

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

APPROVAL OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

SPEECH OF

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, in the summer of 2011, I stood on the House floor in support of legislation to expedite approval of the landmark Keystone XL pipeline. We passed that bill by a strong bipartisan vote of 279 to 147. But despite the overwhelming support, the White House issued a veto threat, declaring the bill was unnecessary given that the administration was committed to reaching a decision on the project by the end of the year.

Fast forward to today, and it's déjà vu all over again. More than three years after we passed that initial bill, we still don't have a decision from the president on this critical jobs project despite widespread support from Democrats and Republicans, laborers, and job creators.

President Obama famously proclaimed in January 2013 that he would do "whatever it takes" to create jobs and 2014 was renamed the president's so-called "Year of Action." But when the chips are down, President Obama is incapable of saying "yes" to a project that would create tens of thousands of American jobs and advance our energy security. But despite the president's excuses, we haven't given up on finding a bipartisan solution.

We have now voted a total of eight times in the House to move this landmark project forward. And now we are standing up for jobs and energy once again. We are going to keep fighting for Keystone until we get the job done.

There is now no question that Keystone is in America's best interest. Keystone has been exhaustively studied more than any other pipeline in our nation's history and the facts are clear. Keystone will deliver nearly a million barrels of safe and secure North American oil, and President Obama's own State Department has confirmed that it will support over 42,000 jobs without significantly increasing emissions. It's also expected to be one of the safest pipelines ever built, adhering to the new pipeline standards we passed into law with additional safety requirements.

Hopefully, this ninth vote is the charm, and the Senate and President will finally agree, that after six years, it's time to finally say yes to energy and yes to jobs.

HONORING THE LIVES OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVES PHIL CRANE AND LANE EVANS

SPEECH OF

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to celebrate the life and achievements of

our late former colleague and friend, Congressman Phil Crane of Illinois. My memories of Phil are twofold.

First, I will remember Phil's kindness to me as a junior Member of Congress doing my best to earn a seat on the Ways and Means Committee. As a much more senior Member, Phil was incredibly busy with his many responsibilities but he made time to talk to me, advise me and help me in any way he could so that I could join him on the committee. I have never forgotten the example he set for me during that exciting time and in turn, I have tried to do the same for our junior colleagues who talk to me about their interest in joining the committee.

And of course, I remember and respect the strong intellectual legacy he leaves behind as an early leader of our conservative movement in the United States. It was his well-informed and carefully thought out philosophy that shaped his career as an academic, elected official and presidential candidate. Near and dear to his heart was the principle of free trade which he embraced with great enthusiasm.

As a champion of free enterprise, Phil Crane understood the link between trade and open markets in advancing free institutions. In his farewell speech to this Body, he noted how trade offers the opportunity for personal contact between peoples that nurtures democratic values, and presents people in all countries with an opportunity to build a better life. He devoted himself to advancing this notion of the power of the marketplace as a catalyst for change around the globe and worked tirelessly to create opportunities for U.S. growth and high paying export-oriented jobs for U.S. workers.

During his tenure in the House, Phil was Ranking Member on the Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee for a number of years before becoming Chairman of the Trade Subcommittee in 1995. His leadership was formative in trade legislation enacted over two decades.

In his position on the Ways and Means Committee, he led the effort to pass the legislation implementing the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1993 to foster the integration of the U.S., Canadian and Mexican economies to promote growth in each member country and enhance overall North American competitiveness in the global market.

Phil Crane then led the effort in 1994 to pass the implementing legislation for the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which established the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the global legal framework we know today that governs multilateral trade and effective trade dispute resolution.

For many years, he championed legislation to promote growth and combat narcotics trafficking through the Caribbean Basin Economic Recover Act and the Andean Trade Preferences Act. He also advanced legislation renewing the Generalized System of Preferences, which promotes development through

trade-led economic growth in developing countries around the world. Phil Crane understood the way these preferential trade programs advanced a more open economic environment where U.S. firms could compete, while creating legitimate economic opportunities for people in nations struggling to overcome poverty and abject circumstances.

Later, as Chairman of the Trade Subcommittee, Phil Crane was successful in the passage of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, which contained several significant component parts. Among them were the African Growth and Opportunity Act, legislation Phil authored to open a meaningful framework and dialogue for trade relations with sub-Saharan African countries; and the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, which he sponsored to grant Caribbean countries NAFTA parity treatment in the U.S. market to avoid an unintended consequence of Mexico's preferential access under NAFTA.

As Trade Subcommittee Chairman, Phil Crane also led the effort to Normalize trade relations with China, which established a predictable framework for trade relations between our countries through China's membership in the World Trade Organization. He also championed the Normalization of trade relations with numerous former Communist countries following the fall of the Soviet Union, including the opening of trade relations with Vietnam for the first time after the war, to help lock in market reforms in these countries.

Phil Crane was also influential in advancing the Trade Act of 2002, which authorized the negotiation of the U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), as well as the U.S. free trade agreements now in effect with Colombia, Peru, Singapore and South Korea. The final negotiation and implementation of these landmark agreements after his departure from the House stand as a lasting testament to the path that Phil Crane forged for U.S. trade relations in the world.

A champion of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and its predecessor the U.S. Customs Service, Phil Crane understood not only the agency's law enforcement and security mandate, but also the important role the agency plays in supporting our economy through trade facilitation. He was a proponent throughout his tenure as Trade Subcommittee Chairman of funding customs modernization efforts, such as the Automated Commercial Environment (known as ACE), which is now operational. Throughout all of these efforts, Phil worked tirelessly to advance opportunities for U.S. growth and high paying export-oriented jobs for U.S. workers. In this process, he also spearheaded legislation for hundreds of miscellaneous tariff bills designed to further the competitiveness of U.S. firms in the global market by eliminating import duties on products used as inputs in U.S. manufacturing that could not be acquired from U.S. sources. Through such legislation and other bills which facilitated the opening of overseas markets to U.S. exports, Phil promoted U.S. workers and their ability to compete in markets around the world.

• 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.

Fundamentally, Phil Crane understood the importance of trade to the U.S. economy and U.S. jobs. He also saw the economy as an important force for change in our world in advancing democratic institutions and economic freedoms overseas, while promoting high-paying export-oriented jobs here at home. His legacy on trade is with us today and will be felt by generations to come.

HONORING AMBASSADOR SENG SOUKHATHIVONG AND THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, on August 10, 1955, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR) and the United States established diplomatic relations.

Since this time, both countries have worked together on key issues, including carrying out humanitarian work for and on behalf of those missing in action (MIA). In 2008, the Lao PDR and USA established military-to-military cooperation. Laos would like to work more closely on UXO clearance, counter-narcotics, and the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP).

Laos is considered the world's most heavily bombed nation. From 1964 through 1973, during the war in Indochina, the United States flew 580,000 bombing runs over Laos and dropped more than 2 million tons of ordnance on the countryside, exceeding the amount of bombs dropped on Germany and Japan in World War II.

Cluster bombs still continue to kill innocent people and also affect rural economic development. Estimates of the number of unexploded submunitions from cluster bombs range from 8 million to 80 million, with less than one half of one percent destroyed, and less than 1% of contaminated lands cleared.

In response to a hearing I held in April 2010 drawing attention to the situation during my service as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and after U.S. Secretary of State Clinton made her historic visit to Laos in 2012, the U.S. government increased assistance to Laos from \$5 million to \$9 million in 2012; and up to \$12 million in 2014.

While the Lao government appreciates the assistance, this is a pittance. In order to be bomb-free, Laos needs the United States to assume responsibility for UXO clearance and contribute significantly—in a way that would make a difference.

Regarding counter-narcotics, the United States has facilitated the work of the National Committee for Drug Control and Supervision since 1989. Due to Lao government action and international cooperation between 1998 and 2007, opium poppy cultivation has decreased by 96 percent. However, cultivation has since risen from 1,500 hectares (ha) in 2007 to 6,800 ha in 2012, as estimated by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Laos sits at the heart of regional drug trade in mainland southeast Asia and shares remote and poorly-controlled borders with Burma, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and China. The Lao government recognizes the threat posed

by illegal narcotics production and trafficking and has articulated policies to address it. However, the Lao government possesses little ability to act independently since a high percentage of the government budget comes from international donors. The United States decreased its funding from \$650,000 per year to about \$330,000. This has made it difficult for Laos to implement the 2013 work plan on counter-narcotics. The Lao government is hopeful that the U.S. will consider increased support for funding and also for further assistance to build rehabilitation drug treatment centers in some provinces.

Regarding GSP, Laos became a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2013 and is looking forward to promoting bilateral trade with countries in the world including the United States. Laos is hopeful that the United States will consider GSP approval to Laos.

The Lao government is represented in the U.S. by His Excellency Seng Soukhathivong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United States. Ambassador Seng Soukhathivong began his diplomatic duties in June 26, 2010. He served as First Secretary and Counselor from 1993 to 1997; and in 2001 as Minister Counselor and Deputy Chief of Mission at the Lao Embassy in Washington D.C. Ambassador Soukhathivong has more than 30 years of experience in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ambassador Seng Soukhathivong has worked to strengthen bilateral relations and to promote trade and investment in Laos. He has also been a strong advocate in calling for the removal of cluster bombs in Laos and in urging the U.S. government to provide greater assistance. He is my dear friend and brother, and I commend him for his outstanding service.

I extend my kindest and highest regards to His Excellency Seng Soukhathivong and his lovely and talented wife, Madam Somdy Soukhathivong, and their two children, Prakaiseng and Sengfa. It has been my distinct honor to know them, and I wish them the very best.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, during this past recess, on October 29th, the Turkish people celebrated Republic Day, which commemorates the 91st anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of Turkey.

On October 29, 1923, the Turkish Parliament proclaimed the new state as a republic, replacing the Ottoman Constitution. Turkish soldiers prevailed in the War of Independence despite being under equipped. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, who led the Turkish Army became the new country's first President. Turkish women played a crucial role in helping to bring about a new nation. During the war they were often left earning the only income in their households. They also assisted in the war effort by transporting ammunition on their backs, moving cannon balls, and pushing equipment to the battle fields.

Since independence, Turkey has made incredible gains and taken its place among the community of nations. Turkey remains an important ally in a turbulent region. Its economic vibrancy has catapulted the country to become the 6th-largest economy in Europe and the 16th in the world. Turkey has prevailed because of its roots as a republic and its place as one of the few democracies in the region.

This political stability along with a strong cultural connection has led to Turkish investment in Native American enterprises. Turkish businesses have sought to share their experience and expertise with Native Americans. There have been several Native American delegations to Turkey, and Turkish businesses have visited tribes to discuss ways in which to work together. This relationship between Turks and Native Americans is a shining example of how stable governments help foster collaborative growth.

Mr. Speaker, all this is why, on this occasion, I congratulate the people of Turkey on this important anniversary, and look forward to a strong and stable Turkish Republic for many generations to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF NEIL TELFORD

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate San Bruno Police Chief Neil Telford upon the occasion of his retirement from the San Bruno Police Department after 32 years of distinguished service. Chief Telford's story is an example of a boy who grew up to serve his neighbors.

Neil Telford was raised in the adjacent city of South San Francisco. He graduated from South San Francisco High School and attended two of our outstanding community colleges: the College of San Mateo and Skyline College in San Bruno. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from San Francisco State University, an outstanding institution also located in California's 14th Congressional District.

In 1982, San Bruno hit the jackpot when it offered Neil Telford the chance to be a volunteer Reserve Police Officer. During that time, he attended the basic police academy in San Jose and was then sworn in as a full-time San Bruno police officer in 1984. He immediately demonstrated his leadership capability by serving as a Field Training Officer and as a Detective. San Bruno promoted Detective Telford to Sergeant in 1991. From there, his rise was swift as he was promoted to Lieutenant in 1997 and to Captain in 2002. He became San Bruno's sixth Police Chief in 2006.

San Bruno is a wonderful city of 42,000 nestled on the bay and across the hillsides of the San Francisco Peninsula. It is characterized by families. There are families in San Bruno Park, families in its churches, families supporting its outstanding schools, and civic engagement that rivals that of any community in America. It is home to the Peninsula's middle class, an outstanding community college, and amazing youth baseball. The city is blessed with beautiful trees, quaint streets and a new train station that will soon be a centerpiece of downtown revitalization. It is also a

community that supports its police and fire departments, and a town in which children respect public safety professionals.

In both the State Legislature and Congress, it has been my privilege to represent this remarkable city, and to interact with Chief Telford on many occasions. However, none of my interactions with the Chief were marked by tragedy until one late afternoon on September 9, 2010. Eight precious lives were lost that fateful afternoon when a natural gas transmission pipeline exploded in a residential neighborhood of San Bruno. Throughout the night and on through the days to follow, bravery and compassion in the line of duty were an every-moment event on the front lines. The explosion shaped this nation's laws and practices on pipeline safety.

Chief Telford led his police force through the fire and the difficult days thereafter with outstanding compassion, strength and calm. In those difficult weeks, events that might otherwise have marked decades of experience cascaded upon Chief Telford and other public safety professionals, the leadership and the residents of San Bruno. Through it all, Chief Telford stayed focused on recovery, protection of public safety, and the preservation of the dignity of every resident of San Bruno. While he has many other notable accomplishments in his career, Neil Telford will always be remembered as the Chief who cared when caring counted for everything.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Telford is a graduate of the State of California's Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), the Command College program, and he also holds Advanced, Supervisory, Management and Executive certificates from POST. California law enforcement is marked by a high degree of professionalism. In truth, Neil Telford could have written the definitive textbook on police leadership.

Please join with me in congratulating Chief Neil Telford upon the occasion of his retirement after 32 years of public service to the residents of San Bruno. He and his wife, Cindy, have lived for 22 years in the city that he protects. They have a son, Anthony, who also resides in this special place on the Peninsula. We wish the Telford family much happiness in the coming years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, this week I was not able to vote because I was home recuperating from surgery to remove plaque from my right carotid artery. I missed the following roll call votes: 516, 517, 518, and 519.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on roll call 516, the Government Reports Elimination Act (H.R. 4194); "aye" on roll call 517, the rule (H. Res. 748) to proceed to the measure to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; "nay" on roll call 518, the motion to recommit with instructions for H.R. 5682; and "aye" on roll call 519, final passage of H.R. 5682, the bill to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline. I am a cosponsor of H.R. 5682 and strongly support its passage, as construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline means jobs, spe-

cifically in the Pennsylvania manufacturing industry.

RECOGNIZING LARRY CHEEVES

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Union City City Manager Larry Cheeves on his retirement.

Larry earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Pepperdine University in 1975 and then a Master of Public Administration degree from California State University at Fullerton in 1977. Since then he has devoted his 38 year career to serving California cities.

Following jobs with the City of Cerritos, City of Pico Rivera, City of Buena Park, and City of Norwalk, Larry took over as Director of Public Works for the City of Union City in 1989. Union City was in a period of growth at this time, and in his role Larry saw the creation of many new streets, parks, and fire stations. He helped Union City win two Helen Putnam Awards from the League of California Cities and the 1999 All-America City Award.

Larry served twice as interim city manager of Union City before earning the position permanently in 2004. Since assuming this role Larry has put together balanced budgets in each year for the city council, despite very difficult economic circumstances. During this time Union City also developed the Intermodal Station District and the Mark Green Sports Center.

Larry is an active contributor to our community. He is a member of the Alameda County City Management Association, a board member of the California Redevelopment Association, and a founding member of the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Communications System Authority.

On behalf of the citizens of Union City and the entire East Bay, I want to thank Larry Cheeves for his years of dedicated service. I wish him good luck in the years to come.

A CELEBRATION OF TRIUMPH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH'S ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Triumph Missionary Baptist Church as it celebrates its 45th church anniversary and Pastor James S. Hall, Jr.'s 63 years of preaching and teaching as its leader.

