

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RULES OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 5, 2011

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the rules package proposed by the new Republican majority in the House.

The very first vote in the 112th Congress reveals the extent of the Republicans' fiscal hypocrisy. The new House rules create a huge loophole that allows Republicans to pass billions in additional tax cuts without finding savings elsewhere in the federal budget. These rules are a major step backward in our effort to solve the federal budget crisis. No Member who votes for this fiscally reckless rules package is serious about deficit reduction.

The public backlash against the new Republican rules started days before today's vote. In a December 29, 2010 editorial titled "Deficit Hypocrisy," the New York Times said the new rules proposed by the incoming majority "will codify the Republican fantasy that tax cuts do not deepen the deficit."

The bi-partisan Committee for a Responsible Budget expressed "serious concerns" about the Republican rules package saying that "because many of these new rules would apply to only the spending side of the budget (replacing rules that applied to both the tax and spending side), this new rules package could actually weaken, rather than strengthen, our ability to deal with the debt."

By exempting the cost of tax cuts and the repeal of the health care reform law from budget restrictions, the Republican majority makes it clear that they embrace—not oppose—deficit spending. H. Res. 5 enables Republicans to return to their discredited economic policies of the past decade that exploded deficits with tax cuts, two wars and a huge new prescription drug entitlement program all financed with borrowed money.

What the Republicans do oppose and promise to cut are the investments that strengthen American communities and support the most vulnerable citizens in our Nation. Under the new rules, the American middle class will be forced to live with less while the wealthy and special interests have it all. In the weeks ahead, Republicans will target America's middle class with unsustainable cuts to education, transportation, public safety, clean energy and advanced research and technology. The Washington Post editorial board said that the rules reflect "about as upside-down a set of priorities as can be imagined."

I reject the skewed priorities expressed in this rule package. I refuse to abandon America's families and communities when they most need the support of their government. And I will continue fighting for the federal investments our communities need to compete in the 21st century.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SCHOOL FOOD RECOVERY ACT

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this legislation is to make clear that schools participating in the school lunch program are legally allowed to donate excess food to local food banks.

In 1996, Congress passed the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Act, which protects donors who give to food banks in good faith from all liability except in cases of gross negligence or intentional misconduct. This landmark law has allowed businesses and civic organizations to donate critically-needed food to local food banks and food pantries.

Despite this law, many schools and school districts have been hesitant to donate excess food from school lunches, primarily due to a misperception that U.S. Department of Agriculture regulations don't allow for excess food to be donated.

Loudoun County, Virginia, in Congressman FRANK WOLF's district, has expressed these reservations. That is why Congressman WOLF, an original cosponsor of this bill, reached out to work with me to help address this issue. I'm sure there are many other examples in congressional districts across the country.

This is unfortunate as excess food is being thrown away rather than provided to food banks to support those in need. In many cases, students who rely on school lunches also rely on support from local food banks.

The purpose of this bill is straightforward: to keep excess school food out of the garbage and get it into food banks. The bill will clarify that schools and school districts are permitted to donate excess food and that they are covered under the Good Samaritan Act when doing so.

HONORING NEW YORK PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL, THE NEW YORK BLOOD CENTER AND THEIR OUTSTANDING PARTNERSHIP FOR LIFE-SAVING BLOOD DONATIONS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the New York Presbyterian Hospital and the New York Blood Center for their outstanding partnership to increase life-saving blood donations in our nation's greatest city. Thanks to donations from thousands of New Yorkers from all walks of life, this outstanding collaborative effort has helped provide nearly 14,000 blood donations over the past five years, representing an immeasurable contribu-

tion to saving and improving the quality of countless lives. The outstanding leadership of both Dr. Herbert Pardes, the Chief Executive Officer of New York Presbyterian Hospital, and Dr. Christopher Hillyer, the Chief Executive Officer of the New York Blood Center, have helped make this joint initiative so extraordinarily successful.

Under the leadership of Dr. Pardes, New York Presbyterian Hospital has done a spectacular job of encouraging its employees to donate blood. As a result, it is the largest hospital donor group in New York City and the third largest donor group in Manhattan. The hospital has increased the number of donations it generates every year for at least a decade. Each pint donated saves three lives. Last year, it generated more than 3,500 donations through its various blood drives, saving more than 10,000 lives. And for the first five months of this year, donations are up 50% over the same period last year. Blood donated by New York Presbyterian Hospital is distributed by the Blood Center to more than 200 hospitals in the greater New York metropolitan area.

Established in 1964, the New York Blood Center (NYBC) has become one of the nation's largest non-profit, community-based blood centers. For more than forty-five years, it has provided donated blood, transfusion products and services to nearly 200 hospitals in the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area. In 2009, the NYBC set a personal record after receiving nearly 3,500 blood donations. It is also home to the National Cord Blood Center, the world's largest public cord bank. The Cord Blood Center provides adults and children with life-threatening illnesses with stem cell transplants from unrelated donors.

New York hospitals need a diverse range of blood donations to match the diverse nature of New York's population. With the help of the participation in blood drives of New York Presbyterian Hospital's diverse employee population, the Blood Center is able to ensure that local hospitals have blood available to serve patients with sickle cell anemia and other diseases that disproportionately affect minority communities.

One of New York City's most respected health care institutions, New York Presbyterian Hospital is the product of a partnership that was formed in 1998 between The New York Hospital, founded in 1771, and The Presbyterian Hospital, founded in 1868. As a merged institution, New York Presbyterian Hospital has provided first rate medical care to untold numbers of New Yorkers. With two affiliated medical schools, New York Presbyterian is recognized as one of the greatest academic health centers in the world. With more than 13,000 employees and 2,298 patient beds, the hospital is ranked among America's best by U.S. News and World Report. It has centers of excellence in AIDS care, digestive diseases, gene therapy, preventive medicine, reproductive and fertility medicine, vascular medicine and others. The William Randolph Hearst Burn Center is the largest

• 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.

and busiest burn center in the country. New York Presbyterian is also the first hospital to establish special centers and programs for women's health.

The most important reason for the success of New York Presbyterian Hospital's blood drive is the strong support of senior officials at the hospital. From the lowest clerk to Dr. Pardes himself, blood donation is part of the culture at New York Presbyterian Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the New York Blood Center, New York Presbyterian Hospital, Dr. Herbert Pardes and Dr. Christopher Hillyer for their enormous contributions to New York's health care system. Their collaboration has saved innumerable lives. New York Presbyterian Hospital and the New York Blood Center serve as an example of our nation's health care system at its best.

FALL RIVER FIRE CHIEF FORD DOCUMENTS IMPORTANCE OF FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, one of the most important things this Congress should be doing in 2011 is to continue the assistance we have provided to local communities, hard hit by a recession that they had no part in bringing about, so that they can maintain the essential public services necessary for the safety of their citizens.

Earlier this week, I received a letter from the Fire Chief of the City of Fall River, Paul Ford, which explains exactly how important this is. I ask that Chief Ford's eloquent, persuasive letter, noting the lifesaving role played by the SAFER grant, be inserted here, and I hope that our colleagues will be instructed by it.

FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS,
OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF,
Fall River, MA, December 23, 2010.
Congressman BARNEY FRANK,
558 Pleasant Street #309, New Bedford, MA

DEAR CONGRESSMAN FRANK: As you are aware, the Fall River Fire Department has received a SAFER award which has allowed us to rehire laid-off firefighters and hire 46 new firefighters, bringing our compliment up to 2008 levels. This return of staffing levels has allowed us to reopen Engine 6, Engine 9, and Heavy Rescue 1.

The previously laid-off firefighters were assigned to fire companies on September 26, 2010, the start of the SAFER grant performance period. The new firefighters graduated from our training academy on December 17, 2010 and were assigned to individual fire companies on December 19, 2010.

Let me take this opportunity to share with you the following story to illustrate how the SAFER grant has had an immediate impact on protecting property and saving lives as a result of adequate fire staffing:

On the morning of December 21, 2010, a fire was reported in one of the city's congested south-end residential neighborhoods. Upon arrival, Acting District Chief David Levesque was confronted with a six family, brick and wood structure, with fire showing in one first floor apartment. The fire had exited out into the interior stairway and was

traveling upwards toward the second floor. Initial reports indicated that a person was trapped on the third floor.

Taking command of the fire scene, A/DC Levesque initiated a coordinated, combined fire attack and rescue operation. Engine companies were ordered to attack the fire on the first floor and check for extension and protect the second floor. Heavy Rescue 1 was immediately sent to the third floor for rescue operations.

Rescue 1, which had previously been out of service due to reduced staffing, had a crew of three firefighters. This included Acting Lieutenant Matt Camara and Firefighter Mark Medeiros, both of whom were laid-off and returned through the SAFER grant. The third Medeiros, both of whom were laid-off and returned through the SAFER grant. The third member was Probationary Firefighter Glen Edington, also a SAFER awardee, serving his first tour of duty with the Fall River Fire Department.

Upon entering the structure and making their way to the third floor, all three members began a primary search of that floor. PFF Edington, utilizing a thermal imaging camera, located the victim lying on the floor. He and FE Medeiros followed their training, quickly removed the victim from the apartment, and descended down two flights of stairs to awaiting medical rescue crews. At the time of this writing, while in critical condition, the victim is alive.

If this fire had taken place prior to the funding of the SAFER grant, neither they nor any Heavy Rescue crew would have been on scene that morning. The outcome for that victim and her family could have been much different.

Furthermore, the additional staffing afforded to this department allowed us to continue to protect the rest of the city's citizens without calling in emergency overtime firefighters or utilizing the increased mutual aid responses we had come to rely on. This mutual aid, while appreciated, was further reducing the firefighting forces in those communities due to our decreased staffing levels.

This situation is a clear example of why adequate staffing is so vital to the mission of the fire service in general, and specifically to this city and department.

I thank you, on behalf of the citizens of this city and the members of this fire department, for your support with this much needed grant opportunity.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. FORD,
Fire Chief.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LATE DR. MARY MARANGOS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the late Dr. Mary Marangos, a longtime activist in the Hellenic American community and dedicated congressional staff member who passed away last month after a valiant struggle with breast cancer. A career educator and public servant, Mary Marangos touched the hearts and bettered the lives of countless individuals from all walks of life.

As the Member of Congress representing Astoria, New York, home to the largest population of persons of Hellenic descent anywhere

in the United States, I have depended on Mary Marangos to serve as my eyes and ears in that thriving, bustling community for the last seventeen years. In addition, Dr. Marangos represented me at an international conference held in Cyprus and Greece in 2002, which was fitting, as she had been active in the Cyprus Liberation Movement since the island's illegal occupation in 1974.

Mary Marangos was a whirlwind of activity in the Hellenic-American community of our Nation's greatest city, leading me to bestow upon her the nickname "the Greek Cannonball." She was active in and helped organize events for countless organizations such as the Panpaphian Association and the Women's Issues Network of the Pancyprrian Association. She worked closely with local organizations such as the Greek-American Homeowners Association, the Cretan Association, and the Federation of Hellenic Societies on important activities such as citizenship and voter registration drives. She proudly accompanied me as we marched each year in the Greek Independence parade on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, and was deeply involved in every aspect of the life of the Hellenic-American community, from being a booster of Greek-American soccer clubs to supporting arts and the humanities to increasing awareness and appreciation of the splendors of Greek civilization, past and present.

Mary Marangos' dedication to public service and helping others started much earlier than her tenure as a congressional staff member. She was an educator, administrator and coordinator at the vocational/alternative high school level in the New York City public school system, serving as a coordinator of the GED program at the Vocational Training Center at LaGuardia Airport. She coordinated the AIDS Prevention Program on the high school level, training teachers on how to teach HIV prevention and holding conferences on the epidemic. Dr. Marangos also fostered staff development initiatives for elementary school teachers and administrators.

A graduate of New York City public schools, Mary Marangos earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the New York State Education Department, a Master's Degree in high school administration and supervision from Fordham University, and a doctorate in International-Intercultural Developmental Education from Florida State University under a full fellowship from the U.S. Department of Education.

Mary Marangos was the loving and devoted daughter of Pantelis Marangos from Kalavassos, Cyprus and Despina Kyriacou from Lesvos, Greece and Cyprus. She was devoted to them and steadfast in her care of both in their later years.

Dr. Marangos has been an important leader of the Hellenic American community. Her assertiveness, intelligence, willingness to help are only a few of the characteristics that make her such a special person. Time and time again she has gone out of her way to help members of our community in need. She truly epitomizes the spirit of the Hellenic American woman—strength of character, activism, intelligence and compassion.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my esteemed colleagues join me in paying tribute to the late Dr. Mary Marangos for her extraordinary contributions to the civic life of our Nation.

HONORING CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY SUZANNE WAUGHTEL HOPPER

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, while we can never fully express the depth of our appreciation for those who give their lives to protect us, I rise today on behalf of the constituents of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District to recognize and honor the life of Clark County Sheriff's Deputy Suzanne Waughtel Hopper.

Hopper, 40, was killed in the line of duty on New Year's Day while responding to shots fired in a local community. Even in her last moments, Deputy Hopper showed her courage and bravery as she was the first to respond to the scene. Because of her decisive action, lives were saved.

Deputy Hopper joined the Clark County Sheriff's Office in 1999 and protected residents for 12 years. She received numerous commendations, citations and awards. Hopper was an outstanding deputy and a strong leader. She was often described as having a "motherly" demeanor, full of encouragement and compassion.

Beyond her dedication to service, Hopper was a loving and devoted wife and mother. In her spare time she continued to serve others by working with local charities and service organizations. She had a passion to serve, a kind spirit and always cared about others.

Suzanne Waughtel Hopper is survived by her husband, two children, two step-children and her parents. Her life was taken suddenly while she unselfishly protected the community to which she dedicated her life's work. The impact she had on the community, and in the lives of her family and friends will never be forgotten.

Thus, today I ask my colleagues to join me and the constituents of the Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in honoring the life and memory of Deputy Suzanne Waughtel Hopper, a true hero.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF RABBI JOSEPH STAMM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary contributions of Joseph Stamm, who is celebrating his 25th anniversary at the helm of the New York County Health Services Review Organization (NYCHSRO). Mr. Stamm has been largely responsible for the unparalleled growth and success of NYCHSRO and its subsidiary, MedReview Inc. (MedReview).

NYCHSRO was among the first organizations registered as a certified Utilization Review agent in New York. NYCHSRO has conducted over 2 million peer reviews to evaluate clinical decisions and services rendered by medical practitioners at all levels of the health care continuum. Its clients include state and local governmental organizations, managed

care organizations, health insurers and third party payors.

In 1998, under Mr. Stamm's leadership, NYCHSRO created MedReview, which provides independent medical reviews and medical claims audits to self-insured plan sponsors. With offices in Cleveland, Denver, Orlando, Tampa and Thomasville, GA, today MedReview is one of America's premier medical and claims-related auditing organizations, helping clients manage health care costs more effectively, and avoid overpayment. MedReview boasts that it manages to recover millions of dollars in claims overpayments annually. MedReview's clients include some of America's largest and most respected organizations including Corporate Express, Mack/Volvo Trucks, Nissan, Oregon School Boards, ServiceMaster, UBS Financial and Ingersoll Rand, as well as many non-profit and government organizations.

Mr. Stamm served in various other capacities at NYCHSRO/MedReview, starting out as Director of Ambulatory Care Review and Associate Executive Director for Planning and Development and then as Deputy Executive Director responsible for Hospital Review, Ambulatory Care, Medical Care Evaluation, Data and Home Care Review. Mr. Stamm was instrumental in developing and implementing monitoring programs for Medicaid, Medicare and the private sector at all care levels — inpatient, ambulatory, long-term health care and home care, both in the state and nationally.

Prior to his tenure at NYCHSRO/MedReview, Mr. Stamm spent several years at the New York City Department of Health in various capacities, including Director of Investigation and Enforcement, Director of Program Planning and Development and Assistant Director of Health Evaluation.

Mr. Stamm is a recognized expert in the medical review industry and is on the faculty of Columbia University School of Public Health. He has lectured nationally and internationally and has been published on health care-related topics in scholarly journals such as Mount Sinai Journal of Medicine, the New York Academy of Medicine Journal and the Journal of Community Health. He is also a member of a number of health care associations, as well as a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine.

Mr. Stamm is a strong supporter of and a frequent visitor to Israel. In 2006, at the request of Assemblyman Dov Hikind, he traveled to war-torn Israel on a fact-finding and humanitarian mission. The mission members met with mayors of northern Israel and the leaders of health care organizations such as Rambam Hospital, the largest hospital in northern Israel. Mr. Stamm has also been very active in the Beitar Foundation and in 2007, he received the HaTov U'Meitiv Man of the Year Award at the Annual Beitar Foundation Dinner. Joseph Stamm received his rabbinical ordination from the Rabbi Jacob Joseph Yeshiva in New York City and earned his MPA from New York University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the many achievements of Joseph Stamm, a business leader, innovator and strong supporter of Israel and the Jewish community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF A LIGHTING PIONEER

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I bring to the attention of the House the loss of a husband, a father, and an industrial pioneer. On January 3, 2011, Zachary S. Gibler passed away from injuries sustained in a biking accident. He was just 44 years old. Gibler is survived by his wife, Mary, and daughter, Rachel.

Zach Gibler was the Chairman and CEO of the nation's largest LED lighting manufacturer, Lighting Science Group (LSG), which is headquartered in Satellite Beach, Florida and employs 400 workers. Specifically, the Lighting Science Group designs, develops, manufactures and markets LED light bulbs that are environmentally friendlier and more energy efficient than traditional lighting products.

Gibler had quickly become a leader in a budding industry that will play a key in our nation's future. His pioneering efforts have grown operations in Florida from 35 employees to more than 400 in less than two years.

Known for his passion for helping those in need, Gibler hired many former NASA workers who had been laid off due to the transitions in our nation's human space flight program and utilized their skills to manufacture American-made LED lights that are highly energy efficient and are very competitive to foreign-made LED competitors. Just walk into Home Depot or any other hardware store and you'll find LED bulbs that are made by the Lighting Science Group—it's an American product built by American workers.

In June of 2009, Zachary Gibler became CEO of Lighting Science Group and was made president just a few months later in September of 2009. Gibler was then named Chairman of the Lighting Science Group in March 2010. He was a lighting industry veteran having previously held a variety of senior roles at Acuity Brands.

Gibler effectively worked to shape Lighting Science Group into the LED lighting manufacturer it is today, which is continuing to create additional, good-paying jobs in my home state of Florida and making a significant contribution to making America more energy efficient.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Zach's family and friends as they cope with this unexpected loss at the beginning of the year.

IN HONOR OF JERRY KUROWYCKYJ, SR.

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to the late Jerry Kurowyckyj, Sr., a dedicated community leader, activist, and local business owner in New York City, who passed away last year. Known as the "Mayor of Ukraine," his extensive commitment to serving others was profoundly appreciated by the Lower Manhattan community he loved. Sadly, New York has lost a neighborhood leader and a food-lovers icon.

