

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PATUXENT RESEARCH REFUGE

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 75th anniversary of the Patuxent Research Refuge—established in 1936 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the nation's only National Wildlife Refuge created to support wildlife research.

Over the past 75 years, the Patuxent Research Refuge has been the site of countless advances in wildlife and applied environmental research. Scientists working on the refuge have been international leaders in natural resource conservation and their work has improved the health of animals and humans alike. Pioneering work in the field of environmental contaminants undertaken at Patuxent served as the backbone of Rachel Carson's Silent Spring and research efforts at the refuge ultimately led to the banning of DDT.

Patuxent's research community has also made important contributions in the areas of migratory birds, wildlife population analysis, waterfowl harvest, habitat management, wetlands, coastal zone and flood plain management, endangered species recovery, urban wildlife, ecosystem management, and management of national parks and national wildlife refuges.

For those of us who live in this region, the Patuxent Research Refuge is more than a center for the advancement of science. It is an oasis in between two major cities—a site that gives all visitors the opportunity to immerse themselves in nature and reflect on the importance of preserving our environment. Indeed, among my proudest achievements in the Congress is helping to enable increased public access to Patuxent through the expansion of the facility from its original 2,670 acres to its present 12,841 acres.

I want to thank the staff and scientists of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Geological Survey for their continued efforts to preserve this marvelous asset and advance our understanding of our environment. And I urge my colleagues to join with me in congratulating all of those gathered at Patuxent this weekend to celebrate this important milestone.

EPA REGULATORY RELIEF ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

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

consideration the bill (H.R. 2250) to provide additional time for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to issue achievable standards for industrial, commercial, and institutional boilers, process heaters, and incinerators, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2250, the so-called EPA Regulatory Relief Act. This legislation is a special interest giveaway to a few big industrial polluters that won't create jobs but will expose American families to unnecessary and unacceptable health risks.

Despite the urgent need to create jobs and grow the economy, the House Republican majority is refusing to bring the American Jobs Act to the floor for a vote and instead, continues to bring up special interest bill after special interest bill for polluters who want to keep dumping toxic pollution into our air and water without consequence.

We have already seen Republicans grant power and cement plants the license to continue emitting mercury, lead, arsenic and other pollutants. With this bill, Republicans are now seeking to delay and indefinitely block the ability of the EPA to regulate mercury emissions from industrial boilers and incinerators. These rules were called for 21 years ago under the 1990 Clean Air Act and were to have been completed by 2000. According to EPA's analysis, delaying the current deadlines for cleaning up toxic pollution from the nation's largest industrial boilers and incinerators by three years, as called for by H.R. 2250, will result in 22,750 more premature deaths, 143,000 asthma attacks and over one million sick days. For the thousands of families living in the shadow of these boilers and incinerators, this bill will mean more neurological disorders, birth defects, learning disabilities, cancer and cardiovascular problems. Pregnant women and their developing fetuses and infants are particularly vulnerable to the deadly effects of mercury.

The Great Lakes Commission just issued a report finding that mercury levels have dropped by 20 percent thanks to the efforts of local and state governments working with power plants and incinerators to clean up their emissions. However, the report also notes that mercury levels still remain too dangerously high in most of the Great Lakes. All of Minnesota's lakes and streams have fish advisory warnings. This not only has real impacts for human health, but on jobs and our economy. The recreational fishing industry on the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior contributes more than \$10 million to our local economy. 1.4 million Minnesotans fish, generating more than 43,000 jobs and \$4.7 billion for our state economy. H.R. 2250 is certainly a job-killer for Minnesota.

The EPA estimates the cost of compliance for the boiler rule to be around \$3 billion annually while providing between \$17 billion to \$41 billion in benefits to the economy starting in 2014. Bruce Bartlett, former economic advisor to President Reagan, has noted that regulations were responsible for a miniscule 0.2 per-

cent of layoffs in 2010. Despite the evidence, Republicans continue to claim the economic necessity of discarding the health of our children and communities in order to protect a few bad polluters.

For over forty years, America has made tremendous bipartisan progress in cleaning up our environment while maintaining robust economic growth. We need to return to this tradition and refocus our attention on legislation that will actually address our pressing jobs crisis. I urge my colleagues to reject H.R. 2250 and stand-up for the health of American families.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF METROHEALTH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 175th anniversary of the MetroHealth System, one of the largest, most comprehensive health care providers in Northeast Ohio.

Founded in 1837 as City Hospital, MetroHealth has been providing care to the residents of Cuyahoga County as a not-for-profit, county operated, safety net health care provider. MetroHealth is committed to "responding to community needs, improving the health status of our region, and controlling health care costs." MetroHealth has also been affiliated with Case Western Reserve University for nearly 100 years.

MetroHealth is one of the three largest health care providers in Northeast Ohio and has the only Level I Trauma and Burn Center for Adults in the area. Additionally, in 1982, MetroHealth established its Metro Life Flight air ambulance service. Metro has more than 400 primary care and specialty care physicians that practice at its 14 medical facilities throughout Northeast Ohio. MetroHealth Medical Center provides care to more than 28,000 inpatients, delivers 2,900 babies, has more than 790,000 visits to its outpatient centers and 99,600 patients to the emergency department annually.

MetroHealth has been one of only 32 hospitals in the country to receive a 2010 Triple Gold Achievement Award from the American Heart Association's Get with the Guidelines Program for its treatment of coronary disease, stroke and heart failure. It has also been in the top one percent of hospitals in the Nation recognized with the Premier Award for Quality. MetroHealth has also been honored by Thomson Reuters as a Top 100 Hospital.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing all those who have made the 175th anniversary of MetroHealth System possible.

• 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.

TRIBUTE TO HOT GRILL

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention to the achievements of an outstanding small business, the Hot Grill in New Jersey upon reaching their 50th Anniversary.

It is only fitting that they be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known. Hot Grill has been a true asset and a part of the community in the City of Clifton for 50 years.

Under the ownership of Domenick Sportelli, an Italian immigrant, and Carmen LaMendola, the Hot Grill has become a community favorite that has drastically grown since its inception in October of 1961.

The Hot Grill started as a small establishment, with one long counter and roughly 20 seats. Thanks to the owners' dedication to quality and commitment to their community, the Hot Grill has undergone several expansions and has attained the ability to accommodate up to 160 customers on its premises.

One of the Hot Grill's accomplishments is its pioneering of the Texas Weiner, which many believe had its beginnings in Paterson, New Jersey. Texas Weiners, hot dogs with chili, have been served for over 40 years at the Hot Grill.

In 1996, Hot Grill celebrated their 35th anniversary and sold 60,000 hot dogs in just three days. Just five years earlier, it took four days to sell the same amount—proof of the business' growth and popularity.

Though it gained fame for its hot dogs, the Hot Grill is also noted for its homemade soups and chilis. Their chili, in fact, travels the world to countries as far as England and Italy.

The owners of this business consider the fact that they have now been serving three generations of the community's residents as one of their greatest achievements. The Hot Grill has been ranked as the "Number 1" Hot Dog in the Record Readers' Top 5 Survey, along with other enthusiastic reviews. Furthermore, it has been frequented by a number of celebrity personalities over the years, including the late President Richard Nixon.

The entrepreneurial spirit present at the Hot Grill is an example of the American Dream. Through hard work, they have demonstrated that businesses in our communities can thrive for generations.

Though the job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, few experiences compare to having the honor of recognizing the impressive accomplishments of local small businesses such as the Hot Grill in the City of Clifton.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the City of Clifton, the Hot Grill, and its faithful customers in celebrating the great achievement of this outstanding small business upon reaching their 50th Anniversary.

VIOLENCE AGAINST EGYPTIAN
PROTESTERS**HON. GARY C. PETERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my outrage at the military government in Egypt which committed a horrendous act of violence against its own citizens last Sunday night, and at the state run media in Egypt which helped incite that violence.

Coptic Christians have lived peacefully in Egypt for millennia, but sadly in recent months Coptic churches and protestors have been targeted for violence by sectarian extremists. Sadly, it now appears that the government is playing a role in fostering this unrest, and attacking its own people.

Last Sunday more than 1,000 Copts gathered to protest a recent attack by Islamist radicals on a Coptic church in the country's south. While it's not clear why this protest turned violent, what we do know from video shot at the scene is that 26 protesters died after the military drove armored vehicles into the crowds.

Perhaps even more disturbing, state run media sources called upon other Egyptians to take to the streets to protect the military from the protesters. The actions of the media served only to heighten tension and create the increased likelihood that a peaceful protest would turn violent.

I applaud Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Hazem El-Beblawi who submitted his resignation on Tuesday in protest over the government's actions. I am disappointed that Egypt's military government has refused to allow him to resign.

The end of the reign of Hosni Mubarak creates an enormous opportunity for Egypt to create a democratic society that respects the rights of minorities. In order to maintain international legitimacy and the support of the United States government, the Egyptian military must demonstrate a commitment to protecting Christians and others who have been targeted for violence.

TRIBUTE TO ADDIE CAMILLA
BUTLER RUSH**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable constituent and entrepreneur on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Mrs. Addie Camilla Butler Rush is a dear family friend and like a second mother to my brothers and me. Having lost my own mother at the age of 55, it gives me great joy to celebrate this special centenarian's birthday.

Addie Camilla Butler Rush was born on October 22, 1911. She was the 13th child of 15 children born to the late Richard and Adelaide Butler. She is one of two surviving siblings; her baby sister, Richmond Danny, is currently 94 years old. As a child, she was reared in the Tindal area of Sumter, South Carolina.

In 1937, Mrs. Rush began her study of Cosmetology in Roanoke, Virginia, and later com-

pleted her studies at Breland School of Cosmetology in Orangeburg, SC. She established Ambritt's Beauty Shop, better known as Rush's Beauty Shop on the south side Sumter in 1938. She was also trained in cake decorating, floristry, and millinery arts. She later opened businesses for all of her many trades. She is a true entrepreneur and had businesses in Pinewood, Camden (Mather Academy), Bishopville, Sumter, Manning and Timmonsville. Rush's Florist and Rush's Beauty Shop are still in operation today in Sumter.

Mrs. Rush briefly served as a State Cosmetology Inspector, but resigned to care for her young child. The beauty culture field included hair and makeup, and she was renowned for her skill in doing makeup for legs, which was a popular alternative to hosiery during the 1940s. She is a charter member of the Sumter Beautician's Club and is a current member emeritus.

Over the years, she earned numerous recognitions including: 1st Place winner in styling at the Bronner Brothers Hair Show (1960); Service Awards for SC State and National Beauty Culture League (1981, 1984, 1994, 1999); Super Achiever Award in Business and Community Service from Jehovah Baptist Church (1988); Women in Business Award, National Association of the Advancement of Colored People (1992); and honored as Grand Marshall for the Festival on the Avenue Parade (2010).

Mrs. Rush has always been very grounded in her faith. She has been a member of Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church for eighty-nine years. She served on the Gospel Choir, Wide Awake Ministry, Missionaries, Church School, the Friendly Gospel Singers, and she is a founding member of the Golden Stars. She still faithfully attends the 7:45 a.m. Sunday service.

Mrs. Rush was blessed with one child, Dorothy Dean Rush Palmer. She has four grandchildren; Edmond L. Palmer, Yvette A. Palmer-Montsho, Floyd B. Palmer-McLeod, and Wygelia E. Palmer; five great-grandchildren; Latoya, Addavia, Jamela, Quinton, and Jabari; and two great-great grandchildren, Javeon and Jada. She also has a significant number of god-children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in sending best wishes to Mrs. Addie Rush on her 100th birthday. She is an extraordinary woman with a generous spirit, a mind for business, and a heart filled with love and faith. I am proud to call her a dear friend and a member of my extended family.

WELCOMING AND HONORING THE
EASTERN IOWA HONOR FLIGHT
AND IOWA'S WWII VETERANS**HON. DAVID LOEBSACK**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, next week, 90 Iowa veterans of the Greatest Generation will travel to our nation's capital. Accompanied by volunteer guardians, these veterans will travel to Washington, DC, to visit the monument that was built in their honor.

For many of these veterans, next Tuesday, October 18th, will be the first time they will see the National World War II Memorial. I am

deeply honored to have been invited to welcome them back to Iowa at the end of their journey, and I am very much looking forward to the opportunity to hear about their experience seeing their memorial for the first time and to having the opportunity to personally thank these heroes.

Sadly, however, 17 of Iowa's heroes who were planning to travel with their fellow veterans to Washington, DC, passed away before they were able to embark on their trip. My wife Terry and I join all Iowans in mourning their loss and in extending our deepest sympathies to their families.

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

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

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

THE LEGACY OF STEVE JOBS

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Members of the California Congressional Delegation to honor the legacy of Steve Jobs, one of the world's greatest innovators and entrepreneurs and a committed family man. Steve unfortunately passed away last Wednesday, October 5, 2011, leaving behind his beloved wife, Laurene Powell Jobs, and four children. He embodied the American entrepreneurial spirit and was a true pioneer of California's technology sector, inspiring millions with creations at Apple that continue to sustain Silicon Valley today. His passion, ingenuity and hard work have changed the way we live and work forever.

Steve was a native of California and a product of its public education system. He hailed from San Francisco, and was adopted by Paul and Clara Jobs, who moved to Mountain View, California when he was a child. Steve attended Cupertino Junior High and Homestead

High School in Cupertino, California. After briefly spending time in college in Portland, he returned to his home state to pursue his interest in computers.

In 1976, Steve founded Apple Computer in Cupertino, with Steve Wozniak and Ronald Wayne. Almost 40 years later, Jobs has been listed as either primary inventor or co-inventor of more than 340 U.S. patents and patent applications for a wide range of technologies. His insatiable desire to innovate made Apple into one of the world's most profitable and recognizable brands.

His diagnosis of pancreatic cancer in 2004 shocked and saddened us all. However, as was often the case with Steve, he continued in sickness to lead by example. During the time between his diagnosis and death, Apple introduced the iPhone and the iPad, which have set new standards for mobile devices.

Jobs announced his resignation as Apple's CEO on August 24, 2011, and in a letter to Apple's Board of Directors, he said, "I believe Apple's brightest and most innovative days are ahead of it." We believe that the next great innovators are in California classrooms right now, learning about Steve Jobs and being inspired by his legacy.

The following are the names of the 53 Members of the California Congressional Delegation: MIKE THOMPSON, WALLY HERGER, DANIEL LUNGREN, TOM MCCLINTOCK, DORIS MATSUI, LYNN WOOLSEY, GEORGE MILLER, NANCY PELOSI, BARBARA LEE, JOHN GARAMENDI, JERRY MCNERNEY, JACKIE SPEIER, PETE STARK, ANNA G. ESHOO, MIKE HONDA, ZOE LOFGREN, SAM FARR, DENNIS CARDOZA, JEFF DENHAM, JIM COSTA, DEVIN NUNES, KEVIN MCCARTHY, LOIS CAPPS, ELTON GALLEGLY, HOWARD "BUCK" MCKEON, DAVID DREIER, BRAD SHERMAN, HOWARD BERMAN, ADAM SCHIFF, HENRY WAXMAN, XAVIER BECERRA, JUDY CHU, KAREN BASS, LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, MAXINE WATERS, JANICE HAHN, LAURA RICHARDSON, GRACE NAPOLITANO, LINDA SANCHEZ, EDWARD ROYCE, JERRY LEWIS, GARY MILLER, JOE BACA, KEN CALVERT, MARY BONO MACK, DANA ROHRBACHER, LORETTA SANCHEZ, JOHN CAMPBELL, DARRELL ISSA, BRIAN BILBRAY, BOB FILNER, DUNCAN HUNTER and SUSAN DAVIS.