Over the past forty-five years, Triumph Missionary Baptist Church has endured as the spiritual home for countless numbers of Philadelphia citizens. Strong leaders, like Pastor James S. Hall, allow institutions like Triumph Missionary Baptist Church to thrive and support the communities in which they reside. Since he was elected Pastor for Life in 1969, Pastor Hall's wisdom and years of experience preaching have allowed him to sustain the church, even in the face of adversity, and provide a venue for Christians in the North Philadelphia community to worship their Creator.

Since its founding, the Church has had four homes in North Philadelphia. It has been in its current location since 2007 and has worked to uplift surrounding residents through numerous efforts, including the creation of a supermarket to serve the local underserved community. From the 63 members it began with, to the 5,400 Philadelphians who call this church home, Triumph Missionary Baptist Church has accomplished much in its forty-five years of existence.

I invite you and all of my colleagues to join me in commemorating Triumph Missionary Baptist Church's 45th anniversary. May its success and commitment to helping the City of Philadelphia be an inspiration to all of us in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING THE HELIAS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL CRUSADERS GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Helias Catholic High School Crusaders Girls Volleyball team for winning the Class 3 Missouri State Championship.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Helias Crusaders for a job well done.

SPEECH BY HELMA ADDE

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to draw your attention to a speech given by one of my constituents, Helma Adde of Huntington, NY, when I visited St. Peter's Syriac Orthodox Church. Ms. Adde offered me a warm welcome and introduction to the community and I would like to share her words.

Congressman Israel, let me start with our customary greeting. Shlomo, which in the Aramaic language literally means peace. We are very happy to have you here in our home today, so that we may get to know you better, as our Congressman and man chosen to be our voice in government. And we are also excited for the opportunity to introduce ourselves to you, so that you may know who we, your constituents are, and so that you may understand our concerns as members of this community and participants in this democracy. I hope this brief history I will share with you helps you connect with us.

So who are the members of this congregation? The Syriac Orthodox Church is one of the most ancient Christian Churches tracing its roots to the Church of Antioch where Jesus' disciples were first called Christians, and Apostle Peter is believed to have established the first church. Ethnically and historically, we are indigenous to northern Iraq, southeast Turkey, northwest Iran, and northeast Syria, a region encompassing what was in ancient times known as the Assyrian empire and is often referred to as Mesopotamia, or the land between the two rivers, and we are proud to say that we speak a dialect of Aramaic, the language spoken by

Abraham and his sons, and Jesus Christ. Due to the effects and obstacles brought on by population growth, political shifts and religious fanaticism, our community has evolved like many others and today we have come to be known as the Syriac, Assyrian, Chaldean people.

As modern day Assyrians/Syriac Chaldean people, we do not have our own country, and those of our people that have managed to stay in the homeland, today find themselves referred to as minorities in the land of their forefathers. Our people are known to be a God fearing, peace loving people, and have contributed to Middle Eastern society in a positive way over the years. But, after years of being the target of religious fanaticism, many have fled the ancient homeland, and sought refuge in the diaspora in the hopes of providing safety and stability to their children and their families.

Today, The United States constitutes the largest population of Assyrian Christians in the diaspora. Our people first started arriving in Western New York in the late 19th century, after the Christian massacre in Diyarbakir, Turkey. We witnessed another large influx of immigrants after the Christian genocide in 1915 under the sword of the Ottoman Turks, during which nearly 1 million Armenians and about 500,000 Assyrians were killed. As a result, many of our people left Mardin, Midyat and other cities in Turkey and eventually settled in parts of New York and New Jersey. But after visiting Long Island, it was hard to resist its beautiful green pastures, and its relaxing beaches. Eventually, a small group made their way out and settled there, mainly in parts of Queens, and then later to Nassau County. These immigrants worked hard, and became prominent entrepreneurs mainly in the jewelry and garment industry, trades brought with them from the old country, back in the early 70s. They built homes, grew families and raised children who became lawyers, doctors, teachers, business owners, and upstanding members in the community. Eventually, in 1985, this growing community, now comprised of immigrants from Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Jordan, became large enough to establish a church where they could all congregate and meet regularly with other Assyrian Americans to preserve their ancient culture and practice their sacred religion. That church was named St. Peter's Syriac Orthodox Church. The community thrived and grew and after years of careful planning an opportunity arose that allowed them to finally purchase their own church. And in 2001, with the purchase of this church in Hicksville that we are gathered in today, we became permanent members of the Long Island community.

Over the years, our American born generation has begun to assimilate into American society and is proud of its American nationality. But this generation is also proud of its ancestral roots and works hard to maintain a balance between its nationality and ethnic heritage. We have always been grateful to our brave people living in our homeland knowing that we rely on them to preserve our ancient culture and language; they are the true torch bearers so to speak. God has somehow given them the strength and courage to stay rooted in their homeland, a feat many of us here could not achieve. And we have always feared that without them, our dwindling culture would undoubtedly face extinction, and our name and language that have survived for centuries would merely be something people hear about in history books. For centuries, it is our ethnic heritage and religion that have made us seem like a threat to governments in the Middle East. Some have forced us to stop speaking Aramaic in our homes with our children, forced

us to hide our crosses, and even forced us to change our names to assimilate into their societies and forget where we came from. They have even turned our century old churches to mosques, and some have even become ashes, along with our ancient archaeological sites. This cycle has been hammering away at our people to the point where they have realized the need for a safe haven, a place in their ancestral homeland that they can call their own again, where they can feel safe and protected, and be who they are. But their voices in the Middle East are being stifled, so we, their American brothers and sisters must be their voice.

We have undertaken this duty to be their voice, not only as Christians and members of this church, but also as human beings and defenders of human, God given rights. Congressman, we attempted to voice our concerns for our persecuted people outside the UN where we rallied for our people back in August. We also voiced our concerns when we wrote to your office pleading for humanitarian aid and help in stopping the barbaric acts of terrorism. And we were so grateful when you replied both to our invitation to the UN rally and reached out to meet with us here at our church today. And now that you are here, and willing to build a relationship with us, we want you to know that our people need help, they are asking for their home back. We need a safe haven for them, in our ancient ancestral land, the Nineveh plains, under the protection of the United Nations so that we can break the cycle of constant persecution threatening our existence for too long. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to acquaint you with our community today. It is our sincere hope that our voices will be heard on behalf of our persecuted community, namely the hundreds of thousands of displaced men, women, and children suffering at the hands of ISIS today.

Thank you.

COMMENDING MONGOLIA

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Honorable President Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj, His Excellency Ambassador Altangerel Bulgaa, the State Great Hural, and the people of Mongolia for their commitment to the development of a stable and prospering democracy. Since establishing diplomatic relations with the United States in 1987, Mongolia has successfully conducted six presidential and six legislative elections. Additionally, Mongolia has supported international peace efforts by deploying troops to Iraq from 2003 through October 2008, and now has approximately 350 troops in Afghanistan supporting Coalition operations.

Mongolia has also achieved remarkable success over the past two decades as one of Asia's fastest growing economies. Since 2003, Mongolia's GDP has more than doubled. With one of the world's largest copper and gold mines, such as the Oyu Tolgoi, which boasts one of the biggest metallurgical and thermal coal deposits as well, Mongolia is on track to become a thriving mining center in the Asian region. Additionally, Mongolia's trade with the United States has surged in the last few years, making the United States Mongolia's third largest trading partner.

Today the relationship between our two countries continues to grow and strengthen. I

look forward to the continuing cooperation and comprehensive partnership between Mongolia and the United States based on our shared values and common strategic interests, and I have every confidence that Mongolia will continue to flourish as a relevant and established presence in the region.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES VINCENT TASA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Chief James Vincent Tasa for his 32 years of service with the Pacifica Police Department. Chief Tasa has been an exemplary leader and confidant for his colleagues and the residents of Pacifica.

Chief Tasa first joined the Pacifica Police Department as an officer in 1982. Ten years later he was promoted to the rank of Police Sergeant and in 2002 he was promoted to the rank of Police Captain. He successfully completed the POST California Law Enforcement Command College in 2007 and in 2011 he was promoted to his current position as Pacifica's Chief of Police. Though he officially retired in February of this year, he continued to serve as Chief until now to allow the City of Pacifica time to search for his replacement.

Chief Tasa has received numerous awards for his exemplary work as a law enforcement officer, including the Police Officer of the Year Award by the San Mateo County Trial Lawyers Association, the Captain's Award, and countless commendations from the community, citizens and law enforcement professionals.

Chief Tasa has approached every aspect of his work with professionalism, integrity and a refreshing sense of optimism and humor. He has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow officers and residents. I've had the honor to work with Jim over the last three years to combat human trafficking in San Mateo County. His work and collaboration with all other chiefs of police have been essential to find cures for this epidemic of modern day slavery.

During his three decades with the police department, Jim has witnessed many memorable moments. One of them is without a doubt the afternoon of August 19, 2011. He accompanied Mayor Mary Ann Nihart and other city officials on a mayor's walk on Palmetto Avenue to meet local business owners. Towards the end of the walk, they opened the door of a "flower shop" and were met by an unmistakable aroma—the flower shop was a medical marijuana dispensary. Jim had to deliver the bad news to the owner that he had a false license and therefore needed to shut his flower shop.

Jim is married to Susan Kae Tasa and they have two sons, Nick and Ryan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Jim Tasa for his outstanding service keeping the residents of Pacifica safe. His leadership and warmth will be remembered long after he moves on to the next chapter of his life.

HONORING MR. ALAN R. PARHAM

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Alan R. Parham as he receives the Labor Man of the Year Award from the Friends of Labor Committee of Laborers' Local 332. Mr. Parham is the Fund Administrator of the Laborer's International Union of North America Local 332, a local union representing thousands of construction workers in the Philadelphia area.

Mr. Parham is responsible for the administration and operation of a variety of the Laborers' funds with assets in excess of \$750 million for providing pension, health, and annuity benefits to over 12,000 people and their families. He has more than 25 years of experience working for the Benefit Fund, and been a member of the union for even longer, following in the footsteps of both his father and grandfather, who were both members of Local 332.

In addition to managing the benefit portfolio, Mr. Parham has a passion for health awareness initiatives, serving on the executive board of the Delaware Valley Health Coalition. He has led several initiatives within the union with a focus on the health of union members and their families. Under his direction, the Benefit Fund is undertaking a program to educate and encourage 50% of eligible members to get tested for prostate cancer.

I invite you and all of my colleagues to join me in commemorating Mr. Parham's accomplishment.

TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA PRIMARY HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a community-based health care association that has served my home state of South Carolina for 35 years. South Carolina Primary Health Care Association has provided extraordinary care and has earned the appreciation and admiration of a grateful community.

South Carolina Primary Health Care Association held its initial meeting on May 3, 1979 and became incorporated in August of the same year. Its mission is to provide a coordinating structure that assures access to community-based primary, behavioral, and other health care services to every community in the state.

Today South Carolina Primary Health Care Association operates under the expressed vision, "Access to Quality Health Care for All South Carolina" and has efficiently and effectively provided such services across our state. On December 5th, they will be celebrating their 35th Anniversary of assisting the citizens of South Carolina.

Since their establishment in 1979, they have been working to increase the availability of quality health care to low-income, uninsured, isolated, vulnerable and special needs popu-

lations. They are committed to meeting the unique health care needs of these clientele and work tirelessly to reduce health disparities across the state. They have also coordinated initiatives to strengthen the local community health centers across the state.

I would also like to personally thank their CEO, Lathran Woodard, and Board Chair, Carolyn Emanuel-McClain, for their continued dedication to breaking through the barriers that often prevent the offering of high quality preventive and primary health care services to those in need.

According to the America's Health Rankings, South Carolina is ranked 43rd in the country for overall health. The United Health Foundation attributes this ranking to numerous factors including high rates of diabetes, obesity and infectious diseases. Without organizations like the South Carolina Primary Health Care Association these numbers would in all probability be much higher. The people of my home state truly benefit from this organization.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in congratulating the South Carolina Primary Health Care Association for its 35 years of compassionate health care services. As the Association continues to grow and expand much-needed services, I commend the staff and administration for its commitment to improving the quality and accessibility of health care to the people of South Carolina. I look forward to its continued service to my state.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF CLEAN OCEAN ACTION

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Clean Ocean Action as it celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. Clean Ocean Action continues to advocate for improved ocean quality off both the New Jersey and New York coasts.

For 30 years, Clean Ocean Action has worked to protect our waterways from pollution and drilling. It conducts research, educates the public, lobbies elected officials and monitors activity to ensure laws are being followed. It not only identifies sources of pollution, it also seeks solutions and alternatives to environmentally harmful issues and activities.

Since its inception, 8 ocean dumpsites have been closed, the first Clean Ocean Zone has been established, federal legislation has been established to prohibit ocean dumping and over 5 million pieces of trash have been collected from the Jersey Shore during its biannual beach sweeps.

Currently based out of Sandy Hook in Highlands, New Jersey, Clean Ocean Action began above a hardware store in Sea Bright, New Jersey. It is led by Executive Director Cindy Zipf, who is also one of the founders of the organization. The coalition is comprised of 125 groups, including community, environmental, fishing, conservation, student, and service groups, among many others. Its members assist Clean Ocean Action staff in promoting policies and campaigns aimed at eliminating identified pollution issues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Clean Ocean Action on its 30th anniversary. The ongoing efforts of Clean Ocean Action to fulfill its mission of improving coastal water quality is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

HONORING THE LIVES OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVES PHIL CRANE AND LANE EVANS

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my good friend and former colleague, Phil Crane.

Phil was one of the first members I met when I came up here.

Later on, I had the great honor and pleasure to serve with Phil on the Ways and Means Committee.

As a fellow conservative on the Committee, I had the good fortune to work with Phil—from fighting to provide tax relief to making health care more affordable for Americans.

As someone who got to know him well, I can say that he was more than just a great public servant.

He was a great conservative leader. Phil passionately believed in freedom and free-enterprise.

Back in 1973, he helped create a group for House conservatives known as the Republican Study Committee. In fact, he served as the group's first Chairman.

Years later, I was proud to follow in his footsteps by helping to bring House conservatives together again through the Conservative Action Team, the forerunner to today's Republican Study Committee.

I am forever grateful for Phil's longstanding fight for conservative principles. And I am forever blessed by his friendship.

Mr. Speaker, above all Phil was a great American.

While he will be greatly missed, his legacy to make this country a better place lives on.

May God bless Phil and his family.

APPROVAL OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition to H.R. 5682, a bill to approve the Keystone XL pipeline by circumventing the ongoing regulatory process. Rather than building infrastructure to transport dirty fossil fuels, we should be creating new jobs for our constituents by modernizing our transportation system and upgrading failing infrastructure.

Despite some recent gains, our economic recovery is not yet reaching all of our constituents. I agree with supporters of this bill from both sides of the aisle that we must not delay consideration of legislation putting our constituents back to work. House leadership

should allow us to vote on and pass a long-term transportation bill, for example. The proposal before us will result in short term job gains in some areas, but the tradeoff is a continued reliance on an outdated, dirty energy source.

There is a long list of important legislation awaiting consideration by this Congress that will support new jobs, including the National Infrastructure Development Bank Act, the Bring Jobs Home Act, the Make it in America Manufacturing Act, and legislation to extend tax provisions that lead to the construction of clean energy projects. I have no doubt we can find consensus on these and other policies that will increase American competitiveness and put our constituents back to work, but the bill I opposed today is not the approach we should be taking.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill so we can work together to create new economic opportunities for our constituents.

CONGRATULATING THE FATIMA HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Fatima High School Girls Cross Country Team for winning the Class 2 Missouri State Championship.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Fatima Comets for a job well done.

GREAT LAKES MARITIME HERITAGE ASSESSMENT ACT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Assessment Act, an important bill to promote and preserve the sunken treasures of the Great Lakes.

The rich maritime history of the Great Lakes is an integral part of the American narrative. Millions of immigrants who settled the region and started America's westward expansion arrived on Great Lakes steamboats. As cities grew, Great Lakes ships and barges carried the timber, coal, and ore that fueled America's industrial might. One of America's first great naval victories, the Battle of Lake Erie, was won on the Great Lakes. Today, much of this heritage remains, beneath the waters of the Great Lakes.