For nearly three decades, Mr. Kurowyckj helped manage his family-owned business, Kurowyckj Meats, Inc., in Manhattan's East Village neighborhood, a commercial and cultural hub for New Yorkers of Ukrainian and Polish descent during the post-World War II era. Founded in 1955 by Mr. Kurowyckj's father, the shop became an integral part of the neighborhood, and a mecca for gourmards throughout the tri-state area. Kurowyckj Meats was acclaimed throughout New York not only for its delicious, fresh pork products such as bologna, frankfurters, rolled bacon, sweet sausages, spicy salami, trays of smoked hams, and homemade kovbasa, but also for its personal customer service. It was praised by the New York Times as an "East Village haven" and written up glowingly in respected periodicals such as *Gourmet* and *Food and Wine* magazines. The shop was one of the last in the city to operate an original smokehouse, which lent a unique flavor to the store's delicacies. Sadly, the store closed in 2007, a victim of changing times and tastes.

Remembered for his continuous generosity, Mr. Kurowyckj made immeasurable contributions to the civic life of his community. For much of his life, Mr. Kurowyckj was a dedicated and energetic member of New York's Community Board 3, applying his strong leadership abilities and lifelong devotion to Lower Manhattan to maintaining and improving the quality of life in the neighborhood he loved.

Among his many volunteer efforts, Mr. Kurowyckj dedicated his time and attention to several local institutions in the community, including the St. George Ukrainian Church. His enterprising initiative and dogged perseverance were instrumental in enabling the church to move into its current location on East 7th Street, and its site remains a testament to his efforts.

As a distinguished leader of his community, Mr. Kurowyckj not only reached out to local residents, but to recent immigrants as well. Upon their arrival in the neighborhood, Mr. Kurowyckj provided assistance and knowledge to help them establish themselves in New York. His compassion and individual attention exerted a strong positive impact on the lives of countless individuals.

Mr. Kurowyckj's proud devotion to his Ukrainian heritage is carried on today by his wife, Iryna Kurowyckj, President of the National Board of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America. Mr. Kurowyckj is also survived by his son, Jerry, Jr., and daughter, Oksana.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the life and work of Mr. Jerry Kurowyckj and I ask that my distinguished colleagues in this House join me in recognizing his extraordinary service to others and immeasurable contributions to the civic and business life of our nation's greatest city.

REMEMBERING COREY ANKUM

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a Chicago hero. On Dec. 23, firefighter Corey Ankum tragically lost his life in the line of duty when the roof of a South Shore building collapsed. Corey was just 34 years old.

A former member of the Chicago Police Department, Corey had been a firefighter for just 18 months. He left the Police force to follow in the footsteps of his close relative, Gerald Glover, a veteran firefighter. Gerald, who rushed to the scene of the burning building in South Shore, remembered Corey as someone who "loved helping people."

Whether it was battling the flames of a burning building or helping to keep neighborhoods safe, Corey spent his life serving Chicago and protecting Chicagoans. His selflessness will live on through his memory, and the lives of his surviving wife and children.

I join the rest of Chicago in mourning the loss of one of our own. The city Corey gave his life to protect will never forget him.

May he rest in peace.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. BHUPENDRA PATEL

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of Bhupendra Patel, M.D., a remarkable man who has dedicated himself in service to others. The Chief of the Department of Medicine at the Mount Sinai Hospital in Queens, Dr. Patel is also an important and inspirational voice for the thriving Indian-American community of our nation's greatest city. A selfless advocate for his patients as well as a dedicated and generous philanthropist, "Bhupi" Patel is truly an example and role model for the community, and I am proud to call him my friend.

Dr. Bhupendra Patel has demonstrated a lifelong passion for the study and practice of medicine. Born and raised in Kenya, he earned an MBBS from Baroda Medical College in India. The political unrest there, coupled with immigration of many of his friends to the United States, inspired Dr. Patel to conduct his medical internship and residency at the Long Island Jewish Hospital, where he worked as an internist. Dr. Patel continued to make important contributions to the field of medical education by serving as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine at the renowned Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York.

Throughout his career, Dr. Patel has striven successfully to help serve the needs of the growing Asian-American community in New York City, serving as the President of the Gujarati Samaj of Greater New York and helping found the Nargis Dutt Memorial Foundation. As President of the Gujarati Samaj, Bhupendra Patel helped raise money for a new community center to serve the local Gujarati community. The Nargis Dutt Foundation that he helped found has committed itself to improving medical care for cancer patients throughout India for the past decade, supplying critically needed medical equipment to healthcare facilities there. Dr. Patel also serves on the board of "SHAREing and CAREing," an organization in Queens that for the last sixteen years has provided essential services to those afflicted with breast cancer, helping to ensure the quality of their medical and social services and providing them with critical tools to help them in their moment of need.

Dr. Patel's activism extends beyond the world of medicine. As President of the Indian-American Center for Political Awareness, he has worked not only to improve bilateral relations between India and America, but to increase political awareness of and boost the participation of the Indian American community. In so doing, he has helped pave the way for second generation Americans of Indian descent, urging them to remain involved and build on earlier progress. Dr. Patel's considerable contributions to medicine and philanthropy have been widely acknowledged; he has been honored by the Gujarati Samaj of Greater New York, the Indian Dental Association of the United States, and 100 Black Men, and was presented the "Outstanding Asian American" award by former New York Governor Mario Cuomo, as well as the prestigious 2008 Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of a lifetime of service to others, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Dr. Bhupendra "Bhupi" Patel, a great New Yorker and a great American who made immeasurable improvements to the quality of life of his fellow New Yorkers. Dr. Patel's selfless and enduring dedication to serving others and to the civic life of our nation serves as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING STATE SENATOR DAVE ARONBERG

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a dedicated public servant, fierce consumer advocate, and my dear friend, State Senator Dave Aronberg.

A native of Miami, Dave attended Harvard College and Harvard Law School. Shortly after graduation, Dave began his work with the office of the State Insurance Commissioner taking on foreign insurance companies that refused to honor World War II era policies issued to victims of the Holocaust.

Dave's passion for public service next took him to the office of the Attorney General, where he became an Assistant Attorney General. It was in this capacity that Dave was responsible for prosecuting consumer fraud and led the lawsuits against "Miss Cleo's" fraudulent business holdings.

In 2000, Dave was chosen to participate in the prestigious White House Fellows program as a Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury for international money laundering. During his fellowship, Dave represented the Treasury Department at a global summit on money laundering and the laundering of terrorist assets in Malaysia. He then traveled as part of an official White House delegation to meet with foreign officials and to visit refugee camps in both Pakistan and Afghanistan.

After his fellowship, Dave returned to South Florida and in 2002 was elected to represent the 27th District of Florida in the State Senate. During his 8 years in the Senate, Dave continued his advocacy for strong consumer protections, was a member of Florida's Medicaid task force, and led the fight that successfully secured federal funding for the Everglades Restoration Project.

Recently, Dave has announced that he will continue his work for strong consumer protections by becoming Special Counsel to Attorney General Pam Bondi. As a special counsel, Dave will oversee the effort to eliminate pain clinics and "pill mills" in Florida.

I would like to congratulate Dave on his appointment in the Attorney General's office and wish him luck as he continues his dedication to public service and consumer advocacy. It has been a privilege working with him as an attorney, in the State legislature, and as a Congressman. I look forward to many years of continued service for South Florida alongside Dave.

IN HONOR OF NEW YORK CITY
COUNCILMAN DANIEL DROMM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor New York City Council Member Daniel Dromm, a pioneering figure in the political history of Queens, the most diverse county in the nation. An educator, community organizer, union leader, and political activist, Daniel Dromm's experience and dedication led voters in New York City's 25th City Council District to elect him by an overwhelming margin last year to serve as their new Council Member. Last month, Councilman Dromm was honored by the Queens Lesbian & Gay Pride Committee at its annual Winterpride celebration in Astoria.

A graduate of St. Mary's Elementary and Boys' High School in Manhasset, NY and Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY, Daniel Dromm went on to earn a Master's Degree from City College of the City University of New York. Prior to his career as an award-winning New York City public school teacher, he served as Educational Director of the Grant Day Care Center in Harlem, where he developed his legendary organizing skills fighting for the rights of the poor to affordable childcare, social services and quality education. He instructed and inspired thousands of students at PS 199Q in Queens. In 2006, Dromm was named "Outstanding Teacher of the Year" by his school's principal and in 2009, he was chosen as "Educator of the Year" by the Sunnyside Kiwanis Club. In 1992, Danny courageously came out as an openly gay teacher, becoming a role model for equality—and front-page news in daily newspapers in our nation's greatest city.

Deeply committed to civil rights and social justice, Dromm has established himself a fighter against prejudice, discrimination and violence as the founder and former co-chairperson of the Queens Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee. Fifteen years ago, he organized the first Queens LGBT Pride Parade and Festival, that takes place every year on the first Sunday in June in the vibrant Jackson Heights neighborhood. Dromm co-founded the Queens Chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG), helped establish the Queens Pride House, and co-founded the Generation Q Youth Services Program in Astoria. His dedication to the communities he serves is broad and deep, inspiring his efforts on behalf of the Kiwanis Club of Jackson Heights, his tenure on the Board of Directors

of the Corona-based Community Conciliation Network, his active membership in the 115th Precinct Community Council, and his volunteer duty with the Jackson Heights Beautification Group. He has been honored by the Sociedad Puertorriquena de Queens for his commitment to the Latino community, and serves as a member of the NAACP Corona/East Elmhurst chapter. He has been honored by the Korean-American Association of Central Queens, by the Times/Ledger newspapers with its Community Leadership Award, and by the United Federation of Teachers with its Marsh-Raimo Award, a fitting tribute to a dedicated labor activist.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues rise to join me in honoring the extraordinary contributions to the political and civic life of our nation's greatest city made by the pioneering political activist and elected official, New York City Council Member Daniel Dromm.

RULES OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 5, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H. Res. 5, the House Republican rules proposal for the 112th Congress. As some of my Democratic colleagues have argued before me, this rules package is fiscally irresponsible, will balloon the national debt, and threatens the stability of government services that are critically important to millions of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, the Republican proposed rules package sets our country down a path of unaffordable tax cuts and threatens to suppress long-term economic growth and job creation. While many of my new Republican colleagues were elected on the platform of reducing the deficit, the new rules introduced by the Republican leadership will significantly increase the national debt by changing the House pay-as-you-go rules, "PAYGO".

The Republican proposed House rules package adds to the deficit by exempting tax cuts and the deficit increasing effects of selectively repealing the health care reform law from the PAYGO rules. On the other hand, the Republican rules package prohibits the House from raising revenue or closing tax loopholes to help pay for new spending entitlements for low and middle income Americans.

Unlike the deficit neutral PAYGO rules that the 111th Congress operated under, the proposed rules package will allow for taxes to be cut without having to pay for them. But as the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform has pointed out, "tax expenditures are simply spending by another name and should not be exempt from scrutiny."

Substituting cut-as-you-go, "CUTGO", for PAYGO is bad economics and worse policy. As the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget has noted, "Replacing the two-sided PAYGO rules with a one-sided CUTGO rule will not only make it harder to offset legislation, but also exempt potentially budget-busting tax cuts from any discipline." CUTGO is unwise, irresponsible, will result in economic stagnation, and substantially increase the debt burden on our children and grandchildren.

In addition to its fiscal irresponsibility, the proposed House rules package fails to address homeland security jurisdiction despite repeated calls for reform from the 9/11 Commission and every Secretary of Homeland Security. Failing to consolidate legislative jurisdiction over homeland security in the House Committee on Homeland Security will continue to complicate oversight and review of critical homeland security issues.

I also oppose the proposed rules package for the 112th Congress because it severs the user-financed basis of the Highway Trust Fund, and subjects necessary federal highway and transit investments to the vagaries of the annual appropriations process. This proposal will exacerbate the instability already being experienced by the U.S. transportation construction marketplace. Transportation projects are long-term in nature and require stable and predictable sources of funding. Subjecting them to the appropriations process creates a precarious and unaccommodating market for investments in infrastructure projects.

Finally, the Republican rules package disenfranchises residents of the District of Columbia and U.S. territories by ending the ability of delegates and the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico to vote in, and preside over, the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union. This would deliver a terrible blow not only to the symbolic vote of the delegates, but also to the voices of the five million residents of these areas who deserve to be heard.

Mr. Speaker, this ill-considered and fiscally irresponsible rules package was crafted by the new Republican majority in secret without meaningful involvement or input from members on this side of the aisle. Had such an opportunity been afforded to the minority, this rules package would be far superior and fiscally sounder.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H. Res. 5.

IN HONOR OF BARBARA FIFE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of the Honorable Barbara Fife, Director of External Affairs at the School of Public Affairs at Baruch College of the City University of New York, Co-Director of its Center for Innovation and Leadership in Government, and a distinguished public servant who served as a Deputy Mayor of the City of New York. Last month, Ms. Fife's sixteen years of devoted service to Baruch College were celebrated by her colleagues and friends.

An accomplished and respected public servant in her earlier career, Ms. Fife served as New York City's Deputy Mayor for Planning and Development during the administration of former Mayor David Dinkins. As Deputy Mayor, she oversaw and was responsible for the operations of several major agencies of the nation's largest municipal government, including the Departments of City Planning, Housing Preservation & Development, Environmental Protection, Parks & Recreation, and Cultural Affairs and Libraries, as well as the

Landmarks Preservation Commission. In this capacity, Ms. Fife helped manage and implement one of the Dinkins' administration's signature achievements: she oversaw and helped manage the New York Public Library system's move to extend access to its facilities by keeping libraries open six days a week—for the first time since 1947. She held a seat on the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and chaired its Real Estate Committee and served as a member of the New York City Water Board and as Vice Chair of the Hudson River Park Conservancy. She also represented Mayor Dinkins on the Boards of the New York Public Library, the Brooklyn Museum and the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

Barbara Fife previously served as the Senior Special Assistant and acting Chief of Staff to then-Manhattan Borough President Dinkins. From 1982 to 1984, she directed the Internship Programs in the Department of Urban Planning at Hunter College of the City University of New York. She was a Democratic National Committeewoman from 1980 to 1990 and was elected and re-elected to the New York State Democratic Committee ten times.

Ms. Fife has served on the boards of many non-profit organizations, including the Museum of the City of New York, the Public Art Fund, Regional Plan Association, Project FIND, the Community Service Society, the Settlement Housing Fund, the New York League of Conservation Voters, and the Manhattan Theatre Club. She is a former President of the Parks Council and a former Vice President of the Clinton Housing Association. She graduated cum laude from Bryn Mawr College and holds a Master's degree in Urban Planning from Hunter College.

Throughout her distinguished career, Barbara Fife has remained devoted to her family. She and her beloved late husband Martin raised four sons, Stephen, Richard, Howard, and Andrew, and she is devoted to their beloved grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues rise to join me in saluting the extraordinary contributions of the Honorable Barbara Fife to the political and civic life of our nation's greatest city.

PRESIDENT RICK BENDER AND
SECRETARY-TREASURER ALAN
LINK RETIRING FROM THE
WASHINGTON STATE LABOR
COUNCIL (WSLC)

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the powerful contributions made by Washington State Labor Council (WSLC) President Rick S. Bender and Secretary-Treasurer Alan O. Link to policies that benefit working families. Throughout their lengthy and distinguished service, they have done much to advance the cause of organized labor in Washington State and, thereby, to improve significantly the lives of our residents. Thanks to steadfast support of its labor movement by Rick Bender and Al Link, Washington State today is the fourth most unionized state in the nation, with the state's 574,000 union members accounting for 20.2% of its overall workforce.

Rick Bender became President of the Washington State Labor Council in 1993, after serving as WSLC Vice President (1988–1993); Executive Secretary of the King County Labor Council (1991–1993); and Executive Secretary of the Seattle Building and Construction Trades Council (1987–1991). He is a member of Laborers Local 242 and Elevator Constructors Local 19, and he began his career with organized labor as an apprentice with Cement Masons Local 528 in 1966. In addition to his exceptional service to organized labor, Rick also served the citizens of the State of Washington for many years as an elected member of the State Legislature; I was fortunate to serve with Rick in the Washington State Senate, where he was much respected for his expertise, his hard work, and his commitment to fairness.

Al Link also is a giant in the Washington State labor community. He served in numerous leadership positions in that community prior to his 1994 election as WSLC Secretary-Treasurer, including President of the Spokane County Central Labor Council (1989–94) and President of Steelworkers Local 329 (1991–94), when he represented workers at the Kaiser Aluminum plant in Spokane. Al has been a member of the United Steelworkers of America since 1961.

Together, Rick Bender and Al Link provided bold leadership to the Washington State Labor Council as it achieved many proud accomplishments: they crafted a far-sighted and effective legislative platform to promote pro-working family laws and policies in Washington state government; these included passage of long-sought collective bargaining rights for state employees, protection and strengthening of Washington's model unemployment insurance and workers' compensation systems, promotion of innovative apprenticeship programs, and development of affordable health care and family leave policies.

Intent on highlighting labor's importance to our democratic political process, Mr. Bender and Mr. Link created a groundbreaking grassroots political program featuring the "Labor Neighbor" program, a highly successful effort that became a national model for engaging union activists and volunteers in the election process and informing rank-and-file members of labor's endorsements.

They also led successful campaigns for pro-worker ballot measures, including the nation's first indexed minimum wage law, which began as an initiative filed by Rick Bender; it was approved by the voters of Washington State in 1998 following an exciting campaign co-chaired by Rick and especially memorable because it relied entirely on volunteer signature gatherers.

Mr. Speaker, the formidable team of Rick Bender and Al Link leaves a vital legacy that will strengthen the lives of working people and their families for decades to come. On the occasion of their retirement from the Washington State Labor Council, I join thousands of union members, working families, and appreciative citizens across Washington State in thanking them for their vision, their bold leadership, and their dedicated service. We wish them good fortune and much satisfaction in the coming years.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARUCH COLLEGE AND ITS 2010 BERNARD BARUCH DINNER HONOREES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Baruch College of the City University of New York. Last year the College honored several remarkable leaders on the occasion of the 21st Annual Bernard Baruch Dinner at Cipriani 42nd Street in Manhattan.

A senior college in the City University of New York (CUNY), Baruch College is ranked among the top 15% of U.S. colleges and was named one of the 50 public colleges offering the "best value" to students. Currently led by Interim President Stan Altman, Baruch College honored five distinguished women in 2010, for the first time ever. Each is a prominent leader in New York City's real estate industry, chosen by Baruch College's trustees for their remarkable achievements in professional life and their extraordinary devotion to serving their communities. In addition, the Bernard Baruch Dinner last year honored the women of the College's Class of 1940, who were the first female students admitted after a 1933 ban on women students was ended in 1936, and who served as pioneering trailblazers for the generations of women who followed in their footsteps at Baruch. Appropriately, the former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Donna Shalala, a former President of Hunter College at CUNY, served as a dinner presenter.