BRONZE STAR MEDAL FOR PRIVATE FLOYD RAGSDALE

HON. ROBERT T. SCHILLING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a brave warfighter, Mr. Floyd D. Ragsdale. Mr. Ragsdale was born on September 9, 1925, in Waterloo, Iowa. He was drafted into the Army in December 1943 and went through basic training and advanced unit training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. In October of 1944, Mr. Ragsdale was sent to Europe and assigned to the 424th Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division—a division that was known as the "Golden Lions." Mr. Ragsdale participated in combat operations in Northern France, the Rhineland Campaign, and the Ardennes.

For his bravery and diligence, Mr. Ragsdale received the National Service Defense Medal, the European Theater of Operations ribbon

with three bronze stars, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the World War II Victory Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.

Mr. Ragsdale has earned yet another medal. After 66 years it is my honor to present the Bronze Star for meritorious service in Belgium during World War II to Mr. Ragsdale. This is the fourth-highest combat award the U.S. Armed Forces has and is given to an individual for bravery, acts of merit, or meritorious service.

I am also privileged to see Mr. Ragsdale receive the Belgian Fourragere for his service during the Battle of the Bulge in defense of liberty. The Belgian Fourragere is a military award given by the Belgium government and is a braided cord. It is considered one of the top awards.

We are very lucky to have had dedicated warfighters like Mr. Ragsdale in our Army. Our country owes him and those like him a great debt of gratitude for the sacrifices he and others made for us.

PROTECT LIFE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I voted against the badly flawed H.R. 358, a Republican bill brought to the floor today that will have a profoundly negative impact on a woman's ability to make personal healthcare decisions. I am deeply troubled by any congressional action that restricts a woman's right to choose. I oppose this legislation and reiterate my support for a woman's right to make her own decision about her healthcare decisions and obtain access to emergency care.

Instead of advancing policies to put Americans back to work, Republicans instead have decided to debate legislation restricting the health care choices available to women and their families. If enacted, H.R. 358 would limit the choices individuals and families have regarding their health insurance coverage, even forcing individuals to drop coverage they have already selected. It gives hospital workers the right to refuse treatment to women in need, even in the case of rape, incest or life-threatening complications. To force insurance companies and healthcare providers to deny a woman access to a legal procedure would be a very disturbing step backwards.

Already federal law prohibits federal funds from being used for abortions, except in cases of rape or incest, or when the life of the woman would be endangered. This legislation further restricts the ability of individuals and families to make personal decisions about their health care.

At a time when my colleagues are saying that they want to make government smaller, it is hypocritical and dangerous to pretend that a small government gets to make personal health care decisions for women and families. There is no room for government involvement in the personal and difficult decisions around women's reproductive choices. I strongly oppose this legislation.

IN TRIBUTE TO PEGGY JANE
SADLER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to my very good friend, Peggy Jane Sadler, who will be inducted into the Ventura County Republican Hall of Fame next week.

It is a well-deserved and long overdue honor.

I met Peggy more than 30 years ago when I first ran for City Council. She subsequently served on my mayoral committee and is among those who are largely responsible for my run for Congress.

But Peggy is more than a political confidant. She is a close personal friend to my wife, Janice, and me.

I am not alone in benefiting from Peggy's political passion. Peggy's handprints can be found on the success of a number of elected officials, both directly and indirectly. She served on the campaigns of Rep. Barry Goldwater, Jr., California Governors Pete Wilson and George Deukmejian, California Senator Lou Cusanovich, California Assemblyman Bob Cline, and Ventura County District Attorneys Michael Bradbury and Greg Totten.

She has been a member of Simi Valley Republican Women since 1964 and served as President in 1976, 1977 and 2009; served as president of Ventura County Republican Women, Federated, from 1979 to 1983; and is a past member of the Board of Directors, CFRW Southern Division; a past member of the California Federation of Republican Women Board; a voting member of the California Republican Party since 1977; an elected member of the Ventura County Republican Party from 1979–2011; Ventura County Co-Chairman for: Reagan for President 1980; a member of the Ventura County Steering Committee: Reagan/Bush 1984; Alternate Delegate for the 1984 GOP National Convention; City Co-Chairman for Bush/Quayle 1988; Delegate to the 1992 GOP National Convention; Alternate Delegate to the 1996 GOP National Convention; Alternate Delegate to the 2004 GOP National Convention; a member of the Bush Team—2000 and 2004; and a member of the Ventura County Lincoln Club Board of Directors.

That's enough to keep anyone busy. But Peggy's community involvement goes beyond politics. She believes politics is an avenue to make her community, state, and nation a better place to live, work, and raise a family—but it is not the only avenue.

Peggy's other activities include founding member and Past President of the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation Board of Directors, docent for the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library since 1991, Past President of the Simi Valley High School Music Boosters, and past member of the School Attendance Review Board.

After 27 years, Peggy retired as administrative assistant at Simi Valley Presbyterian Church. A former music major at University of California, Santa Barbara, she is currently serving as Director of the Handbell Choir. She also was a member of the Los Robles Master Chorale for 28 years.

Peggy and her husband, David, have been married 54 years. They have two children and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, as a previous inductee into the Ventura County Republican Hall of Fame, I welcome my friend. I know my colleagues join Janice and me in congratulating Peggy Jane Sadler for this recognition and in thanking her for decades of commitment to her community and nation.

**HONORING MARIN COUNTY
SUPERVISOR HAL BROWN**

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a colleague, Hal Brown, on the occasion of his retirement after 29 years of service to Marin County. Since he was first appointed to the Board of Supervisors to represent the Second District, Hal demonstrated a caring, thoughtful and committed approach to addressing the issues facing the residents of Marin.

Hal's priorities have been clear from the start. He focuses on families, education, environment, responsible government and economic vitality. His own vitality and dedication led him to serve on more than 25 boards and organizations, from the Marin Conservation League to the Rape Crisis Center, from the Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District to the Disabled Students Advisory Board.

This work has resulted in a long list of notable accomplishments—for example, preserving more than 1,500 acres of open space, founding FireSafe Marin, supporting the Marin Energy Authority and Safe Routes to Schools, and authoring Marin's Family Medical Leave law. I remain one of his most appreciative fans for his early and ongoing leadership on important women's issues.

After the New Year's Eve flood of 2005, Hal moved to make his district safer by establishing the first regional flood warning system in the Ross Valley. He continued to work for a watershed-wide approach that would combine flood control with environmental restoration and water quality.

Hal prided himself on his accessibility, and his door was always open to the many who appreciated working with a man of his integrity and drive. The fact that he continued to serve the last year despite battling serious illness speaks volumes about his commitment to his constituents. His thoughtful study of issues, while listening to all sides, has earned him the respect and admiration of colleagues throughout the North Bay.

A San Anselmo resident for almost 40 years, Hal coached various youth sports while raising his two sons, Mike and Chris.

Mr. Speaker, for nearly three decades, Hal Brown has served Marin County with enormous intelligence and dedication. Hal's hard work is one of the reasons that Marin remains such a beautiful, vibrant, well-governed community. It has been a privilege to work with him, and I ask you to join me in wishing him good health and a well-deserved retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF FATHER
KENNETH R. MURPHY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Father Kenneth Murphy, an exceptional individual who continues to provide outstanding spiritual guidance for the members of the Middlesex County community. His exceptional service is highly deserving of this body's recognition.

Born in New York City, Father Murphy is a graduate of Saint Joseph's High School in Metuchen, New Jersey and is a proud alumnus of Newark College of Engineering. He earned a Bachelors of Science in Chemical Engineering from Newark College of Engineering. His educational foundation launched his tenure as a faculty member of the Union Catholic Regional High School in Scotch Plains, New Jersey. Father Murphy entered and completed his seminary formation in Ss. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan. He earned his Master of Divinity Degree in May 1986 and received his Master of Fine Arts in Theology from the University of Detroit the same year. On May 31, 1986, Father Murphy was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Theodore E. McCarrick at St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Metuchen, New Jersey.

An outstanding spiritual leader and mentor, Father Murphy's various assignments have circulated him throughout central New Jersey. He has served in many positions throughout the 6th Congressional District, including Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Victories and Administrator and Pastor at St. Stanislaus. Father Murphy is currently Sayreville PBA Chaplain, Chaplain for Our Lady of Victories Columbiettes Council 2061 and Chaplain of Our Lady of Victories Assembly #0670 Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. St. Peter's Parish in New Brunswick, New Jersey remains Father Murphy's home of worship.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in thanking Father Kenneth Murphy for his continued spiritual guidance. His extraordinary leadership continues to guide Middlesex County community, my district, and the State of New Jersey.

**RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL
OPINION RESEARCH CENTER, AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
ON ITS 70TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the National Opinion Research Center on the occasion of its 70th anniversary. Known by its acronym, NORC, is one of the nation's oldest, not-for-profit, independent research organizations. It is headquartered in downtown Chicago with additional offices on the University of Chicago's campus and in the D.C. Metro area.

NORC is a national leader in social science research. Numerous data collection and analytical tools that now set the industry standard

were pioneered at NORC. The organization's capabilities in the areas of study design and survey methodology, statistical design and analysis, survey data collection (including biomarker and environmental data collection), evaluation and performance measurement, policy analysis and recommendations, dissemination and knowledge management, and technical assistance set it apart as an authority in the field of social science research. Further, its research expertise is enhanced by its interdisciplinary approach, innovative study designs and research methods, commitment to the highest standards of research excellence and scientific rigor, and strong collaborative relationships with prominent experts, senior government officials, and leading scholars.

Given its expertise in social science research, NORC plays a leadership role in numerous wide-reaching studies and surveys that provide vital insight and information into today's most pressing issues. For example, NORC manages the National Immunization Survey sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which produces national- and area-level data on vaccination rates for children and teens. It conducts the General Social Survey, which is regarded as the best source of data on societal trends and is routinely used by policymakers. NORC also advances health care innovation and effectiveness through its evaluation of four projects for the Office of the National Coordinator of Health Information Technology. These projects are critical to understanding adoption of health IT and what resources are needed to achieve measurable gains in health care quality and efficiency. Other NORC projects of note include the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth, the National Children's Study, and a series of international impact evaluations for the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

As a policymaker, I am especially impressed by NORC's unique ability to conduct high-caliber social science research and analysis designed to inform policy decisions on complex issues. Research to inform policy must be intentional as well as carefully designed and executed; I am grateful to NORC for its commitment to applying social science research to social policy, be it in the areas of health, education, economics, crime, justice, energy, security or environment. True to its mission to perform high-quality social science research in the public interest, NORC has proven a tremendous resource to my office over the years. Indeed, I have sought their expertise on multiple occasions, including recently with regard to the National Children's Study and the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth. I greatly appreciated their insight into these studies so that I could advocate for policies to improve the well-being of children and youth.

It is rare to find an organization that is skilled at both research and application of its findings. NORC has enriched public policy debate and decision making by gathering and distilling critical information. NORC's work and expertise have spanned seven decades, and I am confident the organization and its outstanding researchers will continue to have a positive effect on our nation's knowledge base and policymaking processes well into the future. This year, I celebrated my 70th birthday as well. As I look back on my own life, I can personally attest to the fortitude that it takes to have gotten this far and to have remained relevant. I commend NORC on its commitment

to high quality social science research that informs so many aspects of our society. I am proud to have NORC in my congressional district, and I wish NORC and its employees in Illinois and throughout the nation all the best on the occasion of the organization's 70th anniversary. I look forward to your continued success and excellence in the years to come.

HONORING JOHN "JACK" E. FRANK, PH.D., ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a faithful patriot, skilled counselor and educator, devoted public servant and good friend of mine for reaching a notable life milestone. On October 17, John "Jack" E. Frank, a valued member of my Congressional staff, will turn 80 years old. Having known Jack for many years, I can attest that he is a man of the highest character. He has spent nearly his entire life serving causes greater than himself.

After serving his country admirably in the Navy in the 1950s, Jack earned a Bachelor's degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, a Master's degree from Westminster College and a Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University. He has used his education to foster the development of countless young men and women in Pennsylvania and to serve the interests of the citizens of Pennsylvania's twelfth Congressional District.

Jack began his teaching career at Sharpsville Junior High School while working toward his Master's degree. Following this experience, he took a job as a counselor at Yorktown High School. It was there that he met his beloved wife Jeannette, with whom he has two children, Jeffrey and Janelle, and four grandchildren, Effie, Vivian, Sophia and Elsie.

Jack spent the majority of his teaching career at his alma mater, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, serving as the Assistant Dean of Men and a veterans/career counselor. Between his work at IUP and his active participation in the local Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW, Jack became a staunch advocate and friend of our nation's proud military veterans. In recognition of his 25 years of devoted service to IUP, he received the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Distinguished Alumni Award in 2006.

Following his distinguished career in education, Jack embarked on an equally distinguished career in public service. He capably served the late Congressman John Murtha for ten years before coming to work for me following my election in 2010. I hired Jack for his inimitable wisdom, kindness and experience. No one could be a more passionate and skilled liaison to the people of Pennsylvania's twelfth Congressional District than Jack.

Mr. Speaker, Jack is a great man. While he could easily be "retired" and enjoying the fruits of his distinguished career, Jack instead continues to serve the public and the greater good. I strive every day to emulate the selflessness and devotion to the wellbeing of others that are the hallmarks of his character.

Happy 80th birthday Jack, and thank you for your service.

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES REED RUCKER

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, on a farm in Crabapple, Georgia, Charles Reed Rucker was born August 14, 1921. His parents were Jeff Lafayette (Jepp) and Nancy Emily Reed Rucker. He grew up on a farm in Crabapple which is now considered a suburb of Atlanta. Charles graduated from high school in 1938. He sold magazine subscriptions and worked for McQuary Engineering stringing power lines in South Carolina after high school and during the "Great Depression" as everyone was doing whatever they could do to sustain life.

On a hot July 3, 1940, as a young man Charles enlisted in the Navy—riding a train to Norfolk, Virginia, where he received his boot training. He was shipped aboard the U.S.S. *Prairie*. The *Prairie* caught fire perhaps from a torpedo, and Charles along with the crew went aboard the U.S.S. *Dennabola* and was sent to submarine squadron 3 in the Panama Canal Zone where patrol off the coast of Panama and Eastern South America. A palm log pierced the bottom of the patrol plane which was equipped with 4 depth charges set to automatically arm at 25 feet of water. The crew had to abandon the plane and swim to shore but before they reached the shore the U.S. Army Corps from France Field came to their rescue and returned the crew to the station in Panama.

