

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE NORTHERN HIGH SCHOOL PATRIOTS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate an extraordinary team of young women from Maryland's fifth congressional district. The Northern High School Patriots won the 3A Maryland "state softball" finals on May 26, 2012. This is their fifth consecutive softball state championship and ninth softball championship overall. This incredible achievement was made all the more significant given the caliber of their competition.

After an undefeated season, the Patriots emerged victorious over Thomas Stone High School, Chopticon High School, Huntingtown High School, and Reservoir High School to ultimately meet Linganore High School in the state championship game at Robert E. Taylor Stadium at the University of Maryland. The Patriots prevailed, overcoming the Linganore Lancers with a final score of 10–0.

This victory demonstrates that with determination, willpower, and discipline we can work to overcome any obstacle in the path of achieving success. The Northern High School Softball team has gone above and beyond expectations. The Patriots end their 2012 season not only with a state championship, but also a perfect record of 25–0. Additionally, Northern High School has become the first softball program in state history to win five consecutive state titles.

Eighteen student-athletes contributed to this triumphant season, remaining focused and determined to continue the streak of Northern High School softball state championships.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my heartiest congratulations to the members of the championship team—Jessie Clemons, Kierstie Schaefer, Jess Cummings, Sarah Bennett, Sam Gatton, Caroline Clarry, Marleigh Smith, Lindsey Schmeiser, Madison Marinaccio, Baylee Hutchinson, Erin Adams, Julie Keleti, Carleigh Ruleman, Kristina Lozupone, Kailin Case, Allison Garzone, Kayla Grantham, and Sabrina Beil—on their victory. And, I also want to applaud Head Coach Robert Earl Radford and his coaching staff—Devin Hall, Beth Radford, and Qyntia Parks-Lewis—for their dedication and commitment while guiding these talented student-athletes.

Like all Southern Marylanders, I am very proud of these young women and I congratulate all of those involved in bringing home a state title. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this great accomplishment.

PRENATAL NONDISCRIMINATION ACT (PRENDA) OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act, PRENDA, of 2012 (H.R. 3541).

Every Member of the House opposes the abhorrent practice of gender selection, including me. In Minnesota, prohibiting sex-selective abortions has passed on a bipartisan basis in the State House of Representatives in 2007 and 2010. Unfortunately, the bill before us is not about protecting girls. It is about politics. H.R. 3541 is an attempt by House Republicans to restrict women's access to legal reproductive health care services by threatening medical professionals with legal action.

Under this bill, health care providers could face civil penalties or even criminal prosecution for failing to report confidential conversations they have with woman about terminating a pregnancy. Ten leading medical associations oppose this bill, arguing that "H.R. 3541 would require that medical and mental health professionals violate doctor-patient confidentiality and report known or suspected violations." Physicians take an oath to be trusted counselors for their patients, not secret informers for the government. Many recite the modern version of the Hippocratic Oath, which states: "I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know." It is wrong for Congress to empower politicians to interfere in the very personal and private relationship between a woman and her health care provider.

Women must have control over their own health care decisions and be able to trust their doctors to provide confidential medical guidance free from ideologically-driven misinformation or government interference. H.R. 3541 threatens these basic principles.

Congress can and should do more to fight gender discrimination and improve the lives of women and girls. I urge my Republican colleagues to join House Democrats in our efforts to increase women's access to affordable, comprehensive health care, achieve pay equity and ensure all girls can obtain a quality education. Bipartisan support for such policies would be the strongest statement about America's commitment to gender equality.

I urge all my colleagues to oppose H.R. 3541.

IN RECOGNITION OF EVAN R. CORN'S UPON RECEIVING THE HERMAN "RUSTY" SHIPPS LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Evan R. Corns upon him receiving the Herman "Rusty" Shipps leadership award. This prestigious award is named in honor of Rusty Shipps, Class of 1913. The Award, bestowed by the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Board of Directors, recognizes exemplary leadership, stewardship, dedication, and commitment to the advancement of the university.

Mr. Corns' support of his alma mater is legendary at Ohio Wesleyan University, as is his commitment to private liberal arts education as reflected in his 2010 induction into the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges Hall of Excellence.

Throughout a tremendously successful business career, Evan R. Corns has made his mark both at Ohio Wesleyan and around the State of Ohio. An active member of the university's Board of Trustees for more than 20 years and a supporter of many Ohio Wesleyan initiatives, Mr. Corns has never ceased to find new ways to enhance the campus and mission of his beloved school. For example, in an effort to make college available to others he graciously provided financial support for a number of campus scholarship programs, including the Woltemade Center's Corns Business and Entrepreneurial Scholars program, all in an effort to support the students, faculty, and staff at Ohio Wesleyan University. Alumni like Evan R. Corns represent the finest aspects of Ohio Wesleyan University and symbolize the finest traditions of citizenship.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA HUNDLEY, JACKSON CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Barbara Hundley, who has enhanced life in Jackson, Alabama through her civil service, dedication to her church and talent with gardening, earning her Jackson's Citizen of the Year award.

Mrs. Hundley has served a variety of roles in the Jackson area, working for the city planning commission on projects like a new complex for the Jackson Police Department, remodeling the White Smith Memorial Library, the construction of the Jackson Senior Citizen Center and also a new fire station for the downtown Jackson area.

In addition to this, Mrs. Hundley volunteered at the library, helped bring the Regional Child

• 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.

Advocacy Center to Grove Hill, prevented voter fraud as a poll worker at Jackson City Hall and was a member of the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce, helping to revitalize the downtown Jackson Area. Mrs. Hundley also has been a 35-year member and a past president of the Jackson Woman's Club, and taught drug awareness and other classes at Jackson High School.

Even while doing all of the aforementioned activities, Mrs. Hundley has taught Sunday school at the Jackson First United Methodist Church, provided lunch for senior citizens and those with bereaved families, sang in the choir and researched and authored a history of the church.

However, Mrs. Hundley's greatest passion might be gardening, which has developed such a reputation that groups will take tours of the gardens at her home on Golfview Drive. As is her nature, Mrs. Hundley also teaches gardening, landscaping and classes on birds and butterflies for the communities of Jackson, Grove Hill and Monroeville.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, I want to congratulate Barbara Hundley on her recent recognition and thank her for her service and example to her fellow citizens in Jackson and the surrounding communities. We wish her and her family continued success in the years to come.

43 CATHOLIC ORGANIZATIONS FORCED TO SUE TO PROTECT THEIR BASIC RIGHTS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, “. . . I have sworn upon the altar of God eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man.”

Thomas Jefferson's words reflect the basis for religious liberty in our country.

A freedom which is guaranteed in the first amendment.

The provisions in the first amendment are listed first because they are the most important.

Yet this essential freedom is being trampled on by the administration under the guise of providing essential health care.

The administration has demanded religious groups violate their religious convictions.

Last week the 43rd Catholic organization joined in lawsuits against the administration based on the Government's blatant disregard for religious freedom.

Organizations throughout the country have joined in these suits.

They are:

Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.
Consortium of Catholic Academies
Archbishop Carroll High School
Catholic Charities of D.C.
The Catholic University of America
University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL
Diocese of Joliet, IL
Catholic Charities of Joliet, IL
Diocese of Springfield, IL
Catholic Charities of Springfield, IL
The University of Notre Dame
Diocese of Fort-Wayne-South Bend, IN
Catholic Charities of Fort Wayne-South Bend, IN

St. Anne Home, Indiana
Franciscan Alliance
Our Sunday Visitor
Michigan Catholic Conference
Archdiocese of St. Louis, MO
Catholic Charities of St. Louis, MO
Diocese of Jackson, MS
Catholic Charities of Jackson, MS
Vicksburg Catholic School
St. Joseph's Catholic School
Diocese of Biloxi, MS
De l'Epee Deaf Center, Inc., Biloxi, MS
Catholic Social and Community Services, Inc., Biloxi, MS
Resurrection Catholic School, Pascagoula, MS
St. Dominic Health Services, Jackson, MS
Diocese of Rockville Centre
Catholic Health Services of Long Island
Catholic Charities of Rockville Centre
Archdiocese of New York
ArchCare
Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH
Diocese of Erie, PA
St. Martin Center, Erie, PA
Prince of Peace Center
Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA
Catholic Charities of Pittsburgh, PA
Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA
Diocese of Dallas, TX
Diocese of Fort Worth, TX

Religions should not and will not be bullied into violating their beliefs.

A government edict is not a substitute for religious doctrine.

It is a sad day in our country when groups have to sue the Government in order to protect a basic right guaranteed in our Constitution.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, I recorded an erroneous vote on the amendment offered by Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan to H.R. 5326. I intended to vote “no” on rollcall vote No. 215, on agreeing to the Huizenga amendment to H.R. 5326.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE SMITH LINDSEY, ALABAMA-BORN ACTOR, PHILANTHROPIST

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to—and honor the life of—a great Alabamian and devoted philanthropist. It is with sadness that I acknowledge the loss of George Lindsey, one of the finest actors to call Alabama home, who passed away on May 6, 2012, at the age of 83.

Born in 1928, George Lindsey grew up in Jasper, Alabama, where he attended Walker County High School. It was there that, while also starring on the football field and playing

basketball, he discovered his love of acting through school plays. He went on to attend Walker Junior College and then the Kemper Military School in Boonville, Missouri. In 1952, after earning a scholarship for his skills at quarterback, George received his Bachelor of Bioscience from the Florence State Teachers College, which is now the University of North Alabama.

After college, George enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and, while stationed in Puerto Rico, married Joyanne Herbert. Upon his discharge from the Air Force in 1955, he returned to Alabama and began a brief career in education at Hazel Green High School, teaching history and coaching baseball and basketball.

It was in 1956 that George Lindsey's acting career began with his acceptance to the American Wing Theater in New York City. After a stint on Broadway, he portrayed various characters on popular television shows such as *The Rifleman*, *Guns, Smoke, The Twilight Zone*, and *The Alfred Hitchcock Hour*. Then, in 1964, George began his career-defining role as the lovable, kind-hearted Goober Pyle on *The Andy Griffith Show*. This character, known for his “Goober Dance” and Cary Grant impression, followed him through the shows *Mayberry R.F.D.* and *Hee Haw* as well.

Above all his success on the screen, George was most passionate about giving back to his home state of Alabama. From 1973 to 1988, he raised over \$1 million for the Alabama Special Olympics through the George Lindsey Celebrity Golf Weekend, which drew countless actors and athletes to Montgomery every year. He also raised \$50,000 for the Alabama Association of Retarded Citizens through his participation with the Minnesota Special Olympics National Competition, and in 1998 he founded the George Lindsey UNA Film Festival at the University of North Alabama, which promotes the talents of local filmmakers.

Aside from providing wholesome laughter for three decades through his career as an actor, it goes without saying that George Lindsey's contributions to the state of Alabama are indeed vast and significant. A recipient of the Governor's Achievement Award and the Minnie Pearl Lifetime Achievement Award, George has left a legacy of passionate generosity that will certainly be missed.

Mr. Speaker, it is on behalf of the people of Alabama that I would like to extend my condolences to the family and many friends of George Lindsey during this time of loss. His sense of humor and passion for his home will never be forgotten.

PRENATAL NONDISCRIMINATION ACT (PRENDA) OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I voted against H.R. 3541, the Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act. I am proud that as a body we rejected the measure, and relieved that we exposed the true intent of what would have been a disastrous law. The

title of the measure was a misnomer. The proposed law did not seek to fight sex-based discrimination in our society, but was rather designed to cut down the personal rights of women.

Let me be clear, I am opposed to sex-selection abortion based on gender. However, the legislation voted upon yesterday was overbroad and dangerous. It proposed harsh sentences for doctors and individuals that strive to provide support to a woman as she makes difficult decisions concerning her personal health. It threatened the sanctity of doctor-patient confidentiality, and would have created an environment that allowed hearsay to be used as a weapon to impose Federal regulation on a purely personal matter.

Let's see this bill for what it truly was. It was yet another attempt to undermine a woman's right to choose. It was an insidious attack on personal rights. We have fought hard for our rights as women, and I will never stand by idly as some in Congress try to destroy something women like me hold so dear! If this Congress was serious about taking up issues of discrimination it would have wasted its time on this bill. We should be using our precious time here to discuss is our unequal education system, our disproportionate access to capital, or the lack of basic medical care that 47 million Americans deal with daily. Apparently, some of us believe that discrimination only exists in the womb. This type of hypocrisy and two handed policy-making must stop, and I suggest proponents of the bill examine whether or not the measure goes along with the ideals of limited government that are supposed to drive their agenda.

I am glad that we defeated the Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act, and promise that I will fight to strike down any other measure of the same nature in the future.

MURFREESBORO ISLAMIC CENTER

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today saddened that yet another community in America is attempting to stop construction of an Islamic Center, this time in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Unlike the controversy that surrounded the construction of the Islamic Center near the World Trade Center Memorial, the opponents here cannot mask their disdain for Muslim Americans by claiming to act on behalf of the families of the victims of 9/11. In fact, the opponents have not even tried, instead letting their prejudice and paranoia dictate their course.

It is ironic that these opponents contend, without any evidence, that Muslim Americans in Murfreesboro want to replace the Constitution, while they hypocritically ignore freedom of worship, a belief so central to our Nation it is enshrined in the 1st Amendment.

What makes America great is our people's unshakeable love of freedom and a monumental history that welcomes every viewpoint, faith, and background. As our Nation grows and its diversity widens, we must not forget the values on which we were founded.

We cannot, in one instance, celebrate freedom of expression, and in the next, silence

those with whom our viewpoints differ. We cannot, in one breath, claim that all Americans are free to worship as they see fit, and in the next, oppose an effort to build the house of worship that makes exercising that freedom possible.

Anyone can embrace freedom of expression when their viewpoints go unchallenged. The American way means that those who vehemently disagree are able to speak their views side by side and that differing faiths can be practiced streets apart. We must all ask ourselves—will we abandon our Constitutional principles when they allow others to voice opinions that are contrary to our own or practice a faith different than our own? Or will we stand up for the freedom of all Americans to practice their own beliefs? That is the true test of what it means to be American.

The Murfreesboro Islamic Center has been facing down protests since 2010 and is once again making headlines after a judge ruled that the local officials did not provide sufficient public notice under local law before approving the project. I know that the Muslim American community would want this project completed in accordance with local ordinances, so I fully expect they will work with officials to ensure the appropriate process is followed.

Once these processes are completed, I hope that opponents will recognize that construction is protected by our Constitution. Additional vandalism and intimidation is counter to everything we stand for as Americans and everything that makes our country great.

We are better than this as a Nation. Our proud history and hard-fought principles demand more.

CONGRATULATING BETTY ESNAULT AS THE 2012 COMMUNITY SERVICE HONOREE FOR THE LAMBDA RHO ZETA CHAPTER OF ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Betty Esnault of the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. as she is recognized by the chapter as the 2012 Community Service Honoree.

Whether in a professional setting or during her countless hours of community service, Mrs. Esnault has dedicated herself to the improvement of others' lives. Her commitment to the health and safety of her co-workers was evident from the beginning of her career at General Motors, where she worked to improve the conditions of the assembly processes through the introduction of ergonomics. Using her knowledge of ergonomics from her studies at the former General Motors Institute and the University of Michigan, Mrs. Esnault worked with industry designers to implement ergonomically-sound policies. Through Mrs. Esnault's efforts to acquire ergonomically designed tools and safer production practices, innovative assembly processes were developed to both improve working conditions and eliminate employees' risk of injury. Mrs. Esnault retired from General Motors after a successful 32 year career as a Technical Integration Engineer.

After retiring from GM, Mrs. Esnault shifted her focus to helping her neighbors and fellow Southeast Michigan residents. As a member of the St. Damien Catholic Parish and a graduate of the Sacred Heart Major Seminary with a diploma in Pastoral Ministry, Mrs. Esnault is active in planning worship services, serving as a substitute teacher for religious education, and singing in the choir. Mrs. Esnault also spends her time volunteering with various organizations, reaching out to help her community in a variety of ways. Mrs. Esnault volunteers at American House in Pontiac where she leads Communion services. She is also on the Board of Directors and volunteers at the Matchan Nutrition Center, an organization that serves nutritious lunches to residents of Oakland County in need. She also serves on the Board of Directors and volunteers at Fr. Pops' Clinic, a free clinic with volunteer doctors who provide health care services to those without insurance.

In addition to her service in the community, Mrs. Esnault is a loving wife and mother. She has also been recognized as a Life Member of the NAACP and a Gold Life Member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Betty Esnault has made it her mission to improve the lives of others. She has dedicated countless hours to this pursuit both professionally and philanthropically over many decades. Her zeal to serve others is both inspiring and moving, as there is no doubt that her work has been felt by so many across Southeast Michigan. I am pleased to honor Mrs. Esnault as she receives her award from Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

HONORING ROBIN GREGORIUS, ALABAMA SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ms. Robin Gregorius, who was recently selected the 2012 Alabama Small Business Person of Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Ms. Gregorius' personal story is a testament to her determination to realize her dream of establishing an assisted living center that addresses the needs of her patients for the comforts and of home rather than a care facility.

The daughter of immigrant parents from the former nation of Czechoslovakia, Ms. Gregorius grew up on a farm in Robertsedale in Baldwin County, Alabama.

Her career as a registered nurse took her across the country, both near and far, including the cities of New Orleans and Los Angeles. Yet, she returned to the Mobile area to put her knowledge to work for local patients who would benefit from her new approach to assisted living care.

In a recent interview with the Mobile Press-Register, Ms. Gregorius noted that over her career she had observed that her older patients longed for "homey" surroundings in their care facilities with home cooking—important touches that were often lacking in assisting living quarters. And equally important, the staff in many care facilities seldom offered the

"family touch" that many older patients sought.

Ms. Gregorius knew there was a better way and she sought to implement a new approach of "assisted living with a heartbeat." While the journey to fulfilling her dream was a long one, involving two decades of saving money—often working double shifts to earn for a down payment—she eventually secured a \$1 million bank loan. The results have been rewarding.

Today, she owns and operates the Country Gables Assisted Living Home in Grand Bay where she and her staff of 14 care for patients in a novel way. As she put it, her care facility "is pretty much run like a big bed-and-breakfast hotel, except it's breakfast, lunch and dinner with a 24-hour continuum of care."