The five women who were recognized at the 2010 Bernard Baruch Dinner are truly deserving honorees. The Bernard Baruch Medal for Business and Civic Leadership was presented to four outstanding leaders, Suzanne Sunshine, Louise M. Sunshine, Sylvia J. Smith, and Doris W. Koo, and the Distinguished Alumna Award was presented to Dolly Lenz.

Suzanne Sunshine is the President of S. Sunshine & Associates, which provides commercial and residential real estate brokerage and consulting services to non-profit organizations and their personnel, donating a percentage of its fees back to each non-profit client.

Louise M. Sunshine has enjoyed extraordinary success in the worlds of business, politics and government. After serving as a trusted top advisor to New York State Assembly Majority Leader Al Blumenthal and New York Governor Hugh Carey, in 1986, she launched the Sunshine Group firm focusing on residential real estate, where she coined the phrase, "All Square Feet Are Not Created Equal." Today, she serves as a consultant to Alexico Group, LLC, and is playing a leading role at Domineum, a firm offering global real estate solutions.

Sylvia Smith, FAIA, LEED AP, is a Senior Partner at FXFOWLE Architects, a leading firm that also provides planning and interior design services. She is the founder of the firm's Cultural & Educational Studio and is currently leading the redesign of public spaces at Lincoln Center, the Juilliard School expansion, and the Alice Tully Hall renovation, and recently completed award-winning Bronx Zoo projects.

Doris W. Koo is a nationally respected leader with nearly three decades' experience in affordable housing and community development.

President and CEO of Enterprise Community Partners, she also chairs the board of the Enterprise Community Loan Fund, a national leader in providing development capital, financial solutions, public policy advocacy, and technical expertise to create affordable housing.

Dolly Lenz is the Vice Chair of Prudential Douglas Elliman, one of the leading real estate firms in our Nation's greatest city. The daughter of an immigrant from Spain, she has risen to dizzying heights in her profession and is truly a worthy recipient of Baruch College's Alumna of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues rise to join me in paying tribute to Baruch College of the City University of New York and the five outstanding honorees it recognized at the 21st Annual Bernard Baruch Dinner.

HONORING THE 2ND PLATOON,
COMPANY B, 2ND BATTALION,
162ND INFANTRY REGIMENT, 41ST
INFANTRY BRIGADE COMBAT
TEAM, OREGON NATIONAL
GUARD

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the 2nd Platoon, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry Regiment, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oregon National Guard for their heroic action during the Battle of Fallujah in November of 2004. The unit will soon be awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for their gallantry in combat. This will be the first award of the Presidential Unit Citation to a unit of the Oregon National Guard in over six decades. The last time a unit of the Oregon National Guard received this distinction was for their valor during the Second World War.

The Presidential Unit Citation reads: "On 03 November 2004, the unit was placed under the operational control of the 1st Regimental Combat Team of the 1st Marine Division, to execute offensive operations in the central Iraqi city of Fallujah. The unit was selected for the initial attack on the city and tasked with penetrating the enemy's defenses and isolating the Jolan District in northwestern Fallujah. The Jolan District was believed to be the strongest of the enemy's defenses. The unit's rapid penetration deep into the city overwhelmed enemy positions, leading the way for further exploitation by the Marines. Throughout the remainder of the battle, the unit continued to isolate western Fallujah while attacking and destroying numerous enemy strong points. The unit's heroic Soldiers, and their expert use of combined arms firepower, led to the destruction of the insurgents in Fallujah."

The soldiers of 2nd Platoon, Company B, 2-162nd Infantry have demonstrated the kind of courage, determination, and skill exemplifying the highest standards of the United States Armed Forces and reflect great credit upon themselves, the Oregon National Guard, and the United States Army.

The Oregon National Guard has deployed 8,917 citizen soldiers worldwide in combat and counter-terrorist operations since September

11, 2001. As our citizen soldiers have repeatedly demonstrated their dedication to the United States of America, we in Congress must reaffirm our support for the men and women who bravely serve our Country.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TERENCE
CARDINAL COOKE HEALTH CARE
CENTER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center, a continuing-care facility founded more than three decades ago by the Archdiocese of New York. I am pleased to recognize the outstanding work of the Center as it continues to provide medical support and rehabilitative services to residents and patients of all backgrounds, while simultaneously encouraging their independence and self-sufficiency. Tonight we celebrate the hard work of the Center's generous staff, as well as the contributions to civic life of several noteworthy community leaders. I join you in saluting last year's honorees for their devotion to quality health care.

A long-standing presence in the community, the Terence Cardinal Cook Health Care Center has been committed to providing compassionate medical treatment since 1890. With respect for human life and dignity as its principal focus, the Center strives to maintain a broad range of high-quality health care services for its residents and patients in its long-term 729-bed facility and two outpatient clinics. The Center operates many clinical programs that address a wide variety of health issues, from developmental disabilities to chronic illnesses. While upholding its high standard for compassion and kindness, the Center provides comprehensive and innovative treatment to the community.

Last month, the Center held its annual Flower Ball at the Pierre Hotel in Manhattan. I congratulate last year's honorees, Michael J. Brescia, M.D., Executive Director of Calvary Hospital; Victoria L. Sharp, M.D., Director of the HIV Center at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center; J. Anthony SanFillipo, M.D.; and David Kamp, President of Dirworks Landscape Architecture.

Each of last year's honored guests is an exceptional civic leader whose life work reflects the mission of the Center. Almost 50 years ago, Dr. Michael Brescia helped develop the AV fistula, one of the most popular methods of vascular access for hemodialysis in the world. After assuming the position of Director of the HIV Center at St. Luke's-Roosevelt in 1997, Dr. Victoria Sharp has tirelessly worked on behalf of those living with HIV/AIDS, including many of society's most disadvantaged citizens and incarcerated individuals. Dr. J. Anthony SanFillipo has been a dedicated board member of the Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center for many years and will receive the Partnership Award for his hard work, dedication, and extraordinary service. Over the years, David Kamp and his company have generously offered their time and expertise on a pro bono basis to render the gardens of the Center a welcome oasis of beauty and tranquility in a densely urban environment.

In serving the Center, each of the honorees has demonstrated remarkable dedication, and has been an inspiration not only to staff and patients, but to all New Yorkers. In devoting their time and energy so generously to others, they remind us that every individual can make a difference.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues rise to join me in paying tribute to the Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center and its distinguished 2010 honorees.

HONORING THREE KINGS DAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask my colleagues to spend some time today to remember the Christian feast of the Epiphany, or as many in my community know it, Three Kings Day.

For millions around the world, especially Latinos, the final curtain on the holiday season doesn't begin to fall until today, January 6. From El Barrio through Mexico, and the Caribbean all the way down to the tip of South America, communities find their own unique ways to celebrate the Biblical journey of Balthasar, Melchior, and Caspar.

Like Christmas, Three Kings Day is a day for kids and family, a time to not just exchange gifts, but also appreciate what we have. In the East Harlem section of my congressional district, the day has been marked for 34 years by a children's parade organized by El Museo del Barrio. Mr. Speaker, seeing these children in costumes and coats walking the streets of Fifth Avenue, you would be instantly reminded about how special they each are and the special responsibility we have in making sure that they have just as many opportunities to succeed—if not more—than any of us standing in these great walls.

Balthasar, Melchior, and Caspar traveled on the wings of hope, believing that a better future lay in the hands of a humble child in the manger. They did not dismiss him because he was a carpenter's son or because he was poor. They did not ask about his immigration status or whether his parents had proper paperwork. They crossed deserts and overcame hurdles because they believed that his future was as bright and limitless as the stars that adorned the sky.

Unfortunately, not enough of today's children have been given such investment of time and energy. Despite the tireless work of many parents and educators, far too many are falling through the cracks in schools that are ill-equipped to teach them the skills necessary for work and life.

So on this last weekend of the holiday season, let all of us remember the greatness that lies in each of our children. Let us renew our commitment to our next generation by developing partnerships that will equip them with the tools they will need to realize their goals and dreams.

Let us remember that acts of kindness and generosity should extend well into the year and that the future of this great land depends on the opportunities we create for our children to shine and reach their full potential.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
HONORABLE CONRAD FOA

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Honorable Conrad Foa, an outstanding New Yorker who has distinguished himself as a leader in the worlds of business, philanthropy, and civic and political affairs. A Member of the New York State Democratic Committee, Mr. Foa's contributions to the community were recognized at the annual dinner gala of the Lexington Democratic Club last month. As the first "reform club" in New York City, the Lexington Democratic Club strives for inclusive civic participation in our nation's greatest metropolis, and Conrad Foa is a proud heir to that great reform tradition.

As the Democratic State Committee Member representing the 73rd Assembly District on the East Side of Manhattan, and as a Member of Manhattan Community Board 8, Conrad Foa has distinguished himself as a dynamic and forceful leader for his community. He and his wife Linda Foa were both born in Manhattan, as were both of their sons Justin and Barrett. As a lifelong resident of Manhattan's Upper East Side, Conrad Foa has volunteered his time and effort to maintaining and improving the quality of life for his fellow Upper East Siders, and has thrown himself in public life by twice running for a seat in the New York State Senate. In recognition of his outstanding leadership abilities, the Democratic voters of New York's 73rd Assembly District elected Conrad Foa to the New York State Democratic Committee in 2006.

Conrad Foa has also distinguished himself as a premier leader in the insurance industry. As the principal of Chairman of Foa & Son, a leading insurance brokerage firm which negotiates insurance coverage on behalf of the consumer, he ushered his family-owned enterprise into the twenty-first century. The firm's proud tradition is now being carried on by its President, Conrad and Linda's son Justin, who is the fifth generation Foa to head the firm, which will be celebrating its sesquicentennial anniversary next year.

Conrad Foa's leadership and achievements have been recognized on many occasions by his colleagues and peers. He is a past President and Director of the Insurance Brokers Association of the State of New York, and was instrumental in getting two pro-consumer bills passed to keep jobs and holding insurance premiums down. He was named a member of several prestigious and exclusive associations for business leaders, including the Young Presidents Organization, the World Presidents Organization, and the Chief Executives Organization. Mr. Foa is Founder of the International Executives Association and a past President and Director of Executives' Association of Greater New York, a networking organization which promotes New York businesses. A dedicated philanthropist, he also served as Member of the Board of Directors of the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies. He is a graduate of the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and received a Master's Degree in Economics from The London School of Economics.

Despite all his activity in business, civic, and political life, Conrad Foa has always remained

dedicated above all to his family. He and his wife Linda are the proud parents of their sons Justin and Barrett, an accomplished actor and performer, and doting grandparents to Justin's son, Max.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me recognizing the enormous contributions to our civic and political life made by the Honorable Conrad Foa, a great New Yorker and a great American.

HONORING THE ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DANIEL LAGE

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize a young man from south Florida, Daniel Lage, who has made headlines with his remarkable academic achievements at the young age of twenty-one.

Daniel's family history is a sadly familiar story for many of us in south Florida; that of being forced to flee the Castro dictatorship of Cuba for the land of freedom and opportunity: the United States.

I too come from this same background—and I know that the struggles of his family served to strengthen this young man's passion to succeed.

There is no better path to success than that of a driven individual pursuing a sound education.

I know that Daniel demonstrated his eagerness to learn and his matching intellect every day in the classroom. Through his hard work and with the support of his loving family by the time he graduated Gulliver Preparatory School he had been named Valedictorian and had earned the prestigious Silver Knight Award.

Later, Daniel was accepted into Harvard University, where he has pursued a degree in history and science and will graduate in May. Never forgetting his roots, Daniel has been the president of Harvard's Cuban American Undergraduate Association and remains committed to the idea of a free and prosperous Cuba.

Daniel embodies the noble values, unshakable integrity, and sheer determination that we all should aspire to match. Many people and institutions have certainly taken note.

Daniel has received the incredibly prestigious Rhodes Scholarship where he will study at the world renowned Oxford University in England. Winners are selected for many defining qualities including high academic achievement, personal integrity, and leadership potential. Impressively, he is one of only seventy Floridians to ever receive this scholarship.

At Oxford, Daniel expects to pursue a Master of Science—with a focus on different nations' approaches to caring for the chronically ill. Sadly, this focus is not arbitrary, and again both he and my family share a solemn common bond. His grandfather, Eugene, was recently diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. I know firsthand the terrible effects of this debilitating disease on an individual. My mother, Amanda, has been fighting a losing battle against the disease over these last few years.

I know that my personal experiences with this horrific disease have prompted me to take

action in the fight against Alzheimer's; so too have Daniel's experiences. He has partnered with the Alzheimer's Association as an advocate and has every intention and expectation of becoming both a physician and a policy-maker in his future. I understand this deep-seated passion for geriatric medicine and certainly expect that his strong resolve will play an important part in unlocking the mysteries of this terrible disease and finally finding a cure.

I know Daniel fully recognizes the immeasurable value of his ongoing education, and in doing so I am confident he will accomplish many great things for our community in south Florida, our magnificent United States, and above all continue to make his family immensely proud.

So once again, Daniel, from a former Florida certified teacher and a firm proponent of education as a lifelong journey: I congratulate you on all you have accomplished—you are a fine example of the best and brightest in south Florida and I wish you truly all the best on all you hope to accomplish in the future.

THE WALK FOR HEALTHCARE:
HEALTHCARE STORIES FROM
WEST VIRGINIA AND PENNSYLVANIA
COLLECTED BY OGAN
GUREL, M.D.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following stories, collected by Dr. Ogan Gurel.

"Tom described a situation in which he was buying two batteries for a scooter. Since he was paying out-of-pocket, they discounted the price \$30 below the price they charged Medicare. 'Something fishy is going on,' he said." Tom—Chester, 7/14/2009

"I met Sharyn at the DaVinci salon. No, I wasn't going in for a pedicure, which, with the condition my feet were in wouldn't have been easy anyway. Actually, she peeked out the door and asked, 'Are you that doctor walking from Chicago to DC?' and invited me in for a glass of water. Being busy with clients, there was no opportunity to get any stories. But they all were supportive of the Walk. 'We sure need healthcare reform,' Sharyn said, as her co-workers gathered about along with the clients reclining in their chairs nodded in agreement." Sharyn—Chester, 7/14/2009

"Gayla told me that she and her husband have been 'very lucky.' They've had employer-provided insurance through Verizon—'pretty good insurance,' she told me. But Frontier is buying the West Virginia assets of the company, so in the transition, as she put it, they have no idea what it'll mean for them. This is important because her stepson has cystic fibrosis (CF). At age 23 he's a real survivor. He's done well but lately, from an insurance standpoint, it's gotten very complicated. Based on doctor's orders, he's strictly limited to very light work, at a maximum of 30 hours a week. So essentially, as Gayla told me, 'He's stuck with a part-time employment status. Insurance on his own is not a possibility,' she added. 'And he can't get SSI because he actually can work a little.' And while Verizon promised to cover him (as part of their employer-based coverage) even into adulthood, Gayla and her husband don't know if that agreement will be honored by the new company. She doubts that it will be. It sounds like there are so

many cracks in the system, I said. 'Yes. It's a real problem. And it's not abstract—my son's life depends on it.'" Gayla—Hagers-town, 7/22/2009

"I've got no money for insurance," Shirley, working behind the counter at Reeve's marketplace, told me. 'Just Medicare, pretty healthy, I'm lucky.' She told me how she didn't sign up for the AARP prescription medication plan. 'It didn't make sense,' she said. 'AARP wasn't really paying and they seemed to be getting the higher priced drugs anyway.'" Shirley—Hookstown, 7/14/2009

"As I entered Pittsburgh, Deb, working the counter at the Miley's BP convenience store, told me she has no insurance. She'll only go to the doctor if absolutely necessary. 'Basically,' she told me, 'healthcare is just not available.'" Deb—Pittsburgh, 7/15/2009

"Robin, whose smile brightened up my day after a long day walking, told me the story about her girlfriend in Chicago. 'She was doing well, but then lost her job. She lost her health insurance and last year, at age 50, was diagnosed with multiple myeloma.' So how did she deal with that? 'Well, she had to come up with \$689/month for her insurance, the hospital would not provide healthcare otherwise.' As her condition got even more serious, all of their mutual friends and sorority sisters (Delta Sigma Phi) have been raising funds and sending her money for her care. 'I guess,' Robin told me, 'if it wasn't for us, she could be dead.' She said it without ego or braggadocio but rather out of sadness (even with our bright smile) that it had to be that way.'" Robin—Pittsburgh, 7/15/2009

"Rhonda returned to Pennsylvania to take care of her elderly family. She's had self-pay insurance via Highmark, the major insurer in the Pittsburgh market. 'It's alright so long as you don't get sick.' Regarding the recent debates in Congress, she also added, 'If you believe anything those execs put out, then you're a fool.' She had a situation last year of right upper-quadrant abdominal pain. She went to the ER, which was an ordeal. They started the work-up, a GI consult, surgical consult, ultrasound, HIDA scan were ordered and was admitted for overnight observation. She told me all the tests returned negative. And then, Highmark ended up denying the \$7,000 for the hospital stay and all the radiology consults deeming that it was all medically unnecessary. 'There was no way for me to know they wouldn't cover it.' The hospital called for pre-approval, but the insurance company still had denied it. But Rhonda fought it, saying either the hospital was practicing fraudulent medicine or the company was wrong. 'They finally backed-off and paid.' Rhonda also described a story from a friend of hers who worked as a dental assistant. She had attended a conference on billing which the whole point of which was how to bill so the insurance company could deny the claim: what diagnostic categories to use, etc. The percentage of people who would not fight was estimated at 70%."

Rhonda—Pittsburgh, 7/16/2009

"As an ambulance driver, John definitely notes that, 'the uninsured come to us in a more severe state. They don't have a family doctor and so in the ER people end up having to wait more because these critically ill patients come in.' He told me it was not uncommon for them to wait six months to a year before seeking any medical attention."