From there Charles went to officer's training school at Mercer University at Macon, Georgia, after which he was assigned to Whiting Field in Pensacola, Florida, then to Cony Field. While serving at Cony Field he was promoted to Leading Chief of his squadron. After 2 years he was sent back to Panama Canal Zone to form another squadron. The second day after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, his squadron was ordered to Pearl Harbor to assist in clean-up.

After this operation Charles returned to the states with the Navy Transport Squadron VR673. Next they were ordered to the European Theater on a diplomatic mission, crossing the North Atlantic into Ireland. From Shannon, Ireland they flew in to France, England and Germany.

From there the crew went to Holland and from Holland to Brussels, Belgium, the back again to England, then back to the U.S. Charles was transferred from the 15th Naval District to the 5th Naval District in Charleston, South Carolina, and ultimately returned to NAS Atlanta as a member of VR673 active reserve as Leading Chief Petty Officer. From NAS Atlanta Charles flew support missions during the Korean Crisis and the Vietnam War. He remained stationed at NAS Atlanta in the reserve until he retired on his birthday, August 14, 1981.

Charles started to work for Delta Airlines in Atlanta in 1954 in the maintenance department, then progressed to the Engineering Department where he edited a technical publication that aided maintenance personnel. He remained in that position until retirement in 1983. After retirement he and his wife, Claudia, moved from their home in Doraville, Georgia, to Lake Lanier. This was a wonderful transition for Charles and Claudia. After Claudia's

retirement they purchased her home place in Winston County, Alabama, and relocated there where they resided until Charles' death on August 10, 2011.

Charles was the father of one daughter, Patricia Rucker Goss, and two sons Gregory Anthony (Tony) and David Christopher (Chris) Rucker and was grandfather to 5 grandchildren: Beth Goss Scarborough, Melissa Goss, Leanne Rucker Waldrep, Noah Rucker and Caleb Rucker.

He will be missed by these and many others but the one that will miss him more is his beloved wife of 42 years, Claudia.

Charles was a wonderful individual who had countless friends. He was a much loved husband, father and grandfather and a great American and patriot.

PROTECT LIFE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 358, the Protect Life Act.

At a time when the current unemployment rate is 9.1 percent, we need to focus on creating jobs and spurring economic growth.

Instead, the Majority has chosen to focus on unnecessary legislation aimed at endangering the health of women across this country.

The Majority has spent weeks and months in the House trying to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care act. After those attempts failed they began attacking individual provisions in the health reform law.

The Protect Life Act is another attack on health reform. Beyond that, the legislation is unnecessary.

We already established that no federal funds will be used to perform abortion under health reform because these protections are already included in the underlying law of the land known as the Hyde amendment, which simply states that no federal funds from being used to perform abortions.

Supporters of the Protect Life Act assert that they are ensuring no federal funds being used for abortions, but this argument ignores the overreaching nature of the bill and the dangerous consequences for women associated with this legislation.

Under this legislation, health care entities could refuse to "participate in" abortions. This could mean that a hospital employee could refuse to process bills, handle medical records, or set up an examination room.

The bill also endangers women's health and lives by creating a dangerous loophole in long-standing state and federal laws that require hospitals to provide appropriate emergency care to pregnant women and would eliminate existing protections for women seeking care in emergency circumstances—allowing a hospital to deny abortion care to a woman, even if it would save her life.

The Protect Life Act also allows states to enact sweeping "conscience" laws that would allow health plans to refuse to cover women's preventive services, including birth control, without cost-sharing—potentially undoing a new protection that 66 percent of Americans support.

This legislation goes far beyond any legislation passed by the House with regard to abortion. Quite simply, it endangers the health and lives of women.

Beyond that, we are wasting valuable time on a bill that cannot pass the Senate and will be vetoed by President Obama instead of debating and voting on the American Jobs Act.

Our constituents both Republicans and Democrats want us to work on creating jobs and reducing our deficit. I fail to see how this legislation accomplishes either of those goals.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

THE PASSAGE OF THE COLOMBIA, PANAMA AND SOUTH KOREA FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise in favor of all three free trade agreements that we passed this week. I have been a strong supporter of these agreements for as long as we have been waiting for them to be submitted to Congress. This is a real jobs bill that will certainly help our economy and help people get back to work without spending a dime of the taxpayer's money.

As the Administration has sat on these agreements, the United States has been left in the wake of our international partners who have been able to finalize and benefit from agreements that didn't include us. If the United States does not lead in the Global Economy, it will be forced to follow and the FTAs represent our most definitive step towards leveling the playing field for our workers, farmers, and consumers. To continue to thrive as the greatest economy in the world, we have to put ourselves into a position to compete.

These agreements will enable the private sector to create thousands of jobs both in my home state of Indiana and in the United States at large. In Indiana, Hoosiers should particularly benefit, given that we have seen a 138 percent increase in exports over the past thirteen years. These free trade agreements will cause this number to skyrocket as tariffs and penalties are removed for U.S. companies making capital available to create more jobs. This is further demonstrated by the fact that 42 percent of all U.S. jobs are connected to international trade and 15,752 jobs in my home district are directly supported by exports. By increasing the market share for U.S. companies and eliminating barriers and high tariffs, these companies will increase their profits and use that money to hire new employees. Every \$1 billion in increased exports generates an estimated 25,000 new jobs in all sectors of the economy. It is no longer enough for us to simply buy American, to compete in this harsh environment globally we are going to have to sell American as well.

These free trade agreements are an obvious solution to the problem of slow economic growth. This is a package that will actually stimulate, unlike others that have been passed before. I commend the passage of these agreements. Let's continue to enable America to get back to work.

E-VERIFY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the E-Verify Program and legislation pending in the House. Last weekend California Governor Jerry Brown signed into law AB 1236, making it illegal for the state and California municipalities to voluntarily use the E-verify system. This is an outrage.

Right now, across America, various states and local governments are enacting mandatory E-Verify. Meanwhile, California is going the other way by enacting a ban on voluntary E-Verify, and in fact the Governor is signing laws to preempt the use of E-verify.

The illegal population looking for work will now head to states that are ignoring the problem and away from states like Arizona and Alabama which have taken a proactive role to fill the vacuum the federal government has left with regard to immigration policy. People will understandably go where they can find work. However, in a state with 12.1% unemployment, we cannot afford the burden on our schools and social services the influx brings. This is why we need a uniform system that ensures ALL workers in America are legal and paying into the system that they are using. That is why I support and am a sponsor of H.R. 2885, the Legal Workforce Act.

Before I came to Congress, I owned and operated several restaurant businesses. I was required by law to hire a legal workforce but there was no tool available to determine if the identifying documentation presented at the time of employment was fraudulent. When I first created employment verification in 1996, I wanted to build a system that would utilize existing information and processes that was reliable, fair and simple to use.

At that time, and still today, every employer is required to file an I-9 form based on paper identification documents. My solution was simple: provide employers a way to check that a given name and Social Security number match government records. Today, the E-Verify program has over 268,000 employers representing 900,000 hiring sites. In fiscal year 2011, there have been more than 10.9 million queries run through the system. The Legal Workforce Act would essentially make E-Verify mandatory by requiring the Secretary of Homeland Security to implement a verification process for mandatory employment verification.

Of the millions of queries run through the computer based E-Verify system, 98.3 percent of employees are instantly verified. Individuals who are given a tentative non-confirmation are given eight business days to contact SSA or DHS regarding their case. Currently one percent of all queried employees choose to contest an E-Verify result and only half of them—point five percent—are successful in contesting that the governments information was incorrect. E-Verify is doing the job it was intended: denying employment to people in the United States not authorized to work.

E-Verify is ready for mandatory use. The Legal Workforce Act would phase in the mandatory requirement over 24 months for most employers with the exception for agricultural labor which will have 36 months to comply. As

a member from an agriculture state, I think it is important to ensure our agriculture community has the labor they need. I support parallel legislation to provide a workable guest worker program that includes the necessary safeguards to ensure that guest workers leave on time. This should be easier to do because with mandatory employment verification guest workers will not be able to secure a legal job in the U.S. after their seasonal work visa expires.

The Legal Workforce Act also implements worker protections for mismatched Social Security numbers and use of multiple Social Security numbers. The bill also provides good faith exemptions for employers who use the program while increasing the penalties for employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants.

The Legal Workforce Act is a thoughtful and comprehensive approach to mandatory employment verification and E-Verify is ready to fulfill the obligation. America is ready for mandatory employment verification: employers are required by law to hire a legal workforce, and mandatory E-Verify will ensure that they are complying with the law.

While the legal name of the current program is "Basic Pilot Program," the effective brand name is E-Verify. Many businesses have incorporated the term "E-Verify" into their business and marketing plans. I would strongly suggest that we enshrine the name in law to provide clarity and continuity for businesses currently using E-Verify.

E-Verify is an extremely effective program and as we've seen from recent actions all over the country, from Arizona to Rhode Island, mandatory employment verification is quickly becoming a reality. As Members of Congress responsible for controlling our borders and enforcing legal employment, let's build upon what works and give the American people what they want: a federal law mandating employment verification.

HONORING SAINT VINCENT'S DAY HOME

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Saint Vincent's Day Home (SVDH) as it celebrates the amazing milestone of its Centennial. Over the last 100 years, in the same Victorian house in which it was founded, the Sisters of the Holy Family and SVDH's Board of Directors, staff and supporters have provided Oakland's low-income children and their families with countless opportunities to grow and thrive. On this truly momentous occasion, we recognize the steadfast commitment of SVDH to provide a safe, welcoming and hopeful space that nourishes the bodies, hearts and minds of West Oakland's children.

In 1911, The Archbishop of San Francisco, Most Reverend Patrick Riordan, asked Sister Joseph and Sister Agnes of the Sisters of the Holy Family to select a site in Oakland for the establishment of a new convent and day home. An 1863, 14-room Queen Anne Victorian house was purchased for a bargain price, and after a dedication ceremony on October 2, 1911 and a grand opening on the

16th, Saint Vincent's Day Home was officially in service. Located on the second floor of the residence, the Day Home was already serving 32 children in its first month. In the 1920s, the Day Home expanded operations as the convent moved to Piedmont and the organization received additional funding through what is now called the United Way. By the following decade, 180 children were enrolled in SVDH and the Day Home was growing to include increased support and programming. Today, SVDH serves over 230 children, ages two through six, and counting.

Over the last 40 years, SVDH has struck a vital balance between the introduction of modern revitalization efforts and the maintenance of its core values of service. For these reasons and more, it has become a national model of care for toddlers, preschoolers, kindergarteners and youth. From its first major expansion in 1976, to the launch of its Children's Fund a decade later and its first computer lab in 1991, SVDH has utilized a collaborative leadership process that includes founding parties, parents and lay Board members in its ongoing and successful operation.

More than 32,000 children have benefitted from SVDH's culturally competent education and literacy programs, as well as its referrals to comprehensive services that help keep families afloat. It's dedicated community, government and private partners, including United Way of the Bay Area, the California Department of Education, Chevron Corporation, Scott's Seafood Restaurant, S.H. Cowell Foundation and the Sisters of the Holy Family (just to name a few), are helping SVDH to champion family literacy and jump-start child development for decades to come.

Therefore, on behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, I would like to salute Saint Vincent's Day Home, and all of those who have contributed to its century of service. Thank you for your inestimable contributions to our community. Once again, congratulations, and I wish you the very best as you strive for another 100 years of excellence.

TRIBUTE TO DR. NANCY GRACE ROMAN

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary achievements of my constituent, Nancy Grace Roman. One of the world's most significant women in the history of science, Dr. Roman has dedicated her life to the exploration of the universe. Often called the "Mother of Hubble" thanks to her efforts to make the Hubble Space Telescope a reality, Dr. Roman was critical to establishing the new era of space-based astronomical instrumentation. Recently, she was honored by NASA with a fellowship in her name, the Nancy Grace Roman Technology Fellowship in Astrophysics, which will help young researchers achieve scientific breakthroughs in the development of innovative technologies, just as Dr. Roman did decades ago. Only the fourth person recognized by NASA with a fellowship, she joins the ranks of Albert Einstein, Edwin Hubble and Carl Sagan in being so honored.

Dr. Roman's fascination with outer space began at a young age. Her passion for the

universe was fueled in large part by her parents. Her father, a geophysicist, answered her scientific questions, while her mother, a teacher, exposed Nancy to nature and spent nights observing the sky with her daughter and pointing out such astronomical phenomena as constellations and the aurora. Dr. Roman knew from her early childhood that she wanted to devote her life to astronomy, even organizing an astronomy club to observe the constellations with her friends when she was just eleven years old.

Dr. Roman's dream of a life in science came true, as she devoted her career to understanding the nature of stars. Dr. Roman received a B.A. in astronomy from Swarthmore College in 1946 and a doctorate in astronomy from the University of Chicago in 1949. She then began working as a research associate in the radio astronomy branch of the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory. In 1959, NASA recruited Dr. Roman to set up a program in space astronomy. As NASA's first chief of astronomy, Dr. Roman traveled across the United States, seeking to identify the needs of astronomers nationwide. She then established a committee of astronomers and NASA engineers to determine the kinds of satellites that were necessary and that could feasibly be engineered. Dr. Roman once described looking at the universe through the atmosphere as "somewhat like looking through a piece of old, stained glass." Her deep passion and determination for finding newer, more efficient methods of astronomical exploration that would solve this problem inspired her to help facilitate the development of the most powerful and versatile instrument of its time—the Hubble Space Telescope. Her role in the creation of this extraordinary piece of technology led Dr. Roman to be affectionately known as the "Mother of Hubble." Following her work with the Hubble Space Telescope, Dr. Roman served as Chief of NASA's Astronomy and Relativity Programs, the first woman ever to hold an executive position at NASA. There, she was involved with, among other things, planning numerous satellite and rocket exploration programs.

In addition to having made numerous professional contributions to science, Dr. Roman is an inspiration to women of all ages and backgrounds. She grew up knowing what she wanted to do with her life but, as a woman of that era, she was forced to deal with a constant stream of disparaging comments from people around her. When Dr. Roman opted to take an additional year of high school mathematics instead of Latin, she was ridiculed by the school guidance counselor, who rejected the prospect of a girl choosing to pursue such a field. Her friends also tried to discourage her from science and mathematics, insisting that it was not the correct path for a woman of her generation to follow. Women of Dr. Roman's generation were often discouraged from pursuing any professional career, much less one in the sciences. Despite this, Dr. Roman followed her passion. She defied generational stereotypes, persevering to become one of the most eminent and influential women of her generation. Today, Dr. Roman remains an active member of the American Association of University Women and the River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Bethesda, Maryland. Since retiring from NASA in 1979, she spends much of her time consulting, teaching, and lecturing around the country and

continues to be a passionate advocate for science.