Ms. Gregorius is joined by her mother, Lahoma, and her sister, Ramona, in running their small assisted living facility like a large family home. Their hard work has been rewarded with the satisfaction of their patients and the knowledge that County Gables is a special place.

Fittingly, in March, Robin Gregorius was named as Alabama's Small Business Person of the Year. On May 20, 2012, she officially received her award at a Small Business Administration conference honoring the nation's other Small Business awardees here in Washington, DC.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I wish to extend personal congratulations to Ms. Gregorius and her family for not only receiving this wonderful honor, but also for their substantial contributions to the lives of many local seniors.

REPRESENTATIVE KIND FLOOR
AMENDMENT 67 (RULES AMEND-
MENT 143) TO THE NATIONAL DE-
FENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
(H.R. 4310)

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the amendment to permit the National Guard and Federal agencies performing homeland defense activities to enter into a military cooperative agreement with facilities capable of providing emergency response training.

Providing our National Guard units and public service employees with increased opportunities to train at the state of the art homeland defense training facilities is just plain common-sense. It's a win for the military and service personnel who will be better prepared to safely work in the field and a win for the local communities, who will see local job creation.

My amendment does not call for any increase in funding. It is simply a legislative fix to allow the training facilities to competitively bid for training contracts with the National Guard and Federal agencies. This will allow for additional, comprehensive training for those who are on the front lines during a domestic emergency.

I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment to ensure that our National Guard and homeland disaster first responders have all of the training and tools necessary to carry out their mission.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 302 I was inadvertently recorded as voting "aye."

I oppose the Grimm amendment and my vote should be recorded as "nay."

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
REFORM ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 5651, the Food and Drug Administration Reform Act of 2012, to reauthorize the Prescription Drug User Fee Act and the Medical Device User Fee Act. These critically important laws have improved patient access to important therapies and expedited the FDA's approval times while upholding the most rigorous standards for patient safety.

The Prescription Drug User Fee Act, PDUFA, was enacted in 1992 when drug review times were lagging and FDA simply couldn't keep up with the flood of new drug applications. Through user fees paid by applicants, PDUFA gave FDA the resources it needed to hire and support more staff. The program has been successful at reducing review-time backlogs and expediting safe and effective therapies to patients.

Along with faster drug approvals, Congress also recognized the need to study drugs in children. As the original author of the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, BPCA, and the Pediatric Research Equity Act, PREA, I'm proud of how successful these programs have been in treating children, resulting in new dosing information, new indications of use, new safety information, and new data on effectiveness. Before BPCA and PREA, the vast majority of drugs (more than 80 percent) used in children were used off-label, without data for their safety and efficacy. Today, that number has been reduced to 50 percent.

We know that children are not just small adults—they have unique medical needs and drugs react differently in their bodies. That's why in this year's reauthorization, it was important for us to look at areas in need of improvement. The bipartisan legislation gives FDA the tools it needs to ensure companies are thinking about pediatric populations as early as possible in the drug development process, and that they're able to enforce timelines that are routinely missed. The language encourages further study into untested age groups, like neonates, and clarifies any confusion over what some see as "loopholes" to allow companies to access the market exclusivity incentive without completing additional studies.

The legislation ensures that companies routinely submit their pediatric plans earlier in the process by establishing a clear timeline and expectations. I will be closely monitoring the regulation that will implement the pediatric

plan content, as it was my intention that the regulation closely mirror the 1998 Pediatric Rule.

I thank my colleagues, Rep. MIKE ROGERS and Rep. EDWARD MARKEY who worked tirelessly with me to improve these programs, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, along with 20 other pediatric advocacy groups who provided expert guidance and recommendations throughout the process. Together we've improved BPCA and PREA to benefit medical care for children for generations to come.

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF ALA-
BAMA GYMNASTICS COACH
SARAH PATTERSON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor University of Alabama gymnastics coach Sarah Patterson who led the Crimson Tide to its sixth national championship this spring. In addition to racking up an impressive record of victories over her 34 seasons in Tuscaloosa, Coach Patterson has helped establish Alabama as a dominate force in college gymnastics.

It is fitting that Coach Patterson was hired by then-Athletic Director Paul "Bear" Bryant, himself no stranger to bringing home national titles to Alabama. Since arriving in Tuscaloosa after graduating from Slippery Rock State College in Pennsylvania, Coach Patterson has proven time and again her ability to lead the Crimson Tide's gymnastics team and maintain its dominance in the college sport.

Coach Patterson vaulted the University to prominence as one of only four teams to capture the NCAA Women's Gymnastics championship since Women's Gymnastics was declared a championship sport in 1982. Her excellence in coaching also helped to earn the Crimson Tide gymnastics team spots in 29 consecutive NCAA championship competitions. Coach Patterson has also led the Tide to 27 years of a top six finish and 20 top three finishes.

Fittingly, Coach Patterson was named NCAA Women's Gymnastics Coach of the Year in 1986, 1988, 1991, and 2002; and Southeastern Conference Women's Gymnastics Coach of the Year in 1985, 1995, 2000 and 2010.

Coach Patterson's distinguished record includes: Six NCAA Women's Gymnastics championships—1988, 1991, 1996, 2002, 2011, and 2012; Seven Southeastern Conference Championships—1988, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2003, 2009, and 2011; 27 NCAA Regional Titles—1983, 1984, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012.

Coach Patterson is assisted by her husband, David, who helps with coaching the athletes. Their hard work, along with other volunteer coaches and assistant coaches, have led the Alabama gymnastics team to six national championships and the enviable position of being one of the best in the nation, year in and year out, as well as the many well-rounded athletes who have graduated to go on to great success in many fields.

Inducted in the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 2003, Coach Patterson has brought the gymnastics team to the forefront of inter-collegiate athletics and she has kept them in the forefront. In a recent interview with The Huntsville Times, Coach Patterson noted that she felt "fortunate" to be a component of the "history and tradition" at the University of Alabama.

It's safe to say that Coach Patterson has certainly earned her position as a part of the University's proud athletic history.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I wish to extend personal congratulations to Coach Sarah Patterson for her remarkable record of achievement at the University of Alabama and for her many contributions to the lives of all who have called her coach.

ART DIRECTORS GUILD 75TH BIRTHDAY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor the Art Directors Guild, IATSE, Local 800, on the occasion of its 75th birthday on June 2nd of this year. Many of the movies and television shows we all enjoy would not exist without the hard work of the ADG and its members.

The Art Directors Guild is a trade union comprised of production designers, art directors, illustrators, storyboard artists, scenic, title and graphic artists, and set designers. Its members represent 2,000 creative crafts people who design motion pictures, television shows and commercials. These dedicated artists bring pleasure to millions across the globe.

In 1924, pioneers of art direction founded a fraternal order called the Cinemagundi Club, which, in 1937, became the Society of Motion Picture Art Directors. That assembly has become the Art Directors Guild we know today, a group that has served the industry proudly for 75 years. We are celebrating the Guild's journey this year, honoring their past and supporting and encouraging the many contributions they will make to the industry in the future.

The ADG also provides many cultural opportunities for members of the community to enjoy. The Guild runs an art gallery in North Hollywood that is open to the public. It provides panels, workshops and training for members as well as others interested in the field to foster a spirit of innovation in the entertainment industry. It also publishes "Perspective," a monthly magazine that covers topics of importance to entertainment industry professionals.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I ask you to join me in recognizing the Art Directors Guild and its members for their years of hard work and dedication to the entertainment industry.

IN MEMORY OF TOM GLANCY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of Tom Glancy, who passed away earlier this month after more than 12 years of exceptional service to the citizens as an appointed and elected official for the City of Thousand Oaks, California.

After serving 6 years on the city's Planning Commission, Tom was appointed to the Thousand Oaks City Council in 2005. He was elected to a full term in 2008 and served as mayor in 2009. He resigned on May 11 due to declining health.

A dentist who specialized in implants and reconstructive dentistry, Tom treated his time in public office as a second full-time job. He was known to bring Planning Commission and later City Council binders with him on vacations or weekend getaways so he could be prepared when sitting on the dais. He served on 23 separate committees and boards during his time on the council.

Those included turns as vice president, president, and immediate past president of the Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County; chair of the League of California Cities Community Services Policy Committee; and vice-chair and chair of the League of California Cities Transportation, Communication & Public Works Committee.

Tom's service was not limited to appointed and elected office however. After 30 years of active and reserve duty, Tom retired from the U.S. Navy as a captain. He was also an active Rotarian for 25 years and served as president of the Rotary Club of Thousand Oaks from 1992–1993. He served on the board of the Southeast Ventura County YMCA, was general chairman and executive chairman of the Conejo Valley Days Committee, and served as Conejo Valley Days Grand Marshal in 2011.

When not serving his community, Tom and his wife, Karen—who is an artist and served as his dental assistant—enjoyed local and international travel, hiking, fishing, sailing, and spending time with their four children and four grandchildren. Tom was also an accomplished cook and pilot.

His was a life well-lived.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in celebrating the life of Tom Glancy, in remembering his many accomplishments, in thanking him for his many years of service to his country and community, and in offering our condolences to Karen, their children and grandchildren, and all who were touched by Tom's friendship and dedication.

Godspeed, Tom.

CHIU MOON CHAN

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chiu Moon Chan, a fellow Texan. From a humble beginning, Mr. Chan founded Dynacq International, Inc., providing jobs and quality healthcare for thou-

sands of people. Mr. Chan passed away on May 17th and the Houston Chronicle printed his obituary. In honor of Mr. Chan, I would like to submit the text into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Chiu Moon Chan, died on Thursday, the 17th of May 2012, in Houston, at the age of 59. His life made a lasting impact on his family, on the business community, and on the people who knew him. Mr. Chan will be remembered as extremely intelligent, highly energetic, and totally devoted to his family and to the company which he founded and presided over for two decades. He was a person who visualized and actualized the American dream.

Born in Hong Kong on the 30th of September 1952, Mr. Chan graduated from Wah Yan College in Hong Kong before moving to the United States in 1970 to attend college at the University of Houston. He worked through college, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy, and became a registered pharmacist in 1978.

Mr. Chan was widely known as an entrepreneur and innovator in the healthcare field. He had been involved in that industry since 1971. During the period from May 1978 to July 1988 he was employed by various healthcare service organizations in Houston, Texas including Lifemark Corporation and M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

He started his own home infusion therapy business in 1988. From this humble beginning, he went on in 1992 to found Dynacq International, Inc., now known as Dynacq Healthcare, Inc. Dynacq became a publicly traded company, and achieved national recognition as one of the 200 fastest growing small businesses in the United States from magazines such as Forbes and FSB. Mr. Chan served as President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board of Dynacq for 20 years. During those two decades, his efforts resulted in gainful employment for hundreds of families and quality healthcare for thousands of patients in Houston, Pasadena, and Dallas, Texas, and in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Dynacq's hospital facilities in Houston and Dallas were nationally recognized as centers of healthcare excellence.

Mr. Chan was a member of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, a supporter of the Rotary Club and the Neighborhood Centers, and an active member of the Wah Yan Alumni Chapter in Houston. He was an avid golfer and a member of Redstone Country Club and Bay Oaks Country Club. He truly enjoyed life and loved to travel, having traveled with his beloved wife to many places around the world. Mr. Chiu Moon Chan is survived by his wife Ella; sons, Dr. Eric K. Chan, and wife Michelle, and Bert K. Chan; three grandchildren; Kailee, Connor, and Emmy; brothers, sisters, and numerous nieces and nephews.

It is with great respect, I honor Chiu Moon Chan for lasting impact he had on his family and community, and his many wonderful accomplishments upon his death.

TRIBUTE TO BOB HOWELL, LONG- TIME WSFA TV NEWS ANCHOR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the outstanding contributions of one of South Alabama's most distinguished and trusted broadcast journalists, Mr. Bob Howell.

As of today, June 1, 2012, Bob Howell officially retires from WSFA TV 12 in Montgomery where he anchored the evening news for more than three decades.

A native of Geneva, Alabama, Bob Howell first set foot on his lifelong career path in broadcasting while still a high school student. After taking the mic at WGEA radio in his hometown, he traveled east to Dothan, Alabama to deliver the news at WTVY TV 4 for five years. In 1976, Bob moved to Alabama's capital city to take the helm of the region's largest television news operation, WSFA TV, where he anchored the weekday 6 and 10 p.m. newscasts.

As WSFA's press release announcing Bob's retirement aptly observed, "He has had the job of delivering the day's news to thousands of viewers with a calm, trusted, steady and caring approach through difficult, challenging and happy times."

Over the years, he has anchored more than 10,000 live newscasts in addition to serving as the Managing Editor of WSFA's news department. His three decade career at WSFA witnessed his live reporting of gubernatorial inaugurations, most of the State's historic events of the last thirty years, as well as foreign assignments covering stories in Britain, France, Germany, and Kuwait.

In addition to his anchoring role, Bob also produced award-winning documentaries, hosted WSFA's "Newsmakers" program, "Alabama Illustrated," "Inside Alabama's Legislature," and co-hosted the Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon and the Children's Miracle Network fundraisers. He also hosted the regular news feature, "Exploring Alabama with Bob Howell."

Despite his busy schedule covering and delivering breaking news to thousands of South Alabama residents, including Clarke, Monroe and Escambia counties in my congressional district, Bob also returned his knowledge and expertise to college journalism students as an instructor at Troy University's Hall School of Journalism for more than 20 years.

As Bob officially begins his retirement from WSFA and broadcasting, he has made it clear that he will not be giving up work. He is already busy making plans for his next career for which he promises he still has a lot to offer.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, and as someone who grew up watching Bob deliver the evening news, I thank Bob for his dedication and professionalism and wish him and his wife and family all the best in their future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN BILL WAMPLER

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HURT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay respects to Congressman Bill Wampler, former representative of Virginia's "Fighting 9th District," who will truly be missed.

Congressman Wampler served the people of Southwest Virginia for nearly two decades, and with his passing, the Commonwealth has lost a great leader and a great man.

Congressman Wampler took pride in working in his family's business in Bristol, he

served our country with honor during World War II, and he worked tirelessly for the people of Southwest Virginia for nearly 20 years in the United States House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, though Congressman Wampler is in a better place now, he will surely be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Wampler family and I know that my colleagues join me today as we remember our friend and honor his legacy to the Commonwealth of Virginia and to our nation.

CONGRESSIONAL PORTUGUESE CAUCUS MEMORIAL DAY STATE- MENT

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, with respect and admiration I, along with my colleagues Mr. COSTA, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KEATING, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. CICILLINE, gather today to both celebrate the freedoms we enjoy as Americans, and to honor all the brave service men and women who have fallen defending those freedoms.

To all the mothers, fathers, wives, husbands, and extended family members of those who have served, we offer our deepest gratitude. The sacrifice of your loved ones is a debt that can never be repaid.

As members and friends of the Congressional Portuguese American Caucus, we would also like to pay special tribute to our soldiers of Portuguese descent who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our country. Portuguese Americans have served with distinction in our military forces from the revolutionary war to current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, and I have no doubt they will continue to answer America's call into our future.

On this Memorial Day, Americans everywhere join in honoring those we have lost. It is a time to recognize the sacrifices made to defend our country, and remember the freedoms and liberties for which our service members fought for.

We honor you and all soldiers who have answered the call of duty and we send our profound appreciation to the families of our fallen heroes. As we reflect on the tragedy of those we have lost, we should realize our great fortune to live in a free country, and recognize the sacrifices required to defend it.

RECOGNIZING THE BEACON FOR ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the BEACON for Adult Literacy Program Volunteers.

BEACON for Adult Literacy is an award-winning non-profit proudly serving the adult literacy needs of the Northern Virginia community for 20 years. In its first year BEACON served 30 learners; today BEACON serves

over 400 adults a year. Over 3,500 low-income non-native Americans have gained English-language literacy skills over the past two decades.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for BEACON for Adult Literacy Program:

Brendan Baldwin, Sally Harrison, Richard Corbett, Carole O' Sullivan, Martisa Brown, Corinne DeGrazia, Sasha Haleblan, Donna McNeally, David Covin, Robert Lynch, Ed Walsh, Brian Bell, Erika Arellano, Gene Strausbaugh, Alex Kersis, Ruth Porter, Henry Hastings, James McPheeters, Star Muir, Ilana Naylor, Erica Seymour, James Gillespie, Skip Brown, James Porter, David House, Joyce Rozier, James Sowers, Suzanne Morgan, Tina Cox, Jane Arseneault, Satya Khadka, James Drummond Jr., Janet Radzinski, Jessica Higham, Jean Gentry, Pat Hodgdon, Jeanne Endrikat, Richard Flaherty, Anne Walsh, Jim Zech, Carmalla Coley, Yolanda Daniels, Joan Appleton Costanza, Venkat Viswanathan, Kelley Studholme, Armena Springs, Nancy Schalk, Lianetta Ruettgers, William McGuire, Liz Alcauska, David McDermott, Bob Schlipp, LTC Peter Stenner, Sue Kang, Vivek Koppikar, Martha Walsh, Jayne Hazen, Melissa MacIntyre, Nancy Nelson, Katherine DeSilva, Patrick McNeally, Caroline Zong, Jeanne Lynch, Rhonda Vanover, Clara Hipp, Robert Brown, Karen Shankles, John Manning, Robert Mechler, Ruth Passarge, Joyce Andrew, Robert Stinson, Jim Hipp, Roberta Knussmann, Justin Terry, Rosanne Schubring, Fabiana Parker, Rosie Jones, Aaron Burdick, Bob Sowers, Ruth Thomas, Doris Thomas, Sheri McGlothlin, Lyn Hildebrandt, Leslie Stagg, Sonya Jacob, Martha Muirhead, Tiffany Laseter, Walter Godlewski, William Cratty, and Sister Theresa Anderson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers of the BEACON for Adult Literacy Program and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION REFORM ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5651, The Bipartisan Food and Drug Administration Act of 2012, which modifies the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) policies and procedures to enhance Americans' access to effective healthcare. This bill improves the safety, development, and distribution of medications and medical devices to patients and medical providers.

