

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING SAMUEL DALY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Samuel Daly. Samuel is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 601, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Samuel has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Samuel has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Samuel has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Samuel Daly for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO LINDSAY ALDERMAN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Lindsay Alderman for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Lindsay Alderman is the Client Operations Manager for LightEdge Solutions Inc., where she oversees a staff of 15 people. Lindsay is tasked with the crucial duty of developing and maintaining client relationships for the company. Outside of the office, Ms. Alderman contributes a large amount of time and dedication to assisting nonprofit organizations and charities including Girl Scouts of Iowa, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Iowa, Salisbury House and Gardens, and the Young Professionals Connection, for which she is currently president. Lindsay has also organized numerous events in the Des Moines area including the first-ever nonprofit forum that included hundreds of people and more than 50 organizations, as well

as the Central Iowa Shelter Services' Chili for Charity fundraiser, which raised more than \$1,500 for homeless Iowans. Ms. Alderman's commitment and passion for utilizing her talents to assist her community is a remarkable example that our state should be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Lindsay in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Ms. Alderman for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Lindsay on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF MONSIGNOR JOSEPH P. KELLY BEING NAMED MAN OF THE YEAR BY THE GREATER WILKES-BARRE FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Monsignor Joseph P. Kelly, who will be named Man of the Year by the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick this evening on the occasion of that organization's 68th St. Patrick's Day annual banquet.

Monsignor Joseph Kelly was born on October 5, 1940 in Hawley, Pennsylvania. He graduated high school from Scranton Preparatory and then continued his religious education at Christ the King Seminary at Saint Bonaventure University in New York.

Monsignor Kelly's work with students began early in his career when he taught 12th grade religion part-time at Scranton Prep while, at the same time, overseeing several parishes, including Saint Catherine's in Moscow and Holy Rosary in Scranton.

In 1971, Monsignor Kelly decided to take his talents halfway across the country to Omaha, Nebraska. He worked there as Director of Father Flanagan's Boys Town, now called Father Flanagan's Boy's and Girl's Town. This small "city" of a complex was—and still is—regarded as one of the Nation's premiere youth care agencies.

Back in northeastern Pennsylvania, Monsignor Kelly served as pastor of Saint Ann in Tobyhanna, Holy Rosary in Wilkes-Barre, and Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Nativity of our Lord, both in Scranton. He has been a procurator and professor at Saint Pius X seminary, a Diocesan Director for Catholic Men, Women and Youth, and the Executive Director of Saint Michael's School for Boys.

Along with his continuing official assignments from the church, Monsignor Kelly serves today as Director of Camp Saint An-

drew and is the founder of Project Hope at the camp. He is also the Executive Director of both the Saint Francis of Assisi kitchen in Scranton and the Saint Vincent De Paul kitchen in Wilkes-Barre. He resides at All Saints Parish Rectory in Plymouth, where he shares his well-earned wisdom at weekly masses. Monsignor Kelly's undying work and sincere dedication to others make him more than worthy of being named Man of the Year by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

I extend my thanks to Monsignor Joseph P. Kelly for his life-long, selfless commitment to our community, and I offer my good wishes and heartfelt congratulations to him on this momentous occasion.

ON THE OCCASION OF REVEREND DOCTOR MICHAEL C.R. NABORS'S FIFTEENTH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY AT NEW CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF DETROIT

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize my friend, Dr. Michael C.R. Nabors as he and his congregation of New Calvary Baptist Church of Detroit celebrate his Fifteenth Pastoral Anniversary.

Dr. Nabors has a distinguished and extensive record of leadership in the communities he has served over several decades as a spiritual minister. His work began more than 30 years ago when he joined Galilee Missionary Baptist Church as its Youth Minister. In that position, he worked with the youth of the congregation to provide guidance at a pivotal point in their development. Dr. Nabors then served as a senior leader to two congregations in New Jersey before coming to Detroit and New Calvary in 1998.

Throughout his career, Dr. Nabors has employed a philosophy of leadership by example in all facets of his life. As a believer in the teachings of Christ, he has sought to be an active participant in shaping a more just and fair society. In his professional work, as a case worker for The Children's Home Society in New Jersey, Dr. Nabors sought to guide youth in the development of their leadership skills and then find employment after they graduated. He then went on to serve as Executive Director for the Joint Commission on Civil Rights in Princeton, New Jersey, where he played a central role, developing programs that fostered sensitivity and understanding between residents of a diverse community.

When he came to Detroit to lead the congregation of New Calvary, Dr. Nabors brought with him the same passion and zeal for strengthening his new community that he displayed earlier in his career. While serving as Senior Pastor of New Calvary, he has overseen the spiritual needs of his 600-member

• 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.

congregation and has held true to his vision of equality by hiring the congregation's first female assistant pastor and licensing its first female ministers. He worked with members to establish ministries that helped them explore arts, provide basic human necessities for the community and support people in times of grief. In his professional work, he has continued to hold true to his faith through his service as an educator to future spiritual leaders, instilling in them the value of actively engaging the community in the pursuit of justice and equality.

