse in Trenton, noted for his sense of humor, good nature and humility, he was a consultant to many leading New Jersey businesses and nonprofits such as NJCURE, Parsons Corporation, the New Jersey State Library, the Jewish Federation of New Jersey and dozens of other prominent organizations. In a previous career, Kevin served as a court house and political reporter at the Daily Register of Monmouth County.

Before joining MWW, Mr. Frechette spent eight years as the Deputy Director of Press and District Operations in the New Jersey General Assembly Majority Office, where he worked with lawmakers on issues of media relations, marshaling district resources, connecting with constituents and overall communications strategies. He also served as Chief of Staff to NJ Assemblyman and later State Senator Joe Kyrillos.

Mr. Frechette was born in Holy Name Hospital in Teaneck, NJ and grew up and lived in Monmouth County nearly all his life. He was a product of Holmdel Township Schools and also lived in Little Silver, Red Bank and, most recently, Howell, New Jersey.

He received a degree in Mass Communications from St. Bonaventure University. Active in politics at a young age, he served in Student Government in Holmdel High School where he also played a leading role in the school's production of "Bye Bye Birdie." His family members were long-time parishioners at St. Catherine's Church in Holmdel, NJ.

Among friends, Mr. Frechette was known for his sharp wit and sense of humor, but also for the truly selfless way he cared for people. Even while sick, he would visit friends in the hospital as if his illness was irrelevant. Mr. Frechette was known for being very honorable with a relentless work ethic in every aspect of life; it earned him the respect and love of all he came in touch with. Ultimately, Mr. Frechette had two great passions in life, his son Kyle, over whom he doted, and music, which he collected and immersed himself in throughout his life.

In addition to his son Kyle, Mr. Frechette leaves behind his parents, Charles Frechette,

a former manager at Anchor Glass, and his mother, Virginia Bishop Frechette, formerly the assistant editor of The Catholic Digest, and author of the children's book, "Fighting Father Duffy." He is survived by five loving siblings, all of whom adored him, Pam Galiastro (husband: Frank); Robin Kjersgaard; Jim Frechette; Charles "Chip" Frechette (wife Donna); Chris Frechette (wife Heidi); Ami Miano (late husband Charles); Kelly Davidson (husband: Alistair), and six nieces and nephews: Farrah Rizzo, Jamie and Kristen Galiastro; Ryan Kjersgaard; and Tara and Noah Miano. Mr. Frechette is a grandson of the late Jim Bishop, the syndicated columnist and author of 22 books, including "The Day Christ Died" and "The Day Lincoln Was Shot."

HONORING BOB BROWN OF
MISSOURI

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bob Brown, a legendary high school basketball coach in the state of Missouri, veteran, and member of the 2012 Springfield Area Sports Hall of Fame induction class.

With 672 career victories and 12 playoff appearances to his name, Bob's impressive track record has earned him quite a distinguished reputation in both the sports arena and in the community.

His remarkable career began at Richland High and concluded at Springfield Catholic. He amassed 367 victories and a state runner-up title in 1966 with the famed "Jolly Green Giants", who were 27-1 that season, during his 20-year tenure at Parkview. Bob even had the opportunity to coach his son, Bill Brown, at Parkview.

During his coaching career Bob won a state championship at Bolivar in 1960, runner-up with Parkview in 1966, and third place with Richland in 1956 and Parkview in 1981.

In addition to his exemplary coaching career, Bob is a veteran of the Missouri National Guard. Beginning in 1956 he served 32 years until ending his career as a full Colonel in 1988. During this period he served as Chief of Plans and Operations at Headquarters Stark, as Commandant of the Missouri Military Academy, and Commander of the Medical Battalion.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Brown's contributions to our community are far-reaching and the lives he has affected are uncountable, and it is an honor to recognize him.

THE CLAIMS LICENSING ADVANCEMENT FOR INTERSTATE MATTERS ACT (CLAIM) ACT

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill I believe will help consumers save millions of dollars in insurance costs and create more jobs. I am proud to introduce the Claims Licensing Advancement for Interstate Matters Act, known as the CLAIM Act.