This bill reauthorizes the FDA's user fee program for prescription drugs and medical devices through fiscal year 2017. Further, it introduces a new user fee program for generic medications. These fees, collected from drug and medical device companies, will give the FDA the funding it requires to grant patients rapid access to the treatments they need. This will improve the accessibility of vital medicines to patients throughout the U.S.

Mr. Speaker, this bill permanently reauthorizes two beneficial pediatric drug programs. The first, the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, enhances the safety and availability

of prescription drugs for children. It does this by providing mechanisms through which drug companies can test their products for use in pediatrics, and offering a six month patent extension as an incentive to companies who do so.

The second pediatric drug program that is permanently reauthorized is the Pediatric Research Equity Act. This act increases the safety of prescription drugs for children by requiring pediatric testing of certain medications intended for adults in order to fully understand their effects. This will ensure that physicians have a clearer grasp of the effects these medications have before prescribing small dosages to children.

This bill also provides for a vital update of the FDA's global drug supply chain authority, requiring drug importers to register with the FDA, and disallowing the import of medicines from organizations that have limited or denied inspections.

Most importantly, the bill expands the jurisdiction of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. This allows for the FDA to prosecute foreign violators of the act, and thus discourages such violations in the future. These updates will improve the safety of the prescription drugs that are provided to American patients.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, this bill will implement new FDA requirements that will help to prevent drug shortages. The bill does this by updating the FDA's reporting policies for manufacturers, and ensuring that the agency maintains a drug shortage list that is made available to healthcare providers. Additionally, should a shortage still occur, this bill outlines steps to be taken to mitigate the problem. If enacted, these new policies will help protect the country's prescription drug supply, ensuring that Americans always have access to the medication they need.

Mr. Speaker, it is for these reasons that I support H.R. 5651.

CONGRATULATING FLINT'S
CLARESSA SHIELDS AS SHE
PREPARES FOR THE 2012 OLYMPIC
GAMES AND THE FIRST
WOMEN'S BOXING COMPETITION
IN OLYMPIC HISTORY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, on July 28 a skilled, savvy and courageous high school student from Flint, Michigan will make history as one of only 36 women in the world competing in the inaugural women's Olympic boxing competition in London, England. At the age of 17, this Northwestern High School junior's drive and determination has already earned her recognition as the world's top ranked women's fighter. At the Summer Olympics, Claressa will be punching her way toward the gold.

It was 19 years ago that another teenage girl named Dallas Malloy went to federal court and won the right for women to participate in amateur boxing. Years later, a father in Flint, hoping to set his daughter on a positive course, encouraged his 12-year-old to consider boxing, his own sport. Claressa, wanting to bond with her father and attracted to the

idea of competing outside of team sports, was introduced to trainer Jason Crutchfield. Once Mr. Crutchfield overcame his disbelief that a girl was truly serious about taking up boxing, he provided the path for Claressa Shields' historic journey. Just a few days ago, Claressa learned she had earned her Olympic spot after competing in the AIBA women's world championships in Qinhuangdao, China.

Her success has ignited Flint and her extraordinary accomplishments at a young age in an incredibly demanding sport have made her a national star. Claressa's dedicated and talented trainer describes her as the complete fighter, equally talented on defense and offense. Her high school principal, Cheryl Adkins, praises her student's academic focus, positive image and dedication to her goals. Claressa has been featured in Time magazine and is fielding media interviews, all the while maintaining her academic focus and training daily for the Olympics. She advises others not to rush headlong toward success but to take everything in stride. Her life goals include winning 10 to 15 professional boxing titles in multiple weight classes.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Claressa Shields on her historic achievement representing the United States and Flint, Michigan in the first women's boxing competition at the Summer Olympics. She is an outstanding individual who is truly a world-class example for us all.

RECOGNIZING THE PRINCE WILLIAM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
WORKS VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Prince William County Department of Public Works Volunteers.

Public Works staff works to ensure that effective, practical, and safe techniques are used in all employment operations. They provide much needed training and support for employees and hold all practices accountable. The staff offers guidance and understanding of how tasks are accomplished, helping employees provide services that are needed in the community.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for Prince William County Department of Public Works:

Stonewall Jackson HS Ecology Club, Jessica Hruska, Rich Smith, Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition, Friends of the Occoquan, Vulcan Materials—Manassas Quarry, Windy Knoll Farm, Eric VanNortwick, Ed Dandar, Adams Family, Aleman Family, Anwar Family, Babar Family, Bassett Family, Broadhurst-Bibbee Family, Butkus Family, Chiodo Family, Couture-Morales Family, Crespo-Galliver Family, Cronin Family, Darcy Family, Dinga Family, Donovan Family, Ehtasham Family, Glass Family, Goodwine Family, Gough Family, Gross Family, Hopkins Family, Huang Family, Hunter Family, Hylton Family, James Family, Jampole Family, Kaps Family, Kay Family, Kristy Family, Kromer Family, Kronthal Family, Kulakowski Family,

Makoge Family, McGeehan Family, McKinnon Family, McPike Family, Melusen Family, Menon Family, Mockenhaupt Family, Morris Family, Mory Family, Moser Family, Nielsen Family, Nieves Family, Norman Family, Ogawa Family, Phillippi Family, Protacio Family, Reedy Family, Rodriguez Family, Rosario Family, Saul Family, Seagle Family, Simmons Family, Simons Family, Thompson Family, Thompson Family, Thompson Family, Tilden Family, Verosko Family, Walker Family, Yoon Family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Prince William County Department of Public Works Volunteers for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF MR.
AND MRS. JAMES H. BREWSTER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the 50th wedding anniversary of James and Mary Brewster.

James Harvey Brewster was born on January 6, 1939, in Ohatchee, Alabama. Mary Emma Smith was born on March 17, 1943 in Ohatchee, Alabama. On June 2nd in 1960, James and Mary were united in marriage in Calhoun County.

James worked for 21 years before retiring with Alagasco Gas Company in Anniston and Mary stayed at home raising their family. They had six children, three boys and three girls: Gregory Lynn Brewster, Paul Harvey Brewster, the late James Rossie, Janice Denise Tillman, Connie McKinzie Redwine and Sharron Redwine.

They are also blessed with 11 grandchildren and 16 great grand-children. James is an Auburn Tigers fan while Mary cheers for the Alabama Crimson Tide.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Brewster on this milestone and wish them many more happy years together.

RECOGNIZING THE CHOPTICON
HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Chopticon High School Marching Band on earning the title of United States Scholastic Band Association Group IIIA Maryland State Champions. "The Showband of Southern Maryland" from Morganza, Maryland, has earned this title for the past three consecutive years.

This momentous victory was made all the more significant given the caliber of their competition. After competing previously at three regional competitions, the band took first place at the State Championship, hosted by Towson University on October 15, 2011 with their performance titled "The Heart of Madness." The

band went on to compete and place fourth at the National Championship in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

This victory demonstrates that with hard work, determination, and discipline, we can reach our goals. The band also received awards for best music, effect, visual, performance, and guard. Fifty-three musicians qualified for the performance, and they remained focused and determined to achieve their dream of victory at the statewide competition.

I want to applaud the band's staff—Todd Burroughs, Christina Burroughs, Bobby Jones, Mark Lortz, Megan Howell, Briscoe Thompson, and Kevin Burroughs for their dedication and commitment to training these superb musicians. I also send my hardest congratulations to the members of the marching band on their victory—Carrie Barrett, Alexis Badovski, Samantha Lockard, Breanna Thorne, Brendan Utt, Bailie Anthony, Elizabeth Barnes, William Husk, Kacey Roberts, Jennifer Russnogle, Paula Wills, Robert Konen, Chris Mitchell, Marlena Krauth, Jennifer Thalman, Sam Prettyman, Dakota Sparks, Josh Wetherald, Geoffrey Westbrook, Joey Coleman, Kelsie Gill, Philip Hayden, Garret Ordille, Matt Ordille, Megan Mosier, Nick Nelson, Ryan Nelson, Kelly Purdy, Jacob Thorne, Kayla Bean, Kolleen Dare, Jake Flowers, Jennafer Harris, Rachel Kaper, Kayla Morris, Taylor McQueeney, Nicole Sadecki, Hunter Sparks, Madison Bateman, Rachel Escolopio, Amber Griffith, Sabrina Hill, Danielle Hilton, Carly Keating, Hannah Kozlowski, Emily McKoy, Rachel Nussberger, Darby Powell, Layne Thompson, Melanie Thompson, Kristen Wetzell, Mackenzie Wood, Meredith Wood, and Gina Zanelotti.

I'm very proud of these young men and women, and I congratulate all those involved in bringing home the championship title. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this significant accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING THE GREATER PRINCE WILLIAM MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the volunteers of The Greater Prince William Medical Reserve Corps.

The Greater Prince William Medical Reserve Corps (GPWMRC) is a cadre of volunteer health care professionals and community members trained to respond to emergencies and assist with public health events in Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park. This unit is one of approximately 800 units that are part of the national Medical Reserve Corps program under the direction of the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General and 1 of 31 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. GPWMRC volunteers frequently provide important services at events such as health fairs, vaccination clinics and large public gatherings. Volunteers also spend a lot of their time attending trainings and exercises so that they are prepared to help the community during an emergency.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for The Greater Prince William Medical Reserve Corps:

Vickie Andrews, Evelyn Ansah-Agyei, Heather Baldwin, Valerie Bampoe, Hassan Bangura, Harry Beaver, Charlotte Bediako, Diondra Blyden, Sarah Boughman, Susan Brewer, Josh Brown, Eileen Brown, Pamela Brown, David Bruce, Alisa Bruce, Kathryn Cantoni, Janice Chambers, Gabriella Chimenz, Kathy Cobb, Nancy Collins, Debbie Constable, Judy Corcoran, Sonia Coughlin, Marguerite Crozier, Lisa Cullom, Valerie Cyrus, Theresa Dailey, Estelle Daniels, Tele Dasilveira, Brian Davis, Annette Davis, Molly Davis, Monique Davis, Faduma Deghill, Patricia Demain, Mary Dessimoz, Joseph Dibisceglie, Kalima Drga Abreu, Douglas Dulaney, Blossom Ellicott, Gloria Ephraim, Bernadette Espy, Adrienne Foose, Sandra Francis, Victoria Gammon, Bianca Garcia, Fil Beth Gatmaitan, Miguel Granillo, Masako Griffith, Brenda Grimes, Margaret Hayes, Shenna Hess, Jenny Ho, Joan Howard, Miwa Hwang, Annie Johnson, Kimberly Johnson, Lucinda Jones, Jennifer Jones, Fatmata Kamara, Jane Keady, Katherine Ketchum, Stephanie Keyes, Elizabeth Koren, Hawa Kun, Cecilia Kusi, Janiece Lacy, Grace Langebeck, Blake Leggett, Brunette Lewis, Joyce Lund, Nghi Lu-Tran, Linda Manley, Iris Matos, Jessica Maybar, Kamil McClain, Pamela McGrath, Megan McHugh, Cary McMahon, John Meehan, Judy Merring, Ryan Metz, Heather Miranda, Emerita Mogrovejo, Esther Moniba, Monica Moore, Virginia Morales, Troy Morton, Chrystal Morton, Margaret Nee, Ralph Neeper, Nancy Neeper, Rachel Nissley, Lawrence Ofosuhen, Juanita Oliver, Jose Quinones, Renee Ray, Teresa Rice, Mark Rivera, Melissa Rivera, Donna Robinson, Julie Russell, JoAnn Saenz, Mary Simon, Shekhar Sharma, Anne Shaw, Carrie Slavens, Zondra Smith, Kathleen Smith Peters, Jane Stottlmyer, Kamar Sumrall, Raquel Upshur, Susana Vega, Karen Villar, Valecia Washington, Margaret Watkins, Shalanda Weems, Gail West, Mary Weybright, Collis Williams, Siewadaye Williams, Rhondra Willis, Kathryn Willis, Gladys Wise, Reeza Woode.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers of The Greater Prince William Medical Reserve Corps for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

**SGT. WADE DANIEL WILSON,
TEXAS WARRIOR**

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Texas' native sons who served his country honorably in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. I was deeply saddened to learn that Sergeant Wade Daniel Wilson of Leona, Texas was killed by enemy action in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan on May 11, 2012.

Wade Wilson was one man whose life made a difference at a very young age. He personi-

fied the core values of the United States Marine Corps: honor, courage, and commitment.

Wade grew up in Leona, a small city near Centerville, Texas. He was a graduate of Centerville High School, and he was known to have a heart of a champion; whether on the football field or in the classroom.

With his faith in God and country, at age 17, Wade enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He served in the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, California. On his second tour of duty, Wade understood that the nation was at war, yet he chose to charge headlong into battle for a second time. There are not many of us who would be willing to volunteer to leap into the lion's den of Afghanistan where the cowardly enemy hides in caves. It says something special about the quality of this American fighting man that he would boldly face those who kill in the name of religion.

On Friday, May 11, 2012, Sergeant Wade Wilson was killed while conducting a combat operation in Afghanistan. He was just 22 years of age. As a soldier in Afghanistan fighting the forces of the Taliban, Wade defended freedom. He defended it for his mother, Cindy Lee; his stepfather, Ward; his father, Rusty; his stepmother Tammy, his three brothers, his sister, his three step-sisters; and all of their families. He defended freedom for all of us. Sergeant Wade Wilson was a true soldier. We all owe a debt that can never be repaid to Sergeant Wilson's sacrifice, and today and tomorrow, we will mourn with his family and friends for the tragic loss of their son, brother, friend, citizen, soldier and hero.

My friend, Mayor Steve Stephens of Dayton, Texas, has a farmhouse in Leona, Texas. His long time neighbors are Ward and Cindy Lee Easterling, Sergeant Wade Wilson's stepfather and mother. As a teen, Wade worked for Mayor Stephens on his farm. Mayor Stephens said on May 18, 2012, hundreds of residents lined the streets of Leona and Centerville, paying tribute to the family of this patriot. Many of those on the streets carried flags and yellow ribbons. Others held banners saying, "Greater love hath no man than one who gives his life for a friend" John 15:13. Patriotism is alive and well in Texas. And, Sergeant Wilson's commitment to his country is one reason why.

Wade's funeral on Saturday, May 19, 2012, happened to fall on Armed Services Day. Held in Centerville High School's auditorium, hundreds of supporters from Leon County came out to mourn the loss of America's son, Wade Wilson, and all those who came before him. We know that freedom is not free, and we thank this fearless Marine for dedicating his life to America.

Our young people who go to the valley of the gun and the desert of the sun are relentless, remarkable characters. They go where others fear to tread and where the faint-hearted are not found. These warriors represent the best of our nation. They are the sons of liberty and the daughters of democracy. These few, these noble few, are American warriors who take care of the rest of us.

Sergeant Wade Wilson, your tour of duty has been honorably concluded.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PRAMILA JAYAPAL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Pramila Jayapal, founder of the Hate Free Zone, now called OneAmerica. For more than a decade she has worked tirelessly to ensure that people from immigrant communities have a voice in America. Her efforts have made Washington State and our Nation a better place for all people who call it home.

In the days immediately following the attacks of September 11, 2001, Pramila began the Hate Free Zone Campaign of Washington as an entirely volunteer-run organization to combat discrimination against immigrants, especially from communities of color—primarily Muslim, Arab American, East African and South Asian—and to work against stereotypes in a post 9/11 world. At first, the mission was to advocate for the rights of those who were likely to be victims of hate crimes.

Soon after, Pramila began to shift the focus of the Hate Free Zone towards identifying and addressing violations of the rights and civil liberties of immigrants. Through these efforts, she began working with community leaders and elected officials to address these concerns on local, State, and Federal levels.

In 2008, the Hate Free Zone became OneAmerica: With Justice for All, reflecting the mission of advocating for the fundamental principles of democracy and justice by giving voices to all immigrant communities. Today, OneAmerica works with allies and community leaders to educate, engage and advocate, and has become an active and trusted immigrant advocacy organization in Washington State.

Pramila's dedication to the protection of civil rights and civil liberties is important to every single group of Americans, immigrants and non-immigrants alike. The promotion of civic education, voting rights and civil liberties benefits everyone who calls the United States home.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I honor Pramila Jayapal and all of her work at OneAmerica. Though she is moving on from OneAmerica, I have no doubt she will continue to advocate for those in need. Her dedication to improving the lives of all persons living in Washington State has been an inspiration to us all, and I look forward to her next endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 2012 GREEN COMMUNITY AWARD WINNERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the winners of the 2012 Green Community Awards.

Every year the Green Guiding Committee of Prince William County awards people or orga-

nizations for their work towards bettering the community and sustaining the environment. Each of this year's winners has tackled an issue in their immediate area that presents a larger environmental problem. The Green Awards are the highest honor given for environmental service in Prince William County, and this year's winners exemplify the qualities and work ethic that are required to keep our community green.

I extend my personal congratulations to:

Stonewall Jackson High School Ecology Club—for raising awareness about environmental issues, inspiring fellow students to get involved, hosting events for younger students and taking the lead on conservation projects in the field.

Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition—for their ongoing efforts, projects and programs to create, restore, clean and preserve trails and access to natural areas for the entire community.

Friends of the Occoquan—for their ongoing fall and spring projects to clean up the Occoquan River in Prince William County for the past 13 years.

Vulcan Materials—Manassas Quarry—for their corporate practices to conserve resources and reduce waste, plus their efforts to support schools and organization in their efforts to protect the environment.

The Taylor Family of Windy Knoll Farm—for their generous offer to allow local conservation groups to host programs and demonstrations on the farm, as well as their use of sound and environmentally wise management practices.

Eric VanNortwick—for his ongoing efforts to clean up, maintain and enhance trails along Neabsco Creek in Prince William County.

Ed Dandar—for his dedication in coordinating and overseeing logistics for the 26 mile clean up along the Occoquan River.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the winners of the 2012 Green Community Awards and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5325) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I am concerned about the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for several reasons. One of these reasons is that while this bill increases funding for the Army Corps of Engineers over the President's request, it is not enough. The Army Corps completes critical flood control projects and also, through dredging at our port, fuels a major economic engine in Harris County, Texas and has been underfunded for years.