Our many astronomical and astrophysical advances would not have been possible without the efforts of Dr. Roman. By establishing a fellowship in Dr. Roman's name, NASA honors her and her achievements, and ensures that her contributions to the scientific community will never be forgotten.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Dr. Nancy Grace Roman and in thanking her for all that she has done to advance scientific knowledge and our understanding of our world.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH'S 155TH ANNIVERSARY AND REV. ANTHONY R. SADLER

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Shiloh Baptist Church and the installation of Reverend Anthony R. Sadler as its 30th Pastor. Shiloh Baptist Church was established in 1856 and is also celebrating its 155th anniversary this year. As church members gather to celebrate Shiloh's 155th anniversary and the installation of Reverend Sadler, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Shiloh's important role in the Sacramento community.

For 155 years, Shiloh Baptist Church has been a fixture in Sacramento. From their beginning, the church has always been able to form strong relationships with other churches and organizations. There is no better example of this than when Shiloh first started. They did not have a place to hold services and the Chinese Chapel at 6th and H Streets graciously invited them to use their facilities.

Over the last century and a half, Shiloh has provided many services to our community, much under the guidance of Pastor Emeritus Willie P. Cook. Church programs include Elderly Appreciation Day, the Shiloh Community Services Foundation, an annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration and an annual outing for seniors to Apple Hill. Shiloh has also partnered with a number of community organizations to serve those in need, including the Sacramento County Child Abuse Prevention Council, Sacramento County Children's Coalition, Sacramento Children Summer Food Program, Sacramento County's Gifts from the Heart Program, a local prison ministry and a number of scholarship programs.

This weekend, Shiloh Baptist Church will welcome Reverend Anthony R. Sadler as its 30th pastor. Reverend Sadler grew up attending the church and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sadler. Reverend Sadler, a life-long resident of Sacramento County, became a minister on March 9, 2003, and previously served at the church as a Pastoral Assistant. It is clear that Shiloh will greatly benefit by having Reverend Sadler's vast knowledge of its congregation and our community.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Shiloh Baptist Church on its 155th anniversary and recognize Reverend Anthony R. Sadler as its 30th pastor. I am confident that Shiloh will continue its deep connections to the Sac-

ramento community under his leadership. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Shiloh Baptist Church's outstanding work in providing the community with much needed services.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL BUSINESS WOMEN'S WEEK, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN, NORTH TO THE FUTURE, AND YWCA

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of National Business Women's Week, Business and Professional Women, North to the Future, and YWCA.

Working women constitute 72 million, or almost half of the nation's workforce and strive to serve their communities, their states, and their nation in professional, civic and cultural capacities. Women-owned businesses constitute 30 percent of all U.S. business generating in \$1.9 trillion in sales and employing 9.2 million people.

Working women should be applauded for their contributions to the workplace and the financial stability of their families especially during the economic downturn when more women have become their family's breadwinner. Since 1928, National Business Week has honored the contributions of working women and employers who support working women and their families.

North to the Future is a professional local organization with more than thirty five years of active community service within Anchorage. BPW NTF remains committed to reducing Alaska's staggering statistics on sexual assault and domestic violence and has organized activities programs and events to educate and uplift women.

For these reasons, I rise in support, recognition and congratulations during National Business Women's Week.

PROTECT LIFE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, in the last year, while 14 million Americans struggle to find work, Congressional Republicans have whipped themselves into a hysteria—not about job creation, but about further restricting a woman's freedom to access safe and legal reproductive healthcare.

Their legislative proposals are devastating policies that threaten to take away freedoms of all American women. The bill proposed today, H.R. 358, is the most brazen attempt by Congressional Republicans to destroy women's ability to receive private access to abortion services. Let us be clear. The bill today is one of the biggest invasions into the private lives of Americans that our nation has ever seen. With this bill, the Majority is reaching far beyond today's current laws and insert-

ing itself into the most private and often heart-rending decisions that women must sometimes make.

Contrary to the Rules of the House, today's bill cites no provision of the Constitution, nor any amendment to the Constitution. None at all. Throughout the hearing process, including hearings within the Rules Committee upon which I sit, the bill's sponsor and supporters have failed to effectively answer the Constitutional authority under which we are considering this bill.

One aspect of the bill is particularly illustrative of the extreme government intrusion this bill authorizes within its text. Under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act, any hospital that participates in Medicare must fulfill three basic obligations designed to save lives. There is absolutely no exception to these basic rules.

H.R. 358 would carve out a single exception to EMTALA. Under this legislation, a hospital would be able to invoke a "conscience clause" to turn away any pregnant woman who came to an emergency room seeking medical assistance. If this draconian provision were to become law, a woman could bleed to death in a hospital without being treated.

This provision is not only a direct attack on women, it is immoral in its intent. Indeed, religious organizations such as the Catholic Health Association has explicitly told Congress that the current version of the law, strengthened under the Affordable Care Act, is perfectly fine, and that they oppose this provision of the bill.

I stand in firm opposition to H.R. 358 and the continued assault from Congressional Republicans on women's freedoms. May the annals of history accurately reflect the misguided priorities and immoral agenda of the Majority, and may history accurately judge the failed leadership that has been provided by the Majority during the 112th Congress.

TRIBUTE TO GAIL CHATFIELD OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI (1919-2005)

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of valued public servant, one of Missouri's finest first responders, Gail Chatfield.

As our nation recently commemorated the tenth anniversary of 9/11, we honored those first responders who risked their lives to save others.

Gail's life was one of unselfish public service. He served our nation during the Korean War, served as a firefighter for 22 years, as a state legislator in the Missouri General Assembly, and as Missouri's state Fire Marshall, appointed by my father Governor Mel Carnahan.

Gail was a leader who led quietly by example. He was competent, determined, and accomplished many great things, and did so with a sense of duty, purpose and humility.

In addition to his tireless public service, Gail was a loving husband, and a dedicated father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

He is survived by his wife Lois; their four children Keith, Kathy, Greg, Pamela; four grandchildren, and two great-grand children.

He will be missed by his family and the community at large.

Today, I ask my colleagues to stand with me and honor his life, his accomplishments, and his family.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND DR. E.
THEOPHILUS CAVINESS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Reverend Dr. E. Theophilus Caviness, the pastor of Greater Abyssinia Baptist Church for 50 years. Rev. Dr. Caviness is being honored by the City of Cleveland as it dedicates Tacoma Avenue from East 105th Street to Parkwood Drive as "Rev. Dr. E. Theophilus Caviness Way."

Born and raised in Marshall, Texas, Rev. Dr. Caviness became aware and involved in the fight against discrimination of the African American population at an early age. He attended Bishop College in Dallas, Texas and Eden Theological Seminary in Webster Groves, Missouri. Before coming to the City of Cleveland, Rev. Dr. Caviness served as the pastor of St. Mark's Baptist Church in Picton, Texas, Mount Nebo Baptist Church in Madison, Illinois and St. Paul Baptist Church in East St. Louis, Missouri. He used his position as a minister and lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) to bring people together to create change during the Civil Rights movement.

In 1961, Rev. Dr. Caviness moved to Cleveland and became the pastor of Greater Abyssinia Baptist Church. He immediately became involved in Cleveland's Civil Rights movement. In conjunction with his pastoral duties, Rev. Dr. Caviness has served on Cleveland's Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board of the Glenville Area Council and Sewer Board of Cleveland. Additionally, he served as a Councilman in Cleveland City Council from 1974 to 1980, worked as the executive assistant to former Mayor George Voinovich and served two terms as chair of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission. Rev. Dr. Caviness continues his advocacy work as President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Cleveland Chapter, board chair of Community Covenant Oversight Team for the "Closing the Gap" Initiative, and is currently working with Rev. Al Sharpton and the National Action Network.

Because of his dedication and longtime service to the fight against racism, Rev. Dr. Caviness has received an honorary doctorate of divinity degree from Lynchburg Virginia Seminary and an honorary doctorate of law degree from Central State University. He will also be inducted into the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame on January 6, 2012.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Rev. Dr. E. Theophilus Caviness as the City of Cleveland celebrates his tireless work in the Greater Cleveland community and as a leader in the continuing Civil Rights movement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REV-
EREND FRED SHUTTLESWORTH

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth, one of the great, unsung leaders of the Civil Rights movement, and a major figure in the historic fight for justice and equality. Fred Shuttlesworth was born Fred Robinson on March 18, 1922 in Mount Meigs, Alabama. He was raised in Birmingham, Alabama by his mother, Alberta Robinson who married William Nathan Shuttlesworth at which point Fred Robinson took the last name Shuttlesworth.

Fred Shuttlesworth was the eldest of eight siblings. His family survived by sharecropping and making moonshine liquor. In the early 1940s, Fred Shuttlesworth became a truck driver before joining the Baptist Church in 1944. He then studied ministry at Selma University and began preaching at Selma's First Baptist Church. He graduated from Selma in 1951. In 1953, Shuttlesworth became pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Birmingham. His life as a social activist peaked that following year, when his attention was captured by a newspaper headline announcing that the U.S. Supreme Court had outlawed school segregation in *Brown vs. Board of Education*. "I felt like I was a man, that I had rights," Shuttlesworth said, recalling his reaction.

In 1955, he supported the Montgomery bus boycott, led by Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Shuttlesworth became a Birmingham activist, joining the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in their voter registration efforts. When the state of Alabama essentially outlawed the NAACP in 1956, Shuttlesworth found and led the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights to take direct action to end racial segregation.

Reverend Shuttlesworth was no stranger to adverse racial situations and always emerged strong and undefeated. On Christmas night in 1956, Shuttlesworth survived a bomb blast that blew out the walls and floor of his home, destroying his residence. In response to being told by an officer that he should leave town, he replied, "Officer, you're not me. You go back and tell your Klan brethren if God could keep me through this, then I'm here for the duration." The next day he led 200 people onto Birmingham's buses.

In 1957, he undertook integrating Birmingham's schools by attempting to enroll his daughters in an all-white high school. Outraged by his act, Klansmen attacked him with brass knuckles and chains. He miraculously survived without a concussion and said to the doctor, "Doctor, the Lord knew I lived in a hard town, so he gave me a hard head." Dr. Martin Luther Jr. described Shuttlesworth as "the most courageous civil rights fighter in the South."

Later that year, Shuttlesworth joined Dr. King, Ralph Abernathy and Bayard Rustin to launch the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which became the leading force of the civil rights movement. Shuttlesworth served as the organization's first secretary from 1958 to 1970. He later served briefly as its president in 2004.

During the early 1960s, Shuttlesworth participated in numerous sit-in protests, mobilized

marches, helped Congress on Racial Equality organize its Freedom Rides and had already been arrested more than 30 times in his fight for equality. In 1963, this collaboration culminated in colossal demonstrations in Birmingham to pressure downtown department stores to desegregate. A few days after being hospitalized due to being slammed against a wall by water from a fire hose, the local leaders of Birmingham announced that fitting rooms and lunchroom counters would be desegregated, signs on restrooms and drinking fountains would be removed and that there would be further steps to advance African-American employment. When President Kennedy introduced to Congress legislation that would later become the Civil Rights Act of 1964, he told Shuttlesworth and King, "But for Birmingham, we would not be here today."

In 1966, Rev. Shuttlesworth became pastor of the Greater New Light Baptist Church. In 1988, he founded and served as director of the Shuttlesworth Housing Foundation, an organization that helped low-income families buy their homes. In 2001, President Bill Clinton awarded Rev. Shuttlesworth a Presidential Citizens Medal—the nation's second-highest civilian award—for helping found the SCLC and for his "leadership in the 'non-violent' civil rights movement of the 1950s and 60s, leading efforts to integrate Birmingham, Alabama's schools, buses and recreational facilities."

Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth passed away on Wednesday, October 5, 2011 in Birmingham, Alabama at 89 years of age. Reverend Shuttlesworth is survived by his wife, Sephira Bailey Shuttlesworth, four daughters, Patricia Massengill, Ruby "Ricky" Bester, Carolyn Shuttlesworth and Maria Murdock; a son, Fred Jr.; a stepdaughter, Audrey Wilson; five sisters, Betty Williams, Truzella Brazil, Ernestine Grimes, Iwilder Reid and Eula Mitchell; 14 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. He will be remembered for his leadership and commitment to the Civil Rights Movement. His was a life well-lived.

COMMEMORATING THE FIRST AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE KENYAN
CONSTITUTION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, last August we witnessed a flowering of freedom in Eastern Africa. On August 5, 2010, Kenya endorsed a brand new constitution, which guaranteed all Kenyan citizens the rights to security, housing, food, life, freedom from discrimination and the freedom of expression, among others. I rise today to recognize the recent anniversary of this constitution's adoption, and to congratulate the Republic of Kenya on this remarkable step forward.

Despite being home to the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize—Wangari Maathai, who sadly passed away last month—Kenya had long treated women as second-class citizens. In the past, female candidates for office have had to carry knives and wear extra garments to fend off the possibility of politically-motivated rape.

But the new constitution has dramatically altered the status of women in Kenya. Among the over 40 new reforms is a non-discrimination clause outlawing bias on the basis of sex, pregnancy or marital status. Additionally, women can own and inherit land, and matrimonial property is protected during and after the termination of marriage. Unconstitutional customary laws carried on by tradition are now void.

Women's right have been elevated in the new Kenyan Constitution. But as anyone who lives in a democracy knows, constitutional mechanisms must be matched by meaningful enforcement and constant vigilance to actually achieve their goals.

Kenya is facing many trials at the moment. The drought in the Horn of Africa is threatening the lives of over 13 million people. Food insecurity is affecting 3.75 million people in Kenya, and 4.3 million men, women, and children are in desperate need of humanitarian assistance.

These numbers do not include the influx of refugees from Somalia and neighboring lands. At its peak, Kenya and Ethiopia saw nearly 1,000 people a day arrive at refugee camps to escape the famine in Somalia. Sexual violence against women in these already overcrowded refugee camps is on the rise.

There are no easy solutions to this crisis, and we in the United States must step up and do our part to help our fellow people in need. Nonetheless, in face of these adversities, it is heartening to see Kenya's men and women move forward together, as equals and as partners. By empowering Kenyan women and rejecting gender-based discrimination, the new Kenyan constitution has paved the way for a brighter future for the Kenyan people.

ACKNOWLEDGING CAROLINE
DEGNAN FOR HER COMMUNITY
SERVICE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I recognize Caroline Degnan for outstanding service to her community.

Throughout her years at the South Buffalo Food Pantry, Mrs. Degnan personified caring and compassion as she selflessly placed the needs of others before her own.

Mrs. Degnan spent more than twenty years as a volunteer for the South Buffalo Food Pantry as well as overseeing the Lovejoy Food Pantry for several years. In March of 2006, she was nominated by the local branch of Catholic Charities for the organization's national Volunteer of the Year Award.

Despite great personal loss and physical setbacks due to multiple illnesses, Caroline's continues to persevere with spirit and faith. In recognition of that perseverance and to give thanks for her countless hours of providing food and friendship to those in need, her family and friends gathered together to honor this special woman on October 15th at St. Agatha's McGuire Hall in South Buffalo, New York.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and pride that I acknowledge the example set by Caroline Degnan and join with a grateful com-

munity to extend our deepest appreciation for her exceptional service and generous heart that fuels the betterment of the lives she has touched.