John—Braddock, 7/16/2009

"As an EMT, Christina's seen diabetics without medications coming into the ER two to three times a week because their sugar gets out of whack. They really don't have any health care access otherwise." Christina—Braddock, 7/16/2009

"Zenobia has to see a doctor regularly for her prescriptions. 'It's really hard, because I have no insurance,' she said. 'And I work

hard. But since I'm part-time, Medicaid says I'm not eligible.' But since she's working only 25 hours a week, she doesn't apparently qualify for insurance through her employer either. 'According to Medicaid, you're working,' she said. But according to her employer, 'You're not working.' The cracks in the system she was facing, seemed, from her expression, to be more like gaping chasms, with no way out. When she heard public assistance was no longer available for her, she called them, crying. 'Why have I been dropped?' To which they answered, 'You make more than \$200 a month.' So she makes do with a hodge-podge of different programs and deals. She's able to keep her medication bill down to \$60 a month because the pharmacy has a special plan but her various other medical bills have accumulated to close to \$6,000. 'It's all a mess, all so complicated,' she told me. 'And if I really get hurt, I'm pretty much screwed.'" Zenobia—North Braddock, 7/16/2009

"At the tail end of a monstrous thunderstorm, seeking some shelter, even though I was soaking wet anyway, I met Mary at the Wendy's just west of Greensburg. She was there with her daughter and grandson. We talked about the Walk and about health care reform. Mary shared with me the story of her son, Jim. 'He works in a plant nursery. He's got no insurance but suffers from sympathetic dystrophy, you know what that is, right?' Yes, I replied. 'He's self-pay but basically he just suffers in pain. It breaks my heart.'" Mary—Greensburg, 7/17/2009

"You can reach out for help, but if you have no health insurance you're nobody." That's how Rebecca concluded the story she told me about the death of her boyfriend. It's a complicated story but basically the 24-year-old was off and on in a Methadone rehab program. He was doing well in rehab when his treatment was about 1/2 done, his insurance ran out. Because of this, 'The rehab facility, kicked him out,' Rebecca told me. She explained how, with withdrawal symptoms kicking in, he arrived home very sick. Two days later, near-comatose he was taken to the hospital where he was admitted to the ICU with liver failure but, according to Rebecca, they, 'really didn't do anything.' At the time of his death, she said, with incredulity, that the staff was joking in front of her, laughing even. The trauma continued, even after his death. She described how the coroner came in and started accusing people. 'Then a doctor arrived, and asked if the decedent had insurance.' Rebecca shook her head. 'No, I answered. And the doctor asked if I wanted to see the body. I said, yes, but he told me that they had taken it away to make room for the next body.' Rebecca told me it was all very sarcastic and cruel. But the nightmare was not over. Then the bills started arriving. They were not married but the rehab center (which kicked him out) and the hospital demanded payment. 'They fraudulently indicated that I signed the bills,' said Rebecca. 'It's been two years now and they're still sending bills. Between the doctor and the financial games, I never had a chance to grieve over his death.' Rebecca's eyes saddened as I asked her to sign for her consent. 'You can reach out for help, but if you have no health insurance you're nobody.'" Rebecca—Greensburg, 7/17/2009

"Ryan is a young American. 24 years old, sporting an unassuming t-shirt and buzz cut, he exudes a personality simultaneously reserved and forthright. He has a gracious smile, offered with a twist of the head but then when he looks at you, with a piercing gaze, his face turns serious. As a writer, he seeks to deeply understand people, yet some things, like healthcare insurance, elude even his keen comprehension. Brought up in a family who never had health insurance,

Ryan is, nevertheless, a man with energetic ambitions. After an early honorable discharge from the Army—for medical reasons—and a fruitless search for a job, he is working to finish his first novel, Ever Street Road, a parable, as he calls it, for the choices in life that one makes. Yet, in this great country, bursting with infinite possibility, Ryan has few, if any, choices. Infinitude meets finitude—this is America. The future is but an illusion. Not knowing whether there will be healthcare for all or only healthcare for some, Ryan and I, sharing dinner, are focused on the present and the past. This is the only thing we truly know. The future, a future where the young ambitions of earnest, yet thwarted souls, might reach their full potential, is only a dream. Reality is how I met Ryan and what brought him to run up the hill to meet me on US 30 as 18-wheelers thundered past. Just east of North Versailles, about 25 miles beyond my initial walking point, the last few miles trundled on through with pain. My feet—a jumble of collapsing arches, exploding blisters, and hemorrhaging nail beds—were beyond rebellion. I would have ordinarily arranged a pick-up to take me to the next hotel—now about eight miles east—but this had not materialized. And the transport for the bag—the 70 pound suitcase monstrosity—from which I live, had not been arranged. And despite the physical tribulations of walking nearly 24 miles a day, the most challenging part of the Walk has been the logistics. Lodging, pick-up (often the bunk down place is not necessarily on my walking route), and bag transport had all to be arranged. If any one of these elements fell through, the Walk would come to a standstill. At this point, I was not worried so much about that. With the sun now setting, knowing that I would soon be walking in the dark—the time when sounds become more important than sights—I was worried about my survival, concerned about arriving at the motel—if I made it at all—well after midnight. At the bottom of the hill, I had stopped at a McDonald's to replenish myself with water and recharge my phone batteries. I slipped on my safety vest and grimly headed up the hill. A young man, gasping for breath, came up beside me. Cars rushed by and instinctively motioned him towards the narrow shoulder. 'Are . . . are you Doctor Gurel?' he asked, wide-eyed, disbelieving. I was on the phone, still working feverishly to arrange transport of my bag. Too tired to be surprised, I smiled at him, and nodded. 'I was following you on Twitter and . . . and I just had to come and meet you.' I hung up the phone, and out of habit continued on forward, as the young man joined me. 'I'm Ryan, Ryan Trump,' he added. Oh yes! From Facebook! 'Yes,' he said, his face twisting, searching for words to describe a situation for which there was no precedent. 'Wow, I can't believe this.' What? 'That I met you here.' I chuckled. 'Crazy, isn't it?' Ryan and I had exchanged some e-mails during the past few weeks on Facebook, and it was strange indeed that an entirely electronic friendship had materialized here on the not-so-isolated Lincoln Highway east of Pittsburgh. And so we talked—talked with amazement about the GPS tracking technology that had brought Ryan to my very spot. We talked about healthcare. But I had to interrupt him. Ryan, I have a problem. 'What's that?' My motel is about seven miles up, in Irwin. I have no pick-up to get there. Could you help out? 'That's the least I can do!' I smiled weakly. Deliverance, in the form of Ryan Trump, shy but forthright, gracious but ambitious, had arrived. I was grateful for the wonders of technology and even more for the grace of initiative and real, not electronic, fellowship. And so, after a couple of hours of back-and-forth driving, Ryan and I

delivered the suitcase and myself to the motel in Irwin. But that was the present. The following evening I had dinner with Ryan and we talked about the past. The present and the past: while this is what we know, we spoke out of hope for the future. A future with healthcare for all, and not just for some. A future where the imagined infinitude of possibilities cross with the crushing reality of no possibility. 'My family has never had health insurance,' Ryan told me. 'My father worked in maintenance at the hospital for 36 years. And we never had health insurance but we could get care through the hospital.' That's good, I replied. 'Then the hospital closed, back in 2006, and he got laid off . . . but he was close to retirement anyway.' So what do you do now? 'It's difficult. My mom's got a heart condition, had a heart attack back in 2000. You know it could always happen again. She's got four types of drugs.' How do you pay for it? 'It's all out-of-pocket.' But you told me that you had troubles with the bank. 'That's just the way it goes—you pay for the medications when you can.' I shook my head. And how about for you? What's it like to not have insurance? Ryan, who would usually look straight at me with those forthright, almost aggressive eyes, glanced down. 'Well, you got aches and pains, but you think, do I deal with the pain or do I go to the hospital and suffer accumulated debt? I'm 24 years old and my credit score is probably garbage. Can't do anything in life with that, you know.' I figured, listening between the lines, that Ryan had, in fact, gotten some healthcare, and the 'accumulated debt' he had referred to was real. How's the asthma? I asked. (This was the reason for the honorable, medical discharge from the service.) 'Oh, that's not too bad. But there was this other situation.' What was that? Ryan thought for a moment, then looked up. 'Well, I had a lump,' he said, pointing below the table. 24 year old young man, I realized that he was likely referring to testicular cancer—a condition made widely known by Lance Armstrong's experience, and survival. Did you get it checked out? 'Well, I was holding off for the longest time. But it was quickly getting bigger.' My heart sank, but the fact of the rapid enlargement, encouragingly suggested to me that it wasn't cancer. And? 'So I did go to the doctor eventually.' Ryan smiled and sighed. 'He said it was some sort of hydrocele.' Oh yes, that's good news. 'They did an ultrasound . . . and, of course, I got all the bills. There was no way I could pay for them so I didn't even open them up.' An odd mix, a contradiction even, that with the wonderful news—namely that one did not have cancer—there came delivered a message of debt peonage that inspired even more despair than the dreaded diagnosis itself. It was almost as if the healthcare system itself was the cancer.' Ryan—Greensburg, 7/17/2009

"Bob has worked for the government for 44 years. He told me that he's always had health insurance (BC/BS via the government plan). 'Why is it not possible to make that available to all?' he wondered. 'It's the same plan as that for Congressmen and Senators.' He added that it was a big pool and that 'it would bring in younger people, make the insurance for all more affordable.' But, he explained, 'It's different with corporate America. I'm retired now but I still get the same coverage as those who are still employed in government.'" Bob—Greensburg, 7/18/2009

"Terry's here in Greensburg visiting from Philadelphia. She shared with me the story of her mother's untimely death, which resulted, in her estimation, from a nightmarish confluence of administrative barriers and inhumane insurance policies. The story goes as follows. Her mother underwent a liver biopsy. This was on a Friday. As Terry

explained to me, 'She was done as an outpatient, but even though the surgeon said it was complicated, with bleeders, she was not permitted by her insurance to stay overnight.' She returned home for the weekend. On Sunday, she went to the emergency room with escalating pain but was sent home again being told it was a gallbladder problem. The pain still unbearable, she returned to the ER within three hours. 'From what we learned,' Terry said, 'there was a blood clot pressing on the bile duct.' She progressed rapidly downhill from there ending up three-and-a-half weeks in the ICU (battling sepsis). Six weeks after the biopsy she died. Terry finished the story. 'If only the insurance had been more flexible, had considered true medical necessity, in observing my mother the first night after her procedure, perhaps she would still be with us now.'" Terry—Greensburg, 7/19/2009

"I haven't had health insurance since '92,' Ed told me, when I asked him if he had any healthcare stories. 'That's when Bethlehem Steel closed down—so, no insurance, for me.' I nodded. I can understand. I don't have insurance either. I don't think Ed really heard me as he continued, 'I'm glad I'm healthy because if not, I'd be dead.' Ed plays quite a bit of soccer (he's wearing his soccer t-shirt now) and he told me of an injury he had a few years back. He got hit pretty hard at a soccer game at the Y. 'Got myself a gash on my head and some sort of shoulder injury.' And so he went to the emergency room. When he told them he lacked insurance, Ed told me that the doctor basically said, 'Stitch him up and send him home.' Ed had an angry look on his face. 'I got 27 stitches but they did nothing about my shoulder.' I suppose I could understand his displeasure as with all that he got a bill for \$2,300. 'I still haven't paid it, and I never will be able to,' he said. Despite these distressing stories, Ed was not really as sour as his tale would make him to be. We talked about quite a few other topics and he wished me well on my journey, closing in now, on Washington, DC." Ed—Stoystown, 7/19/2009

"Karl, a volunteer Ambassador at the Flight 93 Memorial, told me he doesn't believe in a government-run system. According to him, the free-market is the best though he acknowledged that having insurance linked to employment was a problem. 'Empower the individual,' Karl explained to me. So how about your own situation, I asked. 'We're not well-to-do,' he said. 'I get my health insurance from the state, a plan called Special Care which is in between Medicaid and private insurance.' And how's it going with that? 'Very well actually,' he answered. 'It's not connected to employment status so I have the freedom to change jobs without changing my health coverage.' [On a side note, Karl, in his presentation to the thirty some-odd gathered visitors at the memorial explained how about \$40 million more was needed to complete the permanent Flight 93 Memorial. I recalled how anti-reform industry groups were spending (as reported by the Wall Street Journal) about \$1.4 million a day in their selfish and grasping efforts to thwart (or worse manipulate) healthcare reform. That means that about a month of that spending (the time it took for me to walk from Chicago to DC) would cover the remaining cost of the Memorial—a tribute, as most know, to Americans who gave the last full measure of sacrifice for their fellow citizens.] Karl—Shanksville, 7/19/2009

"Kay's a part-owner of a small business—all of three people. Because of the high cost of health insurance, the deductibles, and all that, 'they've got no discretionary income,' she told me. They're with Highmark and the premium went up \$100 a month within the past few months alone. Her husband has had

two heart surgeries (done at the Cleveland Clinic). The cost was \$4,000 a day but they ended up paying \$700. 'That was a relief,' she said. 'But we're lucky. We can afford healthcare insurance—barely—but that leaves us with no extra money.' Clearly up-to-date on various health reform proposals, she added, 'It would be nice if I could deduct it as a tax credit. But here's the real problem,' Kay continued. 'If my husband—or I—couldn't work then we wouldn't be able to maintain the income to pay for any insurance. How will we be able to pay for health insurance when we actually need it most? That's what doesn't make sense.' I was readying to leave when Kay interrupted. 'One more thing. I think much of these premium monies are being wasted.' How so? I asked. 'I went to a Pirates game and they were giving out free bobblehead dolls. Guess who sponsored all that?' Who? 'Highmark. That's where health insurance premiums go—to advertising.' And so my experience came full circle as I recalled the giant Highmark billboards scattered among Pittsburgh's downtown when I had been there four days earlier." Kay—Bedford, 7/20/2009

"I met with Eric in Jim's living room (at the home where I stayed that night). Jim had invited several neighbors to stop by for a discussion of healthcare reform and Eric was gracious enough to share his story with me. First, he does not have health insurance. He looked into it, reviewed the policies from three companies and saw that there was essentially no difference among them. 'It was 80/20 coverage and no doctors were covered,' he told me. The premiums started off at \$300 a month and went up to \$900 a month within a year. 'Worse than the cable company!' And so he dropped the coverage. As it turns out, Eric did have a serious health issue last year—a pituitary adenoma (a form of benign, but still very dangerous, brain tumor). One morning he woke up nearly blind—all he could see was a tiny pin-prick of light (an extreme form of a condition called 'tunnel vision'). He had himself taken to the emergency room. To make a long story short, he was treated at UPMC. He told me 'Hershey refused to talk because he had no insurance.' Being without insurance, he now, after all was said and done, owed \$160,000. He was able to make deals with the doctors but the hospital, he told me, 'was never cooperative—a monster to deal with. And there was no negotiation.' He told me about his ongoing struggles with the hospital. 'And the billing was so strange,' he added. As someone who checks things out carefully, he told me how an MRI at UPMC cost \$7,000 but the same scan, on the same machine, cost \$2,000 in the nearby town of Altoona. 'And a single Tylenol pill cost \$10! It's a crazy system.'" Eric—Bedford, 7/20/2009

"Gloria is the owner of Hollinshead grocery. She told me how the grocery, a family business, has been in Harrisonville for over a hundred years. Being self-employed, she hasn't had health coverage for more than twenty years, ever since her husband's company went out of business. 'It's just too expensive to get insurance being self-employed,' she told me. Three years ago, her husband had a heart attack and died. She explained that paying for his care, even in the midst of grieving, was not easy. 'A Harrisonburg doctor accepted a payment plan,' and she also applied for Hill-Burton funds to pay for testing and other hospital costs. 'Things were not easy,' she added, with a touch of melancholy." Gloria—Harrisonville, 7/21/2009

"Mike, a customer at Hollinshead's Grocery, lost his job at Caterpillar in February and is now without insurance. 'COBRA was much too expensive,' he said. His unemployment check was \$325 a week and health coverage cost over \$400 a month. His children,

'fortunately,' he told me, are covered through the state (ACCESS program). He seemed calm as he explained this predicament. 'My wife just got diagnosed with Lyme disease, though—a tick-bite right here in our back yard.' Eyes perked up among the others sitting about the grocery. He told me, 'We're paying cash for the lab bill.' It had originally been \$307 but they were able to get it discounted to \$187. 'The doctor's bill was \$80—and that's just for the diagnosis,' he added. 'For the actual treatment, we're dependin' on free samples.'" Mike—Harrisonville, 7/21/2009

"Martin has been out-of-work since last year. 'Obviously I have no insurance,' he said. He has insulin-dependent diabetes and gets some healthcare through the Pennsylvania ACCESS card. He explained that, 'If I go back to work, however, I'll lose my medical care.' That's a disincentive to work, I said. 'Sure is . . . I need to stay under twenty hours a week to get medical care. If I work more, there's no job, no way I could pay for the healthcare and medicines. I can't just drop the insulin.'" Martin—Harrisonville, 7/21/2009

"I would call myself a fiscal conservative,' Jim told me as we sat together discussing healthcare in his living room. 'I believe that health savings accounts, HSAs, and patient involvement in the decisions will be important to bring costs under control.' He added that in his experience, once health benefits are provided, it's 'very difficult to backtrack.' He's worked in government for 32 years and is currently retired. 'Personally, I think the government plan, if made available to all, would work well. I think that would be easy to implement. It allows choice, there's already a mechanism to collect premiums and there could be some income tiering.'" Jim—Bedford, 7/21/2009

"I think that it's possible to have a very basic plan as a public good.' Jo told me she's seen examples of that and she 'believes it's a good use of taxpayer money.' But she also realizes how it could get out-of-hand. 'It all depends on how and what "basic" is defined as,' she said. 'Sometimes that's too abstract.'" Jo.—Bedford, 7/21/2009

RULES OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 5, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply disappointed in the Rules package assembled by my Republican colleagues. In their campaigns, they promised to improve transparency and to reduce the deficit. These Rules break those promises.

Under these Rules, the new Republican majority will enact a draconian budget without a single hearing, without any input from the Budget Committee, without any outreach to Congressional Democrats, and without a direct vote by the House of Representatives. Merely by entering a statement into the record, the Budget Chairman can subject all spending beyond whatever levels he deems appropriate to a point of order. This level of concentrated authority runs contrary to the premise of transparency that Republicans campaigned on, and, given its disregard for scrutiny, runs the risk of greatly damaging our economy and the welfare of millions.

The rules themselves make a mockery of prudent budgeting. While the Republican rhet-

oric has been laudable in some instances, their "Cut-as-you-go" rule is riddled with loopholes. For instance, it allows tax cuts for corporations to be deficit financed, while programs like child tax credits must find offsets. In fact, these rules forbid eliminating even the narrowest special interest tax loophole to find revenue for effective government programs.

The most casual glance at the origin of this country's debts illustrates the fallacy of their approach. Without finding a dime to offset the cost to our Nation, these rules make it possible to both make permanent the 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cuts for the highest-income taxpayers and to repeal the Affordable Care Act, which not only saves nearly \$150 billion during the next 10 years, but reduces healthcare costs by nearly a trillion dollars during the following decades.

In no way do these rules result in the type of prudent budgeting that my Republican colleagues campaigned on, nor does it resemble anything like what any hardworking American family must do. At a time when the Republican majority is pledging greater openness, the Rules are also anti-democratic by depriving 600,000 taxpaying D.C. residents of their ability to have their voice heard in the Committee of the Whole.

The Rules package also undermines opportunities to continue investing in America.

By eliminating the point of order guarding Highway Trust Fund balances this Republican majority threatens investments in communities large and small across the country. Historically, this point of order ensured that Congress delivered on the transportation investments promised in the transportation authorization, and that States and communities could count on the long-term commitments made in that legislation. By removing this point of order, and allowing Highway Trust Fund balances to accrue and mask the actual deficit, the Republicans are engaging in budget gimmickry that undermines our economy and the safety of our communities.