Despite thousands of shipwrecks throughout the Great Lakes, the Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary is the only designated sanctuary in the lakes. Located in Lake Huron, off the coast of Alpena, Michigan, Thunder Bay Sanctuary has been a major economic driver for the area, spurring tourism, research, and educational opportunities. We can build on the success of Thunder Bay by establishing additional sanctuaries across the Great Lakes.

This bill would direct the Administrator of NOAA to identify underwater areas throughout

the Great Lakes that possess significant historical and archaeological resources and recommend whether they should be designated as National Marine Sanctuaries.

Preserving the cultural legacy of our region is an important component of caring for our Great Lakes, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to achieve this goal.

IN MEMORY OF BETTY FRANCIS DENT

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Betty Francis Dent died on Monday, November 10, 2014, at the age of 82. Funeral services will be held at Shortess Chapel on November 15, 2014, in Columbia, South Carolina. Betty Dent was a member of the board of trustees for both Columbia International University for 14 years and Ben Lippen School for seven years. Mrs. Dent was the wife of the late, Harry Shuler Dent, Sr., the legendary visionary who helped establish a two-party system in South Carolina producing a Republican majority.

Her obituary, published on Columbia International University's website contained this tribute:

BETTY FRANCIS DENT

Betty Dent, a former member of the Columbia International University Board of Trustees and a longtime supporter of CIU, passed away in West Columbia, South Carolina on Nov. 10. She was 82.

Betty supported her husband, the late Harry Dent Sr. as he served in numerous leadership positions in state and federal government, including service in the White House under President Richard Nixon and as an advisor to Presidents Jerry Ford and George H.W. Bush.

In the mid-1970s, Betty served on the S.C. Mental Health Advisory Board and was recognized as one of the Ten Most Outstanding Women in Columbia.

Betty and Harry served together in ministry, founding Laity Alive and Serving in 1985, through which they coordinated mission trips around the world, especially to Romania. Betty also coordinated Market Place Bible Studies and assisted Harry when he was chairman of the Billy Graham Crusade in Columbia. In 1992, Betty and Harry wrote "Right Versus Wrong: Solutions to the American Nightmare," detailing stories of their upbringing in dysfunctional and alcoholic homes.

Betty Dent's memorial service will be celebrated on Saturday, Nov. 15 at 3:30 p.m. at the place she loved most: Columbia International University. Visitation will begin at 2:00. Both the visitation and memorial service will be in Shortess Chapel.

CONGRATULATING THE FATIMA HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in con-

gratulating the Fatima High School Girls Softball Team for winning the Class 2 Missouri State Championship.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Fatima Comets for a job well done.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark an important anniversary. In two days, the Daughters of Penelope, an international woman's organization and affiliate organization of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), will celebrate its 85th anniversary on November 16. Founded in San Francisco, the Daughters of Penelope originally worked to improve the status and well-being of women and their families. They also sought to provide women with the opportunity to make significant contributions to their communities and country. After successfully achieving many of their early goals, the Daughters of Penelope now promote the ideals of ancient Greece: philanthropy, education, civic responsibility, and family and individual excellence, achieved through community service and volunteerism.

I am a proud Greek-American. As a young boy, my grandparents, parents, aunts and uncles instilled in me an appreciation for our beautiful Greek culture, which focuses on family, community, and faith. As Co-Chairman of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, it is with great pride that I see these values shine through the Daughters of Penelope today, across all of its 250 chapters worldwide. Through the exceptional Penelope House in Mobile, Alabama and Penelope's Place in Brockton, Massachusetts, the organization vigorously supports efforts to combat domestic violence in Greece as well as the United States. The development of these shelters brought renewed hope to many areas with suffering families who previously did not have access to the same level of care.

As a member of the Congressional Cancer Caucus, I am impressed with the organization's efforts to provide financial support and raise awareness for medical research on treatments for breast cancer, Thalassemia (Cooley's anemia), muscular dystrophy, and Alzheimer's disease. The Daughters of Penelope are also a leading sponsor of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Section 202 Housing for the Elderly Program, which offers affordable housing to senior citizens in Alabama, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota and Texas.

In addition to helping the elderly, the Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc., supports the educational objectives of the Daughters of Penelope by providing tens of thousands of dollars annually for scholarships, sponsoring educational seminars, and donating children's books to schools, shelters and churches through the "Penelope's Books" program. Last year, the organization worked with our Hellenic Caucus and the Embassy of Greece to promote the health related benefits of eating a "Healthy Greek Diet" here in Washington, D.C. After eighty-five meaningful and productive years, it excites me to see what the

Daughters of Penelope will accomplish and how they will help our country and our culture in the next eighty-five years.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,936,639,705,375.46. We've added \$7,309,762,656,462.38 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$7.3 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING BIPARTISAN INITIATIVE 21ST CENTURY CURES AND JAMES O. WOOLLISCROFT, MD

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, I joined my Energy and Commerce Committee colleague DIANA DEGETTE of Colorado in launching a bipartisan initiative called 21st Century Cures, which is taking the first-ever comprehensive look at the cures process here in the United States—from discovery to development to delivery. Our goal is to help bring lifesaving treatments, devices, and therapies to patients faster and ensure our nation's laboratories and manufacturers remain global leaders in medical innovation.

Our initiative has fostered a nationwide dialogue, bringing together the brightest minds in the field of public health. One of Michigan's health leaders has been a part of that conversation from the very beginning, taking part in our first Cures roundtable on May 6: Dr. James O. Woolliscroft, MD, dean of the University of Michigan Medical School.

I recently had the opportunity to speak with some of the nation's top health researchers about the cutting-edge work being done in their laboratories at the University of Michigan. The scientific discoveries being made there are truly incredible and will ultimately help save untold American lives. The work being done within the University of Michigan Health System and at the U-M Medical School in particular is in no small part thanks to the visionary leadership of Dr. Woolliscroft.

Dr. Woolliscroft was recently recognized by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) with its highest honor: the Abraham Flexner Award for Distinguished Service to Medical Education.

Dr. Woolliscroft has been a national leader in medical education for more than three decades, since joining the U-M medical faculty in 1980. He has served the school in several capacities until becoming dean in 2007, with a focus on transforming the curriculum to train our next generation of medical leaders.

In the words of one of his AAMC nominators, Dr. Woolliscroft "has been consistently

ahead of his time and often prophetic about the trends in medical education." He was among the first to advocate moving the paradigm of medical education from the acquisition of knowledge to performance-based metrics. Likewise, Dr. Woolliscroft was among the first to champion medical student training in community settings. Through his tireless efforts, these have become the new standards in medical education. And like all great teachers, Dr. Woolliscroft not only imparts knowledge, but inspires others through his passion for educating.

The discoveries being made in the life sciences astound and amaze, opening up opportunities for therapies, treatments, and care never before possible. Thanks to the leadership of individuals like Dr. Woolliscroft, the United States will continue to lead the world in providing the highest level of patient care and medical training.

REMEMBERING BRAD DEMUZIO FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and join the rest of the state of Illinois in mourning the loss of a great public servant, Brad Demuzio, who passed away this week at the young age of 50.

Brad was born in Carlinville in 1964, to the late state Senator Vince Demuzio and former state Senator and current Mayor of Carlinville Deanna Demuzio.

Brad followed in his family's footsteps of public service as the Mayor of Carlinville from 1993–2005, working in the Cook County State's Attorney Office from 1984–1986, as a criminal investigator for the Illinois Attorney General's office from 1986–1999 and most recently as the director of the Illinois Secretary of State Police.

Perhaps one of Brad's greatest legacies will be his support, generosity and compassion for the law enforcement community, those he considered colleagues and friends.

In passing, Brad leaves behind his daughter, Brooke, his son, Blake, his mother, and countless other family members.

We send our thoughts and prayers to his family during this difficult time and thank them for Brad's service to the state of Illinois.

HONORING FORMER PRESIDENT OF POLAND, ALEXSANDER KWAŚNIEWSKI

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize, on the occasion of his 60th birthday, a true leader of our time and a transformative figure in the post-Soviet world, Aleksander Kwaśniewski. Not only did President Kwaśniewski lead Poland through a dramatic transition to freedom, he has remained an active participant on the global scale, con-

tributing his experience and energy to helping others and fostering stability and cooperation in his region.

On his birthday, it is important to recognize his contributions to Poland's rise on the international stage, its leadership in Eastern Europe and its relations with the United States. With today's geopolitical events in Eastern Europe concerning Russia and Ukraine, it is important to recognize and honor those who support the ideal of democracy and freedom for everyone who so desires it.

Mr. Kwaśniewski served two presidential terms from 1995 to 2005. During this time, he worked hard for European integration, leading the bid from Poland to join NATO and the EU and joining both in 1999 and 2004, respectively. Prior to his presidency, as part of the Social Democratic Party of the Republic of Poland, Mr. Kwaśniewski participated in the Polish transformation in government from a communist nation to a democratic one in the famous Round Table negotiations in 1989. He has been decorated and recognized globally as a political thought leader, receiving the Jan Karski award in 2006 for opposing anti-Semitism and serving as an inspiration for international mediation efforts during Ukraine's 2004 "Orange Revolution," which eventually led to Ukrainian democracy.

The Congressional Caucus on Poland, which I have the honor to co-chair, focuses on promoting bilateral relations between Poland and the United States and raising the profile of issues that are important to both countries. That relationship is why today we honor Mr. Kwaśniewski as someone who has been and still is a valuable contributor to peace, prosperity and civil liberties in Poland and the world.

HONORING AMBASSADOR HEM HENG AND THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend and brother, His Excellency Hem Heng, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the United States. Ambassador Heng has been the Cambodian Ambassador to the United States since 2008. He has more than 30 years experience working in foreign affairs.

It has been my honor to serve with him for the past six years. Together, we worked to hold historic hearings on U.S.-Cambodia relations during my service as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and brought attention to the need for the United States to forgive Cambodia's debt. Ambassador Hem Heng has worked tirelessly to make debt forgiveness a top priority.

Between 1972 and 1975, Cambodia incurred a \$276 million debt to the United States through the provision of agricultural commodities. General Lon Nol incurred this debt to support his chaotic and dictatorial regime, which seized power through a coup, making his an illegitimate government. Lon Nol did nothing to address the debt and, in 1975, the Khmer Rouge came to power. This regime

also failed to service the loan. Additionally, the Khmer Rouge killed or starved at least 20% of Cambodians, neglected infrastructure and factories, and reverted to ancient agricultural techniques, all of which decimated the Cambodian economy and any ability to repay debt. Cambodia now owes the U.S. \$450 million including interest as of December 31, 2009.

Cambodia has asked the U.S. to forgive its debt or use a portion of the payments towards U.S. assistance programs which include health care, economic competitiveness, civil society, and land mine removal, among others. However, the U.S. Departments of Treasury and State, across administrations, have shown remarkable inflexibility and lack of cooperation.

Nonetheless, I commend Ambassador Hem Heng for his continued efforts to encourage the United States to forgive the debt. In November 2004, the U.S. forgave \$4.1 billion of Iraqi debt accumulated under Saddam Hussein's leadership so as not to cripple the new government. Bosnia-Herzegovina's debt of \$24 million and Yugoslavia's \$538.4 million debt, both likely incurred under the dictator Josip Tito, were forgiven in 1999 and 2002 respectively.

I remain hopeful that one day the United States will come to understand the strategic importance of Cambodia and offer a hand up. Greater engagement with Cambodia would also help the United States achieve its foreign policy goals in the region.

It has been my pleasure to know Ambassador Hem Heng. With his support, I had the privilege of visiting Cambodia twice and, at the time, met with Prime Minister Hun Sen, Deputy Prime Minister Hor Namhong, Secretary of State Ouch Borith, and Minister of Commerce Cham Prasidh. All are committed to the goal of strengthening U.S.-Cambodia relations, and I commend Ambassador Hem Heng for the remarkable work he has done in representing Cambodia's interests in the United States.

Ambassador Hem Heng was born in Kampong Cham province and graduated from the Agricultural School of Prek Leap in Phnom Penh. His diplomatic service began in 1979, following the overthrow of the Khmer Rouge. He has worked as Bureau Chief in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Protocol Department, as Deputy Director of the Economic Cooperation Department, as Deputy Director General of the ASEAN Directorate, as Minister Counselor in the Cambodian Embassy in India, as Director of the Asia 2 Department, as Director of Information and Documentation, and as Advisor to the Deputy Prime Minister.

He is married to the talented and lovely Madam Savine Ek, and they have three sons. I will long remember Ambassador Hem Heng and I will miss him very much. I extend to him and his family my highest and kindest regards.

IN RECOGNITION OF LILY RING
BALIAN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lily Ring Balian, an extraordinary American who has been active in business and civic affairs for more than 35 years. Today Lily Ring Balian will be honored by the Los Ange-

les Affiliate of the Armenian International Women's Association upon the occasion of her receipt of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Recipients of this prestigious award exemplify outstanding professional and personal accomplishments while also preserving the richness of their heritage. Ms. Balian justly deserves this award.

From 1981 to 1997, Lily was the Corporate Director of Civic Affairs and Public Affairs for Northrop Grumman Corporation. Northrop Grumman is a major employer in California, and Lily was an outstanding advocate on behalf of this important company and its thousands of employees.

In public life, she served as the Executive Assistant for District Attorney, later California Attorney General, Evelle J. Younger, from 1964 through 1979. In 1980, she was offered positions in the administration of President-elect Ronald Reagan, but Lily turned down these opportunities to return to her family in California. Recognizing a talented individual and realizing that she could make a contribution to our nation, President Reagan appointed Lily to the National Advisory Council on Adult Education, a position that allowed her to advise the administration and Congress from the vantage point of an employer that regularly needed outstanding employees to maintain its national operations.

Lily's superb talents were also recognized by others. For example, California Governor Pete Wilson appointed her to the California Commission on the Status of Women, where she served for six years, and was Chair from 1994 to 1996. The commission advises the Governor and Legislature on issues such as economic equity, education equity, health access, and violence against women. In 1995, she represented the commission in Beijing at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women.

Lily is legendary for her energy and community involvement. She not only managed a challenging career in private industry, but she has led a decades-long effort supporting the Armenian community. She served as Chair of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America from 1985 to 2005, and she was elected to the Diocesan Council in 2006 and re-elected in 2008, serving as its Secretary. She was a member of the Cathedral Fund Raising Committee, a member of the Zorayian Museum Committee and of the Annual Christmas Ball Committee. As a longtime member of St. James Armenian Church of Los Angeles, she is a member of the St. James Ladies Society and currently serves as Chair of her Parish Council.

I am proud of my Armenian heritage, and proud that we have women like Lily to promote an understanding of America's cultural diversity, in part by supporting community-wide efforts encompassing Americans of all backgrounds. Lily has volunteered for the KCET Women's Council and is currently on the Board of Directors of this station. She has been a member of the Braille Institute Auxiliary Board from 2011 to the present. At the University of Southern California, she is currently President of the Friends of Armenian Music.

In recognition of her support of the church, Lily was awarded the Gontag and St. Nerses Shnorhali Medal from His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Ar-

menians, and received the Archbishop's Award from Archbishop Derderian in May 2006.

I am proud to call Lily a friend and have long appreciated her devotion to others, her selfless and daily endeavors to build America through mutual understanding and tolerance, and her sense of warmth, humor and generosity. The experience of America is that of an immigrant nation blending the cultures of hundreds of geographic origins into the land that we know as the United States of America. Lily, through her goodwill, her wisdom, and her always-present smile, is a superb example of why America thrives. We know that the future of this nation is bright when we have engaged the energies of millions of Americans in the common endeavor of bringing peace and prosperity to every new dawn across this land. Lily is one of those persons who rivals the sun in its energy, and she is therefore appropriately being recognized today for her extraordinary accomplishments that benefit every American.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Lily on her lifetime contributions to our great land.