Additionally, by cutting New Starts completely, this bill prevents funding for a vital project in Houston that will explore widening and deepening the shipping channel to the Turning Basin. This funding is critical to preparing our Port for the years ahead.

The Port of Houston is the largest foreign tonnage port and the largest petrochemical port in the country. In fact, it moves the second largest amount of cargo in the country, as 8.5 percent of our nation's cargo moves through the Port of Houston. The commerce that occurs at our port is critical to our Nation's energy and chemical sectors and to our country's ability to trade and move goods throughout our country. It is a port of national significance, but has not received the attention that is necessary to answer the challenges we face in the near future. Despite the national importance of our port, it is facing a dredging crisis.

In 1998, the Federal Government and the Port of Houston invested \$700 million over the course of years, to deepen and widen the Ship Channel. An investment we have benefitted from tremendously.

As the years have passed silt has settled and reduced the draft in the channel significantly. Today, only .4 percent of the channel is dredged to its proper depth across the entire width of the channel. That is astounding. Our Nation's investment is rapidly deteriorating.

Currently, the Houston Ship Channel is dredged to a depth of 43 feet, but it should be 45 feet. The Panama Canal is expanding and when it is completed, the Port of Houston should be at a minimum of 45 feet and we could take advantage of additional depth.

In the most recent President's budget request, the Administration asked for \$700,000 in new dredging money and new start funding of \$100,000 toward study on the widening and deepening of the Houston Ship Channel to the Turning Basin. The new start funding is particularly important, once a project gets new start money it is more likely to be funded in the future. Unfortunately, in the bill we are considering today, the funding for the new start will be eliminated.

This increased funding level for dredging just over \$24 million, which is maintained in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill, is welcome and I am pleased that Congress and the Administration are committing more resources to our maintenance dredging needs, particularly in a budget environment when most programs are cut. However, it's about a third of the total needed to bring our channel back to its authorized depth. The reduced draft costs our region money.

As we confront the dual challenges of adopting policies that create jobs and reduce the debt, funding for dredging projects is an item that, while costly, will have more of a positive impact on our economy than a negative impact on our deficit. The Texas Transportation Institute performed a study and determined that a direct economic impact of the loss of 1 foot of draft is \$373 million. The majority of this impact is lost business opportunities due to light loading of non-containerized vessels. If the dredging crisis at the port continues to worsen, this cost will quickly increase.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT
ROLE THAT LOCAL BROADCASTERS
PLAY IN ALERTING
THE PUBLIC DURING WEATHER
EMERGENCIES

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, in recent years, unpredictable and sometimes violent weather has struck our Nation. The months of May and June are the most likely times for tornadoes to strike the great Hoosier state. Getting to safety before a tornado strikes can be the difference between life and death. Success in that effort depends on access to timely information. For this reason, I want to thank local broadcasters in the 7th District of Indiana for providing critical information during weather emergencies.

Last year, a violent storm caused the sudden collapse of the concert stage at the Indiana State Fair. This tragic incident killed seven and severely injured dozens more. It could have been much worse. Timely alerts from local broadcasters enabled Fair officials to clear the Midway minutes before the storm struck, potentially saving the lives of hundreds.

Radio and television stations are our Nation's most reliable network for distributing emergency information. When electrical lines are knocked down and Internet and mobile networks become inoperable, broadcasters are the last line of defense—transmitting public safety information over the airwaves.

Local television and radio stations play a critical role in ensuring public safety. Now is the time to expand their ability to provide emergency notifications. Increasingly, the American people have access to mobile phones. By equipping these devices to receive FM radio signals, millions of Americans could depend on their mobile phones to provide critical information in advance of a weather emergency.

As a former official with the Department of Homeland Security, I know first-hand how cell phone networks can become overloaded and inoperable during an emergency. By adopting this technology, broadcasters can provide timely information to mobile phones—enabling the American people to take shelter in advance of a weather emergency. I call upon my colleagues in Congress, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Communications Commission and the mobile phone industry to work together to expand the reach of local broadcasters in providing critical information during a weather emergency.

I want to once again thank local broadcasters in my district for their essential role in promoting public safety.

RECOGNIZING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
OF PRINCE WILLIAM
COUNTY VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Habitat for Humanity of Prince William County Volunteers.

Habitat for Humanity seeks to eliminate poverty housing and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat invites people from all walks of life and faiths to work together in partnership to build and repair houses with families in need through our Neighborhood Revitalization Initiatives: New Construction, Home Rehabs, Home Repairs and the Habitat Restore. Home repairs consist of A Brush with Kindness, Weatherization, Critical Home Repairs and Critical Home Repairs for Veterans. None of their work is possible without the funding and time that their donors and volunteers give so generously. 490 volunteers donated more than 6,867 hours in 2011 and eleven of those volunteers individually donated more than 100 hours each.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers of Habitat for Humanity of Prince William County:

Susan Jacobs, Karen Wilkinson, Rob Major, Chris Daffan, Theresa Accoo, Christine Rowe, Kisha Sogunro-Wilson, Anita Duecater, Renee Wolfolk, John McBride, Brian Swanson, Marci Swanson, Dob McCubbin, Frank Jacquette, Sandi Stark, Mike Stark, George Braun, Matthew Watkins, Bob Gainer, Al Harris, Lynn Ashe, Razan Azzarkani, Betty Reichert, Lynn Eklund, Kristine Reyes, Justin Marohnic, Darren Fischer, Casey Brewster, Gary Wright, Elizabeth Hayde, Ashley Tyler, Cheryl Novogradac, Joseph Bolos, Scott DeGroat, Kim Morris, Teresa Blacksmith, Jennifer Miller, Rich Feickert, Chris Reilly, Timothy Grembowski, Andi Pollard, Kenneth Morilak, Jeffrey Beathard, Quinton Morris, Kudzaishe Mlambo, Pam Hart, Barbara Atwell, David Wurst, Mayumi Ferrin, Matthew Whalen, Rita Ayanga, Michael Renfro, Nathanael White, Kurt Wall, Sheryl Madison, Rodney Owens, Richard Revaz, Denise A. Womack, Phyllis Hall, Polynice Paul, John Grennek, Carmen T. Courchene, Sharon Dangerfield, Isalee Jackson, Cortni Robinson, Lauren Hughes, Christina Frank, Marletha Dyer, Paul Whalen, Dara Dentham, Patrick Stolte, Maikao Yang, James Zhang, Ying Zhang, Connie Moser, Mark Luiggi, Jim Floyd, Al Ferguson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers of Habitat for Humanity of Prince William County for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

THE OCCASION OF PHILLIP
THOMPSON'S RETIREMENT AS
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF
SEIU LOCAL 517M

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Phil Thompson, the Executive Vice President of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 517M on the occasion of his retirement. For over 30 years, Phil has been an important leader in the SEIU, working to ensure that the rights of workers are respected.

True to the form of a leader and advocate, Phil is passionate about fighting for the rights of those he represents, whether it was his constituents when he was Shiawassee County

Commissioner or the Michigan public employees he works for every day in his current role. It is no surprise, given his spirit for serving and protecting others, that prior to his time with Local 517M, Phil had been planning to go to law school. Instead, as often happens to those with the drive to serve, Phil fulfilled his passion as a voice protecting the rights of others. Having arrived at Local 517M in April 1981 as a staff representative, Phil quickly ascended to become the branch's Executive Director in 1986.

What was originally supposed to be only a part-time job quickly became Phil's central work. As a leader for the SEIU in Michigan, Phil took it upon himself to represent the members of Local 517M at every collective bargaining session since he became Director in 1986. Phil strongly believes that communication between the unions and their members and unions and their communities is essential to ensuring that all workers have their rights protected. Phil has strived to keep his members connected to their local through strengthening member services.

Like so many who are thrust into positions of leadership by their peers, Phil has never forgotten his brothers and sisters who put him there. He strongly believes that it has been an honor to work with so many talented and dedicated union and staff members.

In recognition of his exceptional leadership skills and his effectiveness, Phil's peers have consistently given him increased responsibilities that extend beyond Local 517M. He has been elected to SEIU's International Executive Board three times between 2000 and 2008, where he is finishing up his current term as Vice President. Between 2002 and 2010 he served as President of Michigan's SEIU State Council and currently serves as its Treasurer. Phil is constantly sought to be a voice for professionals in State government, by news agencies and was recently awarded the 2012 Michigan Labor Press Award for his contributions which have supported the growth of the labor movement.

Mr. Speaker, Phil has spent his life working to strengthen the labor movement, which in Michigan and around the world has secured and protected important rights for all workers. His dedication and passion have benefited so many and I know that his colleagues and fellow SEIU members will surely miss him, his insights and his experience. I know that as a voice for fairness, even in retirement, he will continue to fight for the rights of workers and I wish him many happy and productive years to come.

REPRESENTATIVE KIND FLOOR
AMENDMENT 78 (RULES AMENDMENT 145) TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
(H.R. 4310)

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the amendment to waive the time limitation for awarding Lt. Alonzo Cushing the Medal of Honor.

A Wisconsin native, Lt. Cushing, on the third day of the Battle of Gettysburg, commanded

110 men and six cannons positioned on Cemetery Ridge, where they received the full force of Pickett's Charge. Despite the death of all of his officers and receiving multiple gunshot wounds, Lt. Cushing refused to withdraw from battle and was killed by Confederate fire. In February 2010, Secretary of the Army John McHugh recommended the approval of the nation's highest honor for Lt. Cushing.

Lt. Cushing's actions in the Battle of Gettysburg were so inspiring that a book detailing his life, *Cushing of Gettysburg*, was written in 1998.

I would like to give special thanks to Margaret Zerwekh and the city of Delafield for their tireless advocacy to ensure Lt. Cushing receives the honor he deserves. I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment and honor a true American hero.

HONORING THE CITY OF
PRINCETON, INDIANA

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Princeton, Indiana, located within my district. Princeton was recently named, one of two, Stellar Communities by the Lt. Governor's office in Indiana. The Stellar Community award, created in 2011, is specific to city revitalization projects.

The program is a partnership between multiple state agencies to help fund community renovation projects, and is the latest example of a state balancing a budget, without raising a penny in taxes—all while reaping the benefits of a surplus.

The downtown Courthouse Square in Princeton will be upgraded with new sidewalks, curbs, landscaping, and signage. The housing market will receive a much needed shot in the arm too. New loft condominiums and senior housing cottages are included in the plan.

Tourism will improve as well with restoration to old historic Courthouse Square building facades, and groundbreaking construction of a Bicentennial Plaza will only increase the foot traffic in the downtown area.

We've seen government grants work for several other Main Street projects across the country, and for the second year in a row, I'm honored that a city in my district will receive the chance to improve the quality of life for local residents. Lastly, I want to congratulate the Mayor of Princeton, Bob Hurst, for his excellent work on promoting a friendly economic environment in Indiana's 8th Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Prince William County Historic Preservation Volunteers.

The dedicated Historic Preservation Volunteers are an essential part of the Historic Preservation Division. They are part of an endless effort to preserve and enhance the historical and natural resources of Prince William County. They bring these resources alive for citizens with special programs events and daily efforts to maintain and beautify our historic sites. They graciously sacrifice their personal time to volunteer as docents, garden volunteers, education volunteers, research and collection volunteers, restoration volunteers, and special event volunteers.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers following Prince William County Historic Preservation Volunteers:

Morgan Breeden, Kay Breeden, Daniel Breeden, John F. Wolfe, Belinda Brummel, Jennifer Andreani, Wren Hubbell, Jill Hubbell, Ed Moore, Susan Moore, Tom Costa, Suzanne Costa, Carolyn Hartman, Comfort Uanserme, Chris McConnell, Bernie McConnell, John Nuzum, Avery A. Born, Rex D. Born, Sue Born, JoAnn Craft, Jim Craft, Wayne Hutzell, Paul Penrod, James D. Owens, Paige Gibbons, Emmanuel Dabney, Christine Jaworski, Lionel Raymond, Curtis Hoagland, Jay Greevy, Jim Pearson, John DePue, James Ivancic, Tom McGinlay, Mike Miller, Jacques Siegel, Kathryn Barrows, Brenda Caricofe, Nerine Clemenzi, Elaine Davis, George Erhart, Becky Hornyak, Kelly Hunsaker, Phyllis Ingram, Bryan Lewis, Belinda Lewis, Jeff Loeffler, Sandy Melson, Janice Overman, John Overman, Jacque Rowberry, Ginny Sanderson-Brown, Rosemary Schatz, Andy Schatz, Linda Walls, Lin Weeks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Prince William County Historic Preservation Volunteers for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5743) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I commend Chairman ROGERS and Ranking Member RUPERSBERGER for continuing their tradition for the third straight year of reporting a bipartisan Intelligence Authorization bill. H.R. 5743, the Intelligence Authorization Act, comes to the floor today after having passed the Intelligence Committee by a unanimous 19-0 vote.

The bill allocates resources to critical national security programs including those that detect, prevent, and disrupt potential terrorist attacks against the American people. The bill enhances counter terrorism efforts against al Qaeda and its global affiliates; increases oversight of the spending at intelligence agencies and supports global initiatives to address emerging threats to our national security.

The measure provides funding to the Central Intelligence Agency, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the National Security Agency and other agencies, for operations, personnel and equipment. Though much of the funding is classified, each dollar is intended to address the funding needs of this country's clandestine services.

The valiant American men and woman who toil anonymously in the shadows of the intelligence world deserve our full support for their dedicated service. The funding authorized by this bill will help ensure they have the resources they need to do their job.

HONORING VINCE GILL

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the courageous actions of Hilliard resident and 2011 graduate of Hilliard Davidson High School, Vince Gill. On May 27, 2012, Vince rescued a drowning man in New York's Genesee River.

I ask that all Members of Congress join me and the people of Ohio's 15th Congressional District in thanking Vince Gill for his brave actions. Despite the grave risk to his own life, he selflessly rose to the occasion when he dove into the river and swam almost a pool's length to save the life of 26-year-old Abdulma Alhari, of Rochester, NY. For his heroism, the New York State Park Police will nominate Vince for a well-deserved civilian lifesaving award.

I extend my sincere thanks to Vince Gill for his heroism. While to some he may be an ordinary young man, his extraordinary act is exactly what makes me so proud to represent the everyday heroes of the Central Ohio area.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR.
WILLIAM "BILL" SANDERSON

HON. JOHN CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Bill Sanderson, a constituent of California's 48th Congressional District and a noble servant to our country. Mr. Sanderson will retire this month from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County's Board of Directors, where he's dedicated nearly two decades of service to underprivileged youth in local communities. Mr. Sanderson has built a distinguished career in business, most recently serving as Chief Financial Officer at Golden State Foods, President of the Supply Chain Services Group at Golden State Foods, and Director of Financial Planning & Analysis at W.R. Grace Restaurant Group. In addition, he continues to be an influential and respected member of the Business Growth Alliance.

While his commitment to growing businesses and creating jobs in our community is worthy of praise, I am most proud of Mr. Sanderson's selflessness and eagerness to help others in need. As a board member at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County, Mr. Sanderson led by example as he devoted

his time to mentor at risk youth. His actions encouraged countless others to volunteer and make a difference in the lives of thousands of young men and women. His leadership and limitless energy provided a new way forward for these young lives and offered an alternative to joining gangs, dropping out of school, and making avoidable mistakes that would adversely affect their future and the State of California.

Mr. Sanderson's commitment to education and his community blossomed as a student at San Diego State University and at the University of Southern California. He is a model citizen, dedicated husband to his wife, Diana, and committed father to his twin sons and young daughter. I salute Mr. Sanderson's work and believe it is worthy of high praise and national recognition from the U.S. House of Representatives.

MR. WILLIAM (BILL) SANDERSON'S BIOGRAPHY

William (Bill) D. Sanderson is Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for Golden State Foods, a world-wide food processor and distributor to the quick service restaurant industry.

Mr. Sanderson began his career as a financial analyst with W.R. Grace and Company after earning his Masters in Business Administration from the University of Southern California. Mr. Sanderson later became the Director of Finance for Far West Services Restaurants, a wholly owned subsidiary of W. R. Grace where he was responsible for all financial planning, budgeting and acquisition analysis. Mr. Sanderson was instrumental in negotiating a license agreement with Kasumi Stores of Japan and was directly involved in the opening of the first 3 Coco's restaurants in Japan.

In 1982, Mr. Sanderson left Far West Services to start his own chain of retail popcorn and confectionary stores. Mr. Sanderson grew the company from a single store in 1982 to a chain of 20 stores in Southern California. He transformed his small business into a mail order gift company and licensed his concept in Japan and Korea.

In 1989 as chief executive officer of Cal Corn, Inc., Mr. Sanderson acquired the mall based Bob's Big Boy Restaurants from the Marriott Corporation. Mr. Sanderson and Bob's founder, Bob Wyman, worked together to develop a new restaurant concept called the Big Boy Diner.

In 1994, Mr. Sanderson negotiated a joint venture agreement with ConAgra to open retail popcorn stores throughout the United States. Mr. Sanderson served as managing director of Orville Redenbacher Retail Stores where he developed a retail concept and mail order gift division under the Orville Redenbacher brand.

From 1998 to 2000 Mr. Sanderson served as president of a middle market designer and manufacturer of arts and crafts products where he was brought in to turn around a struggling entrepreneurial company. During his tenure, he acquired a complimentary crafts products company, established a children's toy division which included licensed product such as "Pokemon", and focused the company on key account sales. The company regained profitability and grew its revenues by 95% in two years.

In 2002, Mr. Sanderson joined Golden State Foods where he was appointed president of Golden State Service Industries, a wholly owned subsidiary of Golden State Foods. Golden State Foods is a full line manufacturer and distributor of food products for the quick service restaurant industry serving McDonald's and other quick service restaurant chains worldwide. Mr. Sanderson was named senior vice president of finance

and administration in 2009 and chief financial officer in 2011.