HONORING DR. MARILYN HEINE
FOR BEING NAMED THE 162D
PRESIDENT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
MEDICAL SOCIETY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Marilyn Heine, of Dresher, PA who has been named the 162d President of the Pennsylvania Medical Society. Dr. Heine has been a member of the Pennsylvania Medical Society for 22 years, and will now lead this organization as it aims to shape health care delivery to assure that the evolving system provides quality and value to patients and the community.

An active member of the medical community in Pennsylvania, Dr. Heine has served as a delegate to the PA Medical Society's House of Delegates and has played an important role in the Pennsylvania Medical Society's Foundation.

Dr. Heine has also served as president of the Medical Society in my home of Bucks County and was recognized YWCA of Bucks County as a Woman Who Makes a Difference. She has dedicated her professional career to the advancement of medicine in her community, and the Pennsylvania Medical Society is fortunate to have her as its incoming president.

Dr. Marilyn Heine has made it her life's work not only to serve her patients in her practice, but also to improve the healthcare industry here in Pennsylvania. Her dedication serves as an example for her fellow healthcare professionals and I congratulate her on her new position.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month.

The United States of America's history, culture and vast array of achievements have been shaped by peoples from across the world. Hispanic Heritage Month is an important opportunity to recognize the contributions of our nation's Latino community. California has been uniquely shaped by the contributions of its Hispanic heritage, from the founding of the Missions with their unique art and architecture to the rich cultural diversity of our cuisine, music and art.

One of many important achievements of Hispanic Americans is that of civil rights that affect us all. Civil rights activist, labor leader, and farm worker César Chávez fought for fair treatment, equality, and dignity without the use of violence. César's leadership, faith, and per-

sistence paved the way for many Latinos and non-Latinos who carry on his legacy.

Today, Latino men and women are an integral part of the fabric that keeps our communities and our families strong. Latinos are tireless teachers in schools and brave soldiers who fight to defend our freedom. In the face of adversity, Latinos have risen to the highest levels of success in business, the arts, public service, athletics, and the armed forces.

As we celebrate the contributions of Hispanic Americans, let us all work together to meet the challenges facing our communities so that we can build upon the American Dream for future generations. It is for these reasons I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLDWELL
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECEIVING
THE 2011 NATIONAL BLUE
RIBBON AWARD

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Coldwell Elementary School. Coldwell was recently honored with the 2011 National Blue Ribbon award from the United States Department of Education for excellence in education.

The National Blue Ribbon School award honors both public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students achieve at high levels and also schools where the achievement gap is narrowing. Since 1982, more than 6,500 of America's schools have received this coveted award.

I want to personally congratulate the teachers, administrators, and staff of Coldwell Elementary for their commitment and dedication to our young students in El Paso. This year only 304 schools nationwide received the award, and they will be honored at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. The Blue Ribbon validates the efforts of these schools in creating a positive and effective learning environment. These schools and their communities have achieved a degree of excellence of which they can justifiably be proud.

Coldwell Elementary School is a fine example of what can be accomplished when parents, teachers and administrators collaborate to prepare our students for a prosperous future. By emphasizing the importance of subjects like math, science and language arts, Coldwell is enabling a new generation of community leaders.

In times of economic uncertainty, we cannot lose sight of the paramount importance of our children's education, and I am honored to represent Coldwell Elementary School.

CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENT
OF PRESIDENT ELLEN SIRLEAF
JOHNSON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the President of

Liberia, Ellen Sirleaf Johnson, for recently being awarded the Noble Peace Prize for 2011. She was given the award in conjunction with peace activist Leymah Gbowee and pro-democracy campaigner Tawakkol Karman. The trio was recognized for their nonviolent role in promoting peace, democracy, and gender equality.

In typical fashion, President Sirleaf gave credit to the Liberian people, "For we are now going into our ninth year of peace and every Liberian has contributed to it. We particularly give this credit to Liberian women, who have consistently led the struggle for peace, even under conditions of neglect."

South Carolina has a special relationship with Liberia many founders of the Republic of Liberia having a South Carolina heritage. I know firsthand the mutual affection of the people of our two countries in that I was present for the re-opening of the AME University in Monrovia where my constituent African Methodist Episcopal Bishop David Daniels of West Columbia, presided with Pastor Ronnie Brailsford of Bethel AIVIE, Columbia, SC. Appropriately Bishop Daniels is the Bishop of the Diocese of South Carolina and Liberia.

Her leadership has proven instrumental in restoring democracy and lasting peace in Liberia which had been devastated by Civil War. President George W. Bush was effective in demanding abdication by the murderous dictator Charles Taylor.

TO HONOR ERIC STRANSKY FOR
HIS SERVICE TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY
ADMINISTRATION AND
HIS MILITARY SERVICE

HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Eric Stransky, who recently retired after 35 years with the Social Security Administration, with 28 of those years in management.

Stransky has been a tenacious advocate for my constituents in need of help from the Painesville, OH, Social Security office, and has been a trusted and reliable source who has worked closely with my caseworkers to get problems resolved. He is a model employee and his departure will leave Social Security with very big shoes to fill.

A graduate of John Carroll University, Stransky has been lauded for his work at the SSA, and received a Regional Commissioner Citation for leading a workgroup that resolved over 5,000 overpayments in six weeks. He's been a Supervisor at many SSA locations in Ohio—Marietta, Athens, Painesville, Cleveland East and University Circle Area. In 1998, Stransky served as the Area System Coordinator ensuring a smooth transition for all employees in Northern Ohio to individual desktop system access.

Stransky managed the local Euclid office for two years, Warrensville Heights for three years, and spent eight years working just a few blocks from my district office in Painesville while juggling a two-year stint in the U.S. Army as a Senior Joint Doctrine Developer at the Joint and Allied Doctrine Division, Army Capabilities Integration Center in Ft. Monroe, VA.

Retired Lt. Col. Eric Stransky served in the US Army Reserve for more than 29 years. He attended the following Military Schools: Armor Officer Basic; Junior Officer Preventive Maintenance Course; Armor Officer Professional Development Course; OPSEC Course; Special Warfare Center and School, PSYOP Officer Course; Armor Officer Advance Course; United States Army Command & General Staff College; United Kingdom PSYOP Officer Course; Physical Security Course; Individual Terrorism Awareness; Logistics Managers Course; Joint PSYOP Course; Joint Planning Orientation Course; Joint PSYOP Staff Planning Course; Faculty Development Phase 1 Course and Commanders Safety Course. In June 1995, then a Major, he was Chief of Psychological Operations at a United Nations Mission in Haiti.

Stransky commissioned in the Army Reserve as a Second Lt. in July 1978 and continued to move up through the ranks, ultimately promoted to Lt. Col. in April 2000. He retired in August 2006, but remains actively involved with the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Catholic War Veterans.

Stransky has received the following Military honors: Legion of Merit; Army Meritorious Service Medal (3); Army Commendation Medal (2); Joint Service Achievement Medal; Army Achievement Medal; Army Reserve Achievement Medal (7); National Defense Service Medal w/star; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Armed Forces Service Medal; Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with silver hour glass and M(2) device); Reserve Component ODT Ribbon (6) and United Nations Mission in Haiti Medal.

Stransky has a great wit and a tremendous work ethic, and clearly can juggle many tasks at once with little effort. His military service has provided him with tremendous discipline and his attention to detail and process has catapulted the various Social Security offices he's managed into well-oiled, highly efficient, responsive and successful offices where both the employees and constituents are well served. He's a motivator who gets results.

With his remarkable career and his decades of service to our country, you might suspect that Eric Stransky is an Eagle Scout as well. And alas, he is.

It's been an honor and a privilege for me and my staff to work with a man whose goal in life is to help others, and it's a tough task to show him an appropriate level of gratitude. I'm sorry to see him go because he was one of a kind. He's served our nation and those in need with heart and purpose, and I wish him and his loving family all the best. Please enjoy your well-deserved retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF RAILROAD REHABILITATION & IMPROVEMENT FINANCING (RRIF) LEGISLATION

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce legislation that makes significant improvements to the Railroad Rehabilitation & Improvement Financing Program (RRIF). The RRIF program can help

railroads, shippers, and states meet their rail infrastructure investment needs. But we are not taking full advantage of the program.

I meet with railroads and others that tell me—time and again—how difficult the application process is to navigate; how time consuming it is; how expensive and cumbersome it is, how they can't use studies from other DOT agencies; and, in the end, many of them tell me: It's just not worth it! Well we need to do better.

The draft Surface Transportation Authorization Act of 2009 made significant changes to the RRIF program, which I proposed. The bill authorized the Secretary to: (1) reduce the interest to be paid on direct loans provided to railroads, State and local governments, and eligible entities for the sole purpose of installing positive train control (PTC) systems; (2) allow applicants to use private insurance, including bond insurance, in lieu of a credit risk premium; and (3) allow applicants to pay the credit risk premium over the life of the loan. The draft bill also authorized appropriations to assist the Secretary in reducing the interest rates for loans used for installing PTC.

IN RECOGNITION OF TRAVIS CREDIT UNION ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, Representatives GEORGE MILLER and I rise today in honor of Travis Credit Union, who has served Solano County and its surrounding communities for 60 years. Originally opening as the Travis Air Force Base Federal Credit Union in the autumn of 1951, Travis Credit Union has grown to be the 13th largest credit union in California, and with \$1.8 billion in assets, among the top 100 in the country.

To the charter members of Travis Air Force Base Federal Credit Union, the cost of living in 1951 was likely a major reason they decided to create their own financial alternative to banks that made it easier for them to borrow and save money. When the credit union first opened, it was in a makeshift base office and served only military and civilian personnel at the base.

In December of 1951, Travis Air Force Base Federal Credit Union had 68 members and \$2,015 in deposits. In 1954, the credit union made its first house trailer loan and then moved into the Passenger Terminal Building in April of 1955. At the end of 1961 TAFB FCU had 5,0432 members and \$1.39 million in deposits. Membership was expanded to include military and U.S.-sponsored civilian personnel stationed overseas in 1964 and in 1965 the Executive Committee was created establishing a president, vice president, treasurer and secretary.

The Travis Air Force Base Federal Credit Union changed its name to Travis Federal Credit Union in 1974 and in 1977 construction of the first off-base branch in Fairfield was completed. Today, the credit union has 22 branches located throughout the region in the cities of Fairfield, Vacaville, Dixon, Suisun City, Benicia, Vallejo, Davis, Woodland, Napa, Concord, Antioch, Clayton, Merced and

Atwater; and is known as Travis Credit Union after a board approved switch to a state-chartered credit union took place in 2000.

Travis Credit Union serves 180,000 members in the communities of northern California and has \$1,020,037,614 in loans to these communities. Travis Credit Union provides a critical service to our community by offering higher rates on deposits, lower rates on loans, lower fees on services, convenient access and friendly service, and all while working to ensure their long-term viability as a not-for-profit banking alternative.

Mr. Speaker, we are truly honored to pay tribute to this important community institution as it celebrates 60 years of service. We ask our colleagues to join with us in thanking Travis Credit Union for its long and dedicated service to the citizens of Solano County and northern California, and in offering our best wishes for its continued success in the years ahead.

SMALL COMPANY JOB GROWTH AND REGULATORY RELIEF ACT OF 2011

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss job creation and a solution that can create thousands of new jobs that will cost the American taxpayer nothing. Unemployed Americans are crying out for more jobs and urging Congress to review those rules and regulations which stifle innovation and job creation.

Today, I am proud to introduce the Small Company Job Growth and Regulatory Relief Act of 2011. This legislation will amend Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, which requires a duplicative audit of companies with a public float of \$75 million or more. I am introducing this bill for one reason: to increase job creation on Main Street.

Mr. Speaker, current law basically requires an "audit of an audit" that costs small companies more than \$1 million each year. These burdensome costs are also discouraging companies from going public, which deprives firms of the capital needed to expand their business, create jobs, and hire more American workers. My bill will simply raise the current \$75 million threshold exemption in Section 404(b) to \$350 million, to exclude more companies from the "audit of an audit."

We must do all that we can to turn our economy around and get back on the path of creating jobs. It's these types of laws and regulations that are impeding economic growth. If we get Washington out of the way and allow companies to expand and create jobs, we will bring back opportunity to the United States and get folks back to work.

HONORING EDRIE MAURICE TALLEY PARRISH

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to say that Our Lord has a new angel.

Edrie Maurice Talley Parrish went to be with Our Lord on October 4, 2011. A beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Edrie will be missed tremendously by all who were fortunate enough to have met this amazing woman.

Edrie was born to Robert and Mai Belle Talley on July 20, 1921, on the family's farm in Collin County, Texas, near the town of Frisco. When she was just 3 years old, she lost her father to pneumonia but continued to honor him through many great achievements in her long, rich life.

Edrie graduated from Hamilton High School in Hamilton, Texas, and soon after moved with her mother to Denton where she began attending North Texas State Teachers College, now known as University of North Texas. While in Denton, she met and married Herbert C. Parrish. Not long after their August 12, 1941, nuptials, the young couple packed their bags and moved across country to Columbus, Ohio, so Herbert could earn his Doctorate in mathematics. While in Columbus, Edrie finished her Bachelor of Arts in Institutional Management at Ohio State University. Shortly after the completion of both of their studies, Edrie and Herbert moved back to Denton in 1949 where Herbert accepted a job as a professor in the department of mathematics at North Texas State College and Edrie threw her boundless energy into raising a family of three.

She led a very active role in all of her children's activities, including being a Cub Scout leader and working with the Girl Scouts, and 4-H Club. She was well loved at Grace Temple Baptist Church in Denton where she was an active member of the congregation for half a century.

Her contributions to her church family include volunteering in the community and mission of her church, teaching Sunday school, committee service, visiting the sick and homebound, and helping out in numerous community service projects.

Edrie was preceded in death by her husband Herbert C. Parrish; and her sister Cloe Rita Talley Peck. She is survived by her three children: Byron Parrish of Brookline, Massachusetts; Norman Parrish of The Woodlands, Texas; and Roberta Parrish Starbird of Austin, Texas; seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

ENCOURAGING OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, during National Fire Prevention Awareness week, I would like to encourage that we as a community make preparations to protect our families and neighbors from the tragedy and destruction caused by fires. This is a great opportunity to thank our community's firefighters who are the first to respond and put themselves at risk for our safety.

Our Manhattan Congressional District is fortunate to have many brave first responders, including those from the Uniformed Fire Association of Greater New York, FDNY Engine 69,

Ladder 28, Battalion 16 "Harlem Hilton," FDNY Engine 53, Ladder 43 "El Barrio's Bravest" and FDNY Rescue 3 "Big Blue," and the Vulcan Society, Inc. We must continue to show our cooperation and appreciation towards our firefighters, first responders and those who continuously ensure our neighborhoods are safe.

Simple precautions such as installing and maintaining smoke detectors in every apartment unit and on every floor of our homes and buildings, having an escape plan, and following fire codes can save countless lives. I would hope that people in my District and all across our great nation would take proper measures to prevent fires and potential harm in our communities.