Organizations from the Chamber of Commerce to the American Association of Highway Transportation Officials have expressed their strong concern about destabilizing transportation funding, and have urged the Republican Conference to make changes. I join with these organizations in expressing my concern and disappointment.

At a time when the need to invest in our communities is higher than ever, these rules will make it possible for the Republican Congress to decrease our investment in infrastructure, undermining efforts to rebuild and renew communities across the country. In addition to the new rule regarding the Highway Trust Fund, these Republican rules also limit the ability of the House to raise revenue for the Highway Trust Fund. At a time when our needs are greater than ever, and individuals and organizations across the country are calling on Congress to upgrade our Nation's roads, bridges, and transit systems, limiting our options—as these Rules do—is shortsighted and foolhardy.

THE WALK FOR HEALTHCARE: HEALTHCARE STORIES FROM MARYLAND AND WASHINGTON, DC, COLLECTED BY OGAN GUREL, M.D.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following stories, collected by Dr. Ogan Gurel.

"Tamara told me, 'She was lucky having health insurance.' Knowing generally that lack of insurance was a problem, she didn't have any particular personal stories to share. But when I asked about health reform, she said, simply enough, that, 'More should be done.'" Tamara—Hagerstown, 7/22/2009

"Patrick has been on and off insurance all his life. 'More off than on,' he further clarified for me. 'My credit rating is trashed because of medical stuff.' And in the 80s he had a skull injury. 'I actually had insurance but not everything was covered so I just couldn't pay.' He seemed relaxed for someone for whom the system seemed not to work—forced into debt, even with insurance, and now suffering the consequence of ruined credit. But perhaps one gets used to such predicament.'" Patrick—Hagerstown, 7/22/2009

"Tiffany doesn't have a job, nor does she have health insurance. As a single mom, her daughter gets assistance through the state. For herself, she did have to go to the emergency room one time last year but as she didn't fill out the form for medical assistance in time (there was a three-month time limit), she ended up owing \$4,000. Now she's being taken to court by the hospital, Washington County. 'I get phone calls every day from the bill collectors,' she tells me. 'And I'm scared to go back to the doctor for anything including my frozen shoulder.' With some trepidation, she told me she knew somebody who was threatened with jail for not responding to court summons for a medical bill. 'It's not a good situation to be in,' she told me. Despite her unhappy troubles, Tiffany insisted on smiling when I took her picture.'" Tiffany—Hagerstown, 7/23/2009

"I met Terry at the Oriole Club, a local bar where I stopped in during a ferocious thunderstorm to take a water break. Terry believes in preventative medicine, eating right, exercising—being positive. She doesn't have insurance and with two kids, she's busy providing them with a home and feeding them right. Last year she got very sick but nobody would take her. Because she has no primary care doctor, it costs \$250 just to get in the door. The others seated along the bar gave knowing looks. She told me she prayed a lot, especially when her temperature hit 104. 'But I survived,' she said with a smile. 'But, if you don't have insurance,' she told me, 'you're treated different.'" Terry—Middletown, 7/23/2009

"Sonny told me the story of a girl in town. Many of the others seated at the bar recognized her plight. 'She's worked for ten years, without insurance,' Sonny told me. And she got sick with a gallbladder problem and, 'probably because she couldn't work on account of her illness,' she was laid off. She needs a gallbladder removal but the doctor keeps putting her off. 'Nobody wants to treat her,' he added. 'And she went to see the specialist but he wanted \$300 up front.' Karen, sitting alongside, squirmed in disapproval. 'Everyone's giving her the run-around . . . And there seems to be no way out of her situation.'" Sonny—Middletown, 7/23/2009

"Chris works at the Days Inn in Frederick. He's an insulin-dependent diabetic (that's his

supplies he's proudly showing me). He has insurance but 'it sucks, only covers so much,' he told me. 'They don't cover even the supplies I have here. And if you go to the hospital for low blood sugar, or see a specialist, it costs several hundred dollars.' He was previously under his parent's coverage but now his own insurance, which 'bad as it is,' he added, has been further downgraded because of the economy. 'But,' he said, 'I don't have much choice unless I get another job, and that's not at all easy these days.'" Chris—Frederick, 7/23/2009

"Frank's story centers around his fiancée. She's a breast cancer survivor. The chemotherapy, according to Frank, 'cured the cancer but devastated her body. She continues to have health problems,' he told me. These include diabetes and psoriatic arthritis for which she is treated with methotrexate and Enbrel injections. She had been getting her medications through PAC (Physicians Assistance Care of Maryland) but, as Frank explained to me, 'Only the diabetes medicines qualified and those she got through this program were less effective than what she was previously taking.' Now that she is working, she is no longer eligible for the program (which requires an income of less than \$1,400 a month). Her new job offers health insurance but, 'the premiums are so high that if she gets the policy, there'd be no money for anything else.' Getting health insurance, would 'make it impossible for her to live,' Frank told me. 'And, even with the policy, the medications would be too expensive. Basically,' Frank summarized for me, 'without healthcare, she has pain and suffering, can't get out of bed and so could lose the job.' That's terrible, I said. 'Oh, it could be worse I guess,' he replied, shaking his head." Frank—Frederick, 7/23/2009

"I met Howard and Tauyna over breakfast at the Days Inn. Howard told me that they've generally been OK, but even with insurance, 'deductibles have been increasing and out-of-pocket expenses also going up.' But Howard wished to share a story from twenty years ago. 'It actually relates to what's happening today,' he told me. He was between jobs, he explained, having left a position with health insurance for a higher-paying job that did not, however, offer health benefits. Soon after, his wife had a tubal pregnancy and with the hospital bills he ended up having to taking out a loan for \$8,000 ('a huge chunk of change in those days,' he added). The doctor forgave his fee and he was able to negotiate a half-price with the anesthesiologist. 'I sure don't know what would happen if it were today.'" Howard—Frederick, 7/24/2009

"Brenda's story is about her father who died two months ago. She told her story with a mix of disbelief and quiet anger though she was heartened to be able to share with others what she felt was a true health insurance horror story. Her late father had diabetes since 1995. His illness was complicated by neuropathy and multiple foot infections resulting in an amputation of one great toe. Earlier this year, his insurance company, Group Health, told him that they were dropping him for medical noncompliance although Brenda, who's a nurse, said this was patently a lie and they had medical proof, including doctor's attestations, that he was in compliance. And then he had a stroke, which was compounded with multiple complications. He came down with sepsis, had to have another amputation, this time below-the-knee. Though the MD said everything was OK, the operation was, in fact, a 'was a disaster,' Brenda told me. It turned out he was left unattended in the hallway, coded in recovery, had a head bleed, was given CPR, put on a ventilator and admitted to the ICU. He never regained consciousness. He was taken

to a Palliative Care unit and though he was put on a morphine drip, he survived for two more tortuous months. All during this time, people from the hospital kept coming by telling his already grieving wife that she would be responsible for the bill. 'The total bill is \$69,000 and still going up,' she said.'" Brenda—Gaithersburg, 7/24/2009

"Shayla's been newly enrolled in a PPO. Supposedly better than an HMO, she had high expectations. 'But,' she told me, 'I don't understand why it's so good. First, you pay more,' she explained, 'and second, you still get a bill AFTER the co-pay.' And then she told me about the prescription plan, which requires you to mail away for the medications and it often takes 4 to 6 weeks for delivery. She shook her head. 'That just doesn't make sense!'" Shayla—Gaithersburg, 7/25/2009

"Keith is one of the founders of the ubiquitous Food Not Bombs organization. His organization has protested around the world and now he's in front of the White House delivering his message to all those gathered. His story is simple: he's got fibromyalgia, which he says he acquired after being tortured by the CIA during one of his several incarcerations for illegally delivering free food. With his income and this sort of pre-existing condition, he can never get health insurance." Keith—Washington, 7/26/2009

"Doris, from New York, is here in DC visiting. 'No insurance, can't afford it.' She said, 'and doesn't ever go to a doctor. I'm otherwise lucky,' she said, with a smile and went off with her friends." Doris—Washington, 7/26/2009

CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING OF TERRY'S HOUSE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Community Regional Medical Center on the occasion of the grand opening of Terry's House, a new, state-of-the-art facility in downtown Fresno, California, which will provide much needed support and housing to allow families to stay close to sick and injured loved ones in the hospital. Located in the heart of the Fresno medical district, this new 15,874 square-foot, two-story family house with twenty guest suites will be the first hospitality house in the Greater Fresno Area.

This residential facility is named in honor of Terry Richards who suffered and survived a serious trauma at the age of five when he was injured in a car accident. For nearly five months, his mother was forced to travel nearly 80 miles a day to see her son while he was recovering in the hospital. Currently, family members of patients must seek accommodations miles from the hospital, and many who cannot afford lodging sleep in waiting rooms, in their cars or try their best to find a spot in a busy hospital. Often, patients' loved ones have no alternative but to leave the hospital and make the long drive home. Now families have Terry's House, their home away from home, while their loved ones receive care.

Terry's House was made possible by the tireless work of Terry Richards' brother, Tom Richards, a local community developer and CEO of the Penstar Group. With the dedication of Tom Richards, Leta Ciavaglia, the Terry's House Development Council, the Commu-

nity Regional Medical Center Foundation and many generous members of the community, a family dream has become a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Terry's House and its many supporters for their efforts to create a facility which keeps families together during times of need. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Tom Richards and the community members of Fresno who have worked unrelentingly to make the opening of Terry's House possible.

THE WALK FOR HEALTHCARE: HEALTHCARE STORIES FROM ILLINOIS AND INDIANA COLLECTED BY OGAN GUREL, M.D.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following stories, collected by Dr. Ogan Gurel.

"Martha finds it shameful that America can't provide basic health care for its citizens, like any other developed country does. 'Civilized nations care for those in need,' she said. She especially noted that the connection of health care insurance to employment status was a big problem. 'It doesn't make sense. If you get sick, you have a greater chance of being unemployed.'" Martha—Chicago, 6/27/2009

"Addison, on the right, is Martha's older son. He's a student in college who, with evident pride, told me that in the past election he had just voted for the first time. As he embarks on study abroad in Italy this coming fall, he is, despite his glowing patriotism, embarrassed that health care for all, as he has learned is the case in Italy, doesn't exist here in America." Addison—Chicago, 6/27/2009

"I met Ron along Martin Luther King Drive. He was working at painting a fence. He waved his hand towards the south side streets beyond and said, 'Yes, there's many people here without health insurance.' With a serious look, he turned back towards me. 'Yes, without health care.' He shared a story of an old lady from the neighborhood. She had a change in coverage that now made it too expensive to get her insulin for her diabetes. 'It was all very fishy business,' Ron told me. This lady, on Medicare, was in the hospital for some time. An insurance salesman came to her hospital bed and convinced her to change her coverage (Ron couldn't recall the exact name but he told me it sounded, 'Something like Well Care'). What happened was that this 'new' plan didn't cover the old lady's particular type of insulin so, with her 'brand-new' private supplemental insurance plan in place, she ended up now spending \$129 a month, out-of-pocket, for her medication. The insurance salesman is gone and now she's struggling, Ron tells me, on top of her fight to stay well, to piece together her wrecked insurance and financial situation." Ron—Chicago, 6/27/2009

"Stopping by the Chicago Baptist Institute, I met Rev. Joseph Felker, the Chairman of that organization. A crowd was gathered and they were hosting an outdoor event—a 'Healthy Walk' event actually. He told me, 'We should have had health care for the uninsured years ago. It is a travesty, a true travesty, but hopefully the change we are seeing is a start.'" Joseph—Chicago, 6/27/2009

"Sitting next to Rev. Felker was Rev. Dr. Tyler. He concurred, saying that, 'Health care reform is long overdue. With the wealth

of this country, it's a shame that people don't have health care.' They, and the others, were all very nice. They passed me a couple bottles of water and many best wishes (and prayers) for the journey onward to Washington, DC." Clifford—Chicago, 6/27/2009

"Roderick from the hotel told me, 'Everyone should have health care and it should be provided by the government, not by for-profit companies.' I asked him if he thinks the current reform proposals are enough. He shook his head, 'No.'" Roderick—Hammond, 6/28/2009

"As I walked along 25th Avenue (on the way to Gary), I heard a honk from the road. They stopped, I looked over. 'Hey, Doc—weren't you on TV last night?' And so I headed over to say hello and get the next story of the day. With traffic zooming on by, we didn't have much time for chitchat. But he, Chris was his name, told me, 'We need help, it's rough out here for everybody—not just the elderly. There's drugs and alcohol problems, no treatment and the price of medications is too much.' I asked if he could share a specific example. 'Sure,' he replied, while the older gentleman in the passenger seat with him nodded in acknowledgement. 'My mother's got Alzheimer's and her medications are \$500 to \$600 dollars a month. It's impossible . . .'" Chris—Hammond, 6/28/2009

"Eric shared his brother's story. He had had an eye accident, lost his job on account of that and being without health insurance had to file for bankruptcy. 'That about tells it all,' he said." Eric—Wheeler, 6/28/2009

"With parched throat, I stopped into the Indiana University police station hoping to find a water fountain. John, the officer-on-duty at the front desk, greeted me. 'It's a critical situation,' he told me. 'Especially now that people are losing jobs. But keeping prices down is important. Even with the insured, prices are inflated, they're sky-high.' I nodded in reply. 'So, it's hard to stay healthy if you can't afford health care.'" John—Gary, 6/28/2009

"Six miles later, now in Hobart, I stopped into United States Security (a private security service) for some water. I talked with Ed, the Director. 'Definitely things need to change,' he said. 'But it's more like tweaking. I'm 100% against something like the Canadian system.' I asked what he thought of the health care reform debate in Washington. 'Well, I don't like the idea of the upper brass fat-cats reaping rewards. They need to be dissolved or at least held accountable . . . and take another bottle for the road,' he added." Ed—Hobart, 6/28/2009

"Kyle's story is a bit complicated. He's a senior in college (at Purdue in Hammond) but he started college a couple years after graduating from high school. Because of this unusual transition, it ended up that he had missed the deadline for getting insurance through his mother's policy. 'I was working to put myself through college with a bunch of part-time jobs. None of them, though, provided insurance . . . then I got sick—very sick.' He was bedridden for several days with fatigue and fever. He finally went to his family doctor who took a blood test. Two days later, his mother received an urgent call from the doctor saying, demanding almost, that Kyle go to the emergency room immediately. Kyle told me, 'it was the highest white blood count he had ever seen,' and he was concerned Kyle had leukemia. So, at the behest of the doctor, and actually feeling better by this time, they went the emergency room. It turned out, thankfully, not to be leukemia, but Kyle ended up with a \$9,000 emergency room bill (he was never even admitted to the hospital). 'My mother and I spent months fighting and negotiating,' he told me. 'Luckily the Church organization affiliated with St. Mary's finally—yes, fi-

nally—helped take care of the bill.' Shaking his head in disbelief at the Kafkaesque ordeal, Kyle concluded, 'It was something—and I'm not talking about the illness—I never, ever want to go through again.'" Kyle—Valparaiso, 6/28/2009

"John actually had two stories. First, his wife has diabetes, lupus, and fibromyalgia and he feels that the drug companies are just pushing drugs . . . through the doctors. 'The drugs don't work,' he told me. 'She doesn't seem to get better and all that seems to happen is that she gains weight.' He then shared his second health care story which happened after his first son was born. The \$11,000 dollar bill forced his family into bankruptcy, again, soon after his wife gave birth. 'It was like the bill was padded but there was nothing I could do about it.'" John—Wheeler, 6/28/2009

"Erin's mother (Dianne) has multiple sclerosis but doesn't qualify for SSI (Social Security disability) or Medicare. Her medication costs are so high that there's no money left for anything else. Her symptoms involve significant diplopia (double vision) and she can't work. Erin shook her head, 'It's a difficult situation and I don't really know what to do.'" Erin—Valparaiso, 6/29/2009

"Jack has good insurance. But his story starts with unexplained pain in both of his feet. He went to dozens of doctors, podiatrists, and other specialists but nothing seemed to help except painkillers and these were prescribed only sparingly. It was a terrible problem and he could barely walk and was at risk of losing his job. 'Then there was this neurologist who gave me two injections in the back—L4, L5, I think it was—and that worked!' I nodded, realizing that his foot pain was clearly related to the back (perhaps spinal stenosis or a herniated disc) rather than the feet. 'But, guess what, the insurance company wouldn't pay for the one thing that worked and now I owe \$6,000!' I grimaced at the story. 'Oh yes,' he added, 'before, several years ago, I didn't have insurance and I had to declare bankruptcy.'" Jack—Wheeler, 6/28/2009

"Michael told me he had no insurance. 'Do you get sick?' I asked. 'Well, I try not to,' he answered. 'If I must, I go to these clinics, but the appointments are way off, there are long waits, and sometimes it's impossible. I mean I can't miss much work, either . . . And dental is really expensive. I could have gotten a job that provided insurance but I'd actually end up making much less.'" Michael—Wanatah, 6/29/2009

"A few years back Keith had lost his job at the yogurt factory in town. This provided health insurance but now as an owner of a three taxi cab small business, he doesn't have health insurance. He has significant heart disease and has had six heart attacks, the first one at age 32. For this he's gotten seven stents (a device placed in the coronary arteries that keeps them open). The first two were covered by insurance but since then he's racked up \$56,000 in bills which he has paid down to \$12,000. [Interpretative note: I know a bit about stents and I was surprised to hear he had so many. But he did tell me that they continually get blocked up and he takes Plavix—a form of 'blood thinner'—to prevent further blockage. I didn't ask him but perhaps he has the less-expensive, bare-metal stents as compared to the much more expensive drug-eluting stents which are designed to reduce the possibility of blockage, or restenosis. While only speculative, I would not be surprised if bare metal stents were to be preferentially used for patients without insurance. Unfortunately that might mean less cost per operation but it typically results in more operations, ending up in even greater cost.] Keith—Hanna, 6/29/2009

"Ginny lost work and took early retirement at 62 but, she told me, 'The bad thing

about that is that there's no health insurance.' I nodded. 'I make too much for the Indiana health care program, but not enough to pay for medical insurance. It costs at least \$300 a month. I've got diabetes and high blood pressure and five grandchildren that live with me. My daughter is legally blind so if something happens to me, I don't know what will happen, who will care for, the children.' Perhaps that explains why I look pretty grim in the picture. I'm inspired, and humbled, by the bravery of regular, hard-working Americans." Ginny—Plymouth, 6/30/2009

"Jay is the manager of the Days Inn in Plymouth. He told me the story of his uncle (a U.S. citizen by the way) who had a heart attack and required a triple bypass operation. 'He didn't have insurance, though and the operation would cost about \$118,000.' There was no way that he could pay that money—the money that would save (or at least extend) his life. And so he ended up having the operation in India which, with airfare, cost about \$35,000. Jay shook his head. 'It doesn't make sense how America can't take care of Americans.'" Jay—Plymouth, 6/30/2009