HONORING THE HONG KONG
PROTESTORS STAND FOR DEMOCRACY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the brave protestors in Hong Kong who, starting in September of this year, engaged in, and continue to engage in, peaceful protests against Mainland China's recent moves to undermine the implementation of universal suffrage for Hong Kong's upcoming 2017 elections.

As Aristotle made plain in the *Politics*, "liberty and equality. . . will be best attained when all persons alike share in the government to the utmost." It is the hope of realizing this foundational principle that has brought tens of thousands of protestors to the streets of Hong Kong.

As Americans, we champion Aristotle's view that liberty and equality are more fully achieved when the many, instead of the few, have a voice in how they are governed. We support this view with foundational principles such as freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, and transparency in government. These are ideals that we must not turn away from even when, as is the case with China, we know we will have meaningful economic and foreign policy contact with countries that make it more difficult for people to fully realize these ideals. People around the world yearn for freedom, and where they do so peacefully and with bravery, like our friends in Hong Kong, we ought to stand with them in solidarity as they seek those democratic ideals that we champion at home and abroad.

I, along with many of my colleagues, have a long history of supporting human rights, democracy and the rule of law around the world. The protestors occupying the streets of Hong Kong have sustained repeated acts of violence in the face of their peaceful protests as they act to join us in the march toward a more

humane and democratic world that is governed by the rule of law. I welcome them to this cause and wish them a safe and peaceful journey.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF WALNUT CREEK

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of Walnut Creek, California.

Walnut Creek is a vibrant city within the boundaries of my 11th Congressional District in Contra Costa County. Once a small rural town, east of San Francisco, Walnut Creek has evolved into a beautiful city with plenty of open space and the reputation as a regional destination for shopping and fine dining.

Walnut Creek began as the home to four tribes of the Bay Miwok: the Chupcans, in the northern part of the Diablo Valley; the Sacians, in present day Lafayette as well as in smaller valleys of the east bay hills; the Volvon, in areas surrounding Mount Diablo and Marsh Creek; and the Talcans along the San Ramon Creek. The region's history was first recorded in 1772 when Spanish explorer Captain Pedro Fages led the first group of explorers into the Contra Costa County. The area began seeing an increase in settlement following the Mexican Revolution in 1821. In 1834 Mexico encouraged settlement in its new territory and as a result, four large land grants were made available. In 1849 the first American settler arrived and built a cabin in an area called Rancho Arroyo de las Nueces y Bolbones, one of the original 4 land grants. Americans called this area "Nuts Creek" due to the many walnut trees and creeks that were in the region.

Following the Mexican-American War, California became a U.S. Territory and subsequently gained statehood in 1850. As the area grew, commercial structures were built including, a hotel, general store, a blacksmith shop, and a meat market. Twelve years later with the establishment of the U.S. Post Office the community was officially named "Walnut Creek".

As years passed Walnut Creek continued to grow. In 1871, a plan to build a school failed for lack of funding, so the residents took the initiative to tax themselves \$15.00 and Walnut Creek Central School was built. This tradition of valuing education remains as strong today as evidenced by Walnut Creek's exceptional elementary, middle and high school programs.

Residents continue to generously support the schools with their time, talent and their money to ensure a bright future for all of their children.

The City of Walnut Creek was officially incorporated on October 21, 1914 making it the eighth city in Contra Costa County. Originally a small town comprised of 500 acres, Walnut Creek now covers almost 20 square miles.

In 1951 Walnut Creek entered its modern era of commercial growth. Broadway Plaza opened with 38 shops. The '50s also saw the first population boom for the region as total

population soared from 2,460 in 1950 to 9,903 in 1960 and 39,844 in 1970. On May 25 of 1976 across the street from Broadway Plaza, Liberty Bell Plaza was dedicated to the nation's bicentennial by former President Gerald Ford. Walnut Creek has continued to experience rapid growth and today is the home to over 64,000 people.

While Walnut Creek is no longer a small town it still boasts of the most open space per capita than any other community in the entire state of California, bringing together the comfort and excitement of city life while still maximizing the conservation of the surrounding environment. Today with its vast expanse of open space combined with a Mediterranean climate, sweeping views of nearby Mount Diablo, and diversity of flora, Walnut Creek has been established as one of California's most picturesque and charming communities. It is a thriving city with a colorful history and a very bright future.

I ask my colleagues to join with me today in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Walnut Creek's incorporation and in wishing the residents another century of continued prosperity.

RECOGNIZING PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER OF SAINT CLOUD ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC) in Saint Cloud, Minnesota for 25 years of serving men and women in the greater Saint Cloud area.

PRC, through the hard work of their licensed medical team and volunteers, offers free and confidential pregnancy tests and screening for sexually transmitted diseases. In addition, PRC provides medical information and counseling, enabling patients to consider all their options before making decisions.

The chosen theme to mark this milestone is "Together for Life," which pays homage to both their pro-life values and the fact that they are "all in this ministry together for life."

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body join with me in thanking everyone at PRC for their efforts and the services they have provided to countless men and women over the past 25 years. May they continue far into the future.

FEDERAL OVER-REGULATION AND THE CASE OF COUNTRY MEATS

HON. RICHARD B. NUGENT

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw the collective attention of the House to an unfortunate case of federal over-regulation and the consequences to a small business in my district. In Ocala, Florida, we have a small family business that has produced and distributed snacks to schools across the country for more than three decades. Country Meats makes a pork-based snack that is common to

student fundraisers and the proceeds of its sale in public schools over that time have netted more than \$30 million in support of marching bands, athletic teams and academic clubs nation-wide.

New standards established under the Healthy Hunger-Free Kid Act would prohibit the sale of anything in schools that cannot meet the nutrition standards. A well intentioned policy, but one that when rigidly enforced, excludes: cheese, milk, nuts and the snacks made by Country Meats. The Department of Agriculture applied common sense to offering exemptions for each of those items and their many variations, but not to the small family business in my district.

Country Meats is not an international business that can pool resources into a common interest of a multi-billion dollar industry to make its concerns heard in Washington. Its twenty employees in Ocala, whose jobs will be lost as collateral damage to federal overreach. This company does not have the clout to educate each state legislature on how to file exemptions with the Department of Agriculture. It needs to do that in order to continue fundraisers that have been a mainstay in schools dating back to 1978. Instead, Country Meats will be added to the list of small businesses that lost their income because of obtuse federal regulation.

TRIBUTE TO RIVERSIDE COUNTY'S RECIPIENTS OF OPERATION RECOGNITION

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a group of individuals—heroes—who are receiving the recognition and honor they deserve for their service to our country. Operation Recognition is operated by the Riverside County Office of Education with assistance from the Riverside County Department of Veterans' Services. The program awards high school diplomas to veterans who missed completing high school due to military service in World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, or for those who were interned in WWII Japanese-American relocation camps.

A recognition ceremony was held on November 12, 2014, for the following individuals who received their high school diplomas through Operation Recognition:

Salvatore Joseph Amata; Joe Aviles; Gerald L. Blokzyl; Gary Howard Crone; Manuel R. Espudo; Phillip A. Klock; Henry J. LaPointe; Steven Phillip Netter; Joe Earl Pruett; Rudolfo B. Ramirez; Adam Henry Ruelas; Juan Serrano; Muhammad Shamsid-Deen; TL Shelton; Philip W. Walker; Robert S. Wible and George L. Zankl.

Our country owes a debt of gratitude to all the above recipients for their service and sacrifice. I salute all of these individuals and congratulate them on receiving their high school diploma.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, due to operational difficulties of the flight I intended to take, I was unable to be present for the vote taken on Wednesday, November 12. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote number 516, regarding H.R. 4194.

HONORING ROBERT W. BOGLE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Bob W. Bogle, as he receives the Outstanding Community Leader Award from the Friends of Labor Committee of Laborers' Local 332. Bob is the chairman, president, and CEO of The Philadelphia Tribune.

Bob is chairman of the Hospitals and Higher Education Facilities Authority of Philadelphia, and also serves as the Mayor of Philadelphia's appointee on the Independence Blue Cross Board. Bob is also chairman of the Council of Trustees at Cheyney University, his alma mater, and serves on a number of boards, including the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce and the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau. Additionally, he was appointed by President George W. Bush to serve as member of the National Museum of African American History and Culture Commission.

The Philadelphia Tribune is America's oldest and Greater Philadelphia's largest audited paper primarily serving the African-American community. Before assuming his present position, Bob held other high-level positions at the newspaper, including director of advertising, director of marketing, and executive vice president. The magazine has been honored at least five times by the National Newspaper Publisher's Association, a trade association of 205 Black-owned newspapers across the country.

I invite you and all of my colleagues to join me in commemorating my friend Bob's accomplishment and his dedication to the city of Philadelphia, the birthplace of America.

CONGRATULATING THE FESTUS
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS CROSS
COUNTRY TEAM**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Festus High School Boys Cross Country Team for winning the Class 3 Missouri State Championship.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Festus Tigers for a job well done.

SPEECH BY ROBERT GHAZOOOL

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share a speech given by one of my constituents, Robert Ghazool of Huntington, NY, when he introduced me during my visit to St. Peter's Syriac Orthodox Church. It was a pleasure working with Mr. Ghazool in setting up my visit to the church.

"The persecution of Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East is an affront to human rights and cannot be allowed to endure. We must stand with this community and stand up against this violence".

This quote was sent to me by Congressman Israel and read during our rally for our brethren in front of the United Nations.

Congressman, as in the rally in front of the United Nations, our church has been at the center of a movement that has taken on life both here and abroad. Genocide is occurring and many Christians of the world can no longer be on the sidelines of history and see it happen. As we all know this genocide did not begin in June and July as the ISIS thugs poured in from neighboring Syria. This was the culmination, a last straw if you will, in what has been happening to the Christians in Iraq since 2003. For the sake of time, instead of giving you an exact timeline here is an overview of what our brethren have endured.

They have endured over 60 church bombings, countless kidnappings and executions, our priests being killed, the massacre of the church of Sayidat Al Najat, the ethnic cleansing in Dora, which was once called the Vatican of Baghdad for the amount of churches and Christians that lived there, our Archbishops being killed in Iraq and taken hostage in Syria. Due to all this most of the Christians of Iraq have fled the persecution they endured, and what was once a population of 1.5 million is now estimated to be 500,000.

In the last few years, the perils of the Christians of Iraq are now being faced by our brethren in Syria. The Christians of the Middle East are now in a precarious situation of failed nation states that cannot or will not come to the aid of the minorities being persecuted, democratic elections being held only to see Islamists coming into power as we saw with Hamas in Gaza and the Islamic Brotherhood in Egypt. The void left by lack of strong central governments has unfortunately been filled by groups like Al-Qaeda, Al-Nusra, ISIS, and Khorasan just to name a few.

Now we come to the events that have brought us here today. ISIS came in with their black flag of hate and ignorance into Mosul and the Nineveh plains in late June. The ultimatum was clear—leave, convert or the only thing left for you is death by the sword. The conclusion for ISIS was simple; these people would simply lie over and convert to their brand of Satanic Islam. This would show the world how weak Christianity is and how powerful the Islamic State has become. I am so proud to tell you how wrong they were.

Even after the thugs of ISIS branded the homes of the Christians with the Arabic N which means Nazarene, none converted and after vicious threats and attacks and with minutes numbered they fled north to first the Nineveh Plains and then farther north with nothing more than the clothes on their

back. Everything was confiscated, deeds to their houses taken, IDs burnt, anything of value even down to a mere wedding band taken. Some walked countless miles when their cars were taken on the border of Mosul, others were beaten and unfortunately many were killed.

All of them no matter what the circumstance said with one voice NO. NO, we will not convert, no we will not pay a Jizya, and if you kill us, we will be with a full heart knowing that we died for our Lord and Savior. You see my brethren these last souls were and are the bravest of our brave. They were the ones that no matter what the circumstance stayed to preserve our heritage, our language, our culture, and my God probably the last chance of civility in a land that frankly has little of it. Our Savior told us to leave everything and follow him. Our brethren in Nineveh have reminded us all what it is to be a true Christian. They are the modern day bearers of the cross, like our forefathers who themselves carried the cross as in 1890 Dierbekkar and the Christian Genocide of 1915. We cannot let their sacrifice go in vain. For if we do, we lose the voice of moderation that the Christians have always had in that region. We lose the teachers that taught literacy to the people that came after us. We lose a part of Judea-Christian History that once lost will be difficult to find once again. Today for the first time in over 1600 years no Christians are in Mosul. The sounds of the church bells are replaced by the sounds of war, our crosses, statues and signs of peace and love in the 45 Church facilities taken over by ISIS, now replaced by their black flag of hate, death and destruction. We are the indigenous people of that land and we deserve and want better.

Congressman Israel you have been a leader in Congress when it comes to issues of human rights and religious equality. You were influential in the response and letters about Darfur. You sit on the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, and were quick to stand with us and acknowledge what was transpiring to the minorities of Iraq and Syria as was evident in your statement that was read in front of the UN. You have visited Iraq and Afghanistan nine times which puts you in a unique position to be our voice in Congress. Our people are in harm's way, they have endured more than any people should and we need your help.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the great sacrifice that our Armed Forces are enduring to bring the fight to ISIS. Their heroism makes us all proud to be Americans. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and for the families of the four American and British citizens that have been beheaded by these cowardice vultures.

Without further ado, on behalf of Reverend FR. Gabriel Adde, the board of trustees, and the congregation of St. Peter's Church please help me in welcoming the Honorable Congressman Steve Israel.

RECOGNIZING THE DE LA SALLE
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PRO-
GRAM**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding record of a remarkable high school football program and Mr. Bob Ladouceur, the coach who, for 34 years, brought out the very best in his players both on and off the field. Under

Coach Ladouceur's guidance, the Spartans of De La Salle have recorded a historic 151-game winning streak over a 12 year period and are the inspiration behind the recently released film, "When the Game Stands Tall".

In 1979 at just 24 years of age, Bob Ladouceur was hired as both a religious studies instructor and Head Coach of the De La Salle Varsity Football Team to mold an athletic program in the early stages of development. Coach Ladouceur masterfully shaped an outstanding program and by 1995 he was named the National Football League's first National High School Coach of the Year. In 2001, he was inducted into the National Federation of State High School Associations Hall of Fame and has been named "Coach of the Year" by both ESPN and USA Today.

In addition to the winning streak, the statistics for the De La Salle Spartans are quite simply amazing:

- 399–25–3 overall record
- 20 undefeated seasons, including 12 in a row, resulting in the 151 game winning streak
- 49–7 average margin of victory during the streak
- 28 CIF North Coast Section titles
- No. 1 in national rankings seven times
- A dozen future NFL players began their careers as Spartans.

But the story of De La Salle football is more than touchdowns and field goals. To quote Coach Ladouceur, "I always placed the huge value in our program in how our kids treat each other; what kind of students they are. Are they learning things under our care?" He masterfully developed this outstanding program to guide his students to excellence not just on the field but through life.

Mr. Speaker, I invite this chamber to join with me in recognizing Coach Bob Ladouceur for his tireless service to the students of De La Salle and to congratulate each of the members of the Spartans Football Team for their dedication to the game and to values they have carried with them off the field.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL CERTIFICATE OF MERIT RECIPIENTS

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proudly honor thirteen high school seniors from the Sixth Congressional District of Minnesota who earned the Congressional Certificate of Merit for their exemplary citizenship and academic excellence. The award winners include: Spencer Clark, Andover High School; Kevin Bloch, Immaculate Conception Academy; Brooke Volpone, Monticello High School; Brandon Fabel, Central High School; Carissa Nelson, PACT Charter School; Cole Anderson, Becker High School; Natalia Velenchenko, Buffalo High School; Austin Schmitt, Royalton High School; Grant Tesdahl, Elk River High School; Abbey Halonen, Dassel-Cokato High School; Jiahui Jiao, Delano High School; Gino Fraboni, Princeton High School; and Luke Anderson, Legacy Christian Academy.