The pursuits of his spiritual and professional work in Southeast Michigan have been mirrored in his volunteer work with the residents of the Greater Detroit region. In his position on the boards of Gateway Community Health and Gateway-Detroit East, Inc., Dr. Nabors has endeavored to build better mental healthcare and substance abuse services that empower the residents of the community. He also serves on the advisory board for United Voices for Michigan's Children, which serves as the State's largest non-profit advocate for youth. As a past advisory board member for The Skillman Foundation, Dr. Nabors has also continued to support the development of youth in the establishment of the "Call to Service" outreach program that created academic mentoring opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognition of Dr. Michael C.R. Nabors' great milestone in his service to the congregation of New Calvary Baptist Church and the people of Greater Detroit. His commitment to be a leader of his peers, a staunch advocate for our youth and a crusader for social justice values are a testament to his faith. I know his work has touched many lives and strengthened the fabric of the entire Southeast Michigan region. I congratulate Dr. Nabors on his fifteen years as Senior Pastor and look forward to working with him in our shared endeavor to create a more just and vibrant community.

HONORING JOHN TULIPANA

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize John Tulipana. John is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 601, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

John has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years John has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, John has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending John Tulipana for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO KATE BANASIAK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Kate Banasiak for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

At age 29, Kate Banasiak is the President and CEO of Diversified Management Services Inc. In this role, Kate oversees the successful consulting services that her company provides to nonprofit organizations, trade groups and professional associations. As time-consuming as running a company can be, Mrs. Banasiak is also heavily involved in her community through the Des Moines Embassy Club, Iowa Society of Association Executives, and the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute. Kate and her husband Mike also created Devour Des Moines, a fundraising event that has hauled in more than \$3,500 for the Iowa chapter of Buy Fresh, Buy Local. In all aspects of her busy life, Lindsay is an example of hard work and service that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Kate in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mrs. Banasiak for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Kate on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

RECOGNIZING PATRICIA KENDALL AS THE SAN RAFAEL CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Patricia Kendall, who was recently honored as the San Rafael Citizen of the Year, an award she richly deserves.

Patricia Kendall has been a longtime resident of San Rafael and well known for her community and civic involvement. She was trained as an emergency room nurse, and her community service began 35 years ago when she participated in the formation of Marin County's "911 Paramedic Program." Through the years, Pat has continued to support this program as a member of the Emergency Medical Care Committee.

Pat has served on many boards and committees for non-profit organizations and special projects. She has been a leader in our community, including as board chair of the North Bay Leadership Council, board treasurer of the Marin Agricultural Institute, board vice-chair of Lifehouse, board member of the Marin County School-to-Career Program, and leadership posts with the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce and the Pickleweed Community Center.

One of the founding members of the Healthy Marin Partnership, Pat has been the driving force in shaping its upstream lifestyle model focusing on prevention of associated tobacco and high-risk alcohol use, unhealthy eating, and inactive lifestyles. This Partnership has served as an incubator for other community collaborations including the County's Wellness Collaboration, Canal Community Gardens, and Children's Health Initiative.

Mr. Speaker, Patricia Kendall's hard work and her leadership are felt throughout our region, and we thank her for her commitment to health initiatives and community service. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations for her selection as San Rafael's Citizen of the Year.

IN HONOR OF IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF INDIANA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana in celebration of its 50th anniversary. The people of my Congressional District and the State of Indiana are forever grateful for Ivy Tech's commitment to preparing Indiana residents to learn, live, and work in a diverse and globally competitive environment by delivering professional, technical, and lifelong education.

Since its founding on March 15, 1963, Ivy Tech has become the largest statewide community college system in the United States, with 31 degree-granting campuses and 125 diverse areas of study. Today, Ivy Tech is the fastest-growing institution of higher learning in the State of Indiana.

Over one million Hoosier students have passed through its doors on the way to a better life and increased opportunities, and 97 percent of these students stay in Indiana, working to make our State a better place to live and contributing to the health and productivity of our communities. Annually, Ivy Tech creates almost \$8.2 billion in cumulative economic benefit for Indiana.

Undoubtedly, Ivy Tech has made significant contributions to the development of the Hoosier workforce, and its programs and training are designed to suit the specific needs of our communities and employers while providing options to students at an economically affordable rate. Ivy Tech is leading the way in making the dream of a higher education a reality for Hoosier workers and students from all walks of life. Every year, 200,000 students benefit from an Ivy Tech education, and the college has set for itself the ambitious goal of 50,000 graduates annually by 2025.