OPPOSITION TO THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS, H.R. 3078, H.R. 3079, AND H.R. 3080

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3078, the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act, H.R. 3079, the United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act, and H.R. 3080, the United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act.

Trade opportunities are an important component of our nation's economic growth, but it is critical that our free trade agreements are fair and environmentally sound to ensure that American workers and companies can compete on a level playing field with our foreign trading partners. While I favor expanding global trade, I oppose trade agreements that lack key labor and environmental safeguards, thus allowing our trading partners to exploit regulations in their own countries that are far weaker than those in America.

These three trade agreements were negotiated under the Bush Administration, and I have long been skeptical of their potential impact on our workers, our environment and our domestic businesses. I am also concerned that grave and ongoing human rights violations against labor leaders and human rights workers in Colombia are not fully addressed in this legislation. While the current administration and my Ways and Means colleagues continued negotiations to revise these trade agreements by incorporating international labor standards and environmental agreement compliance, I remain unconvinced that these provisions will be meaningfully enforced. Unfortunately, I do not believe these trade agreements meet the minimum requirements necessary to protect our workers from increased job losses, safeguard our environment, or convince me this is the right step for our nation, and for these reasons, I voted against the three trade agreements.

I was pleased to vote for H.R. 2832, the Trade Adjustment Assistance and Generalized System of Preferences extension bill, which will extend the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program to assist workers laid off as a result of international trade by helping them retrain and acquire skills needed to compete in the global marketplace. TAA is a valuable program that provides unemployment benefits

and training programs for unemployed workers, as well as technical and financial assistance for employers.

I will continue to support trade agreements that include labor, human rights and environmental safeguards and that benefit all Rhode Islanders—businesses, workers and consumers.

RECOGNIZING TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the students, faculty, and staff at Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth, Texas. In 2010, US News and World Report ranked Texas Wesleyan University number 71 out of all tier one regional comprehensive universities in the western region of the United States. More recently, the university was recognized in the top 50 among all tier one regional comprehensive institutions, jumping 23 spots up to number 48. They should truly be proud of this wonderful accomplishment.

Texas Wesleyan University was established in 1890 as a private institution with a focus on empowering and developing students to their full potential through the personal attention that each student receives from the faculty. The small class sizes are designed to foster learning and success amongst the students, and ensure that the faculty and staff are able to best serve and inspire the students. Their ranking in the past two years as a top university demonstrates that they continue to go above and beyond for their students.

Texas Wesleyan University has all of the tools to continue to grow and enrich the surrounding Fort Worth community. I am truly proud of all of the students, faculty, staff, and administration of Texas Wesleyan University for achieving this prestigious accomplishment, and it is an honor to represent them in the United States Congress.

CHIEF JACK HOUSE TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Jack House. Chief House was the last hereditary chief of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe (Weeminuche Band), and the first to lead through the transition from life in the mountains and plains to life on the reservation.

Chief House was born in Mancos Canyon in 1889 on the reservation designated as home for the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. He had the traditional long braids, carried himself tall, and photographs of him captured the proud, determined attitude that was evidenced in his life-long struggles for the cause of his people. He was instrumental in the establishment of the tribal council, the formation of the Ute Mountain Tribal Office and the blueprints for the tribal constitution.

In his fight for the rights of his people, Chief Jack House brought suit against the U.S. Gov-

ernment over the San Juan Mining District, for which the Indians had been paid 13 cents per acre in 1873. Fearing the killing of livestock and the fencing of the reservation, he fought the building of roads through the reservation as well as advocated for water and hunting rights.

He travelled many times to Washington, D.C. and in his more than 30 years of leadership, Chief Jack House worked to secure essential water rights, lobbied for the tribe's causes, and fought for the right of self-determination for his people. When Chief Jack House died in 1971, nearly a thousand people, both whites and Indians, paid their respects and homage to his inspired leadership.

After his death, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe completed both the Dolores Water Project and Animas La Plata Water Project which accomplished his dream that his community would someday see running water in their homes.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Chief Jack House. In the words of the recent passed tribal leader and grandson of Chief Jack House, Ernest House, Sr., "He laid the foundation for the tribe and created the path followed today."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House floor on rollcall votes 790 and 791. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 790, and "yea" on rollcall 791.

USDA PROPOSED RULE FOR SCHOOL MEALS

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to highlight and submit for the record my concerns regarding new costs for schools who serve primarily low-income children in a proposed rule, issued on January 13, 2011, to establish revised meal pattern and nutritional requirements for the National School Breakfast & Lunch Program. I commend the commitment to improving the nutritional profile of school meals. However, the proposed rule could have a significant effect on local schools that serve a high percentage of low-income children.

The preamble to the proposed rule indicates that it would increase the cost of serving school meals by \$6.8 billion over the next five years—an increase of 14 cents per lunch and 50 cents per breakfast. With less than half of the increased cost for lunches and none of the increased cost for breakfast to be offset by increased federal reimbursements, the economic consequences of such large cost increases is a matter of great concern. Many of our local schools do not have resources that may be diverted to meet such large cost increases. Especially, considering the fact that the majority of the dollars that are supposed to be diverted for this cost increase would come from paid meals. Schools that serve a high

percentage of low-income kids have little or no kids actually purchasing meals. Most children fed in these schools receive free or reduced priced meals.

School nutrition programs play a vital role in the healthy development of America's children. For many low-income children, the best, if not all, of their nutrition comes from the school breakfast and lunch programs. I sent a letter to Secretary Vilsack on October 12 2011, with 14 of my colleagues, to request that the final rule not adversely affect the budgets of local schools feeding the highest percentages of low-income children. The letter also urges the Secretary to prioritize the accessibility of school nutrition program improvements to all children.

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS NATIONAL WORK AND FAMILY MONTH

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the month of October as National Work and Family Month (NWFM). NWFM was established in 2003 and is the centerpiece of a national education campaign to raise awareness among employers about the value of work-life integration. NWFM encourages all workplaces to pause once a year to communicate and celebrate the progress already made on the journey to creating healthier and more flexible work environments, and then raise the bar to accomplish even more over the coming year.

We know that high quality work-family policies—including those related to workplace flexibility, military family flexibility, dependent care, health and wellness, and paid and unpaid time off—are highly effective in attracting, motivating, and retaining a talented workforce. Congress has acknowledged the importance of these policies in 2009 and 2010 when both chambers of Congress passed bipartisan resolutions recognizing NWFM. This year, I encourage all of my colleagues, as well as my fellow Americans, to take time this month to acknowledge the importance of a healthy balance between work and family life.

HONORING THE MORRIS COUNTY ORGANIZATION OF HISPANIC AFFAIRS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Morris County Organization of Hispanic Affairs, MCOHA, located in Dover, Morris County, New Jersey as it celebrates its 35th Anniversary.

MCOHA is a private, nonprofit organization that was founded in 1976 by 7 community members. Its mission is to advance bi-cultural exchange in the Morris County Community through programs providing information, education and practical assistance.

Though established primarily as a Hispanic organization, it provides services to all residents of Morris County regardless of their

race, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation and is a partner agency of the United Way. It offers programs to people, such as transportation, immigration immersion, translation and health services, among many others.

In cooperation with federal and state agencies, MCOHA administers several programs, including the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, LIHEAP, Universal Service Fund, USF and New Jersey Shares, among others. Another offered program is the Weatherization Assistance Program, WX, which aims to educate low income families on the importance of increasing energy efficiency in their home and helping to install such measures. Additional programs serve as educational resources such as Computer Training classes, health seminars, and English as a second language.

Every year, MCOHA helps numerous families and individuals. Last year alone, the WX program serviced 300 homes and the Computer Training Program graduated 250 students; in addition, MCOHA provided health screenings for over 700 people and provided over 16,500 rides to seniors, preschool children and clients with social services/medical needs.

Throughout the year, MCOHA dedicates itself to providing educational forums and support to the citizens of Morris County. Its unwavering support of those in need and those new to our country is commendable.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Morris County Organization of Hispanic Affairs as they celebrate 35 years of dedication to the people of Morris County.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,868,218,296,426.05.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$4,229,792,550,132.25 since then. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING HISPANIC MILITARY
LEADERS

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, as our nation celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month, I rise to honor the men and women of our Armed Forces, particularly Hispanic service members.

Hispanics have served in the United States military since its establishment and have fought in every conflict since the Revolutionary War. Forty-four Hispanic Americans have been awarded the military's highest honor for bravery. In addition to these Medal of Honor

recipients, thousands of Hispanics have died in combat defending our freedom.

Beyond the military, Hispanics continue to play an important role in every aspect of our society, and their influence is growing. According to the 2010 Census, the U.S. Hispanic population surged 43 percent, rising to over 50 million up from 35 million in 2000. Latinos now constitute 16 percent of the nation's total population of 308 million. Hispanic population growth accounted for more than half of the nation's growth over the past decade.

The Hispanic population in the military has also grown, but Hispanics continue to be under represented in our nation's military forces. Despite making up over 17 percent of the population between the ages of 18 and 40, only 11 percent of the United States Army and the Air Force are Hispanic. Hispanics make up 12 percent of the Marine Corps and 14 percent of the Navy. While these figures are lower than the percentage of Hispanics in the general population, they represent a significant increase from 1994 when the number of Hispanics entering the Army was just 6.6 percent of new recruits.

Despite recruitment levels lower than the overall population, Hispanics are retained in the force and promoted at the same or higher rates than other groups. Today, I want to highlight a few outstanding Hispanic Americans who have risen to the highest ranks and are serving in high profile and critical positions for the defense of our nation.

General David Rodriguez leads the United States Army's Forces Command. As the 19th leader of this critical organization, General Rodriguez oversees one of the Army's most important functions, preparing forces for deployment to combat.

Lieutenant General Rhett Hernandez recently stood up the Army's Cyber Command, which brings the Army's cyber resources under a single command. Under the leadership of General Hernandez, Cyber Command is developing and protecting the critical network that links warfighters in every battle space.

Major General Angela Salinas began her military service as an enlisted Marine in 1974 and now serves as the Director of the United States Marine Corps' Manpower Management Division. In this position, she ensures that the Marine Corps has the right mix of forces to respond to any contingency worldwide.

Rear Admiral Samuel Perez serves as the Commander of Carrier Strike Group One. Carrier Strike Group One is based in the Pacific and has a 100 million square-mile area of operations. As a fellow native of Canutillo, Texas, I am especially proud of Admiral Perez's leadership of this important United States Navy combat formation.

At every level of our nation's military, Hispanic Americans are serving in critical leadership positions. They have demonstrated exceptional dedication to their country and their fellow service members. They have risked their lives fighting to defend our nation and our freedom, and we owe them an immeasurable debt of gratitude for their sacrifice.

IN RECOGNITION OF LGBT
HISTORY MONTH

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, October is LGBT History Month, and I rise to pay tribute to the remarkable achievements of numerous members of this vibrant community and to recognize some of the men and women whose contributions and service have made America better and greater.

I am proud to have supported the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," which was formally abolished by the military on September 20th, 2011 after an orderly transition program prepared troops for the change without affecting force readiness or morale. Our nation is now stronger and our people are safer thanks to the sacrifices made by these brave Americans, who no longer need to choose between service and silence.

There have been other changes for the better this year. In July, President Obama and his administration concluded that a critical section of the Defense of Marriage Act is no longer constitutionally defensible. And, on June 24th, the State of New York passed a law with bipartisan support extending the right to marry to gay and lesbian couples.

Just last week, history was made here in the House when our colleague, Congressman POLIS of Colorado, celebrated the birth of a baby boy with his partner, and became the first openly gay parent to serve in Congress.

This chamber has been enriched by his service, as it has by that of Congressman BARNEY FRANK, the first openly gay Member to serve in the House of Representatives, and one of this body's ablest legislators. Congresswoman TAMMY BALDWIN of Wisconsin was the first openly gay non-incumbent to be elected to Congress. Congressman DAVID CICILLINE of Rhode Island was the first openly gay mayor of a major city before his election to Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to serve with these great Americans and wonderful colleagues who overcame many obstacles and barriers to realize the dream of serving their communities and representing their friends and neighbors in the Congress of the United States.

History, and progress, is also being made at the local level. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, one of the largest LGBT communities in the nation is located in the Los Angeles-Long Beach metropolitan area, which I am privileged to represent. This dynamic community is culturally diverse and economically and artistically vibrant. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize two LGBT leaders who helped to make this possible.

Jean Harris was a lifelong human rights activist who employed her uncanny talent for community organizing to electing open-minded city officials and defeating discriminatory legislation. A true force in California's LGBT community, she served as chair of the California Democratic Party's Lesbian/Gay Caucus, president of San Francisco's Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, and vice president of the Long Beach Lambda Democratic Club. Indeed, many local leaders and public servants across California owe their careers to her tireless advocacy. Jean Harris passed away

on June 15, 2011, and my deepest sympathies go out to her family and friends.

In August, I rose to pay tribute to the late Paul Duncan, the Director of Outreach for the Long Beach Community Business Network, who spent the last ten years of his life working tirelessly to connect local Long Beach employers to business organizations from Hawaii to Washington, DC. An advocate for economic empowerment of LGBT business owners and entrepreneurs, Mr. Duncan was known around the nation and beloved by the Long Beach community. He died suddenly of an aneurism at a national conference where he was one of 70 affiliate leaders working for job creation and expanded economic opportunity for LGBT owned businesses.

Mr. Speaker, progress is made through the efforts of courageous leaders like Jean and Paul; people who actively engage their communities and face adversity to ensure that the rights of all are clearly defined and protected.

People like the legendary Bayard Rustin, a leading strategist of the Civil Rights Movement and trusted advisor to Martin Luther King, Jr. An early proponent of nonviolent resistance, Rustin organized the 1947 Journey of Reconciliation which inspired the Freedom Rides of the 1960s and helped Dr. King organize the Southern Christian Leadership Conference which became the nerve center of the American Civil Rights Movement.

Bayard Rustin was a driving force behind the iconic 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom which brought national attention to the civil rights struggle and spurred the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voting Rights Act. He arranged the transportation, trained the marshals and oversaw all of the logistical details involved in putting on one of the most effective political demonstrations in world history and setting the stage for Dr. King's timeless "I Have a Dream" speech.

Later, Bayard Rustin worked to integrate all-white unions and became heavily involved in international humanitarian development and peacemaking. Openly gay, he became a public advocate for LGBT causes in the 1970s and passed away on a mission to Haiti in 1987.

Many great writers of the Harlem Renaissance, such as Countée Cullen and Bruce Nugent, were homosexual, and the contributions they made to literature are forever ingrained in the cultural fabric of America. Langston Hughes was probably the most well known, though he was an intensely private man and never spoke openly on the subject.

Billy Strayhorn was a musician and gifted composer whose 30 year collaboration with Duke Ellington resulted in some of the most indispensable music of the jazz age. Openly gay, Strayhorn participated in many civil rights causes and arranged a musical score for his friend, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1963.