These students have made significant contributions to their schools and communities and stand out to faculty as the "cream of the

crop." They have shown they can set and achieve goals, work as team members, be leaders, and volunteer—all while maintaining a proper school work/life balance.

I ask this body join me in congratulating them and wishing them the best in their assuredly bright futures. They are the pride and joy of Minnesota, and I expect they will continue to astound us.

HONORING AMBASSADOR U KYAW MYO HTUT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF MYANMAR

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Myanmar for its positive developments in political transition and economic affairs.

After decades of isolation, Myanmar started a series of drastic political and economic reforms under President U Thein Sein in 2011 that present a promising opportunity for sustainable development toward democratization, freedom, rule of law and peace—crucial factors for a life of dignity.

President U Thein Sein was welcomed to the White House in May 2013, the first Myanmar leader to visit the United States in 47 years. He updated President Obama on key developments since Obama's visit to Yangon half a year earlier and both leaders praised Myanmar's political and economic progress. A year after U Thein Sein's visit to the U.S. 49 companies were registered in Myanmar, among them GE, Chevron, Coca-Cola and Colgate-Palmolive. In November 2014, President Obama joined regional leaders for the 25th ASEAN summit in Myanmar and met both President U Thein Sein and opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

The Myanmar government is represented in the U.S. by His Excellency U Kyaw Myo Htut, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of the Republic of Myanmar to the United States. Ambassador U Kyaw Myo Htut has been the Myanmar Ambassador to the United States since September 2013. Prior to that he served as Ambassador of Myanmar to the United Kingdom (2011 to 2013) and in this role played a crucial part in the lifting of the European Union's sanctions on Myanmar.

Ambassador U Kyaw Myo Htut aims to promote trade and strengthen bilateral ties with the United States. An essential part of his job is to push for more U.S. investment in Myanmar while addressing human rights issues. In that regard, he works towards re-aligning the Generalized System of Preference (GSP) for trade with Myanmar, which Congress stopped extending in July 2013.

In his role as Ambassador, U Kyaw Myo Htut also serves as an economic facilitator and regularly advises U.S. investors and companies wishing to enter the Myanmar market. U Kyaw Myo Htut takes a strong stand toward the improvement of human rights in Myanmar and shows continuous efforts to encourage the United States to acknowledge ongoing reforms.

Since 2011, the Myanmar government has strongly welcomed private and foreign investment. The Myanmar government revised sev-

eral outdated laws, granted licenses for airport construction and telecommunication projects and began to rebuild its infrastructure in a bid to attract foreign capital. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) estimates that the current growth rate of 6.5% could triple per capita income by 2030 on the grounds that Myanmar will overcome the challenges ahead. These figures are supported by the McKinsey Global Institute, which estimates that Myanmar's economy will quadruple by 2030 to over USD 200 billion.

Being a resource-rich country with a single market of 60 million people and a developed private sector and middle class, Myanmar's economy suffers from an outdated financial system and banking sector. In 1990 the Central Bank Law reestablished the country's own Central Bank. Although new commercial banks were established, Myanmar was affected by Western sanctions. Due to these sanctions, the banking system could not be connected to the rest of the world at that time.

In 2013, President U Thein Sein signed a new Central Bank Act giving the Central Bank more independence while local banks expanded their branches and services rapidly. The opening up of the financial sector was further strengthened by the country's decision in September to grant a provisional banking license to nine institutions, providing them with the authorization to deal with foreign companies, local banks and—in cooperation with a local institution—with Burmese companies. Among the nine banks that have been selected from a total of 25 applications are the three major Japanese houses: Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking and Mizuho Bank. Singapore is also well represented with the OCBC and UOB. Further banks taken into account are Australia and New Zealand Banking (ANZ), Malaysia's Maybank, the Bangkok Bank and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC). American banks did not participate in the application process.

The Myanmar government hopes that the admission of international financial institutions will provide an important impetus to the expansion of direct investment, as the nine selected institutions represent the major investor countries. This is important considering the many challenges faced by the banking sector. The country is still struggling to recover from the 2003 banking crisis, which had a lasting impact on the now mainly cash-based economy. It will require a strong regulatory framework, updated information technology infrastructure and skilled personnel to be ready for the challenges ahead.

Much more could be said about the work of Nobel Peace winner Aung San Suu Kyi, about President U Thein Sein's policy of openness, and about the country's positive developments in regard to religious freedom, healthcare and education. However, the policy of openness is not irreversible and the international community must do all it can to ensure that Myanmar's course is set right for sustainable development. It is essential that stability is achieved through economic and social prospects for all people, and I commend all who are working towards this goal.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL J.
MASSONI

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael J. Massoni who is retiring as Police Chief after 35 years of outstanding service at the South San Francisco Police Department. Mike is an exceptional law enforcement officer and human being and I have had the great privilege of working closely with him to combat human trafficking in San Mateo County.

Mike started as a police officer in August 1979, was promoted to police corporal in 1983 and to police sergeant in 1988. In his four years in that capacity, he served as traffic and planning liaison sergeant, acting commander of the investigations division, and acting watch commander and in the patrol and criminal investigation divisions. In 2001, Mike became police lieutenant and served as patrol watch commander and training manager. Three years later he rose to police captain and was the commander of the operations and services divisions. And finally in May of 2009, he rose to the top of the department and became Police Chief. Over the course of three decades, Mike has served on the San Mateo County Police Chiefs and Sheriffs Association, the San Mateo County Commanders Association, the San Mateo County Training Managers Association, the Police Athletic League and the Police Association—on most of them as president. As if that wasn't enough responsibility, he agreed to also serve as the Public Safety Chief this last year. What that really means is that he served as both Police and Fire Chief.

You will never hear Mike complain. He just gets the work done quietly, and with a smile on his face. However, I have heard him say over the last few months leading up to his retirement that he is looking forward to relaxing and spending time with his wife Lexann who has lots of plans for him.

Mike was born in South San Francisco in 1955 and attended South San Francisco High School. He received his Associates of Art in Administration of Justice from the College of San Mateo in 1975. He continued his education at Notre Dame De Namur University where he earned his Bachelors of Sciences in Human Services in 2001 and his Masters of Public Administration in 2004.

Mike has completed a long list of professional classes and certificates, including the Supervisory Leadership Institute, Executive Development and the Role of the Police Chief. He also served on several regional committees such as the North San Mateo County Gang Task Force, the San Mateo County Commanders Subpoena Process Revisions Committee and the San Mateo County Human Trafficking Committee, which Mike and I co-founded in 2012. He was an incredible partner in taking on an issue that nobody in San Mateo County law enforcement knew existed. Human trafficking on the San Francisco Peninsula is indeed a serious problem because of high demand and an infrastructure that easily supports it with freeways, an airport and a large number of hotels. We brought together law enforcement on the local, state and federal level to combat this modern version of slavery. Mike took the lead in developing and

implementing the San Mateo County Human Trafficking Protocol for Law Enforcement which lays out in detail how to best deal with trafficking cases. The protocol should serve as a model for communities across the country and the world.

Mike's thoughtful approach to law enforcement has been appreciated and published on many occasions. He is a prolific writer. One of his articles was published in the FBI Law Enforcement Journal and the South San Francisco Municipal Code includes several of his city staff reports on issues such as regulating adult related businesses, side shows, curfew violations and commercial alarms.

His dedication and work have been noticed and recognized throughout his career; he was awarded a Certificate of Commendation in 1981, the South San Francisco Police Department Chief's award in 1995 and the South San Francisco High School Community Service Award in 2007.

Mike firmly believes in giving back to the community, so in addition to his job obligations, he volunteers as a guest lecturer and advisory committee member at Notre Dame de Namur University, and is a member of the South San Francisco Rotary Club, a member of the Sitike Counseling Center and co-chair of the Interact Club for South San Francisco High School. He also participated in the annual Senior Citizens Breakfast, Tip-A-Cop and Day in the Park events organized by the police department for the community.

As mentioned earlier, Mike's wife of 32 years, Lexann McKay Massoni, will be his travel and social manager in his retirement. He will no doubt enjoy spending extra time with their two children, Heather and Steven, and watching San Francisco Giants games.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives rise with me to honor the long and meaningful law enforcement career of South San Francisco Police Chief Mike Massoni whom I'm proud to call a friend and colleague. He has touched and saved countless lives and leaves behind giant shoes to fill. Mike will be deeply missed, but his impact on our community will be felt for years to come. He will no doubt go down as one of the finest police chiefs to serve in the history of San Mateo County.

TRIBUTE TO THE MCFADDEN
SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

HON. SCOTT DESJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the students, faculty and staff of the McFadden School of Excellence in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, for the leadership they have shown in promoting recycling and environmental stewardship.

In acknowledgment of their hard work, the McFadden School was selected as a winner of the 2014 Good Sports Always Recycle Award sponsored by Eastman Chemical Company, the University of Tennessee, Waste Connections, and Food City. This selection, made by the nation's largest stadium recycling program, recognizes ten schools annually as having the best recycling programs throughout Tennessee.

As Tennesseans, we are truly blessed to live in a beautiful state with an abundance of natural resources. Therefore, I commend the McFadden School for their efforts in protecting our natural environment through conservation and sustainable practices.

On behalf of the people of Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District, I congratulate the students, faculty and staff of the McFadden School of Excellence for their leadership in promoting environmental stewardship.

RECOGNIZING JMU'S CENTER FOR
INTERNATIONAL STABILIZATION
AND RECOVERY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery (CISR) at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA.

Founded in 1996, CISR's mission is to help post-conflict communities by promoting recovery, rebuilding, and resilience. CISR achieves this goal in a number of ways including training and education, publications, conferences, and workshops. The center undoubtedly improves lives around the world by providing unequaled support to populations struggling with the lingering effects of war. Staff members, under the direction of Ken Rutherford, deploy worldwide to support their ongoing mission.

CISR produces The Journal of ERW and Mine Action which provides a platform to educate and discuss issues related to explosive remnants of war. It also produces To Walk the Earth in Safety which documents the government's commitment to conventional weapons destruction. The center makes these publications and many other reports, studies, and tools available to the public via its website. CISR is dedicated to sharing this critical knowledge with the communities that most need it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at James Madison University.

RECOGNIZING ORANGE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Superintendent Barbara Jenkins and the teachers and staff of Orange County Public Schools (OCPS) for being chosen as a co-winner of the Broad Prize for Urban Education. This year, OCPS will be awarded \$500,000 to provide college scholarships to high-achieving, low-income high school seniors.

OCPS students have made remarkable gains in recent years. Among them, the Broad Foundation cites narrowed income and minority achievement gaps, improved college-readiness and academic improvements among low-income middle school students.

Educating America's youth is an investment in our nation's future, and it is imperative that all students have access to quality education. By equipping our students with the tools needed to become successful employers and employees, we fuel technological innovation, wealth creation, and economic growth.

Again, congratulations to Orange County Public Schools for being chosen as a winner of the 2014 Broad Prize. I sincerely appreciate their leadership and dedication to educating the students of Central Florida.

RECOGNIZING EMPLOYEE LEARNING WEEK—DECEMBER 1–5, 2014

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Employee Learning Week, which will be celebrated the week of December 1–5, 2014. A national campaign, Employee Learning Week strives to emphasize the importance of the link between employee education and achieving exceptional results within an organization.

Established by the American Society for Training & Development, the campaign brings awareness to the necessity of professional training and workplace education for employees and organizations alike. Each year, Employee Learning Week recognizes and lessens the growing skills gap in today's highly competitive economy. An important facet of Employee Learning Week, the Niagara Frontier Chapter is an independently-incorporated, nonprofit organization affiliated with the American Society for Training & Development.

With over 140 members hailing from diverse industries across the region, the chapter has been successful in making a meaningful difference in the area of professional growth.

Through these efforts, the Niagara Frontier Chapter has demonstrated a significant commitment to developing the region's workforce, a noble investment in Western New York's economy. Mr. Speaker, please join me in identifying December 1–5, 2014, as Employee Learning Week, and congratulating the Niagara Frontier Chapter of the American Society for Training & Development on their endeavor.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for the National Institutes of Health and the vital importance of continued investment in medical research. The National Institutes of Health is one of the world's leading medical research centers and represents our best hope for improving treatments and finding cures for diseases that affect millions of Americans.

Today, more than 30 million Americans suffer from rare or incurable diseases. The research conducted by the National Institutes of Health is critical for success in the fight

against these diseases. Particularly troubling among these is Alzheimer's disease, for which there are no preventative measures, palliative treatments, or cure. While we have seen reduced incidence of some common diseases—like heart disease and some cancers—deaths from Alzheimer's disease have increased over the last 30 years.

Currently, Alzheimer's disease affects more than five million Americans. Families suffer both financially and emotionally as they care for loved ones with the disease, and it places a staggering burden on our health care system at a cost of over \$200 billion per year. In Pennsylvania alone, more than 270,000 seniors suffer from Alzheimer's—13 percent of all senior citizens in the state of Pennsylvania. These numbers only underscore the importance of investing in public health research, which might yield valuable treatments and cures.

Mr. Speaker, continued support for the National Institutes of Health is a critical step in meeting the health care challenges currently facing our nation. I urge my colleagues to consider the far-reaching and long-term benefits of investment in medical research through the National Institutes of Health and the positive effect it will have on our nation's health and economy.

RECOGNIZING RECIPIENTS OF THE 2014 ARTS COUNCIL OF FAIRFAX COUNTY ARTS AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Arts Council of Fairfax County and the recipients of the 2014 Arts Awards. These awards recognize the extraordinary contributions of artists and arts organizations, as well as individuals and businesses in Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax, and the City of Falls Church that support the arts in our community.

Founded in 1964, the Arts Council of Fairfax County, Inc. is a non-profit organization designated as Fairfax County's local arts agency. The Arts Council operates programs and initiatives that include grants, arts advocacy, education, and professional development opportunities for artists and arts organizations. In FY14, the Arts Council awarded over \$500,000 in County, public, and private funds through competitive grants and awards to arts organizations and individual artists. These grants helped to fund approximately 13,000 performances and 2,600 arts programs which were attended by more than 1 million people. In addition, The Arts Council of Fairfax County has been a strong supporter and sponsor of the 11th Congressional District High School Arts Competition and has been instrumental in making this program one of the most successful in the nation.

The Arts Awards honor supporters of the arts in four categories: the Jinx Hazel Arts Award, the Arts Impact Award, the Arts Education Award, and the Arts Philanthropy Award. It is my honor to enter the following names of the 2014 Arts Awards Recipients into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD: The 2014 Jinx Hazel Arts Award will be presented to Bill Reeder and Richard Kamenitzer of George

Mason University. Together they have built one of the nation's most respected higher education programs for the arts and arts management, training hundreds of artists and arts administrators, helping young professionals create new arts programs, and sustaining local arts organizations in Fairfax communities.

The 2014 Arts Impact Award will be presented to the Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE). Over the past 40 years, GRACE has enriched the Reston community with art exhibitions, arts education programs, and the annual Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival, which has become one of the region's largest arts festivals with tens of thousands of attendees. Since its inception in 1974, GRACE has mounted more than 250 exhibitions, presenting the work of local, regional, and national artists.

The 2014 Arts Education Award will be presented to Cappies of the National Capital Area (Cappies NCA) for its innovation and impact in arts education. Cappies—the Critics and Awards Program—engages high school students in a comprehensive theatre education program. Each year, Cappies NCA involves approximately 3,200 students from 56 schools as theatrical performers, production managers and technicians, and critics. Since its inception in 1999, thousands of high school students have experienced the breadth and depth of the theatre, with many becoming actors, theatre professionals, arts educators, and journalists.

The 2014 Arts Philanthropy Award will be presented to Pat and Steve Macintyre for their outstanding support of initiatives that strengthen the arts in Herndon and Reston. Through their generosity over the past three decades the Macintyres have founded or supported organizations including the Herndon Foundation for the Cultural Arts, Council for the Arts of Herndon, League of Reston Artists, Initiative for Public Art—Reston, Herndon's Art in Public Places initiative, and Technology and the Arts scholarships. Additionally, Pat has served on the boards of many of these organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of the 2014 Arts Awards and in recognizing and thanking the visionaries, leaders, and supporters who help to make our Northern Virginia communities rich with cultural opportunities.