Mr. Sanderson is active in the Young Presidents' Organization, where he has held many leadership roles over the past 17 years. Mr. Sanderson has been involved in giving back through volunteer and fundraising efforts supporting Boys and Girls Club of Irvine, Muscular Dystrophy, the March of Dimes, and the All American Boys' Chorus. Mr. Sanderson also chairs the Golden State Foods Foundation committee in Irvine. In that role, Mr. Sanderson founded and has been instrumental in spearheading the "Good News for Kids" fundraising event which holds an annual fundraising event at the Grove in Anaheim. The proceeds raised from this event have benefited a variety of children's charities throughout Southern California. Mr. Sanderson has been a member of the board of directors of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Orange County for more than 15 years and served as chairman of the board from 1997 through 2000.

Mr. Sanderson and his wife, Diana, live in Irvine with their twin 17 year old sons and their 10 year old daughter.

RECOGNIZING THE INDEPENDENCE EMPOWERMENT CENTER VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the volunteers for the Independence Empowerment Center.

Independence Empowerment Center is a community-based advocacy organization operated by and for people with disabilities in the state of Virginia. IEC promotes disability rights, equal access, and full community participation for persons with disabilities. They work with individuals with disabilities to maintain or take back charge of their own lives and make their own choices and decisions in order to be as self-sufficient as possible. Independence Empowerment Center is associated with a national movement of almost 500 Centers for Independent Living. These Centers are advocacy-based organizations governed and operated by persons with disabilities for persons with disabilities.

Volunteers for the Independence Empowerment Center perform essential tasks in and outside of the office. They assist the staff on daily functions and projects, as well as manage events that the IEC hosts. Additionally, IEC is staffed with volunteers constantly to help with their Annual Americans with Disabilities Act Fair in July.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for the Independence Empowerment Center:

Patricia Johnson
Judy Humphrey
Don Rhoades
Stephanie George
Marlene Orf
David Beverage
Alfredo Foz
Joshua Rammelsberg
Emilia Prokop
China McEachern

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers at the Independence Empowerment Center for their serv-

ice and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HURT. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall vote No. 302 on agreeing to the Grimm of New York Amendment to H.R. 5854. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall vote No. 303 on agreeing to the Franks of Arizona Amendment No. 8 to H.R. 5854. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN MEMORY OF PHYLLIS MARIE MUCCINI

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of a great citizen of my district who passed away earlier this month. Phyllis Marie Muccini of Corning, New York, was a dear friend and family member to many in the 29th District of New York.

Phyllis was employed by my hometown's Corning Incorporated for over 35 years. Outside of work, she spent her time volunteering at organizations that included the Girl and Boy Scouts of America, Cinderella Softball, the American Cancer Society, and the Corning Lioness Club. She received numerous awards for these activities, but that was never her goal or intention. Phyllis' activities allowed her to impact the lives of countless individuals over the years. She will forever be missed. However I, like many others, have been touched by her compassion and generosity that will provide a legacy of her life for many generations to come.

Thus, it is right and proper for Phyllis Muccini to forever be enshrined in the records of the United States Congress as a true American heroine for all of us to pause and pay tribute.

HURRICANE SEASON

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, as you know, June 1, marks the official start to the Atlantic hurricane season. Mother Nature decided to start a little earlier, unfortunately, and over the recent Memorial Day weekend my home state of Florida had an early scare with Tropical Storm Beryl. Thankfully, it turned out not to be as bad a storm as we initially feared.

It was a reminder that we all have to work together to make sure our families, neighbors and friends stock up on essential supplies and develop a plan of action in the event another storm appears headed our way.

You cannot wait until a storm is coming. Taking early precautions, as well as having a recovery plan, is very important to minimize damage to your own property.

If enough people take precautions, government agencies are free to help those who need it most: the elderly, children, the handicapped, and people in shelters.

So make sure you have a three day supply of non-perishable food and water;

Make sure that you have a change of batteries for your flashlights, radios, and other devices;

Fill up your car's gas tank; and keep all your important papers in a safe, dry place.

Please don't wait until the last minute to prepare. It's up to all of us to make sure we're safe.

I also want to thank President Obama and his entire administration for working with state and local authorities throughout the year to prepare for hurricane season and all types of disasters. I'd also like to thank the President and his Administration for including the State of Florida Emergency Manager Bryan Koon, Florida Adjutant General Major General Emmett Titshaw, and Florida Power & Light President Eric Silagy in his hurricane preparedness briefing at the White House yesterday.

Lastly, I'd like to salute the important role that our first responders and local television and radio broadcasters play in coordinating and providing critical information during hurricanes and times of disaster.

It takes a tremendous amount of planning and coordination, and we are grateful for the collaboration that the public and private sectors play in times of emergency.

Hopefully we'll have an uneventful hurricane season this year. But we must always be prepared so that we can weather the storm and come out safe and sound on the other end.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5854) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Chair, yesterday, the House of Representatives took a vote on H. AMDT. 1159 to H.R. 5854, the Military Construction/VA Appropriations Bill. I voted in support of this amendment because it strikes the anti-project labor agreement language within section 517 of this bill.

This amendment was pro-labor and will keep Project Labor Agreements from being eliminated within the bill. Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) have been essential and successful tools used by both governments and private sector companies for years. They help not only employees, but also employers. PLAs have been used since the 1930s in the U.S. and studies show they not only promote fair labor practices, but also are cost-effective.

For these reasons, I voted to protect PLAs because we, in Congress, need to stand strong in our fight for fair labor practices and in protecting policies that prove to be successful.

CELEBRATING CHEMICOMAYS LLC ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR THIRD CONSECUTIVE SELECTION AS GENERAL MOTORS SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize ChemicoMays LLC and its CEO Leon Richardson as the company is honored for its third consecutive year as a General Motors Supplier of the Year. Each year, General Motors (GM) awards this distinction to less than one percent of its nearly 20,000 suppliers worldwide.

ChemicoMays, based in Southfield, Michigan, was formed as a joint venture between Chemico System and Mays Chemical in 2005. Since that time, it has used its more than 20 years of experience to deliver chemical management solutions for industry customers. With over 250 employees and a focus on providing high quality service to its many customers, the company's client base has grown to include great American companies like General Motors, Boeing and Eli Lilly.

Through its unique proprietary Web interface system, ChemicoMays has labored to provide its customers a user-friendly tool that enables them to easily access the more than 150 million pounds of chemicals it procures annually. ChemicoMays also provides to its clients a specialized array of inventory management tools that allow companies to efficiently identify and utilize previously wasted supplies. In concert with its policy to provide simple, transparent pricing, ChemicoMays has a proven track record that has resulted in not one of its clients having a work stoppage due to chemical availability.

ChemicoMays' commitment to excellence in production and service is a standard that emanates from its CEO Leon Richardson. Prior to the creation of ChemicoMays, Mr. Richardson established Chemico Systems, Inc. in 1989 and served as its president. Throughout his career, Mr. Richardson has strived to ensure that his clients receive the best and most comprehensive customer support. More importantly, Mr. Richardson brings out the best in his employees in fulfillment of the company's mission. With his tenacity and experience, he led Chemico Systems from a mere start-up company to one of the world's top suppliers of chemical products and chemical management services in the automotive, bio-tech and academic sectors.

Today, Mr. Richardson's effective leadership continues as CEO of ChemicoMays. His dedication and that of ChemicoMays' employees have earned the company numerous industry accolades including three consecutive Supplier of the Year Awards from GM, GM's 2007 Environmental Excellence Award and being named one of Michigan's top 50 companies to watch in 2006.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating ChemicoMays and Mr.

Leon Richardson on earning the company's third consecutive Supplier of the Year Award from GM. ChemicoMays' commitment to excellence in production and service has greatly benefited its customers, employees and the communities it calls home.

REP. PETRI FLOOR AMENDMENT 25 (RULES AMENDMENT 46) TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (H.R. 4310)

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the amendment to compensate National Guard troops for miscalculated leave time.

This amendment corrects a government error to pay approximately 575 Army National Guard troops for leave time they earned but were unable to take after their last deployment. These soldiers have spent time overseas defending our great nation—some in multiple deployments—and have earned their leave benefits.

The Army agrees that these Guardsmen should have received PDMRA leave. However, the Army's only legal remedy is to allow them use their PDMRA leave after a future deployment. Since some of these soldiers will not deploy again and others have left the service entirely, this remedy has no value in many cases.

I would like to give special thanks to Congressman PETRI for working with me to ensure that this egregious bureaucratic error is rectified. I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment and properly support our service members who selflessly serve.

TRIBUTE TO ELLIOTT DUCHON

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Jurupa Valley are exceptional. Our area has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Elliott Duchon is one of these individuals. On Saturday, May 19, 2012, Duchon was recognized as the Citizen of the Year by the Jurupa Valley Chamber of Commerce for his work as the Jurupa Unified School District Superintendent.

In 1974, Duchon graduated from the University of California, Riverside (UCR) with a Master's Degree in Education and Psychology. After graduation, he was an elementary teacher for the Jurupa Unified School District where he also served on school planning committees, including the school site council. After three years of teaching, Duchon was self-employed and served as a consultant to the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools where he performed land use studies and demographic research and analysis to form a

Long Range Facility Plan for the 22 school districts in Riverside County. In 1981, Duchon became a Systems Planning Analyst for the Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) where he performed planning and administrative duties related to the management of a fourteen building, \$20 million facility construction program.

After two years as the Systems Planning Analyst, Duchon became the Instructional Computing Project Manager for the Inland Empire Teacher Education and Computer Center within RCOE. In this role, he was responsible for an array of services related to the instructional uses of education technology. The services were provided to the 58 school districts in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. In 1985, Duchon was promoted to Director of the Region 13 Teacher Education and Computer Center where he was responsible for the two-county staff development program in all areas of the curriculum. In 1991, he was promoted again to Director of Administrative Services for RCOE where he was responsible for administration and management for the Department of Administrative Services, which included the Geographic Information Center, internal and external support for school facilities development, school district elections, staff support to the County Committee on School District Organization and other management services. After ten years as the Director, Duchon was promoted to the Riverside County Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Administrative Support Services, Division of Information Technology/Governmental Relations. In 2001, Duchon became the Deputy Superintendent for the Jurupa Unified School District and after three years became the Superintendent of Schools for the District.

As Superintendent, Duchon was responsible for all aspects of operating a 20,000 student school district with over 2,000 employees and a \$160 million budget. His major accomplishments include a District Academic Performance Index (API) that has risen 100 points during his tenure; the District has four Distinguished Schools and two Title I Achieving Schools; a 100% rating of Highly Qualified Teachers; the completion and opening of a new high school; the establishment of an Early College High School Academy with Riverside Community College; the District has received three Golden Bell awards; and the student achievement gap has narrowed. During his time, Duchon has been recognized by the Region XIX Association of California School Administrators as the 2007 Superintendent of the Year; recognized as the West Riverside School Administrators 2006 Superintendent of the Year; and recognized by the Riverside County, California School Bilingual Educators chapter as the 2006 Superintendent of the Year.

In light of all Elliott Duchon has done for the students, parents and community of Jurupa Valley it is only fitting that he be honored as the Superintendent of the Year. Elliott Duchon's tireless passion for education and public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our community and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives this prestigious award.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONTGOMERY GI BILL

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today, June 1, 2012, marks the 25th anniversary of the first permanent Department of Veterans Affairs-administered Montgomery GI Bill. Enacted in 1987, the landmark New GI Bill Continuation Act offered a life changing incentive for veterans returning from active duty to the workforce. By offering veterans access to higher education, it both strengthened our national defense and helped revitalize our economy.

The GI Bill has proved over the years to be a boon for many of our veterans. Veterans are able to return home with a plan for their future. The education they receive helps many enter the workforce and provide for themselves and for their families in ways that were not previously possible.

This program has blessed our Nation and continues to do so by benefiting not only veterans, but many sectors of the economy by injecting highly qualified individuals to the workforce and the community. Veterans are able to combine the skill sets they learn both from their schooling and from their military training and often become excellent leaders and contributors to society. As I have said in the past—hiring former service members for patriotic reasons expresses appreciation and respect. Hiring them for business reasons gets results.

Our veterans fought to protect our freedoms and way of life, and as they serve our Nation in this time of need, we must remember them in their time of need. Veterans have made tremendous sacrifices to preserve our way of life, and the American people are indebted to the men and women who served our Nation. I am proud of the work Congress has done to improve veterans' benefits. It is important that we continue to honor our commitments to our Nation's veterans through legislation that benefits them, like the Montgomery GI Bill.

So as the former Chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Benefits, and as a grateful American, I want to pay tribute to the thousands of veterans in Idaho and the United States who have given us so much.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5854) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 5854, the FY13 Military Construction-VA Appropriations Act. This sub-

committee has a strong record of bipartisan collaboration and I want to commend Subcommittee Chairman CULBERSON and Ranking Member BISHOP for their leadership in advancing this important bill.

However, I remain disappointed that the Republican Majority continues to depart from the spending caps agreed to in the Budget Control Act of 2011, which already mandates deep spending cuts across the Federal budget. As we continue passing appropriations bills under the constraints of the Republican Budget Resolution, it is crucial that we protect our veterans and military families from any deep and harmful budget cuts. Members of the Committee were able to do so in this bill by providing ample funding for veterans healthcare, education, and construction improvements on our military bases. It also takes much needed action to improve the VA and Pentagon's health records sharing program.

It is an honor to serve on the subcommittee that ensures that our armed forces, their families, and our veterans get the critical resources they have earned. After listening to veterans in my District and meeting with military families on bases across the country, I worked to further strengthen H.R. 5854 to reflect their priorities. I am pleased that this bill contains language that helps women veterans gain access to important medical needs, including prosthetics for women amputees. This bill also contains language that fully supports the Defense and Veterans Affairs Departments in their efforts to increase their use of clean alternative energy sources. Lastly, it encourages our military to continue their strong commitment to providing the best quality child care and housing on base.

Although the Subcommittee reported a "clean" bill, I was disappointed that a harmful and unnecessary amendment restricting project labor agreements was adopted during Full Committee markup. I am strongly opposed to the inclusion of the provision and it is my hope that members vote to remove it before final passage of the legislation.

America has a debt to pay for the service and sacrifices our veterans have made for all of us. The funding provided in this bill is absolutely essential to provide the services and support to all our veterans, especially those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. We can and must meet our commitments to the millions of veterans, service members and their families here and across the world.

Passage of this bill would help accomplish this and I urge my colleagues to support it.

WHO WILL DEFEND THE DEFENDERS?

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, since the tragic Islamist terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 no law enforcement agency has been more effective in preventing another successful terrorist attack than the New York Police Department. Under Commissioner Ray Kelly's leadership the NYPD has had 1000 police officers working 24/7, building a counter-terrorist infrastructure and taking proactive action to stop at least 14 terrorist plots against New York City.

Despite this outstanding record which should warrant national acclaim, the NYPD has been viciously and falsely attacked in a disgraceful series of articles by the Associated Press, aided and abetted by such politically correct apologists as the New York Times and the ACLU.

As Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee and a member of the Intelligence Committee I am proud to stand with the NYPD. I am also proud to introduce into the record an article written by Mitchell D. Silber entitled "Who Will Defend the Defenders" from the June issue of *Commentary*. Mr. Silber, who retired from his position yesterday, worked directly for the deputy commissioner of the NYPD's Intelligence Division, overseeing all the city's terrorism investigations.

I thank Mitchell Silber for his service and commend this article to my colleagues.

[From the *Commentary Magazine*, June 2012]

WHO WILL DEFEND THE DEFENDERS?

(By Mitchell D. Silber)

In April, the Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting was awarded to the Associated Press for a series of articles it published about the New York Police Department's "clandestine spying program that monitored daily life in Muslim communities." The AP's assertions were so extensive that they filled more than 50 separate pieces, the first published in August of last year. Its reporters alleged that since the attacks of September 11, the New York City Police Department's Intelligence Division had placed entire Muslim communities under scrutiny with "no evidence of wrongdoing." The department, they wrote, had infiltrated mosques and Muslim student groups with no legal basis to do so. It had operated far outside its geographical jurisdiction and had cast too wide a net when monitoring and analyzing American Muslims.

The NYPD had joined the CIA in an "unprecedented partnership," blurring the line between foreign and domestic intelligence-gathering, and had operated in secrecy with "scant oversight." It had run afoul of legal constraints, especially a series of limitations on its intelligence-gathering to which the NYPD itself had agreed following a court case in 1985. It had violated civil-liberties rules in a way that would not be permitted of federal institutions. And after all this misbehavior, the results were mixed in any case.

The articles were quickly and widely disseminated and elicited expressions of deep outrage among Muslim Americans and civil-liberties activists. They created fissures between the police and the communities it sought to protect, undermined confidence in the NYPD, and attracted national attention—which, according to the AP's Pulitzer citation, "result[ed] in congressional calls for a federal investigation and a debate over the proper role of domestic intelligence-gathering." As well they should have. A free citizenry relies on a free press to uncover civil-liberties abuses.

But any serious discussion about the alleged methods and practices of the NYPD Intelligence Division should have begun with one question: Was the AP's investigation accurate? The answer is no.

The articles misrepresent the scope, purpose, and rationale behind many of the NYPD Intelligence Division's programs. They confuse events and policies in ways that are misleading and cast the tale they are telling in the worst possible light. I know all this to be true, because I worked directly for the deputy commissioner of the Intelligence Division for the last seven years,

first as a special assistant and then, for the last four years, until May 2012, as his director of intelligence analysis, overseeing all the city's terrorism investigations.

Nonetheless, the articles were accepted as gospel—perhaps because the accuracy of the work was beside the point. They were celebrated precisely for what they alleged, not what they proved. Their purpose was not to foster serious debate about NYPD anti-terrorism activities, and there has been no such serious debate in their wake.

The legal and policy questions surrounding how to safeguard civil liberties while defending society from acts of terrorism are certainly complex. There is, inevitably, a difficult balance we most strike between security and liberty, and it demands rigorous and ongoing debate about American anti-terrorist methods. Rather than raising these issues in a thoughtful way to inspire reasoned discussion, however, the series of articles made broad allegations and cherry-picked and misconstrued examples to support particularly damaging charges.