"Mike's the fiancée of the front desk attendant. He doesn't have insurance having recently lost his job. 'I still owe a bunch of doctor's bills,' he told me. 'I broke my hand and right now it's better but I owe \$12,000.'" Mike—Plymouth, 6/30/2009

"Val is 58. She told me, 'My husband and I have worked all our lives, had insurance all our lives and we were both laid off in November. We're looking for jobs and this is the first time we've had no health insurance.' She looked at me with unbelieving eyes. 'We're hard-working people, too young for Medicare. We just don't know what we'll do.'" Val—Plymouth, 6/30/2009

"I believe government should not be in health care,' Brian told me, though he added that he'd like to see some regulatory changes to actually increase competition, ensure personal responsibility and decrease prices. 'The system is sure not working,' he told me." Brian—Etna Green, 7/1/2009

"Gruff but friendly, and with a face that oozed sincerity, Harold answered, 'the insurance—80/20, but my wife is totally disabled so she's on the Medicaid . . . and I got a \$5,000 deductible! Every year, it just tears me up. We get good care over there at Lutheran in Ft. Wayne but it's outrageous. When the doctor gives a regular prescription—not the generic stuff, and the pharmacist automatically gives you the generic, makes you sick and then you have to go back to the doctor to get the right stuff to send to the pharmacist, that don't make no sense.' I asked Harold if he had any choice of coverage or if this was the only insurance offered. 'There's no choice,' he told me. Indeed . . ." Harold—Warsaw, 7/1/2009

"Scott told me that, 'There should be less government involvement. I really think it should be left in the hands of the people.' He added that he used to work in the orthopedic device industry (there are many in Warsaw). 'What I feel that would do, if health care was nationalized, is that it would undervalue the products they are making. In the end, I think it would work out as what they would lose in sales, they would get in volume, but I really feel that the health care scenario needs to be left to people, not the government.'" Scott—Warsaw, 7/1/2009

"Meeting Krystal in front of the Courthouse on Center Street, I explained my walk, its purpose. Krystal asked how many pairs of shoes I have and so I showed her the extra pair strapped in a bag to my backpack and told her of the several more in the luggage at the hotel. And with that, we began talking about health care. 'Insurance rates are sky

high,' she told me, lamented further that, 'like I was talking with my doctor, you almost have to call the insurance companies to get the approval for what drugs you can prescribe—insurance companies are driving the show . . . they give the discounts or I think they're in the cahoots with some of the drug companies. They say 'Oh, we're having a special on Lipitor' and so they push Lipitor.' We talked about the pharmaceutical companies and that drug costs just seemed to be too high." Krystal—Warsaw, 7/1/2009

"Being self-employed, and that business was not so good this year, Uprendra cannot afford health coverage. He is not insured, nor is any of the staff. He has diabetes and gets his insulin, when he can, as free drug samples from his brother, who is a retired doctor. I was humbled by his generosity, the complimentary room and the \$20 donation, his wife (and hotel co-operator) Sheila, gave me when I checked out the following morning." Uprendra—Warsaw, 7/1/2009

"Brittany, on the left, told me she has no insurance. She said, 'I think everybody should have insurance. You never know what will happen. I've been sick and had to pay cash and it's not cheery.'" Brittany—Warsaw, 7/1/2009

"Amanda, like Brittany on the left, also has no insurance and now has 'tons of medical bills.' She told me she is slowly—very slowly,' she put it—paying for them." Amanda—Warsaw, 7/1/2009

"Ed was in the service, in the Philippines during World War II. He was later an electrician at the Harvard Cyclotron in Cambridge (on Oxford Street). He has had many medical problems but hasn't had any difficulties being on Medicare. Some things are not paid for but by-and-large, he's happy. He has often thought that universal health care insurance should be provided by the government and that higher taxes were likely necessary. 'If the government managed its budget better, there'd be money to pay for it,' he added. He also said, 'People without health care insurance live under handicapped conditions. With insurance, a wage-earner can be free to concentrate on his family, his education, and think more clearly.' He was very happy I met with him and concluded, 'I'm so surprised at the opportunity to talk.'" Ed—Warsaw, 7/1/2009

"The most telling story came to us in a Mexican store down the street. I spoke with one of the counter people, who wished not to be identified. She told us that she did have insurance (through her husband) and that she was happy with the system and that she would not change anything. Then, next to the register, I noticed a posted sign with a picture of a young boy in a hospital bed pleading for \$100,000 to help with a kidney transplant. Doesn't that tell it all?" Warsaw, 7/1/2009

"I'm unemployed," Scott told me, "and don't have no insurance. But, I've been pretty healthy, 'cept my teeth here—gotta work on that sometime." I nodded. "The difficult story is with my girlfriend. She works part-time and also no insurance. She makes too much for HIP (Indiana public assistance program) so that's that. A few months ago, she had a kidney stone and the local hospital wouldn't take care of her so they sent her to Indianapolis. The pain was so bad and she ended up having some operation there." He said that there was no way they could pay any of the bills being that they were barely making ends meet. We drove by the trailer park that was their home and he told me how they were lucky, that the next trailer park up in Columbia City had been recently hit by a tornado and a few homes destroyed. Throughout the trip Scott was glowingly optimistic. But as he was about to drop me off, his face turned sour. "Tell those

knuckleheads in Washington to get with it out here.'" Scott—Columbia City, 7/2/2009

"Last December Trushar had fallen down in an ice storm, breaking his left wrist. He was without health insurance and making do with the pain, waited a week—by this time it had become considerably swollen—to have it eventually seen by a family friend, who happened to be a doctor. The family ended up spending about \$500 for various x-rays, the visit to the doctor was free, but he was told that if it had gotten worse, the surgery for it would cost about \$25,000. If that came to pass, they decided that Trushar (who is a U.S. citizen) would go back to India to have the surgery." Trushar—Ft. Wayne, 7/2/2009

"Hina's one of the workers at the hotel—doubles up as back-up front desk and housekeeping. In fact, it seemed like everyone had a hand in all aspects of the operation. Hina's had what she called a 'muscle lock' in her neck, which sounded to me like a cervical muscle spasm, perhaps even a herniated cervical disk—hard to tell. In any case, she's had no insurance and hasn't seen a doctor or been to a hospital for it. She remains in pain, housekeeping work is hard, and this is making it harder. She looks warily around. I know that this hotel staff is like family, and they likely wouldn't fire her for a situation that is undoubtedly compromising her productivity. But in a crueler world (which is quite common), she'd be out, replaced by someone else healthier, but also without insurance. Hina, in a way, is lucky." Hina—Ft. Wayne, 7/2/2009

"It was back in 2002 that Bonnie lost her job of 22 years. At that time, she had been on COBRA though, 'it was incredibly expensive,' she recalled. She has insulin-dependent diabetes, high blood pressure, and 'Charcot joints.' Her insurance and medications cost \$1,500 a month. 'When you don't have insurance you don't have any choices,' she said." Bonnie—Ft. Wayne, 7/3/2009

"Pat shared with me a friend's story. Her daughter, diagnosed with severe rheumatoid arthritis since the age of 26 had been suffering for many years. A six-week course of Remicade cost her \$7,200 and, as Pat told me, 'Her mother has cashed in her 401K,' to pay for that. 'Nothing should cost \$7,200.'" Pat—Ft. Wayne, 7/3/2009

"Nate's a young and relatively healthy guy. 'Last year, in December, I came down with pneumonia,' he told me. He's a diabetic and so his illness was complicated by diabetic ketoacidosis, acute kidney failure, staph infections, and 'cardiac issues.' 'I was in the ICU for twelve days, unconscious for a week,' he told me. Even though he just been laid off from his job, he told me, 'he was lucky in the timing of things . . . like a 'roll-of-the-dice,' that he happened to have insurance just when he had gotten deathly ill. And hopefully he won't get so sick again, since COBRA, which he cannot now afford, costs \$800/month especially with his pre-existing conditions . . . and especially being unemployed.'" Nate—Ft. Wayne, 7/3/2009

"Jessica and her husband were laid off from their RV company (based in Elkhart, Indiana) this past August. They have four kids under the age of 10. They lost all their health coverage and cannot afford COBRA which cost \$1,200/month. The kids are now on Medicaid but they, the parents, are uninsured. 'If something happens to them,' she asked, 'how'll the kids be taken care of?' This is Noah and Chris in the picture also. Today was Noah's birthday too and thanks to the Ft. Wayne rally, he had a big turnout for his party!" Jessica—Ft. Wayne, 7/3/2009

"Cameron's a 4th year medical student but on a leave of absence to pursue a law degree. He's planning for a career in health advocacy—at the intersection of health and law. As a student, however, he cannot afford, at

\$220/month, the health insurance offered to him. But he's lucky because he gets coverage through his wife who's a resident. In his medical school experiences, he's come across many patients who have foregone medical care because of a lack of health insurance and this has inspired him to help to solve this problem." Cameron—Ft. Wayne, 7/3/2009

"Terri—an older member of the workforce,' as she put it—is currently unemployed. She has no health insurance and with several chronic conditions, chronic sinusitis and hypertension included, she's 'in a difficult situation,' Terri tells me. Her prescriptions have 'ran out' and without insurance, her doctor won't see her. Even though she asked about a payment plan, 'They told me, they take payment in full.' Terri's an informed person. 'High blood pressure is a silent killer,' she adds, and 'I don't want to be silently killed because I can't get the treatment.' She reminded me that she's certainly not the only one in such a predicament, but told me, 'I'm just speaking out, because everybody has to speak. If you don't speak on it, no one would ever know.'" Terri—Ft. Wayne, 7/3/2009

"Deb works at the Subway in New Haven, just east of Ft. Wayne. Her health coverage costs \$600/month through her husband's union plan (he's a carpenter). 'If I got the insurance on my own,' she told me, 'it'd cost \$850 a month.' She shook her head and said, 'Even though I consider myself lucky, this is crazy!'" Deb—New Haven, 7/3/2009

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF THOMAS AND CAMILLE OGIBA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today—the 40th wedding anniversary of Thomas and Camille Ogiba. This event will take place on January 16, 2011, but family and friends are celebrating the event on January 14, 2011.

Thomas Henry Ogiba was born on January 24, 1947, in Stamford, Connecticut, to Henry and Rose Ogiba. His wife, Camille Caruso Ogiba, was born on January 18, 1946, in Stamford, Connecticut, to Pete and Rose Caruso. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ogiba were married on January 16, 1971, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Stamford, Connecticut. Together they raised two children, Thomas and Jena.

Thomas and Camille currently reside in Naples, Florida. I salute this lovely couple on the 40th year of their life together and join their friends and family in honoring them on this special occasion.

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-FLINT

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of Michigan-Flint for being designated an "Engaged University" by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The Carnegie Foundation announced this classification yesterday and a

formal presentation will take place on the University of Michigan-Flint campus on Monday, January 10.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching created the "Engaged University" classification to acknowledge the achievements of schools throughout the United States that have created institutional practices of community involvement. Universities apply for the classification and are granted the classification based upon their mission, culture, leadership, resources and practices.

The University of Michigan-Flint was able to demonstrate the integration of curricular engagement, outreach, the exchange of knowledge, and partnerships, with the larger community to the benefit of both groups. The school has an established practice of honoring faculty for their involvement, encouraging students to extend the education process outside classroom walls, and utilizing the school's resources to enhance the community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the chancellor, Dr. Ruth Person, the provost, Dr. Gerard Voland, the faculty, staff, students and community for their vision, enthusiasm and commitment to this partnership. I commend the University of Michigan-Flint for their hard work and for receiving this classification from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

THE WALK FOR HEALTHCARE:
HEALTHCARE STORIES FROM
OHIO COLLECTED BY OGAN
GUREL, M.D.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following stories, collected by Dr. Ogan Gurel.

"Jean doesn't want socialized medicine. But she also adds that the current system doesn't pay (or reward) for preventative care. But it wasn't clear to her how either the free-market or government could change that. 'People have to take responsibility for their health,' she told me." Jean—Van Wert, 7/4/2009

"Todd recently lost his job as a machinist. His wife gets health coverage as a school teacher but 'It's not good insurance,' he tells me. 'The out-of-pocket payments are ridiculous,' he added. They have two kids—two and four years old—and he wonders what will happen if they get sick. 'It's a great thing you're doing,' he said, as I shook his hand, thanking him, too, in return." Todd—Van Wert, 7/4/2009

"Mike, in the middle, shared with me his father's situation. 'He's 52 years-old, a retired GM, Delphi employee, salaried, he was.' Mike looked at me to make sure I understood. 'He was a salaried worker,' he repeated. 'Which means they took away all his health benefits last April. Wage-earners got to keep their benefits, you know.' I nodded in acknowledgment. 'So, he's too young for Medicare, and now has a bad, bad situation.'" Mike—Van Wert, 7/4/2009

"John, on the right, told me 'I have good insurance but premiums have gone up 30% in the last year.' He took me in to his garage, out from drizzle, to meet his family and friends. 'I'm not happy with the healthcare situation,' he told me." John—Van Wert, 7/4/2009

"Serving up a cup of coffee, Holly, at the Rooster coffee shop, told me she doesn't have

health insurance. 'I hope basically not to get sick,' she said with a serious look beyond her youth. 'Pretty much that's it.'" Holly—Middle Point, 7/4/2009

"Tara, the cook at the Rooster truck stop near Middle Point, Ohio, has no insurance. 'It's just too much . . . that's the situation.'" Tara—Middle Point, 7/4/2009

"Dee told me the story of her uncle. He had a heart attack a few years back resulting in cardiac surgery and a bill for \$145,000. 'Dee, I'm dying,' he said, not clear, as Dee told me, whether he was referring to his health troubles or the financial burdens. Dee told her uncle to change his diet, do yoga, lots of walking, and other things to improve his lifestyle and health. And so he heeded her advice and actually, to do these things, went back to India. Returning some months later, he proudly called Dee telling her that he was healthier, no longer had diabetes, and no hypertension. But, he lamented, 'I still owe \$145,000.'" Dee—Van Wert, 7/5/2009

"Jim drove out from Ft. Wayne (after hearing the news) and met up with me near Middle Point on his bike. We walked together for seven miles talking healthcare and healthcare reform along with many other topics. He's a Yale grad, which goes to show that even traditional rivalries can walk together towards a common goal. He believes in basic care for all but, as he told me, 'the definition of what is basic becomes problematic. And those that can afford more than the basic,' he added, 'should be able to get it.'" Jim—Gomer, 7/5/2009

"Nancy is 60, without work and without health insurance. She has recently moved in with her mother. She has two prescriptions which cost her \$140 a month and works odd jobs to pay for one of these. She lives one day at a time and hopes that there'll be healthcare reform. 'So people like me can get the prescriptions we need.' We met on a porch in Gomer (she was helping to clean up someone's home) where she brought me some juice. Here she is on the roadside near Lima, later that afternoon, bringing me a glass of water as she was driving to her mother's place." Nancy—Gomer, 7/5/2009

"Gloria's husband died three years ago. She now has \$1,600 a month between Social Security and the Ford pension. 'It's a good plan,' with prescriptions at \$2 each, she told me. Her other story, which bothered her deeply, was about her son. He had retired after 22 years of distinguished service in the Navy—the highly stressful submarine service once dueling daily, in secret, with the Soviet Navy. He had a quadruple bypass and also an abdominal aneurysm operation. 'All that went well,' she said, 'but he had a very tough time getting reimbursed, especially since his operations left him very sick and weak.' He had to fight to be reimbursed while lying in bed recovering. 'I've seen other veterans have the same struggles,' Gloria told me. 'And it's a real shame we treat our heroes this way.'" Gloria—Lima, 7/5/2009

"Grace, the youngest, hasn't had any healthcare troubles and is hoping to get insurance as a student when she enrolls in college. She does believe that some sort of healthcare reform is necessary." Grace—Lima, 7/5/2009

"Kimberly has a brain aneurysm, which, she told me, 'they are watching.' She's also had a falling bladder problem, which they are not doing surgery on. In terms of insurance, she's on Medicaid and Medicare but told me, 'I can't afford the medicines'. Otherwise, it's not been a problem. Everybody,' she added smiling with a serious look, 'should have insurance.' Her effervescent daughter, Tiffany, gave her mother a hug." Kimberly—Lima, 7/5/2009

"Steve, a financial consultant, wants the government out of healthcare. He believes

that health insurance should be private (and through the employer). 'Government messes everything up,' he tells me. 'Actually, I make my living fixing up government accounting troubles,' he added. But he does believe that the healthcare system could be much more efficient." Steve—Lima, 7/6/2009

"Brad, the manager at the Lima Holiday Inn, was enormously helpful and supportive of the Walk. When I met him, he agreed that it's important to get the story out and told me, 'it is really terrible with all the uninsured. Even if you have insurance,' he added, 'I've seen how difficult it is dealing with the insurance companies.'" Brad—Lima, 7/6/2009

"With an angry look on his face, Roger told me very clearly that does not like the Obama plan at all. But he also doesn't like corporate interests driving reform. 'We do need some change—it's incredibly expensive,' he told me further, citing his father's case. He had gotten a pacemaker and defibrillator and, 'Everything cost more than \$200,000!'" Roger—New Stark, 7/6/2009

"Kara's 19 years old and had most recently been just under her parent's health coverage. 'But after nineteen, they take you off,' she told me, and she's now in the process of re-enrolling in her own plan. During this switch, she's actually without coverage. She sighed, 'My current job doesn't pay enough to afford insurance and then, when I'm in college, two years from now, I'll have to re-apply.' She's got asthma and fibromyalgia. It's a real problem, she told me as she's 'really worried' about pre-existing conditions disqualifying her or making her insurance too expensive." Kara—Lima, 7/6/2009

"Kate's insurance costs her \$200/month. She threw her hands up and exclaimed, 'That's a car payment!' She looked me in the eye and continued. 'So, I'm 55 and no business not having insurance but I can't afford it.' She told me about her carpal tunnel syndrome, that she had had a mild stroke and a nagging rotator cuff injury. For the rotator cuff, she can't afford the MRI. 'Actually,' she added, 'HCAP, a state program, can take care of the actual MRI but not the reading. So,' she said with a sigh, 'I can't afford it.' Her husband doesn't have health insurance either. 'He's got two bulging discs in his spine but can't do anything about it. So he can't work and spends the day reclining on the couch.'" Kate—Lima, 7/6/2009

"Heather (on the right) is 23 and recently divorced. She had good insurance through the marriage and actually had significant gastrointestinal problems for which she had four surgeries. She had a gall bladder operation, colonoscopies, 'they looked down my stomach too,' and also sinus surgery. She now works two jobs (the one at Applebee's provides insurance but takes up the entire paycheck). 'It's so strange,' she adds, 'I have to get a money order to actually cover it and send it to the health insurance company headquarters—\$120/month. But I went to the dentist and still paid \$30. But without insurance it cost \$40, the dentist told me.' She looked over at her friend, who nodded in sympathy. 'I don't think insurance makes sense at all.'" Heather—Lima, 7/6/2009