URGING SUPPORT FOR ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH FUNDING

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the inclusion of additional funding for Alzheimer's research in the National Institute of Health's (NIH) budget. This disease affects over 5 million Americans, and every 67 seconds someone develops Alzheimer's. The impact on these patients and their families is immense, and Congress must act now to ensure needed funding is available to researchers working to better understand, treat, and cure Alzheimer's.

As the Appropriations Committee drafts spending legislation for the current fiscal year, it is critical that the NIH budget include an additional \$200 million for Alzheimer's research.

The requirement for this funding was validated by the National Alzheimer's Plan, a comprehensive Congressionally-directed initiative which serves as a blueprint to ensure that taxpayer dollars are carefully invested in medical research.

One in three seniors who die each year have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's or dementia, and the Center for Disease Control notes that it is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States. In addition to the terrible toll on individuals, the cost of treating Alzheimer's will cost over \$214 billion this year. With so much at stake, an investment of \$200 million in 2015 is clearly justified, and we must also continue to provide funding for Alzheimer's research in future years.

On behalf of South Texas families affected by Alzheimer's, I urge my colleagues in Congress to support increased funding for Alzheimer's research.

IN HONOR OF PAMELA VON NESS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Ms. Pamela von Ness on the occasion of her retirement from thirty eight years of federal civilian service with the Department of Defense. I have had the great pleasure of working with Pam during her tenure as the Deputy Garrison Commander of the Presidio of Monterey. The Presidio garrison plays host to several thousand students and faculty of the Defense Language Institute as well as several other Army missions. Pam effectively served as the city manager of these dynamic communities. And it is in that capacity that I and my staff came to understand and rely on Pam's deep professionalism and problem solving skills. I would like to share with the House an excerpt from the Department of Defense Exceptional Civilian Service Award given to Pam in recognition of her service:

"During the period of August 2003 to November 2013, Ms. von Ness distinguished herself while serving as the Deputy Garrison Commander, United States Army Garrison, Presidio of Monterey California. Throughout Ms. von Ness' outstanding 38 years of Civil Service, she has had a long-standing record of exceptionally distinguished performance. The culmination of her remarkably outstanding career has resulted in innumerable contributions to the local Presidio of Monterey community and significant contributions to the Department of the Army. Her dedicated efforts resulted in numerous groundbreaking accomplishments, which set examples for cost savings and effectiveness, while delivering first class support to tenant organizations at the Presidio of Monterey and the fifteen functions and sub-installations the Presidio supports on the California Central Coast. Her extensive knowledge, expertise, and experience, coupled with her dedication to mission accomplishment, have directly provided immeasurable benefit to the Installation Management Command and the United States Army."

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in thanking Pam for her years of skilled, intelligent, and dedicated service to our nation's defense. We wish Pam success and happiness in the next chapter of her life.

HONORING THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Daughters of Penelope on its 85th Anniversary and to recognize the organization's civic contributions and commitment to public service in the United States and abroad.

Since its founding in 1929, the Daughters of Penelope has become a preeminent international women's organization and affiliate of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), the nation's leading association of American citizens of Hellenic heritage. Today there are 250 Daughters of Penelope chapters around the world.

I am especially proud to recognize the Daughters because I believe the organization embodies the spirit of *philotimo*; a conviction for civic duty and deep honor in volunteerism that all Hellenes strive to uphold.

The Daughters of Penelope was first established with the mission of improving the lives of all women and providing them the opportunity to make significant contributions to American society. Today, the organization strives to promote the ideals of ancient Greece: education, philanthropy, civic responsibility, and family and individual excellence through community service and volunteerism.

Through this enduring commitment to the *philotimo* ethic, the Daughters of Penelope has achieved remarkable accomplishments: providing educational opportunities for youth, tirelessly caring for the elderly and victims of domestic abuse, and raising funds for important civic causes and medical research. Demonstrating strong character, determination, and hard work, it's no surprise that Daughters of Penelope members often rise to become leaders in their respective professions, from government to business to the arts.

On this 85th Anniversary, I congratulate the Daughters of Penelope for its tremendous accomplishments and thank the organization for its enduring commitment to public service.

HONORING THE CAREER OF JAMES M. BOLES, ED.D.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and accomplishments of a distinguished member of my community and my friend, James M. Boles, Ed.D. Dr. Boles's work and unwavering dedication to better the quality of life for those who need it most—the disabled, children, seniors, and their families—is a model and an inspiration.

Dr. Boles served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of People, Inc., the largest non-profit human services agency in Erie County. On October 1, 2014, after thirty-three years spent growing this impressive organization, he retired.

When Dr. Boles began his tenure with People Inc. in 1981, the organization staffed 200

people. Under his leadership, People Inc.'s budget has grown from \$2 million to over \$144 million, an impressive feat in Western New York's non-profit community. At his time of retirement, Dr. Boles had the responsibility of overseeing more than 3,200 staff that assist over 12,000 individuals.

A lifetime student and advocate for those with disabilities, Dr. Boles received his Doctor of Education and his Masters of Education degree from Columbia University, and his Masters of Arts degree from Goddard College in Clinical Psychology.

Dr. Boles has been a member of countless groups such as Commissioner's Advisory Council on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, the American Association of Marriage and Family Counselors, the National Conference of Executives of Associations for Retarded Citizens, National Rehabilitation Association, and the Buffalo Niagara Partnership. He was appointed to the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities by President Bush in 2006, a committee that I had the pleasure of nominating him for once again.

During my years as an elected official I have worked closely with Dr. Boles and People, Inc. The work they do is incredible and necessary. From creating and maintaining group homes across Western New York, easing the pain of families and individuals that need their care, to advocacy for the human services on local, state, and national levels, Dr. Boles was consistently at the forefront. As stigma surrounding the disabled decreases and awareness of conditions and care needed rises, it is in no small part due to the work of Dr. Boles.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor the amazing accomplishments of James M. Boles Ed.D. during his career and to congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement. I am certain his advocacy for those with disabilities will not cease with his retirement from People Inc., and his enduring legacy will impact our community for years to come.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL MICHAEL D. MIRALLES

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Michael D. Miralles and to recognize his lifetime of service to our country.

On April 1, Lt. Colonel Miralles retired from the United States Air Force Reserve after twenty-nine years of sacrifice and service to this great nation.

Prior to his service as an American airman, Lt. Colonel Miralles was as a Petroleum Engineer and Polymer Chemist in Oil-Field Exploration and Drilling Operations. In 1985 he graduated from OTS and has since served our country in many different capacities. In his last assignment, he worked as the Deputy Commander of the 403rd Maintenance Group, Air Force Reserve Command, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi.

For his distinguished leadership and meritorious service throughout his career, Lt. Colonel Miralles has been awarded the Bronze

Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 2 M devices and Bronze Hourglass device.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 11th District of Georgia, I extend my deepest thanks to Lt. Colonel Miralles for devoting his life to upholding the Constitution of the United States and to the protection of its citizens. I wish him a happy—and well-deserved—retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 MVLE
ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2014 MVLE Annual Award Recipients.

MVLE is a not-for-profit corporation that provides employment opportunities and support services to individuals with disabilities. For 43 years, MVLE has partnered with commercial businesses as well as with government agencies and other not-for-profit organizations to allow the individuals it serves to live in dignity and as independently as possible. In the last year, MVLE assisted more than 600 individuals, and its workforce can be proud that it is making a positive difference in someone's life every day.

Each year, MVLE honors individual participants, as well as business and community partners, who exemplify MVLE's ideals. I am pleased to enter the names of the 2014 award recipients into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The President's Award is presented to individuals who have shown outstanding progress toward gaining independence and self-sufficiency through participation in employment and community services. The 2014 President's Award recipients are Alfred Dews, Celeste Whalen and Rachel O'Donnell.

The Chairman's Award is presented to an outstanding business partner who has shown excellence in hiring practices, creating supportive work environments, and supporting the mission of MVLE. The 2014 Chairman's Award recipient is Embassy Suites Springfield. The hotel has employed Wounded Warriors, hosted Working Warrior Nation's First Annual Career Fair, launched an internship program for military veterans, supported MVLE's annual Golf Classic, and supplied volunteers for other MVLE activities.

MVLE presents four Community Awards in honor of the four components of our community: Government, Employment, Social Responsibility, and Integration.

The Government Champion Award recipient is SourceAmerica in recognition of its support of the AbilityOne program and its work to create jobs throughout government agencies for individuals with disabilities and military veterans.

The Employment Partner Award recipient is Capitol Office Solutions in recognition of its partnership with Digital Stream, MVLE's document scanning business division, which pairs Capitol Office Solutions' software management with Digital Stream's document management

services and creates more employment opportunities for MVLE's Individuals.

Booz Allen Hamilton is the recipient of the Advocacy Champion Award in recognition of a decade-long partnership with MVLE. MVLE also honors Booz Allen's commitment to diversity in its workforce and promoting community integration for individuals with disabilities.

Greenspring Village is being honored with the Social Responsibility Award in recognition of its continued support of MVLE and our local community. Greenspring has been a longtime employment partner with MVLE and also supports MVLE's annual golf tournament and volunteer activities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending MVLE for its success in helping individuals with disabilities achieve independence and in congratulating the 2014 MVLE Annual Award recipients.

RECOGNIZING MRS. MARCIA A.
DAVID

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize an outstanding individual, Mrs. Marcia A. David of Novi, Michigan, for her more than 37 years of service with Hormel Foods. She is the first woman in the company's 123-year history to retire from the sales division. She has probably sold more SPAM luncheon meat than any other woman in America during the course of her career.

Marcia started with the company immediately following graduation from The Ohio State University in 1977 and during her 37 and a half years there she has progressed into positions of increased responsibility to her current post as Customer Business Manager.

Marcia started as a trainee in Chicago, and her first sales assignment was in Flint, Michigan. After seven years in the field she transferred to the corporate office in Austin, Minnesota, as an associate product manager. One year later she advanced to product manager—the first woman in company history to hold this position.

After three years in Austin, she returned to field sales in the Michigan district managing the Kroger account. In May 1995 she took over Kmart, advancing to customer team leader while also taking on the additional responsibility of the Target account in 1997. In 2003 Marcia was named the Detroit Grocery Products district manager. Finally, in 2004 she was promoted to the position she holds today, Customer Business Manager of the East Central District where she is responsible for leading a team covering accounts in three states.

Marcia has led several top-to-top meetings with one of the company's largest accounts, Meijer, and achieved a goal of being chosen by them as a joint business planning partner, an honor bestowed on only a handful of Meijer's most important collaborators.

Marcia is a two-time Chairman's Inner Circle award winner. She has been instrumental in increasing Hormel Food's support of and advocacy for the Network of Executive Women. Marcia has been a consistent and energetic mentor for many of the young men and women who have joined Hormel Foods as interns, sales trainees, and account managers.

Her retirement is a milestone within the company, as she will be the first woman to ever retire from the Consumer Products Sales team since the company was founded back in 1891.

I join with her colleagues, friends and family in congratulating Marcia David as she completes her remarkable career with Hormel Foods, and wish her well as she shifts gears to an active and rewarding life after retirement with her husband, Rob.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPACT OF
HELIOS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and the impact of Helios Education Foundation on the success of all students in Arizona and Florida. I also want to congratulate Helios Education Foundation on celebrating 10 years of changing lives and strengthening our communities through education.

Helios Education Foundation was created in 2004 through the sale and conversion of Southwest Student Services Corporation led by a visionary President and CEO, Vince Roig, and Board of Directors. At the time of the sale, Southwest Student Services was the eighth largest holder of federally-insured student loans in the country. The net proceeds of that sale were used to create the Foundation's initial endowment of \$525 million.

Since that time and in perpetuity, the Foundation has and continues to be focused on its ultimate goal of creating opportunities for every individual in Arizona and Florida to succeed in postsecondary education. Helios is investing its knowledge, expertise and resources to advance student academic preparedness and to foster college-going cultures in both states.

It's through a decade of strategic partnerships and investments that Helios has identified Early Grade Success, College and Career Readiness, and Postsecondary Completion as the three most critical reform priorities needed to ensure student success. In Early Grade Success, Helios is working to ensure that all children enter kindergarten prepared to succeed and read at grade level by the end of third grade. In College and Career Readiness, the Foundation strives to ensure that all high school graduates are prepared to enter the workforce or credit-bearing college courses. And, the organization's work in Postsecondary Completion is focused on helping more traditionally underserved students access, persist and attain a high-quality postsecondary certificate or degree.

Helios Education Foundation believes that education is an investment and not an expense and has invested over \$155 million in educational initiatives across the full education continuum. To that end, the Foundation has supported the college-going aspirations of more than 135,000 students, provided more than 8,000 scholarships for postsecondary education and provided professional development and training for more than 16,000 educators. Through these and future investments, Helios is laying the foundation for the ongoing

economic viability of our communities and paving the way for our students to compete and succeed in a global workforce.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Helios Education Foundation for serving our communities, and in particular, I commend its Founder and Chairman, Vince Roig, for his passion and commitment to this work. In addition, I congratulate Helios Education Foundation's Board of Directors and Staff for the tangible and critical impact the Foundation has had over the past 10 years. Most importantly, I am excited about the long-lasting and transformative change Helios Education Foundation will have on our community in perpetuity through education.

**HONORING THE EXCEPTIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AC-
CEPTED INTO THE WAUKEGAN
TO COLLEGE PROGRAM**

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to honor Jazmin Bahena, Luz Cruz, Roberto Flores, Vanessa Flores, Maria Gaytan-Martinez, Marely Guadiana, Hansel Lopez, Mirian Lopez, Deshawn Mitchell, Stephanie Pakula, Victor Solano, Mauricio Sosa Cardenas, Fernando Tovar and Magrullio Zuniga for their admittance into the Waukegan to College program.

Launched in 2009, W2C seeks to advance local students' intellectual and emotional development, cultivating a strong commitment to community and a profound belief that they can build a brighter future for themselves, their families and their communities. By establishing high academic expectations and counseling students and their families on the college application process, W2C helps students realize their full potential by making the dream of college a reality.

All first-generation college students, these young people were selected for the W2C program because of their impressive academic achievements as well as their contributions to their communities. As leaders in the classroom, these students demonstrated tremendous resolve in overcoming difficult obstacles as well as dedication to positively contribute to society.

In order to revitalize our communities, we must dedicate ourselves to rebuilding the ladders of opportunity so that all Americans are assured the prospect of personal advancement. This requires providing each and every child, regardless of zip code, access to a high quality, affordable education.

When our nation's talented young people pursue their passions and follow their dreams, they accomplish far more than personal growth. By applying to college and achieving individual success, these young leaders embody and advance an ethos that permeates into all aspects of society. Their efforts inspire hope and promise among their families, friends and neighbors, igniting a social transformation that has the potential to dramatically reshape our local communities and our nation.

These students truly are Champions of Change. I wish them all the best of luck in their future endeavors.

**RECOGNIZING EMERGING BUSI-
NESS LEADERS UPON RECEIVING
THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE 2014 YOUNG PROFES-
SIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD**

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the founding members of Emerging Business Leaders on receiving the 2014 Young Professional Leadership Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. This award acknowledges a group of young professionals that demonstrate commitment to the Buffalo Niagara Region.

Originally called the Creative Class Consortium, Emerging Business Leaders is a network of over 500 smart and dynamic professionals under the age of 40. Four years ago, Chamber President Colleen DiPirro adopted a non-traditional business model, and reached out to local firms and invited employees under the age of 40 to create a dialogue that encourages their engagement. These members come from different industries, have different ideas, but are all committed to innovation. With the creation of the Emerging Business Leaders, these professionals were given a network to become community stewards.