James Baldwin is one of the great literary figures of the 20th century. The writings of this African-American explored issues of race and class and gender. He rose to prominence with the civil rights movement and worked to bridge the gap between the competing approaches of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X, both of whom were his personal friends. His work and life had a profound impact on countless equality activists and writers.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to acknowledge the achievements of just a few of the count-

less number of Americans who defied the odds and overcame prejudice and discrimination, and intolerance and worked to make everyone including America be a more welcoming place succeeding generations of LGBT community members.

65TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

HON. KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a significant event that is occurring in Western New York next week.

Our nation's rich culture, history, art, and architecture are national treasures and help remind us everyday who we are and where we came from.

This year, the National Trust for Historic Preservation is holding its 65th annual National Preservation Conference in Buffalo, NY and will feature historic and cultural sites throughout the Buffalo Niagara region.

Hundreds of Western New Yorkers have worked for the past four years to plan this conference, researching sites from Medina to Chautauqua and everywhere in between, planning events, and creating art exhibitions.

These sites include such regional attractions as the Guaranty Building, Darwin D. Martin House Complex, Roycroft Campus, and the Erie Canal locks in Lockport, among many others. I am proud to show off Western New York's historical icons to the rest of the country.

This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our vibrant culture and history and I commend all of those who are putting in time and effort to make this happen.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF DICK'S 5 & 10 OF BRANSON, MISSOURI

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the 7th District of Missouri's most valuable landmarks, Dick's 5 & 10, located in Branson, Missouri.

This summer they celebrated their 50th year of business, or as they say, of fun.

Ever since Dick Hartley started the store fifty years ago, Dick's 5 & 10 has been an important part of the Branson community. And for those who are not from the Ozarks, Dick's 5 & 10 is a must see for all visitors to Branson—I know it is for my family every time we're in the area.

Whether it's toys, games, gifts, souvenirs, novelties, or nostalgia; whether customers are 5 years old or 105 years old; whether customers know what they want or are just looking; at Dick's 5 & 10 there is something for everyone.

But more than the items on their shelves, the friendly smiles of the staff and the outstanding service is what keeps customers coming back for more.

The family that runs Dick's, the Hartley family, has been active in the Branson Community since Dick's first opened its doors in 1961. The Hartleys have been involved in many organizations, including the Downtown Branson Mainstreet Association, the Kiwanis Club, other civic organizations, and are very active in Branson politics.

Son Steve and daughter Melissa, along with Melissa's husband Dave Montgomery, continue the family tradition of helping guide the Downtown Merchants Association, as well as making sure that all of the customers at Dick's have that special experience of a true American tradition.

Dick's 5 & 10 is an important part of the Branson community and I know we can look forward to 50 more years of success, fun, and the community involvement that Dick's 5 & 10 is known for.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 7TH ANNUAL MAYOR'S DINNER & CHARITY AUCTION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of Simi Valley, California's 7th Annual Mayor's Dinner & Charity Auction, hosted by my good friend Mayor Robert O. "Bob" Huber and the Simi Valley Community Foundation.

The dinner will benefit the Alliance for Human Services and Humanitarian Awards will be bestowed upon Fred Bauermeister, Jill Haney, Ann Lindeen and Sue Martinez.

Bob was elected mayor last November, during a time when economic troubles facing the city required strong leadership. He has managed to navigate the City Council through tough and sometimes contentious decisions to keep the city's finances stable and the community safe and functioning well. As a former mayor of Simi Valley who was also elected at a turning point in the city's history, I greatly emphasize with the challenges he faces.

It is fitting that Bob host a gathering of such celebrated community leaders. Throughout the years, Bob has served on a number of governmental and community boards and commissions in the city, beginning at age 27, when he served his first term as president of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Honoree Fred Bauermeister is also a longtime friend. A professional photographer, Fred is best known for his 40-year advocacy of the Free Clinic of Simi Valley. Fred has been a part of the clinic since it opened its doors in 1971 and Fred was still a college student. He was named executive director that year and has guided the clinic through many challenging times. Last year, Fred was elected to the board of directors of the National Association of Free Clinics.

Jill Haney serves on the board of directors of the United Way, is past president of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce, treasurer for the Simi Valley Education Foundation and is immediate past president of the Rotary Club of Simi Sunset. Under her management and leadership, Santa Barbara Bank & Trust was named Business of the Year in 2007. If there is a charitable event in Simi Valley, no doubt you will find Jill volunteering at it.

Ann Lindeen served as secretary of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce before the city incorporated. Her many community activities include volunteering at local schools and serving as PTA president; serving in leadership positions for the Santa Susana and Tapo 4-H Clubs for about 20 years; serving on the Ventura County Grand Jury in 1987–1988; hosting people from around the world as part of the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of People to People International, which she also served as treasurer, secretary and president; and contributing more than 5,000 hours of service in several capacities at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

Sue Martinez found her niche in community involvement through her children. She is a founding member of Santa Susana High School's Santa Susana Performing Arts Boosters and the Performing Arts Center Team, for which she is also the president. With the dream of building a performing arts theater at the school for use by generations of students, Sue was a driving force behind the C-4 Bond and walked the precincts to see that it passed. The theater opened in March. She has worked at Simi Valley Hospital for 19 years and is committee chair for the Leadership Class of 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join Mayor Bob Huber and me in congratulating this year's honorees and in thanking Fred Bauermeister, Jill Haney, Ann Lindeen, and Sue Martinez for making our community a better place for all to live and thrive.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE AND IN HONOR OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE BRAILLE AND TALKING BOOK LIBRARY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of The National Library Service, as they celebrate their 80th anniversary, and in honor of the California State Braille and Talking Book Library. As staff, patrons and supporters gather to celebrate this milestone, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their leadership and dedication to the blind and physically handicapped.

When the National Library Service was formed in 1931, the "Blind Books" program found a welcome home at the California State Braille and Talking Book Library. To this day, the National Library Service and the California State Braille and Talking Library continue to provide books in Braille, audio books, digital talking book machines and digital talking books to over 12,000 individual patrons and 542 institutions across Northern California.

This year has been proclaimed as "Talking Book Awareness Year" as new digital talking book machines and digital talking books hit the market. The services that the National Library Service and the California State Braille and Talking Book Library provide are vital to those who are not able to read by conventional methods. The book collection at the library contains thousands of fiction and nonfiction titles, as well as a collection of books by

California authors and about California's history on cassette.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the National Library Service, and the California State Braille and Talking Book Library. The past 80 years have been tremendously successful and I am confident that they will continue to enjoy success in the future. While the National Library Service and California State Braille and Talking Book Library staff, volunteers, patrons and supporters gather together to celebrate the 80th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their outstanding work in providing the community with necessary services for the blind and the physically handicapped.

IN HONOR OF MARY FAWKES

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the many life achievements and dedication to community service of a constituent of mine, Mrs. Mary Fawkes, of Croydon, Pennsylvania.

Mary has had a major impact in the lives of many people throughout Bucks County. She has three children, five grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. She has been happily married for sixty-four years with the love of her life, Mr. Harry Fawkes. Mary's work was also instrumental in the success of her husband's refuse business.

She has been active in the local political community for fifty-two years and is known by some as the First Lady of Bucks County. Mary has served on the board of trustees for the Bucks County Community College and is currently a director emeritus of this important institution of learning in Bucks County. She is also lifetime member of the Bucks County Rescue Squad which provides high quality care and emergency transportation. She was also active with the Lower Bucks Hospital Auxiliary. Mrs. Fawkes has consistently given back to the community supporting many organizations throughout the County; she always makes time to serve those in need.

A Bristol High School alumnus, Mary was, among other things, active as an actress in school plays, a Girl Scout patrol leader, and captain of the cheerleaders. Her close friends describe her as being intelligent, a great listener, excellent at providing advice and being supportive in times of need. In her free time, Mary enjoys reading, crochet, and going to lunch with friends.

Serving her community of Bucks County, Pennsylvania has been most notably felt through her dedication, patience and appreciation for the work of her husband Chairman Harry Fawkes in his unprecedented, skillful, benevolent and successful leadership of the Bucks County Republican Committee. The soft, silent but strong presence that Mary has gifted to Harry's leadership and the time she has permitted him to selflessly serve his community and his country is a lasting legacy to the community and county where she has lived life, raised family and served others.

Mrs. Fawkes' work has positively impacted the lives of many of the residents of our great community. She provides an excellent exam-

ple on how to balance work, friends, family, and service. I am honored to call her a neighbor and a friend. I congratulate her for a life of many achievements.

APPLAUDING THE EFFORTS OF THE FLORIDA HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN TO ADDRESS CHILDHOOD OBESITY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, childhood obesity is on the rise. In 2010, 17% of children and adolescents, ages 2 to 19, were obese, and 32% were overweight. Not only has obesity been linked to an increased risk of developing diabetes, asthma, and heart disease, it may also cause our children to lead shorter lives. Apart from the serious individual health concerns associated with obesity, there are long-term consequences that affect society as a whole, including increased medical and disability costs and decreased work-force participation.

To address these concerns, children's hospitals around the nation are working to educate families about nutrition and fitness. In Orlando, Florida, the Florida Hospital for Children has implemented a program called "Healthy 100 Kids" at the Walt Disney Pavilion. This program seeks to help children live to a healthy 100 years old by providing families with medical care, nutrition, and fitness education. There are currently 300 families in the program, many of whom are underprivileged. In the first year of the program, 60 percent of patients reduced their body mass index and lowered their cholesterol by eating more fruits and vegetables and lowering their sugar intake. I commend the efforts of the Florida Hospital for Children and children's hospitals across the nation, and the investment they are making in the health and wellbeing of our children, who are the future of America.

RECOGNIZING THE 55TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF DR. REVEREND JAMES L. NETTERS, SR.

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Dr. Reverend James L. Netters, Sr., Senior Pastor of Mount Vernon Baptist Church-Westwood in Memphis, for his upcoming 55th pastoral anniversary. Reverend Netters has served his congregation at Mount Vernon Baptist Church and the larger community of Memphis with honor and grace and is a distinguished representative of his parish-ioners and our great city.

Reverend Netters continues to be a guiding figure for good with Memphis-area pastors and their congregations and outreach programs. His leadership demonstrates what is possible when congregations plant seeds of hope in their surrounding communities. Programs involving prison outreach and projects for the reformation of blighted areas show a commitment to lifting up those who have fallen behind

and helping them back to the fold. From working with young adults and raising money for college scholarships to comforting and sharing the wisdom of the elderly members of his congregation, Reverend Netters and his church are actively engaged in building a better Memphis.

The Mount Vernon Baptist Church-Westwood was founded in 1902, and Reverend Netters has been their pastor for the past 55 years, earning the distinction of being the longest serving pastor of a single church in Memphis. I wish Dr. Reverend James L. Netters, Sr. many more prosperous years with Mount Vernon Baptist Church, so that he can continue working tirelessly to lift up his congregation and our great city of Memphis.

OPPOSITION TO H.R. 3078, H.R. 3079,
AND H.R. 3080

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to all three trade agreements under consideration in the House this week. I believe these agreements will only exacerbate our unemployment crisis, undermine America's manufacturing sector, and allow the continued hemorrhage of our jobs to foreign countries.

I am a proponent of trade, but any agreement that reduces barriers and removes avenues to redress unfair practices should preserve American jobs, ensure a level playing field, respect the rights of worker's and our environment, and provide significant economic benefits. These proposed agreements, individually and collectively, do not live up to those standards.

Since 1977, the real median hourly wage has decreased \$.53 for workers in this country. In manufacturing, it has decreased \$1.40. In the same timeframe, the U.S. has lost approximately 7 million manufacturing jobs, over 250,000 in the state of Indiana alone. These are middle class jobs, and each lost job means lost wages, lost health care, and lost retirement benefits for a family. It is getting harder and harder for America's working class to make it, and that is a shame. With the unemployment rate at 9.1%, we must do everything possible to create new jobs, and protect every single American job that exists. Congress should have a singular focus of promoting American workers and creating American jobs.

Instead, Congress is going to pass three trade agreements that will cause a loss of jobs; necessitating the passage of a TAA package to train those whose jobs are being outsourced. What a terrible and wrongheaded policy. Further, the TAA package that Congress is considering would pare back the eligibility requirements and funding levels for displaced workers that were established in 2009. Are American workers less vulnerable to trade than in 2009? I find it ludicrous that we would choose to reduce this assistance when long term unemployment continues to plague millions of American families.

All three of these agreements are similar to NAFTA, and we know, all too well, the effects of NAFTA. In 1993, before the enactment of NAFTA, we had a small trade surplus of about

\$1.6 billion with Mexico. NAFTA was enacted in 1994 and by 1995 that surplus had turned into a deficit of almost \$16 billion. By 2007, this deficit had grown to a staggering \$75 billion. These policies have displaced millions of jobs, and we cannot afford to aggravate the problem with more misguided trade agreements. Further, the jobs that aren't displaced are diminished through depressed wages and benefits.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, the South Korea agreement will expand the U.S. trade deficit by \$13.5 billion and eliminate 159,000 jobs within seven years. Proponents of this deal will cite estimates by the International Trade Commission indicating a small positive impact on our trade deficit and negligible domestic employment gains. However, I would point out that the ITC projected a \$1 billion increase in the trade deficit and a negligible effect on employment before China's ascension to the World Trade Organization. The results turned out to be dramatically different. Between 2001 and 2008 our trade deficit with China increased by \$185 billion and we have lost approximately 2.4 million jobs.

The manufacturing supported by the United States' automobile supply chain is the backbone of our economy. The provisions of this agreement allow duty free imports of vehicles with up to sixty-five percent of the content coming from outside South Korea. I fear that countries that have circumvented our trade laws in the past will use this as a new opportunity to increase the presence of unfairly subsidized products in U.S. markets by going through South Korea. The resulting job losses are as inevitable as they are unacceptable.

Finally, South Korea has a history of currency manipulation and erecting significant non-tariff import barriers. Are we foolish enough to believe they won't continue to aggressively protect their domestic industries at the expense of manufacturing jobs here in the U.S.?

Specific to the Colombia agreement, the Economic Policy Institute estimates that this deal would eliminate 55,000 American jobs within seven years, while growing our trade deficit by \$3.3 billion. Additionally, Colombia has a disturbing history of violence against labor unions. Nearly 2,680 unionists have been murdered there and only six percent of these crimes have been prosecuted. That is an appalling fact. The administration's Action Plan is a positive step, but it does not guarantee the basic rights of workers, nor their protection from retaliation. Further, the Action Plan is not part of the FTA, and is therefore subject to the discretion of the Executive Branch. I will not be satisfied until I see sustained long term progress for workers' rights in Colombia.

These trade agreements will come at the expense of the middle class at the worst possible time. They will do away with at least 214,000 American jobs and undermine key industries throughout our economy.

Trade can have positive benefits for the U.S. economy, but it has to be done right, and it has to be done fairly. These agreements do not reflect the lessons we have learned. Again and again, we have seen countries acting aggressively to support and promote their domestic job creating industries while protecting them from competition. Even when our companies have legal recourse, it is almost always too little too late, the damage has been done,

and the jobs are gone. That is why I am concerned about the failure of these agreements to have robust mechanisms to ensure that the provisions are enforced.