This article is intended to restore the context, accuracy, and critical detail left out by the AP and thereby convey the truth of what is an honorable and successful story of sustained, life-saving police work in a climate of unprecedented threat. It is impossible to respond to every AP allegation and distortion even in this generous space. I will therefore focus on the three subjects that have dominated headlines about alleged NYPD misconduct since the articles were published: first, a supposed human-mapping program run by the department; second, counterterrorism efforts outside New York City; and third, actions involving universities. In honing in on these hot-button issues, I will also refute a number of attendant accusations about the ethics and efficacy of NYPD methods.

But first, some background on the evolution of the Intelligence Division and its strategy.

On February 26, 1993, a massive car bomb was detonated below the North Tower of the World Trade Center. The 1,336-pound device was intended to knock the North Tower into the South Tower, bringing both down and killing thousands. The plot failed but still killed six people and injured 1,042 more.

Although the suspects were dismissed as incompetent, their associates were already plotting another attack. The extremist cleric Omar Abdel Rahman, also known as the Blind Sheikh, was at the heart of this follow-up plan to attack the United Nations, the Lincoln and Holland tunnels, the George Washington Bridge, and the FBI's New York office. That so-called Landmarks Plot was thwarted by an informant who had infiltrated the group.

Almost all the participants in both plots were ultimately arrested, tried, and brought to justice, and that temporarily closed the case for most Americans. But on the morning of September 11, 2001, Islamist terrorism crashed back into New York City when 19 al-Qaeda members hijacked four commercial passenger airliners and rammed two of them into the World Trade Center, killing 2,749 people and completing the mission begun in 1993.

Having been attacked twice successfully in the span of eight years, the city could no longer completely defer the responsibility of counterterrorism to the federal government, determined Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly. While the NYPD was prepared to work with the federal agencies, the department determined it would have to make systemic and autonomous changes in how to protect the city from further attacks.

To meet that challenge, in January 2002, the NYPD became the first police depart-

ment in the country to develop its own Counterterrorism Bureau. The new mayor, Michael Bloomberg, and Commissioner Kelly appointed Marine Corps Lieutenant General Frank Libutti to run it. To head a restructured Intelligence Division, the department recruited David Cohen, a 35-year veteran of the CIA who had led both the operational and analytical branches of the agency.

This was no mere cosmetic relabeling or shuffling of the bureaucratic deck. The department increased its representation on the FBI-led Joint Terrorism Task Force from 17 detectives to 120. It reassigned fluent speakers of Arabic, Pashto, Farsi, and Urdu to counterterrorism duties. And it posted senior officers in 11 cities around the world to build relationships with local police agencies and visit the scenes of terrorist attacks abroad.

The NYPD also incorporated a crucial civilian component to fight terrorism. A corps of expert analysts in foreign affairs, intelligence, and counterterrorism were recruited from top graduate schools as well as from the intelligence community inside the Beltway. These well-trained and well-educated civilians were tasked with studying evolving methods of attack and terrorist hot spots around the world.

Additionally, the department cast a wide net for collaboration, working with law-enforcement agencies throughout the northeast and mid-Atlantic and partnering with 11,000 members of the region's private-security industry through a program called NYPD Shield.

Preventing another 9/11 meant studying the attacks of 1993 and 2001 and the thwarted Landmarks Plot. The 1993 attack and the plot were local affairs, planned by groups of regionally based conspirators, six of whom originated from the Palestinian territories, Egypt, and Kuwait. The men lived in New York City and New Jersey, and the sites of their radicalization included the Al Kifah Refugee Center and Al Farouq Mosque, both on Atlantic Avenue in Brooklyn, and the Al Salam Mosque in Jersey City. These mosques were in thrall to the Blind Sheikh.

The 9/11 attack was carried out by men from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, and Lebanon. They had been trained overseas before blending into the population of the United States. At least six of them chose to live in Paterson, New Jersey, specifically because there was "an Arabic-speaking community there," as the 9/11 Commission Report says. Vitally, in the Landmarks Plot (the only one against New York that was derailed during this eight-year period) a confidential informant who was able to penetrate the conspiracy was the critical factor in detecting and disrupting the plan before it became an attack.

These trends meant that the department had to figure out how to (a) find individuals from abroad who had buried themselves in local communities and (b) utilize human intelligence (confidential informants) to penetrate conspiracies before they came to fruition.

If the task wasn't challenging enough, the NYPD also had to contend with a piece of legal architecture known as the Handschu Guidelines, a binding agreement overseen by a federal judge following the settlement of a lawsuit in 1985. No other police department in the country is bound by these rules, which at the time stipulated in part that police were not allowed to investigate political activity before having specific knowledge of criminal activity. After 9/11, the department was understandably concerned that prohibitions in the guidelines might interfere with its ability to prevent terrorist attacks. As a result, in 2002, the NYPD proposed to a federal court that the terms of the guidelines be modified; the court agreed.

The modified guidelines begin by stating a general principle: "In its effort to anticipate or prevent unlawful activity, including terrorist acts, the NYPD must, at times, initiate investigations in advance of unlawful conduct." Clearly, conducting an investigation following a successful attack, as was done in 1993 or 2001, was no longer acceptable. Plots had to be disrupted before they went operational.

The new Handschu rules also state: "The NYPD is authorized to visit any place and attend any event that is open to the public" and "to conduct online search activity and to access online sites and forums on the same terms . . . as members of the public." The department is further authorized to "prepare general reports and assessments . . . for purposes of strategic or operational planning." It is therefore entirely legal for the Police Department to search online, visit public places, or map neighborhoods.

I. THE DEMOGRAPHICS UNIT

The AP Claim: The NYPD has engaged in a "human-mapping" program without citing any evidence of wrongdoing. This program has placed entire Muslim communities under scrutiny.

For some, the very act of gathering intelligence is an illegitimate use of police power. But to find and stop terrorists, the Police Department uses many of the same methods that are used to arrest drug dealers, human traffickers, and gang leaders. Detectives develop detailed information about the nature of the crime and the people involved. While tips from the public are useful, the police cannot rely on them exclusively to detect terrorism conspiracies.

In 2003, with that in mind, the Intelligence Division created the Demographics Unit. Its mission was to identify "venues of radicalization" or "hot spots" in order to detect and disrupt terrorist plots in their beginning stages. The unit was also charged with identifying the locations in certain communities where foreign operatives might hope to lie low, just as the 9/11 hijackers did in Paterson, New Jersey. Given the rich diversity of the ethnic and cultural landscape of New York City, officers in the unit were specifically chosen for their unique language capabilities and cultural knowledge. Individuals were matched to geographic areas where they would be best able to distinguish the benign from the threatening. Proud to be Americans and members of the NYPD, the majority of these officers were Muslims.

A September 22, 2011, AP article paints a frightening portrait of the Demographics Unit and the work it did: "The New York Police Department put American citizens under surveillance and scrutinized where they ate, prayed, and worked, not because of charges of wrongdoing but because of their ethnicity, according to interviews and documents obtained by the Associated Press," runs the article's opening paragraph. "The documents describe in extraordinary detail a secret program intended to catalog life inside Muslim neighborhoods as people immigrated, got jobs, became citizens, and started businesses. The documents undercut the NYPD's claim that its officers only follow leads when investigating terrorism."

But this police-state nightmare bears no resemblance to the nuanced work of the Demographics Unit. The unit employed what is called a risk-basis model. In the three Islamist plots against New York between 1993 and 2001, the vast majority of the conspirators were from a limited group of countries: Egypt, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Palestinian territories, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. The risk-basis model would therefore indicate that these countries could be deemed "higher risk" or "of concern" in relationship to terrorism.

A similar risk-based model is exactly what the Transportation Safety Agency (TSA) recently adopted in the wake of a different terrorist plot—that of the 2009 Christmas Day Bomber, who failed to bring down a plane above Detroit only because he couldn't ignite the explosive device concealed in his underwear. The TSA made a list of "countries of concern," and now passengers from those 14 states face additional scrutiny, such as pat-downs and having their carry-on luggage examined under the new rules. (There is a great deal of overlap between the countries on the TSA list, developed by the Department of Homeland Security and the State Department, and those states the NYPD has considered "countries of concern.")

Plainclothes officers of the Demographics Unit were deployed for this mission. They went into neighborhoods that had heavy concentrations of populations from the "countries of interest" and walked around, purchased a cup of tea or coffee, had lunch and observed the individuals in the public establishments they entered. This is an important point: Only public locations were visited. Doing so was perfectly within the purview of the NYPD, for, as the Handschu Guidelines say: "The NYPD is authorized to visit any place and attend any event that is open to the public."

Here's what they did not do: Plainclothes officers did not conduct blanket ongoing surveillance of communities. Not only is that an impossible task, but it also would have been inefficient and had a low likelihood of identifying terrorist plots in their early stages. At its largest, during a brief period after the July 7, 2005, attacks in London, the unit had 16 officers—hardly enough to monitor a neighborhood, much less whole communities. Officers would take a first pass to familiarize themselves with luncheonettes, dollar stores, and other legitimate businesses and record what they saw. They would be very unlikely to return unless there was reason to believe that a location might be a "venue of radicalization."

How did the AP treat this? Its writers claimed that "the department has dispatched teams of undercover officers, known as 'rakers,' into minority neighborhoods as part of a human-mapping program, according to officials directly involved in the program." As mentioned above, individuals involved were not undercover officers. Undercover officers are provided with fake identities and misrepresent who they are. Plainclothes officers of the Demographics Unit carried no false identification and did not purport to be anyone in particular. This was a blatant error on the part of the AP. In addition, the AP claimed, "Police have also used informants, known as 'mosque crawlers,' to monitor sermons, even when there's no evidence of wrongdoing." As a matter of Police Department policy, undercover officers and confidential informants do not enter a mosque unless they are following up on a lead vetted under the terms of the Handschu Guidelines. The AP's description of "mosque crawlers" roving from mosque to mosque without express legal permission to enter that location is pure fiction.

Still, there was the collection of information, and that is really what troubled people. So why cover social and recreational sites to begin with? The answer: Radicalization frequently occurs in nontraditional locations, not only religious centers. One of the key findings of the 2004 attack on a Madrid train station (inspired by al-Qaeda) and the 2005 attack on the London Underground (committed by al-Qaeda) was that the plotters had not radicalized in mosques. In Spain, different members of the terrorist cluster were radicalized in a barbershop, an apartment, and an unidentified store where some

"watched videos containing images of exercises in training camps, as well as images that exalted the value of the jihad," according to court testimony. In the U.K., the venues of the radicalization of the 7/7 bombers included the Iqra Learning Center bookstore and the "al-Qaeda gym" (the Hamara Healthy Living Centre), both in Beeston.

The AP articles claimed that the NYPD "kept files on individuals" gathered by the Demographics Unit. This is a significant distortion of reality. Yes, to be sure, observation reports were prepared. Naturally, such reports included the names of store owners and customers and the information gleaned from conversations. However, no files about particular individuals were created. The Word-document reports and area-familiarization summaries about visits to public locations were kept on the shelf so that they might be accessed in the event of a fast-moving plot. It would give the department a head start on geographically based knowledge, including data about venues of radicalization and potential "flophouses" or other locations where operatives from specific countries might seek to conceal themselves.

For example, the Demographics Unit was critical in identifying the Islamic Books and Tapes bookstore in Brooklyn as a venue for radicalization. Information the unit collected about the store provided a predicate for an investigation that thwarted a 2004 plot against the Herald Square subway station. The unit also played a role in forming the initiation of an investigation that led to the 2008 identification of Abdel Hameed Shehadeh, a New Yorker who was arrested and is currently facing federal charges for allegedly lying about his plans to travel to Afghanistan in order to kill U.S. servicemen. Both operations were conducted in accordance with the Handschu Guidelines.

Anyone who suggests that the efforts of this unit (which was renamed the Zone Assessment Unit in September 2010) did not comport with legal rules either has not read the Handschu Guidelines, has misunderstood them, or has willfully overlooked their meaning. The AP's reporters and editors were in one of these categories. Anyone who denies the success of the demographics initiative is fortunate not to carry the burden of responsibility should there actually be a counterterrorism failure resulting in an attack. I, for one, would have borne that responsibility. The AP team would not have.

II. OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

The AP Claim: The NYPD's Intelligence Division operates far outside its geographical jurisdiction without the knowledge of local agencies.

If vast oceans and international borders cannot hinder terror plots against the United States, invisible lines separating states and counties certainly cannot. The 1993 attack on the World Trade Center was launched from Jersey City. The 2005 attack on the London Underground was launched from Leeds, 180 miles north of the capital. More recently, Faisal Shahzad's 2010 plot to explode a bomb in an SUV in Times Square on a summer Saturday night on behalf of the Pakistani Taliban was launched from Bridgeport, Connecticut.

It is perfectly legal for the NYPD to travel beyond the boundaries of New York City to investigate cases or visit commercial establishments where terrorists might be radicalizing. Similarly, it is legal to obtain information outside of New York that the Intelligence Division may use "to prepare general reports and assessments concerning terrorism and other unlawful activities or the purposes of strategic or operational planning."

In order to help its partner agencies better understand their own jurisdictions, the Demographics Unit was deployed on select occasions to jurisdictions in New Jersey and Long Island. This led the AP to determine that “the NYPD operates far outside its borders and targets ethnic communities in ways that would run afoul of civil-liberties rules if practiced by the federal government.” What’s more, according to the August 23 article, “it does so with unprecedented help from the CIA in a partnership that has blurred the bright line between foreign and domestic spying.”

The notion of the NYPD as a rolling team of rogue spies would be comically preposterous if it weren’t so damaging. First, the NYPD is not the federal government. Second, these operations were not unilateral.

Local agencies were involved. Any reports or assessments were shared with the local police agencies. What local police chose to tell or not to tell the politicians in their areas was beyond the NYPD’s purview.

As the New Jersey Star-Ledger reported on March 6, 2012:

Although recent disclosures that in 2007 the New York Police Department spied on Muslims in New Jersey have unleashed a furor, interviews with a dozen former state and federal officials show the department’s presence was widely known among the state’s law enforcement officials. In fact, it seems that after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, almost everyone—including Gov. Chris Christie, who was U.S. Attorney for New Jersey at the time—knew to varying degrees the NYPD was scouring the state, where some of the hijackings were planned and one was launched.

A different initiative included the selective use of undercover officers and confidential informants outside city limits. As with the investigation of the 1993 plot against the World Trade Center, which refused to be limited to one side of the Hudson River, a number of terrorist investigations that began inside city limits bled over into adjacent jurisdictions. Any such investigative activity involving human sources had to be conducted in strict accordance with the Handschu Guidelines, just as if those investigations were limited to New York City.

NYPD efforts beyond city limits led to the arrests of the New Jersey-based Mohamed Alesha and Carlos Almonte at John F. Kennedy Airport in June 2010. They were headed to Somalia to join the terrorist organization al Shabaab. Their apprehension marked the conclusion of a three-and-a-half-year investigation by the FBI and Joint Terrorism Task Forces in New York and New Jersey. Also involved: the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness and the U.S. Attorney’s office in Newark. The case against Alesha and Almonte was developed through the careful work of an NYPD undercover officer who made contact with the men in 2009 and became a trusted confidant in northern New Jersey.

Similarly, the investigation that led to the arrest of Jose Pimentel began with an investigation in New York City and moved upstate to the Albany region. In November 2011, Pimentel was one hour away from completing the construction of a pipe bomb intended for detonation in New York City when he was nabbed by police. The department’s intelligence program was built to facilitate exactly the kind of regional collaboration that made his detention possible.

One AP headline blared, “NYPD’s spying programs yielded only mixed results.” Strictly speaking, “mixed results” is accurate in that for the programs to have yielded non-mixed results, they would have been 100 percent successful or 100 percent unsuccessful. But the implication of the headline is

that results have been disappointing. The record of just one aspect of these initiatives tells a dramatically different story. Read on.

III. ON CAMPUS

The AP Claim: The NYPD has investigated and infiltrated Muslim student groups without any legal basis to do so.

At universities students are expected to explore new ideas, challenge themselves, and engage in robust debate involving multiple dissenting opinions. The NYPD has been especially sensitive in any operational work that risks infringing on this protected space. Allegations that police have been infiltrating Muslim student groups at colleges in the city and schools beyond city limits, including Yale and the University of Pennsylvania, are serious and need to be addressed.

But in covering this topic, the AP conflated two different elements of investigative work: open-sourced Internet searches and undercover officers. “Investigators have been infiltrating Muslim student groups at Brooklyn College and other schools in the city, monitoring their Internet activity and placing undercover agents in their ranks,” reads an October 11 story. “Legal experts say the operation may have broken a 19-year-old pact with the colleges and violated U.S. privacy laws, jeopardizing millions of dollars in federal research money and student aid.” This is a dramatic misinterpretation of the nature and scope of the department’s actions.

The first investigative initiative involving students began in 2006 and involved the NYPD Intelligence Division’s Cyber Unit. Officers reviewed Muslim Student Association (MSA) websites, all of which were publicly available, for a period of six months—and with good reason.

Consider the following stories from Great Britain: On March 30, 2004, British authorities disrupted an al-Qaeda plot to mount a bomb attack in the United Kingdom. The individuals involved had obtained 1,300 pounds of ammonium nitrate fertilizer for making bombs. They considered targeting a shopping mall, a nightclub, the U.K.’s 4,200-mile network of underground high-pressure gas pipelines, various British synagogues, Parliament, and a soccer stadium. Four of the seven conspirators were either current university students, dropouts, or graduates of London Metropolitan University, the University of Hertfordshire, and Brunel University. One was an active member of the latter’s Islamic society.

The 2005 London subway plot killed 52 commuters, injured 700, and severely disrupted the city’s transport infrastructure. One of the suicide bombers was a recent graduate of Leeds Metropolitan University, one a recent dropout from the same university, and one a university student at Thomas Danby College in Leeds at the time of the attack.

Next summer, on August 9, British authorities disrupted an al-Qaeda conspiracy to detonate liquid explosives on nine transatlantic airliners traveling from the United Kingdom to the United States and Canada. Four of the nine conspirators were either current university students, dropouts, or graduates from London Metropolitan University, City University, Brunel University, and Middlesex University. One had been president of London Metropolitan University’s Islamic Society.