I stand here today, Mr. Speaker, to recognize the enormous contribution that comes with the foundation of Emerging Business Leaders to the Buffalo Niagara region. This group of young and progressive individuals will keep the Amherst Chamber of Commerce relevant, benefitting the entire region.

**RECOGNIZING VICE ADMIRAL WIL-
LIAM D FRENCH ON HIS RETIRE-
MENT FROM THE UNITED
STATES NAVY**

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Vice Admiral William D. French on his retirement from the United States Navy after 35 years of Federal service. Vice Admiral French retired as the Commander, Navy Installations Command.

Admiral French earned his commission as an officer in the United States Navy through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Program in 1979. In addition to his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Vanderbilt University, Admiral French holds a Master of Science degree from Naval Postgraduate School in 1986 and a Master of Arts from the Naval War College in 1999.

He served at sea on a number of submarines including as Executive Officer on the USS *Helena* (SSN 725) and commanded the USS *Salt Lake City* (SSN 716). Admiral French also served as Deputy Commander of Submarine Squadron 11; as Chief of the Strategy and Policy Division at U.S. Strategic Command and Commanded Submarine Squadron 3 in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Throughout his distinguished naval career, Admiral French has worked tirelessly to de-

fend his nation and develop strong community relationships wherever he was stationed. Admiral French's commitment to community was readily apparent in his second flag officer assignment serving as commander, Joint Region Marianas and concurrently serving as U.S. Defense Representative to Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and Republic of Palau. Admiral French was one of the most popular and effective Admirals to have served on Guam.

In particular, he advocated, prepared for and assisted in the military buildup on Guam, and he did it through establishing strong relationships within the community. He also worked closely with then Brigadier General Doug Owens, Commander 36th Wing at Andersen Air Force Base, on implementing the Joint Region concept on Guam. There were many unique and difficult challenges in implementing this requirement from the 2005 round of BRAC but their framework endures to this day.

Moreover, he prioritized direct and open lines of communication with our community at all the Navy regions he served. On Guam, he demonstrated a keen understanding of the Chamorro culture that is an important part of understanding Guam and relating to our local community. Admiral French demonstrated a model of leadership that should be emulated by any military officer. He established ground rules on Guam which are still in place today.

I also commend Vice Admiral French for his leadership as Commander, Naval Installations Command. He provided leadership of the shore-based Navy installations at a time of budget constraints. He has been able to ensure that the sailors and marines are provided with shore facilities that support their mission and their families. Despite the budget challenges he ensured that the Navy continued to invest in improving the housing and facilities that support Marines and sailors.

Despite his tremendous accomplishments, Vice Admiral French and his family suffered an unimaginable tragedy earlier this year. On January 24, 2014 Admiral French's daughter, Teresa was tragically killed. Admiral French and his family stood strong in the face of adversity and were an example for us all to follow. In the days following Teresa's passing there was a tremendous outreach to his family from any community in which Admiral French served or where his family lived. That was a clear demonstration of the strength of his personal bonds and leadership wherever he served his nation.

I have enjoyed working with Admiral French when he was on Guam as well as during his tenure as Commander, Navy Installations Command. On behalf of the people of Guam and a grateful nation, I commend Vice Admiral French for his many years of dedicated service to our country. I wish him the best in his retirement.

**COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
SARDAR GANGA SINGH DHILLON**

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I, along with my colleague Mr. Honda, rise today to commemorate the distinguished life of Sardar

Ganga Singh Dhillon, who passed away on September 24, 2014 at the age of 86.

Ganga Singh Dhillon was born in the Sheikhpura area of West Punjab. He received his early education at Chak 19 and the Guru Nanak Khalsa High School Nanakana Sahib. He later joined the Sikh National College Lahore.

This was a time of great political and religious turmoil throughout the Indian sub-continent. The region was on the verge of being divided, and the interests of the Sikh community were not being addressed. S. Dhillon became one of the foremost original leaders of the Sikh struggle. In 1947, he was arrested in Lahore along with several other students for promoting Khalistan, a Sikh nation. That same year, his father was shot and killed by the Pakistani army while trying to resolve an issue between the Sikhs and Muslims.

Ganga Singh Dhillon then moved with his family to India where he was mentored by S. Joginder Singh Mann, an old family friend. While in India, S. Dhillon began his battle to preserve Sikh holy sites, especially the birthplace of the first Sikh guru, Guru Nanak Dev, and to allow Sikh pilgrims the right to visit these sites. However, his cause was considered far too radical, and he was taken into custody and held in the Nabha jail for a year and a half. It would take fifty years for this battle to be won; in 1999 the President of Pakistan finally granted the Pakistan Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee the right to maintain Sikh shrines and began granting more visas so that Sikhs abroad can visit them.

With the help of S. Mann, Sardar Ganga Singh Dhillon moved to the United States in the 1960s where he continued his advocacy on behalf of Sikh concerns. S. Dhillon was committed to improving relationships and understanding between Sikhs and other cultures and religions. He discussed issues with patience, logic, and advocacy for peaceful solutions, even with his most bitter adversaries. In 1965, S. Dhillon founded the John F. Kennedy Memorial Hockey Tournament. The core mission of this tournament was to build friendship and stronger bonds through sport, and to develop better understanding and mutual respect for people of all countries, rich and poor, through competition and sportsmanship. This tournament is now one of the largest international hockey tournaments in the United States.

In 1981, S. Dhillon returned to India to deliver a Presidential Address entitled "Sikhs Are a Nation" at the 54th All India Sikh Educational Conference. Reaction to his speech was overwhelmingly hostile, forcing him to leave India immediately. He was banned from ever travelling to India as a result.

S. Dhillon was also a leader on other issues of importance to the international Sikh community. He along with others established the Nanakana Sahib Foundation, the purpose of which was to bridge the gap between Sikhs and their Pakistani Muslim brothers. This foundation is jointly funded and run by Muslim and Sikh private individuals, to support a library, a guest house, and hospital where free medical care is provided to the poor.

Mr. Speaker, we ask that our colleagues join us in commemorating and celebrating the life of our friend, Sardar Ganga Singh Dhillon and in expressing sincere condolences to his family. Sardar Ganga Singh Dhillon rightfully belongs in a select group of very rare individ-

uals who, through peaceful means, have truly changed the world. His efforts on behalf of the international Sikh community and the improvement of relationships between cultures will be his enduring legacy.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 85th Anniversary of the Daughters of Penelope. This fine organization was founded on November 16, 1929, in San Francisco, with the mission of improving the well-being of Greek women and providing them with opportunities to make significant contributions to American society. Over the past 85 years, Daughters of Penelope has grown into a leading international organization of women of Hellenic descent and Philhellenes, recognized and respected worldwide for its scholarship programs and public advocacy.

Today, the Daughters are instrumental in promoting the ideals of ancient Greece, with a focus on education, philanthropy, civic responsibility, and individual excellence through community service and volunteerism. Most recently, through their 250 chapters around the globe, they have supported efforts to end domestic violence in the United States and Greece by sponsoring domestic violence centers, shelters, and hotlines.

I am proud to work with them on these important issues and look forward to continuing our partnership to empower the next generation of female Hellenic leaders.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR CLEM- ENT PRICE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rutgers University Professor Clement Price, who passed away earlier this month.

Dr. Price was born in Washington, DC, but adopted Newark as his beloved home. He became one of Newark's most ardent supporters and an esteemed author, historian, and humanitarian.

He moved to Newark shortly after the 1967 riots, and earned his Ph.D. from Rutgers University, later becoming a professor there.

Dr. Price was a very thoughtful man, and he was always supportive of me, often providing guidance. I will forever be grateful for his help and dedication to our shared beloved city. Newark is without a doubt a better place to live because of Dr. Clement Price.

The last time I saw Dr. Price was just days before his passing. He was being honored by the Newark YMCA.

He had told me before that when he was a youngster, he was a server in the Members Dining Hall. Unfortunately, though, because of the color of his skin, he was never able to dine there. So, I had invited him down to dine with me.

He reminded me of my offer that day, and the last thing he said to me was "We're going to keep that date; and we're going to taste that bean soup." I only wish we could have kept that date. It would have been my absolute pleasure.

To his wife, Mary Sue, I extend my deepest condolences, thoughts, and prayers.

RECOGNIZING CCS ONCOLOGY UPON RECEIVING THE 2014 INNO- VATION AWARD FROM THE AM- HERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize CCS Oncology as the recipient of the 2014 Innovation Award presented by the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. This award recognizes a firm that goes beyond the industry standard to advance their service through the integration of technology.

Located in Williamsville, Kenmore, Lockport, Niagara Falls, Hamburg, West Seneca, and Dunkirk, CCS Oncology provides comprehensive cancer services to Western New York. With over 30 board certified physicians and 200 professionals, CCS Oncology is dedicated to providing the most advanced technology and personalized treatment plans to their patients. Their services include chemotherapy, hematology, radiation therapy, general surgery, and genetic screening, and numerous others.

To better serve their patients, and all of Western New York, CCS Oncology provides the highest quality clinical services, giving hope for all stages and types of cancer. It is with great honor, Mr. Speaker, which I stand here today to recognize CCS Oncology on the receiving of the 2014 Innovation Award.

REMEMBERING U.S. NAVY COM- MANDER CHRISTOPHER E. KALAFUT

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and celebrate the life of U.S. Navy Commander Christopher E. Kalafut, of Acworth, GA, and honor his service to this great nation.

Commander Kalafut passed away in late October while serving at Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar at the age of 49.

A native of Oceanside, California, Kalafut was a gifted student and athlete. Upon his graduation, he attended the prestigious U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, NY where he earned a Bachelor of Science and was commissioned into the U.S. Navy in 1987. Chris earned his pilot wings in 1990 and spent 23 years as an Active Duty and Reserve pilot flying the E-2C Hawkeye in support of combat, humanitarian, and disaster relief missions.

Chris also served as a U.S. Customs pilot, flew for Delta Airlines, and was first an officer based out of Atlanta. In 2001, Kalafut and his

family settled in Acworth, where they have lived ever since.

Kalafut was a loving father to his 5 children and his wife, Mary Qualls-Kalafut. His unwavering devotion to his family and his country will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my deepest condolences to Commander Kalafut's family and loved ones during this most difficult of times.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF REVEREND RONALD WINTERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Reverend Ronald Winters and to congratulate him on his retirement following 49 years of pastoral service to the Northern Virginia Community.

Rev. Winters is a native of Indianapolis, Indiana, where he graduated from Crispus Attucks High School in June 1950. He served honorably in the United States Navy and then attended Bishop College in Marshall, Texas. In 1969, Rev. Winters received the Bachelor of Theology and Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degrees from Baltimore College of Bible and Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland.

Reverend Winters was licensed to the Gospel Ministry by First Baptist Church of North Indianapolis, Indiana in 1954 and ordained to the work of the Gospel Ministry by Mt. Calvary Baptist Church of Rockville, Maryland in 1965. He served as Pastor of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Herndon, Virginia from 1965 to 1972, Shiloh Baptist Church in McLean, Virginia from 1973 to 1987, and Peace Baptist Church in Dunn Loring, Virginia from 1988 to 1993. In 1994, Reverend Winters organized the Resurrection Baptist Church of Reston, Virginia where he has served as Pastor for the past nineteen years.

Rev. Winters has also been involved in numerous religious and community service organizations. He is the former First Vice Moderator of the Northern Virginia Baptist Association; member of the Board of Directors of One Church One Child of Virginia; Life Member and Past President of the Fairfax County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; and member of the Board of Directors of the Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation. He is the past President of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Northern Virginia and a previous Board member of Food for Others in Northern Virginia.

Reverend Winters' professional experience as a United States Senate Staff member included Special Assistant for Minority Affairs for Senator Vance Hartke (1960–1973); Assistant Chief Clerk for the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee (1973–1975); Special Assistant to Senator Harrison A. Williams (1975–1982); and Special Assistant to Senator Nicholas F. Brady (1982–1983). In 1970, he offered the convening prayer in the chamber of the United States Senate and in 1968 his "Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." was published in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Rev. Winters for his service to the church, his community, and our country and in congratulating him on his well-deserved retirement.

SANDY REINVESTMENT
EXTENSION ACT OF 2014

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, just over two weeks ago marked the second anniversary of Superstorm Sandy's landfall in New Jersey. I toured several areas hit hardest by the storm, meeting with residents and local officials who have been working at the ground level throughout the recovery. Their resiliency is ever-present, and much progress has been made. It remains clear however that as residents and businesses continue to rebuild, the federal government can do more to ensure a full recovery by incentivizing continued investment in the hard-hit communities.

Many will never forget the iconic images following the storm of Casino Pier's Jet Star roller coaster standing in the Atlantic Ocean off the shore of Seaside Heights, NJ. Businesses such as Casino Pier would eventually receive insurance payments for their lost or damaged property, a transaction known as an "involuntary conversion" under the U.S. tax code. Once the involuntary conversion occurs, businesses have a two-year replacement period, after which time any gain may be recognized and subject to taxation.

With amusement rides and other costly business assets, full replacement can be impossible within the two-year period. Accordingly, following past disasters—including Hurricane Katrina, the 2007 Kansas storms, and 2008 Midwest storms, floods, and tornadoes—Congress has extended the replacement period to five years, giving businesses the time they need to reinvest the money in the community. The Sandy Reinvestment Extension Act of 2014 would provide the same extension to those affected in the Sandy disaster area, and would apply only where the replacement property is of substantial use in the same area—ensuring reinvestment in the affected communities.

This legislation complements bills I have co-sponsored—the Hurricane Sandy Tax Relief Act (H.R. 2137) and the Mortgage Forgiveness Tax Relief Act (H.R. 2994)—that together provide critical tax relief for homeowners and businesses still struggling to recover from Sandy. As we have learned from many previous natural disasters, recoveries take time, and victims are burdened long after the storm has passed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to consider the Sandy Reinvestment Extension Act of 2014 and other critical tax relief legislation that will provide homeowners and businesses in the Sandy-impacted region with the assistance and tools needed for a full recovery.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF SAMUEL A. ALLEN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commemorate the life and dedi-

cated service of Crestview, Florida's beloved Mr. Samuel A. Allen, who passed away on November 5, 2014. Mr. Allen was a veteran, inspirational teacher, committed public servant, and loving family man. The entire Northwest Florida community mourns the loss of a great and compassionate individual.

Mr. Allen was born on November 4, 1921, in Tallahassee, Florida, to the late Samuel and Aljonia Allen, who instilled in him the teachings of Jesus Christ at an early age. As a young adult, Mr. Allen honorably served our Nation as a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1943 to 1946 before "discharging from the military and [falling] head over heels in love with a beautiful girl in Texas," as he would say. He married his beautiful girl, the late Caroline J. Barker, on June 5, 1946.

Mr. Allen enjoyed a long and successful career as an educator. He taught in the Okaloosa County School district for 34 years at Charles Drew High School in Baker, Florida, and at Carver Hill High School and Richbourg Junior High School in Crestview, Florida, until he retired in 1983. Mr. Allen's pride in his teaching was extremely evident by the impression he left on others. In addition to his exceptional work in the classroom, Mr. Allen was also a leader in Northwest Florida's civic society, and on November 4, 1968, Mr. Allen became the first African-American elected as a councilman to the Crestview City Council, on which he served for 11 years.

In addition to his successful career and selfless leadership in the Northwest Florida community, Mr. Allen was also a member of Lebanon Baptist Church of Baker, a member of their Trustee Board, a Sunday School Superintendent-Teacher and Student, the transportation chairperson, and was active in the Progressive District of West Florida Association. From his humble beginnings, Mr. Allen achieved tremendous success throughout his lifetime, and his commitment to service never wavered. To some, Mr. Allen will be remembered as a man of integrity who devoted his life to public service and the shaping of the youth of Northwest Florida. To his family and friends, he will always be remembered for his loving and caring demeanor, and his dedication to his family.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is a privilege for me to honor the life and dedicated service of Mr. Samuel A. Allen. My wife Vicki and I extend our prayers and sincere condolences to his son, Samuel Jr.; his daughter, Aljonia; five grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; one great-great grandson; and the entire Allen family.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMBAT OPERATIONS OF THE 55TH ELECTRONIC COMBAT GROUP

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 55th Electronic Combat Group, the Compass Call mission, and its 25th anniversary of combat operations in defense of our great nation. Compass Call is a United States Air Force mission that uses modified C-130s to fly above contested airspace, jamming

enemy command and control communications. By targeting enemy navigation, radar and data systems, Compass Call helps save lives on the ground and in the air.