"Joe, the flagger at the construction site, believes in individual responsibility and accountability. 'The government always messes things up,' he said, but he likes the Walk—'you're doing a good thing,' and concluded by saying, 'some change is definitely needed.'" Joe—New Stark, 7/7/2009

"I met John, a traveling salesman, at dinner. He's got coverage, for which he is grateful for. He's been pretty healthy but feels that 'it is important that all people have health insurance.'" John—Lima, 7/7/2009

"Reuben actually stopped by the roadside to walk with me. He told me the story of his nephew, who's an Ob-Gyn doctor in Maryland. 'His entire paycheck nearly all goes to

malpractice insurance,' Reuben told me. 'Insurance companies are trying to get everyone who can pay, even by coercion.' He told me he thinks it's important to keep the profit mongering out of the health insurance business. 'It's devastating,' he added. In terms of his own health insurance, as a child he survived Hodgkin's disease but has recently been diagnosed non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. 'It's a risk factor of childhood Hodgkin's disease,' I told him. 'Yes, I know.' Though his insurance was '80/20,' as he put it, he did pretty well. 'That's good,' I said as we took a rest by the roadside." Reuben—Upper Sandusky, 7/8/2009

"Donna is the director of the Lighthouse homeless shelter (where I had stayed, while in Bucyrus). It was a nice, clean place which, as she told me, 'helps people when their most in need. The men here have gotta be clean of drugs, no criminal history, but they're otherwise down-and-out.' Her husband, 73 years old, is now on Medicare/SSI and had a complicated cardiac condition. He suffered a heart attack during a cath procedure and was taken by air ambulance to Columbus. He had a quadruple bypass and they ended up with \$250,000 in medical bills. Medicare went to 80%. They lost all their retirement in the stock market and now survive only on Social Security. They are filing for bankruptcy. 'The angel of the poor has, apparently, become poor herself because of our healthcare system.' In terms of herself, Donna has no health insurance. She's got atrial fibrillation (a heart rhythm abnormality) as well as diabetes and she pays for medicines out-of-pocket. But, thinking always of those less fortunate than her, she knows of many people all around who do without their medications because they can't afford them." Donna—Bucyrus, 7/8/2009

"Gary thinks we're way over-prescribed. As he put it, 'Too much medicines and pharmaceutical costs are skyrocketing.' He's been a retiree for the past eleven years and initially his health coverage was good. But premiums have steadily increased over the years so that by now more than two-thirds of his retirement income goes towards health insurance. I asked Gary if I could take his picture, to which he replied, 'Sure, why not? They can't punish me anymore.'" Gary—Bucyrus, 7/8/2009

"Todd's a forklift operator and has generally been very healthy. He once had foot surgery but had insurance. He believes that hospitals gouge people because there's, 'No healthcare system in place, no choice, and so they can overcharge those who pay, especially if out-of-pocket.' I observed an interesting story with the cat, a metaphorical commentary on how our healthcare system treats people. It turns out the cat is near death with a urinary tract infection. He could not urinate for days and the vet told them that the pet, quiet hiding the entire time I was there, could die any day now. As I got ready to leave, I suddenly heard some desperate moaning, followed by a piercing yelp. I turned around to see the cat urinating right on the floor in front of his food. 'Looks like he'll live another day,' said Todd, standing over the now exhausted cat. Todd looked over at me and added, 'If he wasn't so sick, I'd slap him for peeing on the floor.' It's tragically ironic that with people, so many stories play out exactly the opposite: people get slapped around precisely because they ARE sick." Todd—Bucyrus, 7/8/2009

"'As a single mom, healthcare has always been a struggle for me and my children,' Kim tells me. 'I have worked many jobs, as a social worker, in a hospital, and now as a reporter. These are good jobs but with the pay, healthcare premiums are just too expensive.' Her daughter has both bipolar disorder and

ADHD and she was on her father's insurance until January. But as Kim can't her own coverage, her daughter must do with Medicaid. 'Easier said than done,' Kim said. It took two months for her to get approved and in the meantime, Kim paid out-of-pocket over \$400 for her daughter's various medications. 'It put us in a real financial hardship with the house payment, utilities, and all that.'" Kim—Bucyrus, 7/9/2009

"According to George, 'public delivery of health care sounds like a good but it could go bad.' He added that, 'Our system is way over priced but if you're on a plan, you're golden.'" George—Mansfield, 7/9/2009

"This gentleman had Stage IV melanoma with metastases to the brain. He had extensive treatments and his life was saved but the biggest problem, he told me, 'Was the clerical and billing side. The paperwork and scheduling was horrible.' He summarized his very complicated tour through the healthcare system as follows: 'the clinical side was wonderful, the administrative a disaster.'" Mansfield, 7/9/2009

"I met Linda at the drugstore during one of my regular visits for antibiotic ointment. People often wonder why I buy five or six tubes at a time. She told me she's OK now but previously had Aetna as her health insurance carrier. 'It was a real problem,' she said, as no providers in her vicinity were covered: 'There was no choice, I had to go all the way to Columbus for my care.'" Mansfield, 7/10/2009

"I stopped at Mr. T's coffee shop on the eastside of Mansfield. 'I have no healthcare,' Richard told me. 'My doctor bills are \$60 and they, Medicare, pays \$15. We definitely need some healthcare reform.'" Richard—Mansfield, 7/10/2009

"Glendale's a World War II vet (Coast Guard). He tells me that being in the VA system, he's had no problems with health care. He had a heart attack six years ago with a quadruple bypass but, 'now,' he said, 'I'm doing fine.' He's been retired for 23 years, gets his medications from the VA and also receives Medicare and retirement benefits. 'I hope they get that healthcare in this country worked out, there's so many people without it,' he said. This is a man who fought for freedom; has his fight been in vain?" Glendale—Mansfield, 7/10/2009

"On a hot afternoon, Jane's store, Munchies, was a godsend. After downing water and ice cream, I asked her if she had any healthcare stories. She didn't offer any, but did say, 'I hope something gets done for everyone to have some health care insurance without hardship . . . especially for our seniors.'" Jane—Mansfield, 7/10/2009

"On this hot afternoon, along the long road east of Mifflin, I began getting desperately thirsty. A generous family answered my knock and I spoke with three generations of whom the oldest, Clara, told me her story. She described a situation with Aetna (Medicare supplemental plan) where her husband had gotten an infection and required a ten-day course of antibiotics—ten pills. 'But Aetna would only authorize four pills at a time,' she told me. This meant that for each time, in order to fulfill the full ten-day course, they had to drive forty minutes. That made three round-trips in total. Such a 'ridiculous expense and hassle,' she said." Clara—Ashland, 7/10/2009

"I had just entered Mifflin, when a woman sitting on her porch waved and asked, 'Are you the doctor in the newspaper?' She stood up holding the newspaper in her hand as I answered, yes, and approached the steps to her home. She offered me water. 'That's incredible, I was just reading about you—what karma.' And we talked about healthcare. 'The high deductibles in health insurance are ridiculous,' she said. 'There's a lack of cov-

erage, and you need to keep changing plans to get a decent rate.'" Sharon—Mifflin, 7/10/2009

"Dave has Type I diabetes (insulin-dependent) after suffering a bout of pancreatitis a few years ago. 'Coverage keeps dropping and the cost keeps going up,' he said." Dave—Mifflin, 7/10/2009

"Danelle (pictured here with her two lovely children) described a situation with her cousin, Barbara. She had a hysterectomy which turned out to be a very bloody operation and lasted over four hours. The insurance only allowed a 36-hour hospital stay and the doctor said that she needed more. 'But,' Danelle told me wistfully, 'she was kicked out anyway.'" Danelle—Mansfield, 7/10/2009

"'I've had no insurance most of the last year,' said Ida. She herself has diabetes and her husband has a spinal problems. 'They were very fortunate,' she told me, because her husband 'got his surgery at the Cleveland Clinic under a special program.' It had been an extensive operation involving multiple spinal levels as well as titanium rods being inserted. 'But,' she said, 'all medical expenses were covered.' That's great, I said. 'Well, otherwise, healthcare has been a disaster.'" Ida—Orrrville, 7/11/2009

"I met Kenneth at McDonald's over breakfast. A retiree, he told me he's been generally pretty healthy. Except for last year when, 'He came down with a serious case of pneumonia.' How'd that go, I asked. 'Not good. I don't feel as strong as before. And, when I returned home, there was a stack of bills waiting for me.' Did you have insurance? 'Yes. But, the insurance pays only what they think is necessary. All sorts of specialists came to see me, and how would I know if it was necessary or not? I ended up owing \$1,800.' He hasn't declared bankruptcy quite yet but, 'I'm getting a lawyer,' he told me. 'And I'm not fully recovered!'" Kenneth—Canton, 7/12/2009

"I met Andrew and his family at the Dairy Queen in Minerva. They have a complicated story. First, there are four members of the family. The youngest daughter who was too shy to get her picture taken (even with her parents and older sister holding the camera) is hidden behind the three. So she's in the picture, but invisible (a parable for the uninsured). Her story will come soon enough. First, Andrew. He's a trucker, worked for CR England for four years and during his employment (when he had health insurance) he had an operation for a total hip replacement. 'I've had this problem for years,' he told me. 'Pain in the hip—both hips actually—and it became dangerous to use pain-killers for a long time. So, I was glad to have the operation.' But the company laid him off ten days after the surgery and he lost his insurance. The complained for wrongful termination and he was actually offered a job to return (Andrew knew the company was at fault) but this new job did not offer any healthcare insurance. So he had to quit. 'My recovery is still slow,' and with such a complicated surgery, follow-up is necessary. But Andrew can't afford the \$300 fee for any of the appointments with the surgeon. Now the story of the little girl. I didn't get her name—let's call her Jane Doe. Her mother told me, 'She's got a terrible problem with her teeth, the dentist said bacteria is eating at her teeth and it could go to her brain.' But because the family lost their coverage, 'We've had to cancel the operation.' So, why is Jane Doe hiding from the camera? Is it because she's a shy four year-old? Or because she's already old enough to be embarrassed about her teeth? Or perhaps she's traumatized by the whole situation, even if she doesn't fully understand it. Or is she simply invisible much like many of the other uninsured.'" Andrew—Minerva, 7/12/2009

"Joyce shared this story about her ex-husband. He had recently had an accident at work. This was covered by Workmen's Compensation. The emergency visit went fine but he needed two heparin shots in follow-up visits to the doctor. The doctor wanted \$1,000 up-front even though they knew that Workmen's Comp would cover it (although the receiving the reimbursement often took months). 'They wouldn't give him the shots without the up-front payment,' and it ended up that his boss loaned him the money. 'See,' Joyce added, 'even when you do have insurance sometimes it doesn't mean nothing.'" Joyce—Lisbon, 7/13/2009

"For the past eleven years, Gary has had Type I diabetes (insulin-dependent diabetes). Up until recently, he has never had insurance. But thankfully, 'the doctors have taken care of me,' he said. He did tell me about a knee operation that cost him about \$10,000. 'But now,' he said, 'his wife has a job, which comes with insurance, and so I'm covered.'" Gary—Lisbon, 7/13/2009

IN TRIBUTE TO GENERAL CARROLL H. "HOWIE" CHANDLER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend General Carroll "Howie" Chandler for his distinguished 36 years of service and commitment to the United States Air Force. General Chandler has dedicated his life to the service of this great Nation and I appreciate his leadership efforts with the Air Force particularly in the Pacific area of responsibility.

I had the privilege of working with General Chandler on several initiatives that directly improved the quality of lives of our men and women in uniform on Guam and the Western Pacific. He was instrumental in ensuring the Administration budgeted for several key military construction projects on Guam that directly improved the quality of life for airmen at Andersen Air Force Base. His directive to renovate Building 21000 on Andersen Air Force Base will be critical to more effectively and efficiently using space and facilities to meet mission requirements.

Further, I particularly appreciated General Chandler's leadership in granting local base commanders with the authority and flexibility to address a variety of local issues. Chief among those issues was resolution of access for landlocked private property landowners in northern Guam. General Chandler recognized the importance of empowering local commanders on the ground to identify solutions to longstanding problems that go a long way towards improving the civilian and military community relationship on Guam. He recognized the importance of working together as a key to strengthening bonds in the community.

General Chandler also recognized Guam's strategic importance to our Nation's defense. As Commander of Pacific Air Forces and then as Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, General Chandler has consistently demonstrated through allocation of resources that Guam and Andersen Air Force Base remain vital to the protection of our national interests

and stability, through force projection, in the Asia-Pacific region.

Mr. Speaker, General Chandler has demonstrated exceptional meritorious service during his career with the United States Air Force and has become a distinguished leader to airmen stationed on Guam, Guam Air Guardsmen, indeed all airmen and women across this country. I wish the very best to General Chandler; his wife Eva-Marie; and their three children, Carl, Rose-Marie, and Thomas.

A TRIBUTE TO THOMAS S. "TOMMY" SAMPSON

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a remarkable Kentuckian, Mr. Thomas S. "Tommy" Sampson, Jr. Over the course of his life, Tommy truly exemplified what it meant to help others.

He dedicated his life to public service, serving as coroner, deputy sheriff, police chief and ambulance driver. Tommy is most widely known for being a pioneer in emergency medicine as the founder and longtime director of Shelby County's Emergency Medical Services.

Throughout all his roles, Tommy was known for his kindness, cheerfulness and passion for helping others.

Tommy was not only dedicated to his community, but also to his family, and enjoyed spending time with his wife Beverly, his son Clark and daughter-in-law Melinda, and his grandchildren Jimmy, Collin and Madison.

While Kentucky may never again see one of its finest sons, the evidence of his legacy will be visible in the countless lives that he touched.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Tommy Sampson for his many great contributions to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He will forever be appreciated and remembered by a grateful community.

IN HONOR OF DR. OGAN GUREL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Ogan Gurel, M.D., for the Walk for Healthcare, in which he walked from Chicago, Illinois to Washington, D.C., in June and July of 2009.

Dr. Gurel received his M.D. from Columbia University, where he started his career in health care. He has held a variety of jobs in the industry, including positions in medical research, media, and consulting. During his 700-mile, month-long journey, he spoke with ordinary people, many of whom were uninsured and struggling to pay for their health care, about what they thought of health care reform. He collected their stories and took their pictures.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Dr. Ogan Gurel for the dedication and persistence he demonstrated in his Walk for Healthcare. Regardless of party or position

on health care policy, Dr. Gurel's trek of over 700 miles in one month is admirable, and the lives of the people he met along the way will be remembered forever through his monumental effort.

REMEMBERING TOM VANDERGRIFF

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representatives BURGESS, GRANGER and MARCHANT, wish to inform the House that on December 30, 2010, the great State of Texas lost a lion. Tom Vandergriff, former mayor of Arlington, Texas, former County Judge of Tarrant County, and former Member of the United States Congress, left this life at the age of 84. All of us in north Texas will mark time from the moment we heard of the loss. The loss is monumental.

Few people have had such a positive impact on the development and quality of life of north Texas, and no one has had a greater impact on Arlington. His friends and admirers are legion, his accomplishments legendary. He was the personification of an ideal, the ideal of a selflessly devoted public servant who always put the people ahead of personal gain or ambition.

Arlington history is generally divided into two epochs: BV and AV, Before Vandergriff and After Vandergriff. He first sought and won elective office in 1951 when he became the "boy mayor" of Arlington at the age of 25. At the time Arlington was a small town on the railroad midway between Dallas and Fort Worth. Vandergriff saw the town's potential and set out to make it a center of prosperity in its own right while fostering a new spirit of cooperation within the north Texas region. Arlington, now the 49th largest city in the U.S. with 370,000 people, would never be the same, and neither would north Texas. Indeed, it was Vandergriff who coined the phrase, "Metroplex," which is still the term usually applied to describe the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

His first major achievement was convincing General Motors executives to locate their new automobile assembly plant in Arlington. His family owned a Chevrolet dealership in town, which gave him access to General Motors Corp. Upon hearing that GM planned to build a plant in north Texas, he sold Arlington as a superior location by telling GM, as he would later tell the story, that if they put the plant in Dallas, it would make Fort Worth angry; if they put it in Fort Worth, it would make Dallas angry. He ended his pitch by convincing them that if they put it in Arlington, everybody would be happy. The plant produced its first automobile in 1954 and today is the only GM plant in the U.S. that makes full-size SUVs.

The GM plant began a building boom in Arlington that has lasted more than 55 years. Knowing a small town on well water could not sustain rapid growth nor accommodate the needs of industry, Vandergriff convinced the voters of Arlington to pass an initiative to build a large reservoir to meet the town's future needs. The effort proved to be as controversial as it was monumental for a small town, but the initiative passed, and Lake Arlington

was built. The project was ridiculed by many in Arlington and dismissed by others in the region as "Vandergriff's Folly," but the folly became "the miracle lake" upon its completion. Large equipment was being removed from the site in 1957 when one of the worst and longest droughts in Texas history broke, and it began to rain. The lake, which experts believed would take years to fill, was full in 18 days. The lake ensured the explosive growth that came in the decades of the '60s, '70s, and '80s that made Arlington, Texas one of the fastest growing cities in America.

As a college student at the University of Southern California, Vandergriff was very familiar with Anaheim and by the late 1950s was aware of the tremendous economic impact tourism had on the city after the opening of Disneyland theme park in 1955. He knew, because of Arlington's central location, that the same benefits could accrue to his city with a product of similar appeal. It came as no surprise to those familiar with the Vandergriff vision for Arlington when he became instrumental in establishing the Six Flags Over Texas theme park in 1961. The park was an instant hit, and people all over the southwestern United States began traveling to Arlington for family style entertainment. The first of the Six Flags parks, it still operates at its original location in Arlington.

But Vandergriff didn't stop there. A devoted baseball fan, he was determined to bring professional baseball to north Texas. The effort took years and saw hopes dashed time and again before he finally convinced owner Bob Short to move his Washington Senators to Arlington in 1972. The effort did not endear him to the people of the nation's capital. On one of his many visits to meet with Short, he was unceremoniously kicked out of a taxicab when he made the mistake of telling the cabbie why he was in town. The Washington Senators became the Texas Rangers Ball Club, and Tom Vandergriff became the team's biggest fan and supporter. When his beloved Rangers won their first American League Pennant by beating the New York Yankees in Arlington last October, Vandergriff was there in the ballpark he helped build to cheer them on.

Today, Arlington is host to more than seven million visitors each year and is the second most popular tourist destination in the state, bringing millions of dollars in revenue to the city annually. The city's entertainment district boasts Six Flags theme park, the Texas Rangers Ballpark, a new Dallas Cowboys football stadium, the National Bowling Congress and Museum, Hurricane Harbor water park, and clusters of shops and restaurants that make Arlington the City of Wow for millions of Texans.