Under current law, independent claims adjusters face a hodgepodge of inconsistent state regulations that only serve to delay the prompt adjustment of claims for natural disasters, car accident victims, and other tragedies in life. The CLAIM Act would provide specific relief during a natural disaster. In areas designated by the President of the United States as a "Disaster Area," independent claims adjusters who meet certain criteria would be eligible to adjust claims for losses notwithstanding the state the adjuster is licensed.

Every independent claims adjuster must take a license examination in each state in which they work. This requires adjusters to take time off from their job and travel to each state in which they seek a license. This is a costly burden on the claims adjusters, the companies that employ them, and ultimately, the consumer. Sadly, it is the consumer who currently pays for these costs in higher premiums.

Today, it is my pleasure to introduce a bill that would end this costly burden. The CLAIM Act would lead to a process that would provide independent claims adjusters licensing reciprocity so their home-state license is valid in any other state. To be clear the CLAIM Act does not create a new federal law and does not "federalize" the insurance industry. The CLAIM Act respects states' rights to continue to regulate their individual insurance industries. Rather, the CLAIM Act would urge the National Association of Insurance Commissioners to adopt a model licensing standard for state regulation for independent claims adjusters that each individual State would adopt. The CLAIM Act would make sure that each state keeps its independence to adopt rules as they see fit and recognizes that State insurance regulators are best situated to address insurance licensing standards.

The goal of this bill is to streamline the claims adjustment process so that individual claims adjusters can respond in the fastest possible and most cost-effective manner possible. I look forward to further discussing the issues of reciprocity and the CLAIM Act as we move forward in the Committee process.

CONGRATULATING KAYLA
HARRISON AND HOLLEY MANGOLD

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate two women from southwest Ohio who represented the United States in competition at the Games of the XXXth Olympiad this summer in London, England.

Kayla Harrison, a native of Middletown, Ohio, entered the Olympic Games ranked number one in the United States and number four in the world. Kayla competed in the 172-pound women's division defeating four competitors along the way to becoming the first United States judo athlete to win Olympic Gold. Kayla's success serves as a role model for thousands of young girls to pursue their dreams and reach their goals.

Holley Mangold, a native of Dayton, Ohio, a former junior national champion, competed in the 165-pound plus division and was one of

two American women weightlifters to qualify for the London Olympic Games. Holley began competitive weight lifting in 2008 and competed in two events at the London Games. Although a wrist injury kept Holley from winning an Olympic medal, her competitiveness and determination has won the hearts of sports fans throughout our community, our State and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, through hard work, discipline and determination, these young women trained vigorously for the opportunity to compete against the world's finest athletes. They represented our country with grace and sportsmanship, and have made all of us from Dayton and Ohio proud.

ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF EPIC
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER FLOOD

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the one-year anniversary of the devastation communities in my district faced when Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee brought an epic 500-year flood to the Susquehanna River.

In September 2011, when the creeks and rivers first started rising, I immediately returned to Northeastern Pennsylvania to help my constituents. I witnessed firsthand the devastation and destruction caused by this historic flooding. Over the past year, I spent time surveying the damage to our communities, our homes, and our regional economy. I met with people who lost everything: their jobs as local businesses closed; their homes; and their prized possessions and treasured keepsakes, which were destroyed and gone forever. I met with small business owners who didn't know if they would be able to reopen their doors. I met with local officials who didn't know how their towns would afford to repair their streets and keep their police officers, firefighters, and emergency responders working extra hours.

Despite all of this devastation, the citizens of Pennsylvania's 11th District rose above their own needs, though great, and thought of others. I saw neighbors open their homes and wallets to care for flood victims. I met volunteers who spent their evenings and weekends cleaning up senior citizens' basements. I witnessed our community's citizens coming together with hope and determination to repair the destruction from the flood. Even with the enormous strength of our combined efforts, I realized that our Federal Government must provide a better response to natural disasters.