This Saturday, current and past members of the Compass Call mission will be taking part in a reunion in Tucson, Arizona, my home district. Since Operation Just Cause ended the military dictatorship of Manuel Noriega in Panama, Compass Call has been flying in every major conflict over the past 25 years.

Spanning the last eleven years, Compass Call has provided exceptional electronic warfare protection for the United States and allied forces in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. To date, the mission has amassed 37,000 combat hours and there is a high likelihood that at this moment, there is an EC-130H flying overhead providing coverage for our troops.

I am proud that Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson is home to Compass Call. No state is as fiercely loyal to our service members as Arizona.

It is our honor to celebrate with the 55th Electronic Combat Group as they reunite this weekend.

It is no wonder that the group has been awarded the Air Force's 2014 Electronic Combat Annual Award Program Unit of the Year and the Air Force's Association of Old Crows Outstanding Electronic Combat Unit of the Year.

What these men and women do behind the scenes may not get much attention but it is what wins wars.

RECOGNIZING JAMES P. MORAN'S LEGACY OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise to recognize my friend and colleague, JIM MORAN, for a distinguished career in public service spanning four decades. JIM announced earlier this year that he would not seek re-election to Congress, where he has spent the last 24 years as a formidable advocate for Northern Virginia and the entire Commonwealth of Virginia. For anyone who knows him, JIM's passion for public service is apparent. He wears it on his sleeve like a badge of honor. Throughout his career, he has been a proponent for protecting the environment, a defender of the downtrodden, and a champion for commonsense, responsive government, even if that meant challenging his own party.

I have had the pleasure of knowing JIM since his days serving on the Alexandria City Council, where he was first elected in 1979. He'd already amassed a respectable career in public service by that point, working for the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Library of Congress, and the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations. During JIM's tenure on the City Council, Alexandria was experiencing rapid growth along with the rest of Northern Virginia. He was elected Mayor in 1985 and re-elected to a second term.

At the urging of his late friend, Mame Reiley, and others in the community, JIM decided to run for Congress in 1990. He chal-

lenged and defeated 5-term incumbent Republican Stan Parris—I know for some it might be inconceivable that a Republican ever represented the 8th District, but it just demonstrates how much the demographics of the district have shifted. JIM did not waste time making his mark on any number of local, national, and international issues. He quickly became a champion for consumers, working to prohibit state motor vehicle agencies from selling personal information to mail order companies and other organizations, and he worked in bipartisan fashion with our former colleagues Dan Burton and Ed Markey to pass legislation that allowed parents to better monitor and control the television viewing habits of their children.

He was an early, outspoken critic of the military's Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy and has been a consistent advocate for LGBT rights. JIM was one of 67 members to oppose the Defense of Marriage Act in 1996. Nearly 20 years later, he can feel a sense of vindication knowing Don't Ask, Don't Tell was repealed in 2011 and 30 states now recognize same-sex marriage, with more likely to join them as the courts continue to question the constitutionality of banning such marriages.

Following one of the worst tragedies to befall our nation on 9/11, JIM was instrumental in the fight to restore air service, which had been temporarily suspended, at National Airport. He also helped lead the charge in questioning the legitimacy of the Bush administration's case in the build up to the war in Iraq, ultimately voting against the use of military force—something we continue to debate to this day as other conflicts in the Middle East have erupted. It was JIM who later introduced legislative language requiring regular reports to Congress on the Strategy for Success, including performance metrics which have since become benchmark standards.

Through it all, JIM never lost sight of his local government roots. Early in his tenure, he helped secure passage of legislation requiring the CBO and other agencies to analyze and report on the fiscal impacts of federal legislation on state and local governments, capturing the unfunded mandates, something to which I wish more of our colleagues in Congress would pay greater attention. He also partnered with our former colleague Tom Davis, the Clinton administration, and former District of Columbia Mayor Tony Williams to advance D.C. Home Rule and reduce Congressional restrictions on the District. During my tenure on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, we worked closely with JIM and the rest of our Congressional delegation on the closure of the D.C.-operated Lorton Prison, and the eventual sale of the 3,000-acre former prison property to the County for use as parkland, public facilities, and limited economic development.

JIM's fingerprints also are visible on most major transportation improvements across Northern Virginia in the last two decades. He worked with the regional delegation and leveraged his position on the Appropriations Committee to help secure the major federal commitment to help Virginia and Maryland replace the aging Woodrow Wilson Bridge, the only federally owned bridge in the nation. Later, JIM worked with Fairfax County and the Commonwealth to convince the Pentagon to help build a new road skirting the outer edge of Fort Belvoir after two popular commuter routes through the base were closed following 9/11.

He also was instrumental in securing federal commitments to help the region absorb the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure movements, in which Fort Belvoir saw the largest net increase in military personnel. Richmond Highway provides the primary access point to the base, which has no transit connection, and JIM helped secure funding to widen the already clogged Route 1 to ensure the new workers and visitors to Belvoir could actually get there.

In addition to those road improvements, JIM worked with the regional delegation to secure the long-term capital funding agreement with Metro, in which the federal government has committed to match the contributions from Virginia, Maryland, and D.C. And I was pleased to stand with JIM and our colleague FRANK WOLF, who is also retiring after 34 years in Congress, at the recent ribbon cutting ceremony for Metro's new Silver Line. That one project has been more than 50 years in the making and will have a transformative effect on the National Capital Region, and JIM and FRANK were among those who helped us finally push it over the finish line.

From his days working at the Department of Health to his tenure as chairman of the House Interior and Environment Appropriations Subcommittee, JIM has labored to make government work better for our constituents and our communities and to ensure we have competent and committed public workforce to advance our shared priorities. It is fitting that we use the occasion of the 8th Congressional District Democratic Committee's annual Kennedy-King Dinner, which honors the legacies of Sen. Robert Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to celebrate the tremendous record of accomplishment of JIM MORAN. Like others in our generation, JIM stepped forward to accept the baton to carry on Bobby Kennedy and Dr. King's mission to promote a civil, just, and prosperous society. Mame Reiley, who we tragically lost earlier this year to breast cancer, was the impetus behind this annual gathering, and we rightfully take a moment to honor her legacy of service as well.

Though she ran her own communications firm, Mame's true calling was as a political strategist. As noted earlier, she counseled JIM on his first run for Congress and went on to serve as his campaign manager and first Chief of Staff. She was elected to the Democratic National Committee from Virginia, chairing the Women's Caucus. She advised former Gov. Doug Wilder in his Presidential exploratory campaign and went on to serve in political advisory roles for Gov. Mark Warner and Gov. Tim Kaine. She also advised JIM's brother, Brian, in his bid for statewide office. There is no question JIM and Mame were a dynamic political duo, and their collective efforts have touched and improved lives throughout the community.

In closing, let me just say that for me personally, JIM MORAN is first and foremost, a dear friend. When I came to Congress as the junior member of the Northern Virginia delegation, JIM was there for me every step of the way. We've become true partners and have collaborated on hundreds of issues facing our region, and I hope to be able to continue calling on his counsel. I wish him and his family all the best as he begins this new chapter of his life, and I congratulate him on a meaningful legacy of service and accomplishment for which any of us in public life could be proud.

RECOGNIZING BUFFALO SPREE
UPON BEING AWARDED AM-
HERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2014 STEWARDSHIP AWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Buffalo Spree, a magazine that showcases Western New York's rich beauty, on being awarded the Amherst Chamber of Commerce 2014 Stewardship Award. Buffalo Spree performs a function that provides measurable value to the community.

The magazine was founded in 1967 by Richard G. Shotell and Johanna Hall Van De Mark as an outlet to celebrate Western New York. Later, under Van De Mark's leadership, the magazine became an outlet for creative writers, along with contributions by local historian Austin Fox and architectural expert John Conlin. Buffalo Spree was bought in 1998 by Larry Levite and David McDuff and published six times a year. Content was also added, including a focus of arts, entertainment, lifestyles, and featured articles on local projects and issues.

The magazine now publishes an issue once a month, along with yearly supplements. They have been nationally recognized by the City and Region Magazine Association and locally by the WNY chapter of the American Institute of Architects, Preservation Buffalo Niagara, and the Burchfield Penney Art Center. Buffalo Spree has enhanced its community involvement by relocating their headquarters and by their integration into the digital realm.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to recognize with pride the accomplishment of Buffalo Spree on their commitment to excellence in the Buffalo Niagara region. The publication showcases Buffalo and provides proof of the depth of the Western New York area.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF AIR
FORCE LT. HANK SCiarONI, MR.
GIOVANNI SILVIERO, MR.
FRANCESCO MONTEVANI AND
MR. SERGIO MONTEVANI.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and courage of my distinguished constituent, Air Force Lieutenant Hank Sciaroni, a recipient of the Bronze Star for bravery during World War II.

In 1944, Lt. Sciaroni had to crash-land his B-24 Liberator bomber on an enemy-held beach in Italy. Were it not for the bravery of three Italian fishermen, he and his three Sergeants, Leonard Meton, Olin Houghton and Al Doerwald, would have been captured. Mr. Giovanni Silviero, Mr. Francesco Montevani and his son, Sergio Montevani, endangered their own lives to save our servicemen who they also housed and fed for nearly two weeks. They put themselves at even greater risk in procuring a small boat which the servicemen used to make their escape.

On November 1, 1944, Lt. Sciaroni and his men successfully escaped from enemy terri-

tory, setting sail for the Ally-controlled port of Cesenatico, where they would finally receive medical attention. Although he has often thought of the three Italian fishermen, Mr. Sciaroni has not seen the men to whom he and his three sergeants owe their lives since.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Lieutenant Hank Sciaroni who represents the great courage of American soldiers during World War II; his men, Sergeants Meton, Houghton and Doerwald; and equally important, the brave Italians who selflessly protected our countrymen from certain capture by enemy forces, Giovanni Silviero, Francesco Montevani and Sergio Montevani. I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude for their remarkable service to our great nation.

CONGRATULATING HARRISON D.
MCIVER III FOR RECEIVING THE
CHARLES H. DORSEY AWARD

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Harrison D. McIver III of Memphis, Tennessee for receiving the American Bar Association's (ABA) Charles H. Dorsey Award, which is awarded to attorneys who work in legal aid or legal service corporations representing low-income people. He has been at the helm of legal aid organizations from Mississippi to our nation's capital, working to ensure that all people have access to legal representation regardless of their economic backgrounds.

McIver received his undergraduate degree from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia before earning his doctor of Jurisprudence from Rutgers University School of Law in Newark, New Jersey. He began his legal career as a Reginald Heber Smith Fellow with North Mississippi Rural Legal Services and later became a managing attorney for the Southwest Mississippi Legal Services and North Mississippi Rural Legal Services. McIver was Executive Director of the Central Mississippi Legal Services in Jackson, Mississippi before becoming Executive Director of the Project Advisory Group in Washington, DC, which is the national organization for legal service programs. He served in this position when Charles H. Dorsey, Jr. sat on the organization's board of directors.

In 1998, Harrison joined the Memphis Area Legal Services Inc. (MALS) as the Executive Director and gave the program new direction and focus as well as expanded the program's outreach potential. He was responsible for creating the program's first vision and mission statements, and strategic and business plans that were focused around a common purpose. McIver also worked to improve access to services by streamlining the program's delivery system. Additionally, Harrison formed partnerships and collaborations with the private bar to maximize resources. Under his leadership, MALS became the first legal aid organization participant in the Program for Nonprofit Excellence, which is a nationally recognized capacity building program that assists in providing high quality legal service. His dedication to client services has been outstanding and his 15-

year leadership at the Memphis Area Legal Services is testament to his work, vision and commitment to providing legal aid services to the Memphis community.

During his 15-year tenure at MALS, Harrison has been involved in legal aid work at the local, state, regional and national levels, including at the Memphis Bar Association; the Ben F. Jones Chapter of the National Bar Association; the Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services; the Tennessee Bar Association; the Southeast Project Directors Association; the National Legal Aid & Defender Association; and the American Bar Association. Harrison has received the Ben F. Jones A. A. Latting Award, the Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services' B. Riney Green Award, and has been inducted as a Fellow by the Tennessee Bar Foundation, the Memphis and Shelby County Bar Foundation and the American Bar Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, Harrison D. McIver has served the Memphis legal community well and I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on receiving the American Bar Association's 2014 Charles H. Dorsey Award.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2014 NORTHERN VIRGINIA
LEADERSHIP AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2014 recipients of the Northern Virginia Leadership Awards presented by Leadership Fairfax.

Leadership Fairfax is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to finding, training, and growing leaders in Northern Virginia. The mission of Leadership Fairfax is to educate, prepare, inspire, and connect leaders to serve and strengthen our community. Graduates from its programs become part of a fast-growing network of civic leaders. I've always said, "When you walk into a crowded room, it's easy to spot the graduates of Leadership Fairfax—they just stand out!"

Leadership Fairfax alumni and the general public submitted nominations for the 18th annual Northern Virginia Leadership Award, and a panel of community and business leaders made the final selections. It is my honor to enter the following names of the 2014 Northern Virginia Leadership Awards recipients into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The recipient of the 2014 Regional Leadership Award is Mary Agee, LFI '91, President and CEO of Northern Virginia Family Service, in recognition of her three decades of work to transform the lives of thousands of families in Northern Virginia, her influence on public policy in the region and the Commonwealth, and her service on the boards of directors of a wide variety of human services organizations.

Steve Gladis, PhD, CEO of Steve Gladis Leadership Partners is the recipient of the Trustee Leadership Award in recognition of his long-standing commitment to civic, academic, and philanthropic leadership and for inspiring others through his role as team builder, coach, and mentor. As an author, professor an organizer, Steve has developed and inspired a new generation of philanthropists and has

been among the most visible proponents of development and fundraising in the public and private sectors.

The Non-Profit Leadership Organizational Award is being presented to Homestretch and its Executive Director, Christopher Fay, LFI '12, in honor of Homestretch's commitment to providing comprehensive services to address every aspect of a homeless family's situation. Homestretch engages business, non-profits, and volunteers in the transition of families to self-sufficiency and success.

The Non-Profit Leadership Individual Award is being presented to Rosemary Tran Lauer, LFI '11, for establishing Devotion To Children, a charitable organization committed to providing access to high-quality educational and childcare programs for young children from economically disadvantaged families. Since 1994, Rosemary has worked collaboratively

with volunteers and partner organizations to make a difference in the lives of young children and their families.

The Corporate Leadership Award is being presented to Tim Sargeant, Dominion Resources, LFI '03, in recognition of his outstanding corporate citizenship through his representation of Dominion Resources, and his active role in the community. Tim serves on the Fairfax County Planning Commission, the Board of Visitors of Gunston Hall, the Northern Virginia Regional Park Foundation Board, the Northern Virginia Community College Foundation Board, the Board of Leadership Fairfax, Inc., and several area Chambers of Commerce.

The Educational Leadership Award is being presented to Jim Holcombe and Gloria Rubin, from J.E.B. Stuart High School, in recognition of their leadership of the Interact Club and

partnership with the community. Each year Jim and Gloria engage 70–100 students from a socio- and economically diverse school and provide them the opportunity to become civic leaders, participate in community service and training sessions, and receive support and scholarship opportunities for college applications.

Mr. Speaker, the contributions of these individuals and organizations are one of the reasons why Fairfax is such a sought after community in which to live and work, and this year's honorees highlight the legacy of Leadership Fairfax in preparing our community's future leaders to address the challenges we face. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these honorees and thanking them for their service to Northern Virginia.