We should be using our time to pass legislation to rebuild America's economic infrastructure using American workers and goods and products made in the United States. I encourage my colleagues to oppose all three agreements.

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during National School Lunch Week and National Farm to School Month in support of our National School Lunch Programs and to express my concern regarding some of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's proposed rule changes to the program. As the representative of the fifth district of Oregon, I am committed to improving the contribution of the school meal program to the nutritional needs of school children.

A recent Gallup poll found that 19 percent of American families are food insecure. According to a study by the USDA, nearly 17 million American children struggle with hunger. This same study concluded that 13.7 percent of households in my home state of Oregon suffered from food "insecurity" meaning they lacked consistent access to adequate amounts of nutritious food. That is over 500,000 Oregonians. One of our most important programs that is essential in helping hold the line on hunger and food insecurity is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP. As of August 2011, over 780,000 people in Oregon depended on SNAP to help piece together their food budgets.

Over one-half of our students in Oregon, over 280,000, are eligible for free or reduced priced lunch. A decade ago that percentage was only one-third. For these students, the availability of the National School Lunch, School Breakfast, and Afterschool Meal programs shield them from hunger and increase their family's food security. School meals are important to ensure all low-income students receive proper nutrition. Not only do school meals help reduce hunger, but they also increase the health of children and their ability to learn.

With this increased demand for free or reduced priced meals at school, we need to recognize the added burden this puts on already strained budgets. Changes to the school meal plans must consider the constraints faced by school lunch providers. School lunch providers need to offer nutritious affordable options that children will eat and that will encourage continued high rates of participation. For many children, the school meals are their prime source of nutrition for the day. Changes that discourage participation will reduce the overall health and wellness of American children.

While 2010 Dietary Guidelines recommends higher consumption of fruits and vegetables, the proposal would eliminate some of the most popular and economical vegetables available to schools. Contrary to recommendations made in the Guidelines, USDA would limit

servings of vegetables children actually like, including corn, green peas, potatoes and lima beans, to one cup per child per week, without providing any compelling reason for doing so. Vegetables in this subgroup provide excellent nutritional value. This limit would not improve nutrition intake, but would have an adverse affect on the affordability, participation rates and nutrition quality of school meals. In this time of economic uncertainty, we cannot overlook the unintended consequences of these new and conflicting standards.

The 2010 Guidelines list four “nutrients of concern”—potassium, dietary fiber, calcium, and vitamin D—adding that intake of these nutrients is “low enough to be of public health concern” in both children and adults. Potatoes, for example, have more potassium than bananas, a food commonly associated with this nutrient. Lima beans contain 21 percent of the DV of fiber and 12 percent of the DV for potassium. Green peas are rich in iron and vitamins A, B6, and C. By limiting the serving of these vegetables, USDA’s proposal runs contrary to the Guidelines.

Furthermore, this rule would have a negative impact on the businesses all across the country, including the many food producers that I represent in the 5th District of Oregon. For example, NORPAC Foods, Inc., headquartered in Stayton, Oregon, is a 240 farmer-member cooperative, farming 45,000 acres and, with its associate farmers and processors, producing over 600,000,000 pounds annually. Providing schools with nutrient rich vegetables, including lima beans and green peas, is an important part of NORPAC’s business. At this time of economic downturn, USDA should not impose rules that close markets for American farmers without strong nutritional justification.

In conclusion, as we recognize National School Lunch Week and the positive impact this program has on the children in our nation, I would encourage the USDA to revisit its proposal and write a rule that does not put limitations on school nutritionists’ choices in how to best feed hungry children or put further economic pressures on schools or the food companies that supply our schools.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH COARDS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable constituent.

Ms. Elizabeth Coards is an extraordinary centenarian who resides in the Villas at Horizon Village, and serves as matriarch to a wonderful neighborhood in North Charleston, South Carolina, which was created through the Hope VI program.

Ms. Coards was born in Summerville, South Carolina, on August 17, 1909. Her parents were Benjamin Bracey, a brick maker, and Mattie Jones, a domestic worker. She attended Alston High School in Summerville, South Carolina.

Following school, she went to work for a cigar factory in Charleston, South Carolina. Ms. Coards remembers that she was at the factory stripping tobacco when she heard about President Roosevelt signing Social Se-

curity into law in 1935. Soon after, she went looking for better opportunities in New York City. There she found work as a laundress and later as a nanny, staying with one family for 27 years. In 1980, Ms. Coards moved to Staunton, Virginia. She returned South Carolina and settled into North Charleston at the age of 101.

Ms. Coards’ first love is baseball. One of her fondest memories is taking the 5-cents subway ride to Brooklyn, where she saw Jackie Robinson hit his first home run for the Dodgers in 1947. Ms. Coards had a brief marriage in 1929, and had a son Harvey, who passed away in 1975. She is currently a member of Faith Temple Church in Harleyville, SC, and a beloved resident of her new home at the Villas at Horizon Village.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the contributions of Ms. Elizabeth Coards to the rich fabric of our country. She serves as an example of the wonderful centenarians that worked hard all their lives, raised families and participated in their communities. America is a remarkable country because of the contributions of productive citizens like Ms. Coards. It was my honor to meet her at the recent dedication of the Villas at Horizon Village, and I wish her much happiness and continued good health.

RECOGNIZING MR. WALTER
COWART OF SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of the 7th District of Missouri’s most distinguished individuals, Walter Cowart.

Walter, a resident of Springfield, Missouri, retired this summer after working in the United States Small Business Administration, SBA, for over 35 years.

Walter got off to a great start in college. There, he majored in economics at Sewanee, the University of the South, in Sewanee, Tennessee, as part of the class of 1964.

Cowart’s career with SBA started in Lubbock, TX in 1976. In 1979, he moved to the Kansas City, Missouri office as the Chief of Portfolio Management. He then transferred to Springfield, Missouri when the Branch Office opened there in 1981. He was recognized as the Region VII Regional Employee of the Year in 1997 and was presented his award by former Congressman Roy Blunt at the Springfield Branch Office. He was appointed Branch Manager in 2008.

As Branch Manager, Walter was an advocate for small business in the 28 counties served by the Springfield Branch of the Kansas City District. He oversaw efforts to expand and develop the small business community in southwest Missouri with the help of SBA lending partners.

Walter was also a member of the Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission from March 1984 until January 1991 and was a member of the Board of the Springfield Public Building Corporation from May 1991 until January 2002.

Walter has been married to his wife Laura for over 38 years. They both retired at the end

of August; Walter from the SBA and Laura from the United States Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Walter and Laura like to spend their free time with their family. They are blessed with three children and two grandchildren. Walter and Laura are spending their retirement with their family, friends, and are currently cruising across the rivers of Europe.

Although I am sad to see him go, I wish Walter a happy retirement. The SBA was fortunate to call him an employee, those of us who live in Springfield are proud to call him a neighbor, but most importantly, I am lucky to call him a friend. I hope Walter and Laura enjoy their retirement and wish them and their family the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, October 11th I was unavoidably detained and therefore was not present to be recorded on rollcall vote No. 771. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall No. 771, I would have voted “nay” (October 11)

H. Res. 425—Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3078—United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act, H.R. 3079—United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act, H.R. 3080—United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act, and the Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendments to H.R. 2832—To extend the Generalized System of Preferences, and for other purposes (Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension)

RECOGNIZING 20 YEARS OF WATER CONSERVATION IN EL PASO

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 20th anniversary of Water Conservation Day in El Paso. I also want to honor the truly remarkable turnaround El Paso has achieved in reducing water use and preventing the depletion of the Hueco Bolson aquifer.

In 1991, with one of El Paso’s main water sources predicted to run dry within 36 years, the goal was to reduce the 200 gallons used by each person everyday by 20 percent. Today, average usage stands at 133 gallons per person, and, despite a population increase of 200,000 people since 1991, El Paso uses 1.6 percent less than 20 years ago.

El Paso’s Water Conservation Ordinance has provided guidelines and schedules for water usage for two decades, and resulted in over 231 billion gallons of water saved from waste and has also halted the over-drafting of fresh water from the Hueco Bolson aquifer, the main water source for the city.

El Paso’s initiative succeeded for several reasons. The Water Conservation Department

offered incentives to lower daily water usage by offering high-efficiency toilets and implementing a progressive seasonal rate structure. Rebates were offered for water-efficient washing machines and central refrigeration systems. In addition, 185,000 efficient shower heads, 9,000 evaporative cooler bleed-off line clamps, and 170 waterless urinals were provided at no cost to improve efficiency. Thousands of residents also eliminated their grass lawns through the Turf Rebate Programs, saving El Paso 894 million gallons annually of water. These efforts combine to conserve over 3.6 billion gallons of water annually.

In addition to these measures, El Pasoans use 2.1 billion of reclaimed water annually, a water source that is unaffected by drought, and awareness campaigns have encouraged El Pasoans to conserve water. In two decades, El Paso was able to coordinate a series of programs to achieve its goal of averting a water shortage, while dramatically reducing consumer demand and saving \$460 million in the process by deferring the expansion of water facilities. The El Paso Water Utilities desalination plant has helped provide water especially in the most recent drought we are experiencing, and has become a main source of water for the city. It treats 27 million gallons of water daily, making it the largest inland plant in the world.

El Paso is serious about water conservation, and I am proud to represent a community that works together to protect and conserve our precious resources.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. DOROTHY LEAVELL AS SHE CELEBRATES HER 50TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY WITH THE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS AND GARY, INDIANA CRUSADER NEWSPAPERS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Dorothy Leavell migrated to Chicago, Illinois from Pine Bluff, Arkansas and began her newspaper career as an office clerk with the Crusader Newspapers in 1961. She took over as publisher in 1968 after the death of her first husband, Balm Leavell, who was one of the two founders of the Crusader.

In the ensuing years Mrs. Leavell distinguished herself as a militant minded muckraking journalist, community activist and business person. She joined the National Newspaper Publishers Association and for more than 40 years she has been a dedicated and active member and leader of the organization. She has been its Chairperson, Chairwoman of various committee and task forces. As well, she also led a controversial 20 member group to Nigeria to investigate its political crisis.

As a media advocate she also was a staunch and critical supporter for the confirmation of Alexis Herman to become the U.S. Secretary of Labor. As publisher of the Crusader, Ms. Leavell has been a strong supporter of affirmative action, parity in advertising and civil rights pursuits. Dorothy Leavell has been an outstanding journalist and a

brave publisher and a great humanitarian; therefore, I am pleased to commend her and wish for her fifty more years of productive service.

In addition to her journalist work, Ms. Leavell is the wife of Mr. John Smith, her second husband, the mother of two children, three grandchildren and has also raised a niece and a nephew. She is actively involved in her church, Holy Name of Mary in the Morgan Park Community of Chicago.

Under Ms. Leavell's tutelage the Crusader has become the City of Chicago's largest locally Black owned paid circulation newspaper. May it long live and may the legacy of Ms. Dorothy Leavell last forever.

IN MEMORY OF ZONA ANN STRATHEARN

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of my good friend, Zona Ann Strathearn, who passed away last month and whose life will be celebrated next week.

Zona epitomized life, even during her nearly 10-year battle with cancer. She was the consummate volunteer, philanthropist, world traveler, card shark, outdoor enthusiast, and tennis player. But most importantly, she was a tireless partner to her husband, Bruce, with whom she recently celebrated their 36th wedding anniversary, and a devoted mother and grandmother.

Among her volunteer activities, Zona was a member of the Flight Bags, a community-oriented group of pilot wives during her first marriage, and a candy striper at Simi Valley Hospital for 12 years and a hospice volunteer with Livingston Memorial for three years.

Zona also assisted Bruce's work on various committees and served as a Rotarian wife for 12 years. Additionally, she contributed to the Women's Legacy Fund, Heritage Fund, Destino Latino 2000 Fund, the Strathearn Family Fund to support the Chamber's Foundation for Simi Valley, and the Bruce and Zona Strathearn Fund for future Ventura County Charities.

She was a shark at several card games including Gin, Gin Rummy, Cribbage and Bridge, and she relished in her marathon bridge sessions with locals throughout Ventura County. Zona was an exceptional singles and doubles tennis player, and she played both competitively at Sunset Hills Country Club. After experiencing an exotic hiking excursion to Provence, France, in 1999, Zona became involved with a local hike and bike club and enjoyed several hiking trips across Southern California in the following years.

In addition to several trips to Europe, Zona also toured South Africa, Vietnam, China, Australia and New Zealand. Her travels included many annual trips to Northeastern Oregon and the Sierras, where she consistently caught the most and largest fish on each trip. For her many excursions, Zona earned the nickname "Zoomer."

In addition to Bruce, Zona is survived by her daughters, Allison Strathearn-Forrest and

Allison's husband, Roger, Kim Strathearn, and Kimberly Gustafson and Kimberly's husband, Kurt; and her son, David Strathearn and his wife, Alisa; granddaughter, Khysa Gustafson; and grandsons, Kaden Gustafson and Preston Lloyd Strathearn.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in celebrating Zona's exceptional energy and passion, and in sending our sincere condolences to Bruce and their family.

AWARD FOR PRIVATE ERNEST WEDELL

HON. ROBERT T. SCHILLING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of our brave warfighters, Mr. Ernest Wedell. Mr. Wedell entered the United States Army in July 1952 in Galesburg, Illinois. After he finished his training he was sent to Korea, where he was assigned to the 17th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed "the Buffalos," of the 7th Infantry Division. They were nicknamed the Buffalos after one of the Regiment's Commanding Officers in the Korean War, Colonel William W. "Buffalo Bill" Quinn. This incredible regiment was an important part of the Korean War and continues to fight for our country to this day.

In April 1953, elements of the 7th Infantry Division were ordered to take and hold what would later become the famous battle for Pork Chop Hill. On April 20, during the first battle of Pork Chop Hill, Private Wedell was wounded in combat. During this battle the United States experienced 243 casualties and an additional 916 were wounded. Less than three weeks after the second battle, the Armistice was signed thereby ending hostilities.

On May 7, 1953, while recovering in a military hospital in Japan, Private Wedell was awarded the Military Order of the Purple Heart because of the wounds he sustained during this battle. In addition, Private Wedell was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal, and the United Nations Service Medal for his exemplary service in the United States Army.

However, another award that every infantryman cherishes is the award that Private Wedell earns today. The Combat Infantryman's Badge, commonly called the CIB, is awarded to soldiers, both enlisted and officers holding the rank of colonel or below. Those who receive this award were personally present and under hostile fire while serving in assigned primary infantry or Special Forces duty in a unit actively engaging the enemy in ground combat.

On the 17th day of October, 2011, after fifty-eight years of waiting, it is my humble privilege and honor to present to Ernest Wedell on behalf of a grateful nation and the citizens of Illinois, the Combat Infantryman's Badge. We are very lucky to have had dedicated warfighters like Mr. Wedell in our Army. Our country owes him and those like him a great debt of gratitude for the sacrifices they have made for us.