In his 26 years as mayor, two years as a member of Congress, and 16 years as County Judge of Tarrant County, Vandergriff championed two more causes relentlessly: regional communication and cooperation and helping the University of Texas at Arlington become a major institution of higher learning. Believing that everyone in north Texas would succeed if they worked together for the good of the region, Vandergriff spent decades finessing, cajoling, and winning over the leaders of other cities in the region. He led the effort to establish and became the president of the north Central Texas Council of Governments which today is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for all of north Texas. He was a strong

advocate for regionalism well into his eighties, and the economic might of the region is a testament to that effort.

Vandergriff's efforts on behalf of his hometown university are equally impressive. When he became mayor, Arlington College was a tiny two-year institution affiliated with Texas A&M that was formerly a military school and then an agricultural college. Vandergriff knew it could be more, and if Arlington were to succeed as a city, so must its college. He led the effort to make the college a four-year university. Working with then-governor John Connally, he succeeded when the college became a full university within the University of Texas system in 1964. Today, the University of Texas at Arlington is the largest UT campus outside of Austin and the fastest growing university in the state. It is quickly becoming a major research facility and contributes more to the local economy than any industry in the city.

There is more, of course, much more. In a life lived as fully and as well as his, there is always more to tell: his unwavering support and leadership of Arlington Memorial Hospital, his support and leadership of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, his support of local public schools, his support of a long list of non-profit agencies, his decades as an active member of the United Methodist church, and his roles as husband, father, grandfather, and mentor to a very long list of aspiring leaders. All of this almost didn't happen, at least not in Texas.

Vandergriff was born on January 29, 1926, to W. T. and Charles Vandergriff in Carrollton, Texas. The family relocated to Arlington when Tom was 12. After graduating from Arlington High School, Vandergriff attended USC where he earned a bachelor's degree in 1947. He married his high school sweetheart, Anna Waynette Smith in 1949. Blessed with a deep, sonorous voice that he used with perfect diction, he prepared for a career in radio and broadcast journalism. After graduation he applied for and was a finalist in the competition for what he thought would be the job of his dreams, but he lost out to another young applicant. Vandergriff returned to Texas to join his father's automobile dealership, disappointed and convinced that he was a better candidate for the broadcast job. The young man who got the job was Chet Huntley.

Chet Huntley would gain fame as an NBC news anchor and reach millions of listeners nationwide, but the loser in that early competition, Tom Vandergriff, would touch millions in north Texas in ways that were deeper and arguably more significant. Many have their own stories to tell about Vandergriff, many humorous because he possessed a wonderful sense of humor, many thankful because he touched so many with acts of kindness large and small, and many inspirational because he inspired us, goaded us, and led us to be greater than we thought we were and achieved things we never thought possible. All in north Texas are better off today because Tom Vandergriff was here, and our children and grandchildren will have better lives even though they will never know him. Those of us who did will never forget him.

Well done, good and faithful servant.

HONORING THE CITY OF GLADSTONE, OREGON, ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Gladstone, Oregon, on the occasion of its 100th anniversary. From its perch at the confluence of the mighty Willamette and Clackamas rivers, Gladstone has for 100 years kept a watchful eye on Oregon as our fine state has grown from humble pioneer beginnings.

The land that Gladstone residents call home today was originally a meeting place for local Native American tribes—namely the Clackamas and Multnomah Tribes. The famous Pow Wow Tree, where tribes from all over the region would gather to trade and conduct important community proceedings, still stands today near Clackamas Boulevard. This ancient tree serves as a significant reminder that Gladstone's history as an important place to come together long predates the founding of our Union.

Pioneers arrived in Oregon via the Oregon Trail and began settling the Willamette Valley in the 1840s. The Cason and Rinearson families were granted the original donation land claims in what is now known as Gladstone. In fact, the boundary between the Cason and Rinearson settlements, now known as Portland Avenue, serves as a prominent municipal boundary today. Although the area would continue to serve as an important regional gathering place, hosting the first Oregon State Fair in 1861, the official founding of the City of Gladstone would not happen for more than 60 years.

After purchasing portions of the original Cason family land claim in the 1880s, Clackamas County Judge Harvey Edward Cross set about platting a town and offering parcels of his land for sale. On January 10, 1911, the city was officially founded. Judge Cross chose as the new city's namesake, the famed four-time British Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer, William Ewart Gladstone.

In 1894, local author and Chautauqua movement proponent, Eva Emory Dye, enlisted Judge Cross's help to bring Chautauqua to the Gladstone area. Judge Cross concurred that Chautauqua would bring great cultural enrichment; therefore, he agreed to lease his Gladstone Park to the Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association for a term of 50 years. After the first festival was rained out in 1894, an assembly hall with seating for 3,000 was constructed on site. The Gladstone Chautauqua ran for many years and hosted appearances by such famous Americans as John Philip Sousa, Theodore Roosevelt and William Jennings Bryan. Although crowds could swell to as large as 50,000 in certain years, dwindling attendance eventually forced the Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association into bankruptcy and closure in 1927.

Today, Gladstone continues its tradition as an important community gathering place. The spirit of the Pow Wow Tree and early Chautauqua events can be felt every summer at the City's Chautauqua Festival and parade. Despite urban encroachment, Gladstone has

retained a small town character and strong sense of community that make it an ideal place for families young and old to live, work and play. With a strong sense of its history and an eye toward the future, I am confident that Gladstone will continue to thrive for another 100 years.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be the representative of the fine community of Gladstone, Oregon. I congratulate the citizens of Gladstone on their centennial, and I look forward to sharing in the celebration.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE AND
CAREER OF VAN R. RICHMOND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and memory of Van R. Richmond, a giant in the Greater Cleveland Community. Although his name rarely appeared in print, his work as Page 1 editor for the Cleveland Plain Dealer meant that he had a hand in shaping almost every major story affecting residents of Northeast Ohio during his tenure until his retirement in 1994.

Van Richmond grew up in Chicago, Wisconsin and New York before joining the service in 1943. After serving in the Army, Mr. Richmond attended Villanova University and majored in engineering. Ultimately, Mr. Richmond found his true calling and transferred to the University of Iowa to study journalism.

Mr. Richmond put his first marks on the field of journalism at Rockford Register Republic in Rockford, Illinois, where he worked for ten years before taking a job at the Cleveland Plain Dealer in 1960. He worked in several jobs as an editor before rising to become the Page 1 editor. Known to his friends and colleagues as an opinionated, hard working man, Mr. Richmond became a legend in the newsroom. He left a reputation for his quick wit and his dedication to the job.

Mr. Richmond will be loved and remembered by many, especially his widow, Elizabeth; his son and daughter, Jerome and Anne; his stepchildren, Michelle Miller, James Anderson and Kathryn Harttrup; and eight grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and memory of a man who, through his work, helped the residents of Northeast Ohio learn the events of the world and our place in them. He was a man who was driven not by fame or accolades, but the sense of hard work and a job well done. He will be missed by his friends, colleagues and all who knew him. I wish peace and happiness to his family.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JACK
KYSER

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late John A. "Jack"

Kyser. Born in Huntington Park in the 34th Congressional District, he was a leader in the community and someone who was often called "the voice" or "the guru" of the Los Angeles economy. Mr. Kyser passed away unexpectedly on December 6 at the age of 76 at his home in Downey, CA.

As the "go to" economy expert in Los Angeles County, Mr. Kyser was respected and admired by a diverse group of people—from industry experts to television viewers—who appreciated his ability to make complicated facts and figures understandable as well as his in-depth knowledge about the local and national economy.

Mr. Speaker, as my fellow Angelenos prepare to attend his memorial service on January 12 at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing Mr. Kyser's lifetime contributions to Los Angeles and the Southern California region.

To further pay respect to him, I would like to submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD excerpts from the following December 7 Los Angeles Times obituary which provides a thorough and touching overview of Mr. Kyser's life and many accomplishments.

JOHN A. 'JACK' KYSER DIES AT 76; EXPERT ON
L.A. ECONOMY

(By Roger Vincent and Hugo Martin)

John A. "Jack" Kyser, the dean of Los Angeles economists who spoke as an expert on Southern California to observers around the world, has died. He was 76.

Kyser devoted his long career to focusing on the workings of the region's economy. As the former chief economist of the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp. he was in steady demand as a speaker at business events and a reliable source who was quick with an insightful quote for reporters on deadline.

"Jack was truly the authority on L.A.'s economy," said Mark Liberman, president of LA Inc., the Los Angeles Convention and Visitors Bureau. "If he said it, you knew it was true, because his voice influenced every projection about L.A.'s economy."

Kyser moved among the business elite but often spoke comfortably of his humble upbringing in working-class Downey.

He was born April 20, 1934, in Huntington Park and raised in Vernon and Downey, where he lived much of his life.

Kyser earned a bachelor of science degree in 1955 and an MBA in 1968 from USC, but was not formally trained as an economist. His street-level knowledge of the local economy was unsurpassed, though, and helped make him a confidant to the powerful.

"Generations of leaders in L.A.—including mayors, councilmen and governors—relied on him as an advisor and counselor, and benefited from his wisdom," said Bill Allen, chief executive of the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp.

Kyser found work after his undergraduate years as a forecaster for Union Pacific Railroad in Omaha, but was laid off four years later during an economic downturn. He found paid work anchoring a news show at a local public radio station where he had been volunteering.

Kyser returned to Southern California in about a year to work for United California Bank, then spent eight years as an economist with the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. Kyser began with the economic development corporation in 1991, when it had no economics research department.

Kyser retired from the economic development organization in June, but returned to the public eye almost immediately as an economic spokesman for the Southern California Assn. of Governments.

Kyser's opinions were sought because "he had credibility," said Carol Schatz, president of the Central City Assn., a Los Angeles business advocacy group. "He remained independent through the political pressure that plays a role with economic forecasting."

The president of the Los Angeles Sports and Entertainment Commission, Kathryn Schloessman, said Kyser "was the person our industry went to when asked about economic impact of anything happening in this city. He was a Los Angeles treasure."

HONORING DAVE HUINKER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievement of Dave Huinker of Decorah, Iowa, who was recently presented the Heritage Award during the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) 120th annual convention in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The IAFE is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the development and improvement of fairs and expositions around the world. Their influence covers said events from the county level to the national and international level. Although it was first organized in 1885 to represent a half dozen fairs, it has expanded to represent over 1,300 fairs, shows, and expositions today. To be selected for Heritage Award by the IAFE, a person has to have over ten years of fair management experience, cannot receive more than \$2,000 annually for their work in the position, must be nominated by their fair, and must be a current member of the IAFE.

Dave has a long history of involvement in Iowa's fairs. As a member of the 4-H from a young age, Dave spent much of his time exhibiting livestock and community service projects at his local fair. Dave served on the Iowa State Fair Board for 30 years, serving two terms of that time as board president and helping to establish the Blue Ribbon Foundation. He has served as a judge at numerous county and state fairs across the country and as an agricultural director to Decorah State Bank. Dave has also spent time as an auxiliary member of the Winneshiek County Fair Board and served on the Winneshiek County Extension Council.

The IAFE could not have chosen a better person to receive the Heritage Award. I commend Dave Huinker for his dedication to continuing and preserving our fairs and the rich culture that they represent. I know my colleagues in the United States Congress will join me in congratulating him in being selected to receive this award. I wish him the best of luck in the future.

SUPPORT OF A RESOLUTION TO PERMIT DELEGATES AND THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER TO THE CONGRESS TO CAST VOTES IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution introduced by my good friend and colleague, Minority Whip STENY HOYER of Maryland that would restore the voting rights for the Delegates and Resident Commissioner during Committee of the Whole proceedings during the 112th Congress.

As I stated yesterday, the rules for the 112th Congress leave this body less transparent and less responsive to our constituents. Eliminating the right for Delegates and the Resident Commissioner to vote in the Committee of the Whole deprives our constituents with the understanding of how we stand on important issues. The fact that our vote in the Committee of the Whole is symbolic is further evidence of why such a right does not diminish the role of other Members of the House of Representatives; in fact, allowing us the right to a symbolic vote enhances long-cherished values of this body.

Moreover, affording us the right to vote in the Committee of the Whole ensures that equities of our constituents are covered in legislation that is pending or being debated by this body. In June 2009 the House of Representatives debated and voted on H.R. 2346, the Supplemental Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009. The bill contained language that allowed the transfer of detainees from Guantanamo Bay to any of the territories and it did not provide the Governor of each respective territory with the right to be notified of any such transfer. Our right to vote in the Committee of the Whole afforded us the opportunity to raise this matter before the entire body and subsequent legislation that contained such transfer prohibition language did expressly include the territories. Our right to vote in the Committee of the Whole afforded us all the ability to represent the interests of our respective territories. Our voice was heard and changes were made.

Many men and women in uniform come from the territories and the District of Columbia. Many have sacrificed for our country, and, in fact, the per capita rate of deaths for servicemembers from the territories is higher than most states. Yet despite the patriotism and service that men and women from the territories show, the new leadership of the House of Representatives saw it fit to take away one of our most basic rights—the right to vote and effectively represent the needs of our constituents.

I also enter into the RECORD letters the Delegates and the Resident Commissioner sent to the leaders requesting an opportunity to address this rules change prior to the convening of the 112th Congress. Regrettably, the opportunity to address this matter prior to yesterday's convening was not presented. Therefore, and based on the action taken yesterday,

I stand in support of the resolution introduced today by Mr. HOYER and hope that it will be brought to the floor for a vote in the near future.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, December 22, 2010.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker-designate, House of Representatives,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER-DESIGNATE BOEHNER: Now that a summary of proposed Rules for the 112th Congress is circulating and we find that the rule enabling the Delegates and Resident Commissioner to vote in the Committee of the Whole is slated for elimination, we write to express our concern and renew our request for a meeting with you to discuss this matter prior to January 5, 2011.

You will no doubt recall that we wrote last month to urge retention of this rule. We reiterate that this symbolic exercise of our country's democratic principles has great meaning to our more than four million constituents, who fight and die alongside their fellow Americans residing in the 50 States to secure the right to vote for people residing in such distant lands as Iraq and Afghanistan.

While this issue has been viewed through a partisan lens in the past, largely because none of us is a member of the Republican Conference, we respectfully submit that this fact should not be used to preclude us from exercising this most fundamental function of representative democracies, especially through a procedure which by its design can never be determinative of any vote.

Therefore, we ask that you retain this existing rule in the Rules package your Conference is preparing for adoption on opening day of the 112th Congress. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. We look forward to continuing to work with you on behalf of our constituents, your fellow Americans residing in the U.S. territories.

Sincerely,

PEDRO R. PIERLUISI,
MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO,
ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA,
DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN,
GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, November 19, 2010.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker-designate, House of Representatives,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER-DESIGNATE BOEHNER: As the Republican Conference prepares its package of proposed House Rules for consideration on the opening day of the 112th Congress, we respectfully urge you to retain the rule that enables the Delegates and the Resident Commissioner to vote when the House resolves into the Committee of the Whole, and that provides for an automatic revote in the full House when the votes of the Delegates or the Resident Commissioner are decisive.

This rule has been found to pass constitutional muster by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. See *Michel v. Anderson*, 14 F.3d 623 (D.C. Cir. 1994). It has not impeded the work of the House during the three Congresses in which it has been in place: the 103rd Congress (1993–1994), the 110th Congress (2007–2008), and the current 111th Congress (2010–2011). The rule has been carefully crafted to allow the Majority to decide when it is appropriate for legislation to be considered in the Committee of the Whole and, more specifically, to be subject to delegate voting. Therefore, if the Majority determines that a particular bill is better considered without delegate voting, the Rules Committee can report a rule that provides for

voting to be structured accordingly—as occurred in several instances during the 110th and 111th Congresses. We deeply appreciate that your Conference did not seek to repeal or otherwise alter this rule when the Ranking Republican Member of the Rules Committee offered his Motion to Commit with instructions at the start of the 111th Congress. We hope that your proposed Rules package for the 112th Congress will be consistent with that prior position.

There are compelling reasons to retain the rule. First, we know that your Conference, like our Caucus, values and seeks to promote open and transparent government. Our constituents can more effectively hold us accountable if there is a record of how we vote on legislation considered by the House. Although we recognize that the vote conferred upon us by this rule is essentially symbolic, it has genuine meaning for those we represent. The rule obligates us to take public positions on issues of national importance that will affect the lives of our constituents. This enables our constituents to better evaluate the quality of our representation.

In addition, we believe this is an issue of fundamental fairness with profound moral implications. Our constituents are part of the American family. They pledge allegiance to the same flag and serve alongside their fellow countrymen in our nation's armed forces. To deprive their duly elected representatives of this small privilege, which does no harm to this institution, would send a message of exclusion to Americans living in the territories and in the District of Columbia. We implore you not to send that message.

Sincerely,

PEDRO R. PIERLUISI,
MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO,
ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA,
DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN,
GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN.

REMEMBERING EDWARD STRINGER

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the courage and honor the life of firefighter Edward Stringer. Edward was killed in the line of duty on Dec. 23, when the roof of a burning South Shore building collapsed. He was 47 years old.

Edward often joked that he was the guy running into burning buildings when everyone else was running out. That was the case on the afternoon of the tragedy that took his life. Worried there might be a homeless man or woman seeking shelter from the cold in the abandoned building, his commitment to the Chicagoans he swore to protect was far stronger than any sense of self-preservation.

A 12-year veteran of the Chicago Fire Department, Edward worked out of the firehouse at 63rd and Dorchester. He was a lifetime South Sider, a proud Chicagoan and an American hero. His bravery will never be forgotten by the city he gave his life to protect.

May Mr. Stringer rest in peace.

HONORING ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN IOWA FALLS, IOWA

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievement of Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls, Iowa for the success of its agriculture program. This program was designed by assistant professor of agriculture Kevin Butt, and it was selected on December 1, 2010 at the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) convention in Las Vegas, Nevada to receive the National

Association of Agricultural Educators Outstanding Postsecondary/Adult Agricultural Education Program Award.

Kevin designed the agriculture program at Ellsworth Community College shortly after he began working there in 2004. The goal of this program is to not only provide students with theoretical and scientific knowledge about agriculture, but also to provide those students with hands-on opportunities and situations where they can apply that knowledge. Through the implementation of this program, Kevin has succeeded in helping these students to develop their communication, leadership, and citizenship skills, all of which will be beneficial to their careers in agriculture and to their futures as civic-minded citizens.

The NAAE, which began in 1948, is a nationally-renowned organization that promotes agricultural education and the professional growth of agricultural teachers. Every year it selects six different programs, one in each of its six regions, to receive this award. Kevin's program at Ellsworth Community College was selected from the third region, which includes the states of Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska.

I commend Kevin Butt and Ellsworth Community College for their unwavering commitment to providing quality education to their students in the field of agriculture. I know my colleagues in the United States Congress will join me in congratulating them for their selection to receive this award. I wish them the best of luck in the future.