In Washington, I have been working to improve the assistance the Federal Government provides natural disaster victims. For the past year, I have aimed to lower the Small Business Administration (SBA) disaster loan interest rates for all Americans who have been the unfortunate victims of natural disasters. On September 23, 2011, I introduced H.R. 3042, the Disaster Loan Fairness Act of 2011. On August 2, 2012, I revised my original legislation and introduced H.R. 6296, the Disaster Loan Fairness Act of 2012. This measure allows for SBA loans at a discounted market-based interest rate for homeowners and small business owners who were hit by flooding or

other natural disasters and in which the president has declared a major disaster. Critically, the interest rate can never be greater than 4 percent, which will make a tremendous difference to those seeking to rebuild their homes and restart their lives. Most importantly, this bill will restore American lives, save American businesses, and protect American jobs.

Mr. Speaker, over the past year, I have seen the very best of humanity in Northeastern Pennsylvania in these people who lost everything. I commend those citizens who have helped their family, friends, neighbors, and strangers in this time of need. Rest assured, I will never forget the devastation caused by the flooding after Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, and I will continue to support improved federal natural disaster assistance.

HONORING REV. DR. MYRTLE
OWENS SMITH

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, America was settled by people with a strong belief in God. To this day that conviction has carried through with churches in all neighborhoods of our country forming a bond that holds them and us together.

Here in the Bronx we have one such church, the Emmanuel Baptist Church, under the inspired pastoring of the Rev. Dr. Myrtle Owens Smith who is celebrating her tenth anniversary as Pastor of the church.

She is the first female black pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist Church and in her decade of service to her flock she has honored the past by renovating the church to keep its historical heritage and while enhancing the future by planning the installation of solar panels.

Rev. Dr. Smith is a community oriented minister who regularly attends Community Board meetings, donated a new kitchen for the church, maintains excellent relationships with local elected officials, accommodates community mission outreach programs such as Soup and Sock Ministry and provides food and clothing and HIV testing. She also encourages a thriving Youth Ministry and, on a broader front, was the first female pastor asked by the Foreign Mission Board to accompany them to Ghana.

This is the tip of the iceberg regarding Rev. Dr. Myrtle Owens Smith and her spiritual and corporal contributions to her community. I join with her congregants in congratulating her on ten wonderful and fruitful years and with them wish her many more years pastoring her flock.

HONORING WALTER MYERS, SR.

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, the birth of Walter Myers, Sr., in the state of South Carolina in the 1800's

began the Myers family lineage which has blessed us with descendants that have helped to shape our nation; and

Whereas, the Myers Family has produced many well respected citizens and the patriarchs and matriarchs of the Myers family are pillars of strength that have touched many throughout our nation, family members of the past and present; and

Whereas, in our beloved Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, we are honored to have members of the Myers family for they are some of our most beloved citizens in our District; and

Whereas, family is one of the most honored and cherished institutions in the world, we take pride in knowing that families such as the Myers family have set aside this time to fellowship with each other, honor one another and to pass along history to each other by meeting at this year's family reunion in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Myers family;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim September 1, 2012 as Myers Family Reunion Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 1st day of September, 2012.

RECOGNIZING SEATTLE CHOCOLATES AS A FINALIST FOR THE 2012 KING COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Seattle Chocolates in Tukwila, Washington for being named

a finalist for the 2012 King County Executive's Small Business Awards, in the Woman Small Business of the Year category.

Seattle Chocolates was founded in 1992 by CEO Jean Thompson as a gourmet chocolate company that specializes in truffles and truffle bars. Their confections are carefully made with fine European chocolate in the King County region.

The Woman Small Business of the Year award recognizes a women-owned business that has made significant contributions to the community and economy. Currently, 28.7 percent of businesses in the King County region are women-owned and operated. King County is also ranked one of the highest among U.S. counties for women-owned businesses.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I honor Seattle Chocolates. Small businesses like Seattle Chocolates inspire women and create jobs. I commend Seattle Chocolates for representing our community and women-owned businesses all across the nation.