Most important, the trend is not limited to the U.K. Right here in New York, Mohammed Junaid Babar and Styled Fahad Hashmi, who were arrested in connection with the previously referenced 2004 plot in the U.K. and pled guilty to al-Qaeda-related terrorist activities, had been radicalized through the university-based New York branch of al-Muhajiroun, an Islamist student group in

Britain to which several of the subway bombers were linked. The group actively recruited at the Muslim Student Associations of Brooklyn College, Queens College, and other universities in New York City. More recently, the NYPD learned that Adis Medunjanin, indicted for his participation in the most serious plot on American soil since 9/11—the 2009 Najibullah Zazi plot to detonate explosives in the New York City subway system—was an active member of the Queens College Muslim Student Association.

So what did the NYPD do about campus radicalization and recruitment? For a six-month period, beginning in November 2006 and ending in May 2007, Intelligence Division detectives conducted public-information Internet searches to determine if radicalization and recruitment to terrorism were occurring on local university campuses and, if so, to what extent.

Detectives visited publicly available websites of universities and colleges in and around New York City, catalogued what they saw, and assembled the information into 23 biweekly reports. (Once again, NYPD members investigating counterterrorism activities are authorized by the Handschu Guidelines to search websites open to the public for the purpose of developing intelligence information to detect or prevent terrorism or other unlawful activities.) They were looking mostly at speakers, conferences, and events held at MSAs that might—even if inadvertently—support terrorism or provide a recruiting venue for extremist Islamist groups.

Fortunately, the vast majority of speakers, conferences, and events held at Muslim Student Associations in the tristate area were nonthreatening in nature, and in May 2007 the initiative was closed. The information from the biweekly reports was not entered into any database.

Nevertheless, not everything going on at universities was benign. Detectives learned that Jesse Curtis Morton, who has just recently pled guilty to “using his position as a leader of Revolution Muslim Internet sites to conspire to solicit murder, make threatening communications, and use the Internet to place others in fear,” according to the Eastern District of Virginia, spoke at Stony Brook University as a leader of the Islamic Thinkers Society. In April 2007, detectives learned that Morton’s co-founder of Revolution Muslim, Yousef al-Khattab, spoke at Brooklyn College’s Islamic Society.

Wholly separate from this initiative is the use of undercover officers in investigations that sometimes involved MSA-related activities. Of course, one could be forgiven for thinking that an investigation involving students from City University of New York on a whitewater-rafting trip was a direct consequence of these open-source Internet searches, given how the AP conflated the two. It was not.

Here is how the AP managed to conflate the discrete phenomena in a February 18 article: “Police talked with local authorities about professors 300 miles (480 kilometers) away in Buffalo and even sent an undercover agent on a whitewater-rafting trip, where he recorded students’ names and noted in police intelligence files how many times they prayed. Detectives trawled Muslim student websites every day and, although professors and students had not been accused of any wrongdoing, their names were recorded in reports prepared for Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly.”

The trip fell under a classic investigative framework after information obtained by the NYPD raised the possibility that an individual or group of individuals were engaged in or planning to engage in unlawful activity.

Much has been made of the benign nature of this particular event where no discussion of terrorism occurred. A post about the trip on New York magazine's website claims, "What has civil-liberties advocates really worried is just how far the NYPD has stretched the parameters of its domestic espionage program—until now, at least, the official line was that the force only pursued leads about suspected criminal activity. Clearly, that's no longer the case."

Such histrionics are hardly warranted. In the subway-bomb-plot trial of Najibullah Zazi and Adis Medunjanin, it was disclosed that operational planning for the plot occurred on the basketball courts of Kissena Park and while hiking on Bear Mountain, north of New York City. Neither a bucolic setting nor a recreational endeavor guarantees peaceful intentions.

The AP also has claimed that these and other investigations have occurred with insufficient oversight. One article uncritically quoted New York Civil Liberties Union lawyer Christopher Dunn, who declared of the NYPD anti-terrorism program: "At the end of the day, it's pure and simple a rogue domestic surveillance operation." He continued: "One of the hallmarks of the intelligence division over the last 10 years is that, not only has it gotten extremely aggressive and sophisticated, but it's operating completely on its own. There are no checks. There is no oversight."

In particular, the AP has asserted that the modified Handschu Guidelines gave the NYPD operational carte blanche. "He scrapped the old rules and replaced them with more lenient ones," reads an August 23, 2011, article describing U.S. District Judge Charles S. Haight Jr.'s decision to modify the guidelines in 2002. "It was a turning point for the NYPD."

But far from providing evidence of this charge, the whitewater-rafting case reveals it as folly. The Handschu Guidelines require written authorization from the deputy commissioner of intelligence when utilizing human intelligence. That requirement was met here as it has been in every other case. Moreover, an internal committee reviews each investigation to ensure compliance, and a legal unit based in the Intelligence Division evaluates every field intelligence report generated through an investigation. This committee meets regularly every month, and at one meeting at the end of my tenure, no fewer than 10 attorneys and five assistant or deputy commissioners were in attendance. It is important to note that investigations are discontinued unless they reasonably indicate that an unlawful act has been, is being, or will be committed.

As a matter of Police Department policy, undercover officers and confidential informants do not enter a mosque unless they are doing so as part of an investigation of a person or institution approved under the Handschu Guidelines. Likewise, when undercover officers or confidential informants have attended a private event organized by a student group, they have done so only on the basis of a lead or investigation reviewed and authorized in writing at the highest levels of the department.

Given my dual role as a former director of intelligence analysis at the NYPD and a visiting lecturer at Columbia University, I took a special interest in this issue and personally reviewed the documents in question to see the number of times that NYPD human sources were present on local campuses in the last five years. The numbers are very small and almost always involved intelligence-collection efforts limited to individuals who were under investigation, not the broader student body.

So, yes, in 2006, given the trends observed both here and overseas, the NYPD thought it

prudent to learn more about what was occurring at Muslim Student Associations in the region via open sources, and the six-month initiative generated six months' worth of public-information reports. The NYPD did not send undercover sources to infiltrate MSAs throughout the northeast. Both the open-source initiative and the few investigations where undercover officers examined the activities of university students as part of an ongoing investigation authorized by Handschu Guidelines have led to a greater understanding of the relationship between terrorism and university organizations and have, as a result, kept New York City safer.

In total, the NYPD has helped to prevent 14 terrorist attacks on New York City and its surrounding areas and permitted exactly zero deadly plots to materialize in the 11 years since 9/11. Its success, based on the math alone, is indisputable. But in a free country, success is not enough. Civil libertarians are correct in asserting that safety at the cost of political freedom would betray the highest American ideals. And the unlawful targeting of New York City's minorities would constitute nothing less than a cultural and spiritual gutting of the greatest, most diverse city history has seen. But neither of those travesties have occurred, thanks to the genius of America's Constitution and the NYPD's exquisite adherence to it.

Sadly, the absence of wrongdoing goes only so far in a media-driven society shaped by the 24-hour news cycle and explosive headlines. The damage the AP inflicted upon the NYPD's reputation cannot be mitigated wholly by this or any other honest airing of the facts. Indeed, one can argue that inflicting such damage—not debating police methodology—was the point of the AP's series.

The war on the NYPD's method of combating terrorism is a war on the war on terror by proxy—an effort to portray the least controversial aspect of homeland security as instead a matter of great civil-libertarian concern. Long before the AP series, the war on the war began with efforts to discredit the federal government's endeavors to collect intelligence from combatants and terror suspects captured on the battlefields of Afghanistan and Iraq. It zoomed in on the rights of those detained overseas and at the American base in Guantánamo Bay. Now it has come home, to take on a once universally heralded and supported effort at domestic counterterrorism at the epicenter of the 9/11 attacks, New York City.

Having impugned military and intelligence efforts to fight terrorism, these foes are now taking aim at the most conventional kind of anti-terror approach—one that works within the domestic criminal-justice system, is overseen by courts, and is being managed by a police department that has rigorously kept to the terms of legal limits to which it agreed nearly 30 years ago.

By portraying the NYPD efforts as rogue operations, the AP and the Pulitzer committee are seeking to slacken attempts inside the United States to stop terrorist plots before they happen. Letting these false and misleading stories alter local counterterrorism work would be catastrophic. It has taken many hard years to craft the effective anti-terrorism policies that serve us so well today. Now, with al-Qaeda on the ropes, our renewed sense of security can morph easily into complacency—and terrorists will be sure to exploit any new opportunities to attack. The price of maintaining the safety of New Yorkers has been kept remarkably low, not only for residents but for the country as a whole. Preventing another devastating attack from occurring in the city after 2001 was much more than a local necessity. Such an attack would have been devastating to national morale.

And it still would be.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote Nos. 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304 and 305. Had I been present, I would have voted "Aye" on rollcall vote Nos. 300, 301, 302, 304 and 305. Had I been present, I would have voted "No" on rollcall vote Nos. 297, 298, 299, and 303.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on May 30, 2012 I was recorded as voting "no" on rollcall No. 303, the Franks amendment to H.R. 5854. I intended to vote "aye" and would like that to be noted in the RECORD.

H.R. 5186, THE HALT INDEX TRADING OF ENERGY COMMODITIES OR HITEC

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss H.R. 5186, the Halt Index Trading of Energy Commodities, or HITEC, Act. I recently introduced this bill with Representatives FRANK and DELAUNO because I believe urgent action is needed to protect our nation's oil and refined product commodities markets from artificial and excessive levels of volatility caused by the trading practices of certain Wall Street traders. Since 1991, Wall Street investment banks such as Goldman Sachs have created and marketed a new financial product known as commodity index funds, which are really energy speculation funds, gasoline gambles. These energy speculation funds track the financial performance of one or more commodities. If a speculation fund has an investment in oil and the value of oil goes up, then the value of the fund goes up; if the value of oil goes down, the value of the speculation fund goes down.

These investments have been incredibly popular with investors but have had an adverse effect on the operation of the markets for the commodities that comprise the funds. Hundreds of billions of dollars have been invested in various energy speculation funds, artificially inflating the prices of our commodities. While these energy speculation funds may be driving up prices for many different commodities, they are having an especially pernicious effect on energy commodities. According to testimony submitted to the House Natural Resources Committee, excessive speculation added nearly \$1.00 to the per gallon price of

gasoline this spring, and energy speculation funds appear to be largely responsible. Due to the activities of these energy speculation funds, Wall Street investment banks have profited by introducing new and unprecedented levels of volatility and speculation into oil and refined product markets.

Energy speculation funds have changed the very nature of our commodities markets. Traditionally, the commodities market was dominated by companies who actually used the commodities to hedge the business risk associated with oil or refined products prices. Large oil, gasoline, diesel or jet fuel consumers such as airlines, trucking firms, and shipping services were the largest participants in these markets. Indeed, in 1996, companies who actually bought oil on the commodities market so they could use it owned 93% of the oil futures or derivatives in that market. Now, however, these companies only own 37% of the oil futures or derivatives in that market. The bulk of the remaining 63% is owned by speculators who have invested in these energy speculation funds, none of whom will actually use any of the oil or natural gas in which they have invested.

Despite only being twenty-one years old, energy speculation funds have already had a profound impact on our country. They have increased the size of our commodities market. They have increased the volatility of our commodities prices. They have hurt consumers' wallets and small businesses by making them pay more at the pump. They have slowed the growth of our economy by requiring that we devote even more money to energy instead of creating new jobs. These energy speculation funds are a danger to our economy, our financial system, and the average American's wallet.

The HITEC Act will restore order to our energy commodity markets and end this experiment. The bill will ban all new investment in energy commodities like light sweet crude oil, natural gas, heating oil, and gasoline by these commodity index funds from the date of enactment. The day the President signs this bill, energy speculation funds will not be allowed to grow any more if they count speculators among their investors. Existing energy speculation funds that continue to count speculators among their investors will then have two years to wind down their investments. As the average length of a "spot" commodity contract is one year, this should allow energy speculation funds that continue to house speculators more than enough time to wind down their investments in a fair and orderly fashion.

This bill does not prohibit energy speculation funds from investing in agricultural commodities like wheat or corn, nor does it prohibit those funds from investing in metals such as gold. The bill also does not implicate trading of electricity in any way, shape, or form. Instead, this bill just prohibits energy speculation funds from interfering with our energy commodities, a market that determines the prices for the fuels that power our economy.

This bill will end an unnecessary and harmful source of excessive price volatility that has only served to benefit Wall Street traders and has harmed our economy by pumping up oil, gasoline, and other refined product prices. Enactment of this legislation will address one major source of the pain American consumers have recently been feeling at the pump, and I urge all of my colleagues to co-sponsor this critical legislation.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5854) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 5854, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2013, which supports our military and their families and provides the benefits and medical care that our veterans have earned for their service.

H.R. 5854 provides the facilities and infrastructure needed to house, train, and equip our military personnel to defend this Nation, both in the United States and abroad, provides the housing and military community infrastructure that supports a good quality of life for them and their families, and allows the military to maintain an efficient and effective base structure. The bill also funds programs to ensure that all veterans receive the benefits and medical care that they have earned as a result of their sacrifices in the service to our Nation.

This bill builds on the progress of Democratically-led Congresses from 2007 through 2010 for veterans. Just as our military pledges to leave no one behind on the battlefield, Democrats in Congress have pledged to leave no veteran behind when they come home. This bill provides \$71.7 billion in discretionary spending for Fiscal Year 2013, equal to last year's level.

For VA programs, the bill provides \$60.7 billion in discretionary funding, \$2.2 billion above the FY 2012 enacted level. The bill also assumes \$74.6 billion in mandatory funding. With this funding, the VA will be able to provide quality medical care to more than 6.3 million patients in 2013, including 610,000 veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Madam Chair, let me note my strong opposition to a number of provisions in this bill. This bill enacts a pay freeze on federal workers and rejects the President's proposed 0.5 percent pay raise.

I also oppose the language banning the implementation of the executive order encouraging government agencies to require contractors for large-scale Federal construction projects to negotiate or participate in labor agreements with unions. Republicans are trying to use this critical measure for our military and veterans to advance their controversial anti-worker agenda of no project labor agreements in Federal contracting.

I would like to take a moment to express my strong support for the Grimm amendment. Last year, I worked with Congressman LATOURETTE on defeating anti-Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) language in the MilCon/VA Appropriations bill and this year I rise in support of the Grimm amendment.

Section 517 of H.R. 5854 prohibits agencies from being able to use all available methods to ensure that Federal contracts are cost-efficient. Section 517 of this legislation increases the risk of project cost overruns, delays, and fails to protect our workers.

The Grimm amendment ensures that funds for large-scale construction projects utilize the most cost-effective and efficient process for the awarding of Federal contracts and simply saves taxpayers money!

Madam Chair, however one feels about Project Labor Agreements, the MilCon/VA bill is not the appropriate vehicle to have this debate. The MilCon/VA bill is intended to reflect our commitment to our veterans and our service members in uniform and should be limited to that purpose.

The Grimm amendment simply allows Federal agencies to use all tools at their disposal in awarding large-scale contracts that ensure taxpayer funds are used efficiently and that projects are completed on time and on budget.

All of us in Congress are looking at ways to rein in our deficit. This amendment protects workers and taxpayer funds. I urge my colleagues to support the Grimm amendment.

Madam Chair, in my remaining time let me discuss an additional reason why I support this legislation. This bill includes \$169 million for the ongoing effort to create an integrated electronic health record system that transitions from an individual's active service in the military to the VA and requires the VA and Defense Department to provide Congress with an execution and spending plan for FY 2013 and outline a road map for completing the project.

The bill also includes the requested levels of \$1.4 billion for VA homeless assistance programs and \$4.8 billion for homeless veterans' treatment costs. The bill provides the requested \$250 million to improve access and quality care for the more than three million veterans residing in rural areas and \$6.5 billion for mental health programs including \$443 million for post-traumatic stress disorder and \$76 million for suicide prevention.

This is not a perfect bill but this piece of legislation addresses the most critical needs of our service members, military families, and veterans. The positive provisions outweigh the negative ones and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5854.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed three votes the afternoon of May 31, 2012, which included rollcall votes 294, 295 and 296. If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote 294, Representative UPTON's (MI-6) bill, H.R. 5651. If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote 295, Representative TURNER's (OH-3) bill, H.R. 4201. Lastly, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote 296, Representative CUELLAR's (TX-28) bill, H.R. 915.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF STOCKTON

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Kiwanis Club of Stockton on the occasion of its 90th anniversary.

The Kiwanis Club of Stockton was first chartered in 1922. It is a part of Kiwanis International, a global organization that is represented around the world. Kiwanis International works to make a difference in children's lives by providing grants to local Kiwanis clubs that benefit community projects, scholarships to high school students, and youth leadership programs.

In my district, the Kiwanis Club of Stockton works tirelessly to support the youth of the Stockton area. One of the chief ways the Kiwanis Club assists students is through its High School Scholarship Program. Each year, the club awards accomplished high school seniors with funds to help support their college educations. The Kiwanis Club promotes the well-being of children in the community by donating "wish list" items to the St. Mary's Service Center in Stockton and by hosting an annual clean up day of Pixie Woods, a local children's park in Stockton.

I commend the Kiwanis Club of Stockton for its outstanding service and I have no doubt that its efforts have made, and will continue to make, a positive impact on the lives of many children and families throughout our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Kiwanis Club of Stockton on the occasion of its 90th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING MS. SNIGDHA NANDIPATI

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Snigdha Nandipati, the 2012 Scripps National Spelling Bee champion from Rancho Penasquitos, a community from my district in San Diego, California.

The winning word, *guetapens*, means to ambush, snare or trap. While not many people know what this word means, even less know how to spell it. Ms. Nandipati did. The eighth-grader from Francis Parker Middle School, armed with her lucky key chain, defeated 277 of the country's best spelling bee competitors in a three-day competition to win the coveted title.

As with all things, the achievement does not tell the entire story. In preparation for this competition, Ms. Nandipati studied six hours a day on a computer program created by her father, designed to generate random words for her to spell. If that was not enough, she showed initiative by founding her school's own spelling bee club so students could hone their competition skills and challenge each other.

Consider this: as this statement is typed on Microsoft Word, spell check displays its signa-

ture hashed-red line below the winning word indicating that it is either incorrectly spelled or the computer does not recognize the word; concluding that even Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft, does not recognize or know how to spell the word *Ms. Nandipati* prevailed with.

I hope my colleagues will join me along with many proud San Diegans in recognizing the fine achievement of Ms. Nandipati. Without question, her hard work, initiative and success are worthy of recognition by the House of Representatives.

HONORING THE 2012 GRADUATES OF CHARLES DREW UNIVERSITY

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 2012 graduates of Charles Drew University in Los Angeles. This unique school is a true national treasure. Formally established in 1966 as a postgraduate medical school, CDU is a private, non-profit, minority-serving medical and health science institution. But it is much more than that; it is one of only four historically black graduate institutions in this country, and the only one located west of the Mississippi.

The men and women who graduate from this institution go on to have remarkable careers. Since 1971, when the first student matriculated, CDU has graduated over 550 physicians, 1,200 physician assistants, 2,800 physician specialists and numerous other healthcare professionals from diverse backgrounds, most of whom dedicated their careers working in underserved communities.

In Los Angeles County nearly one in every three minority doctors were trained at CDU, and graduates of the College of Medicine are two to three times more likely to practice in diverse and medically underserved communities than physicians trained in other medical schools. The school is simply indispensable to the minority communities in LA County.

African Americans, who account for only 13 percent of the U.S. population, account for more than 50 percent of all new HIV/AIDS diagnoses. African Americans die from diabetes at twice the rate of white Americans, and die from cancer at a rate 25.4% higher than white Americans.

Mr. Speaker, these statistics are grim, and there are many more shocking health disparities that exist between racial groups in our country. This is why health research institutions, like CDU, that are focused on eradicating these disparities are of vital importance.

With so many patients to serve, it is critical that we have enough trained health care professionals to adequately serve all communities, especially those that are economically disadvantaged like the area surrounding CDU. The graduates that emerge from this institution are fundamental in fulfilling that role.

As the Member of Congress for the 37th District of California in which the Charles Drew University is located, I am personally familiar with CDU's accomplished record of service. Each member of the graduating class has chosen a career path that will not only be exciting and rewarding, but will make a true difference in the lives of so many people.

Mr. Speaker, today I honor this exceptional University, and the 2012 graduates who will be moving on to provide health care with excellence and compassion. I know that it will be men and women like them that will transform the health of underserved communities.

CONGRATULATING TERESA A. RODGES AS THE 2012 WOMAN OF THE YEAR FOR THE LAMBDA RHO ZETA CHAPTER OF THE ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary member of our community, Mrs. Teresa A. Rodges, for her abundant service to the community and her outstanding achievements as recognized by the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.'s 29th Finer Womanhood Luncheon.

Mrs. Rodges dedicates both her free time and professional career to community service. She has held top-level executive positions at organizations that work to make a difference in the community, including Matrix Human Services in Detroit, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac, and her current position as Executive Director of the McLaren Oakland Riley Foundation.

As an outstanding member of her community, Mrs. Rodges saw a need to help those experiencing economic misfortune and unemployment in Pontiac and the surrounding area. Realizing fewer women could afford health insurance, Mrs. Rodges created the Sister & Sister Free Mammogram Program in 2007. She worked relentlessly to raise funds in order to ensure adequate care for economically disadvantaged women. The Sister & Sister program has provided over 3,000 free mammogram screenings, detected breast cancer in several women, and provided follow-up treatment to women in need. With the leadership of Mrs. Rodges, funds were raised to purchase a digital mammography system. This program and Mrs. Rodges have received recognition and support from elected officials statewide.

Mrs. Rodges has also dedicated her time to helping the Pontiac school system. As a member of the Pontiac Promise Zone Authority Board, she was instrumental in raising \$750,000 in funding for scholarships to Pontiac students. She also created the Riley Scholars program to recruit mentors, hire managers, and tutors to ensure that every student in the Pontiac School District has access to postsecondary education.

An astonishing number of boards and committees for local non-profits have been the beneficiaries of Mrs. Rodges' commitment to helping others. Some of the boards and committees she has served on include: the Women's Survival Center, Oakland University School of Nursing Board of Visitors, Baker College Business Advisory Committee, and the United Way Executive Committee. Mrs. Rodges' service to these and other local organizations shows her dedication to the community and over the years they have recognized her with many awards for her leadership and service.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Teresa A. Rodges has dedicated her life to helping others in need. From organizing post-secondary education programs to creating affordable mammogram screenings for underprivileged women, she is a role model to the community and the epitome of an excellent leader. She has changed and saved the lives of many people through her service. I am pleased to honor Mrs. Rodges as the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority recognizes her as its 2012 Woman of the Year.

HONORING PRESIDENT MA OF TAIWAN FOR HIS RE-ELECTION VICTORY

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor President Ma of Taiwan for his re-election victory. I believe that the people of Taiwan and the United States have a reason to celebrate President Ma's second inauguration, which occurred on May 20, 2012.

I hope that during his second term, President Ma and the United States can work together to address the concerns that both our countries share, such as enhancing our mutual security, and exchanging ideas to improve the health care of both of our societies.

These efforts, with the countless successes in the past and the close relationship we have maintained with Taiwan, assure a bright and peaceful future for both of our countries.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM HUELSAMP

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HUELSAMP. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 302, the Grimm Amendment to H.R. 5854, I inadvertently voted yes when I intended to vote no. I believe every worker should be able to decide for themselves whether or not they would like to join a union. Project Labor Agreements violate workers' rights and inhibit business growth. No one should ever face compulsory membership in any group. Given our current fiscal situation, the last thing Congress should be doing is imposing more burdensome regulations on businesses and workers. I am proud that Kansas is a Right-to-Work state, and I am committed to promoting workers' rights at the federal level.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

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

consideration the bill (H.R. 5854) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chair, I was unavoidably detained and unable to be present for the vote on the Grimm Amendment to H.R. 5854, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. I want to state for the record that I strongly support this amendment, and had I been present, I would have voted yes.

Mr. GRIMM's amendment would strike the anti-project labor agreement language inserted into the bill. This bi-partisan amendment is an important defense against Republican attacks on labor and project labor agreements.

As a Member of Congress, I take the responsibility to protect workers' rights seriously, and I support economic solutions that protect and lift all Americans—not just the privileged few—in order to create a safe and prosperous nation for all. A cornerstone of this economy are Project Labor Agreements, which are pre-hire agreements that establish the terms and conditions of employment to ensure tax payer funded projects use local workers to finish on time and under budget.

It is time to rebuild our economy in a way that is consistent with our values. Until all Americans are back to work, more must be done on behalf America's middle class and working families. Project Labor Agreements are a vital part of this process, and I strongly support all attempts to protect them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, on May 30, 2012, I was unavoidably absent for votes in the House chamber. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall Votes 294, 295 and 296.

CONGRESSIONAL SHADOW DAY FOR FOSTER YOUTH

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support of National Foster Care Month, which is observed in May to increase awareness of the challenges faced by children in the foster care system. Yesterday, I participated in Congressional Shadow Day for Foster Youth and had the pleasure of being shadowed by Dontysha Torry of Washington, DC. Dontysha shares the experience of over 400,000 children in America who are a part of our Nation's child foster care system. I would also like to urge my colleagues to not lose sight of the challenges facing thousands of children who find themselves in the foster care system. These 400,000 children are our children, and the responsibility for their successful development into adulthood remains our responsibility. This is why foster care policies should be

shaped, or reconsidered with the aim of: 1) increasing the amount of eligible parents willing to adopt; 2) minimizing traumatic changes in a child's educational career and developmental process; 3) curbing the risk of homelessness in early adulthood; 4) and addressing the serious realities of sexual abuse.

I would be remiss if I did not also mention the importance of remaining mindful of the impact foster care policy has on underprivileged communities. African-Americans, who make up approximately 60 percent of my constituents in Brooklyn, but approximately 12 percent of the larger U.S. population, make up a staggering 27 percent of children who enter foster care. Unfortunately, African-Americans are more likely to remain in the foster care system longer and in many instances will never be permanently placed.

Finally, we all know that often quoted proverb "it takes a village to raise a child." Similar to villages, which comprise of a number of different community members that serve different purposes, the community established to support foster care children should also be a diverse one. The success of a child is dependent on the influence of a number of persons including: those willing to adopt; those willing to serve as court appointed special advocates; and those willing to serve as tutors and higher education counselors. Let us all encourage our community members to get involved regardless of how minor one may assume their role to be. We can hardly imagine the impact a small deed may have on a child.

As National Foster Care Month comes to an end, I urge all of my colleagues to join the Foster Youth Caucus and support initiatives and legislation that brings to issue what foster youth face in the nation to light.

RECOGNIZING THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Prince William County Juvenile Detention Center Volunteers.

JDC Volunteers ensure the efficiency of Juvenile Detention Center's after-school program. They treat the youth with respect, dignity and worth, becoming role models for youth who wish to change their lives. The volunteers promote healthy social, educational, emotional, and physical development. The JDC Volunteers are truly an integral part of the center, as well as these children's lives.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for the Prince William County Juvenile Detention Center:

Joshua Ahmadi, Jean Andreas, Antonio Ante, Mileydi Ante, Warren Anthony, Alex Arevalo, Jose Argueta, Melis Argueta, Anthonese Barlow, Beverly Barnes, Tina Barnett, Edwardo Barrow, Paul Bauer, Robin Bauer, Matt Behnke, Katherine Best-Brown, Patricia Black, Renee Blakey, Leah Bogden-Collins, Barbara Borthwick, Patrick Bowers, Diana Bowers, Angela Brown, Michael Brown, Renee Brown, Peggy Bruhn, Richard Buckholt, Isabella Buckley, William Burrell,

Brigitte Caboteja, Keisha Cameron, Daniel Card, Alfred Cardwell, Christopher Cavaluzzi, Elizabeth Charity, Louis Chevalier, Marcia Clark, Triane Clowers, Erin Collins, Carolyn Craig-Sprow, Elaine Crocker, Vincent Currie, David Danieli, Jacqueline Daugnon, Randy Davenport, Carolyn Demps, Joel Devallon, Arthur Diggs, Paul Dressler, Henry During, Michael Edwards, Christopher Floyd, Ingrid Floyd-Casco, Emilio Fogerty, Barbara Fortenberry, Stephanie Fox, Doug Freeman, Michael French, Lohrland Gandy, Aria Gee, Keith Givens, Patsy Gordon, CeCe Greco, Tabatha Guion, Linda Hammon, Darrell Harris, Ruth Hellwig, Sherri Hines, Ernest Hines II, Rebecca Hixon, Mary Hoffman, Corey Holman, Gay Howard, Bob James, Vondetta James, Jackie James-Bond, Kimberly Jappell, Breanna Jones, Matthew Jones, Karen King, William Lewis, Dudley Ligon, Vickey Logan, John Louisor, Cora Lynch, Floyd Mangin, Sherman Manley, Leonardo Manning, Bruce Marchal, Ardine Marie, Antonio Mason, David Masters, John McKie, John McMackin, Liz Medina, Robert Melvin, Dan MenMuir, Charles Miller, Jeanne Moore, William Moore, Gregory Morris, Dona Mosley-Williams, Tyler Newton, Dianne Noble, Debbie Page-Maples, Robin Paglianite, Sheila Parocia, Caris Penzien, Christy Phillips, Bernice Piasare, LaTasha Pless, Daniel Ramirez, Paul Ramos, Carlos Recono, Hugo Retana, Rhonda Richardson, Sabeana Roberts, Reina Rodriguez, Suzanne Rucker, Joy Russom, Brandis Sanchez, Cathy Sanders, Charlene Scott, Pastor Angel Serrano, Natasha Severe, Cathy Shaffer, Dennis Smith, Latonya Smith, Odell Smith, Victoria Soberanis, Jeanne Spears, Martin Steinberg, Kevin Stewart, Sherry Stone, Anita Sullivan, Carolyn Taylor, Brenda Todd, Shonietta Travers, Doyoberto Trejo, Aimee Tucker, Ortho Vines, Diane Walden, Andrew Walker, Kenneth Wallace, Patricia Wallace, Amy Ward, Sandra Watjen, Shirley Watson, Delores Weikert, Stephen Weikert, Sandy Weinger, Elizabeth Williams, Stacy Williams, Brianne Wilson, Carol Wilson, Michael Wilson, Robert Wilson, Erica Wright, Reynold Wright, Laurie Raines, Kelly Jimenez, Tracey Wilkins-Clark, Tricia Wyman.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Prince William County Juvenile Detention Center Volunteers for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRENDAN HAAS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of nine-year-old Brendan Haas, a resident of Kingston, Massachusetts, who has displayed the most profound sense of generosity and caring to the family of a fallen soldier.

In February, Brendan set up a Facebook page called "A Soldier for a Soldier," which involves "trading up" items for something bigger and better. His intention was always to donate the best item he received to a military family. Through this project, Brendan began with a single toy soldier and spent three months

dedicated to trading for bigger and better things before he received the item he wanted to donate. Brendan then held a raffle with the names of families across the country and ended up drawing the name Liberty Hope Steele, the daughter of Timothy Steele, a soldier from his native Massachusetts who was killed in Afghanistan last August. On Memorial Day, Brendan presented the Steele family with a free vacation to Disney World.

Brendan's generosity knows no bounds, as he recently demonstrated a second time. Recognized for his actions during the morning telecast of "Good Morning America," Brendan was informed that the Walt Disney Company was awarding him and his family an all-expense paid vacation to Disney World for what he had done on behalf of the Steele family. Brendan; however, refused to accept the trip for himself; instead, he said it would be raffled away to another military family.

This type of selflessness is years beyond what we would expect of a young boy. Brendan has made his community and his country very proud.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Brendan Haas for his remarkable spirit, dedication and generosity. I know we will see more great things from him in the future.

COMMEMORATING AZERBAIJAN'S REPUBLIC DAY

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of the Republic of Azerbaijan and their celebration of Republic Day on May 28.

Azerbaijan first declared independence from the Russian Empire on May 28, 1918. Though the Azerbaijan Republic later succumbed to Soviet forces in 1920, in its 2 years of independence Azerbaijan achieved a number of measures on state-building, armed forces, education, economy, and universal suffrage, from which it benefits today. Azerbaijan restored its independence in 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Azerbaijan is a key global security partner for the United States. Azerbaijan was among the first nations to offer unconditional support for US and its allies in anti-terrorism efforts, providing use of its airspace, airports, and troops for operations in Afghanistan. Azerbaijani troops were also part of international contingent in Kosovo and Iraq.

Azerbaijan has opened Caspian energy resources to development by U.S. companies and has emerged as a key player for global energy security. The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline project is the most successful project contributing to the development of the South Caucasus region and has become the main artery delivering Caspian Sea hydrocarbons to the U.S. and our partners in Europe.

As a proud Co-Chair of Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus I call my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Republic of Azerbaijan on this important occasion.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RE- LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIA- TIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5854) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Chair, I rise today to express my qualified support for H.R. 5854, the FY13 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill. While I commend Chairmen ROGERS and CULBERSON and Ranking Members SMITH and BISHOP for their efforts to craft bipartisan legislation dedicated to addressing the needs of current and former servicemembers and their families, I support this bill with strong reservations about how the measure treats the very civilian employees who will be asked to provide the services and carry out the instructions outlined in the bill.

H.R. 5854 contains a number of important provisions designed to serve our military with an eye toward trimming spending, eliminating waste and directing taxpayer dollars more effectively.

The MilCon-VA bill, as it is called, funds construction by the Department of Defense for hospitals, clinics, schools, family housing and other facilities in order to deliver timely and vital medical care to our Nation's veterans, active military members and their families. The measure also provides funding for disability care, educational benefits and other resources to help advance U.S. missions abroad.

Specifically, I applaud the committee for funding support for medical services and facilities; for veteran's compensation, pension and burial benefits for former servicemembers, survivors and their dependents; and for the important family housing here and abroad that helps ease some of the financial burden faced by our men and women in uniform.

Despite providing necessary support for these and other important projects and programs, this bill also continues a troubling new Republican pattern in the Congress of balancing our fiscal accounts on the backs of our Federal employees. It seems like every time the Republicans bring a bill to the floor, they use it as a vehicle to attack public servants by cutting their pensions, or pay, or benefits to pay for other spending items. Federal employees have already given up \$60 billion of salary over 10 years as part of the two-year pay freeze. Starting in January 2013, new Federal employees will contribute more to their pensions to offset the \$15 billion cost of Unemployment Insurance Extension legislation. And with this MilCon bill, Federal employees are asked to give up the very small .5% partial COLA allotted in the President's FY13 budget request.

Nurses and rehabilitation specialists, weapons systems mechanics and border guards are among the many dedicated Federal employees that serve our country. They sometimes serve shoulder-to-shoulder on the battlefield with our uniformed servicemembers.

They should not be a piggy-bank that Republicans turn to whenever they need a source of funds.

RECOGNIZING THE GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF THE HEARTLAND, IOWA CITY, AND THE ABILITYONE PROGRAM

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the AbilityOne Program. Over the last few years, AbilityOne has helped more

than 50,000 Americans who are blind or have other significant disabilities gain the skills necessary for gainful employment.

The AbilityOne Program, through Federal purchasing, supports community-based non-profit agencies that are dedicated to training and employing people with disabilities. Opportunities through the AbilityOne program have brought individuals into working society and afforded them the ability to receive competitive wages and benefits. The job skills and training these individuals receive go a long way to foster greater independence and quality of life. Those who benefit from the program have historically suffered from significant unemployment, but AbilityOne is turning this trend around.

I would also like to acknowledge Goodwill Industries of the Heartland of Iowa City, an AbilityOne Program affiliate. As one of 207 regional Goodwill organizations, Goodwill Industries of the Heartland serves Iowa communities by empowering people with significant disabilities to seek education and employment. With the support of the AbilityOne Program, Goodwill Industries of the Heartland's training and job placement programs help clients and their families live more independently while making positive contributions to their communities.

I want to commend the dedication and commitment of the staff of both AbilityOne and Goodwill Industries of the Heartland of Iowa City. Their work helps people with disabilities live full lives as active members of society.