As the former Senior Vice President of Workforce and Economic Development and General Counsel at Ivy Tech, I was especially proud to be part of the college's Accelerating Greatness 2013 strategic plan, which succeeded in changing lives while making Indiana great. I look forward to an even brighter future for Ivy Tech Community College and the students it serves. Congratulations on 50 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Indiana!

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHARITABLE DRIVING TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2013

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Charitable Driving Tax Relief Act of 2013 to remove a serious disincentive to participation in charitable activities. Private charitable activity plays an important role in our society, and it is important that Congress not stand in the way by penalizing those who wish to offer their services to these groups.

Under current law, individuals that volunteer their time and energy by driving their personal vehicles on behalf of a charitable group can end up with an unpleasant surprise in the form of an unanticipated tax bill. Specifically, volunteer drivers receiving reimbursement for the use of their vehicle are taxed on these payments to the extent that they exceed 14 cents per mile. This treatment stands in stark contrast to the allowance for reimbursement for the business use of that same vehicle, 56 and one-half cents per mile in 2013.

The Charitable Driving Tax Relief Act will equalize the tax treatment of charitable reimbursements with those received for business driving because the point of the payment is essentially the same, that is, to cover the cost of operating a personal vehicle while performing an important service in the pursuit of a greater good.

To achieve this end, my legislation would exclude from gross income any reimbursement received for the use of a volunteer's car while assisting a charitable group, limited only by the cap the Internal Revenue Service sets regarding business driving. This treatment would be available only for services provided without compensation and drivers would be required to maintain sufficient records to substantiate the charitable use of their vehicles. Finally, this bill drops the requirement that charitable groups report these reimbursements to the IRS, removing an administrative and paperwork burden that takes resources away from a charity's larger purpose.

Each day, thousands of Americans lend a hand in providing transportation services to a multitude of organizations engaged in good works. These activities include assisting individuals with their routine grocery shopping, providing the use of a four-wheel drive vehicle to transport home-visit nurses during inclement weather, delivering meals as part of a holiday food drive, helping individuals to keep their medical appointments, and many more similar activities.

These volunteer drivers are donating their time and their talents, not their vehicles, and accepting reimbursement for the use of that

car, incidental to their time and talent donation, is a reasonable act, which should not result in an additional tax liability. Today, when it comes to driving a personal vehicle, our tax code makes a distinction between business and charitable uses. This distinction is a mistake; it is a serious disincentive to charitable activities, and it should be corrected. I encourage my colleagues to support the continued efforts of our charity-minded constituents by cosponsoring the Charitable Driving Tax Relief Act of 2013.

HONORING JACKSON ISMERT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jackson Ismert. Jackson is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 601, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jackson has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jackson has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jackson has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jackson Ismert for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO ERIN BEMIS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Erin Bemis for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Erin Bemis is the Senior Vice President of Logistics and Operations at IronWorks, which provides individualized training solutions for various fitness goals. At IronWorks, Erin is tasked with managing many of the company's operations, including billing, communications, and organizing board meetings. Outside of work, Mrs. Bemis is heavily involved in her community through her role as assistant community vice president with Junior League of

Des Moines and organizing numerous fundraisers, including the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Run, which she chaired. Erin is also planning a mission trip in June to assist orphans living in Rwanda. In all aspects of her life, Erin is an example of hard work and service that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Erin in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Ms. Bemis for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Erin on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARK CASPER BEING NAMED MAN OF THE YEAR BY THE GREATER PITTSSTON FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Casper, who will be named Man of the Year by the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick on the evening of March 17 at that organization's 99th annual St. Patrick's Day banquet.

Mark Casper was born in Pittston, the son of Eileen Brogan Casper and the late Robert Casper. A graduate of St. Mary's Assumption grade school and Seton Catholic high school, Mark attended Luzerne County Community College. He has been employed by Medico Industries for the past 27 years, holding various positions, and he is currently the service manager in the Wilkes-Barre location.

Mark is a member of Our Lady of the Eucharist parish in Pittston where he serves as chairman of the parish finance council and a member of the parish pastoral council. He is a member of the Exeter borough zoning board and a varsity assistant coach for the Pittston Area Lady Patriots basketball team.

Mark previously served as a member of the Holy Redeemer system school board and the Region 7 school advisory board. He was a coach for the Wyoming Valley boys' 8th grade catholic school basketball league and served as the league president for six years. He also served as a coach and board member for seven years in the Exeter little league program. And Mark was even a coach for the Pittston Area Stoners soccer team.

Prior to the closing of St. Mary's Assumption school, Mark served as the head basketball coach there for 27 years. He coached over 400 young men in 750 games, and his St. Mary's teams won 10 league championships and numerous tournament championships. He finished his head coaching career in 2012 as the boys' varsity basketball coach at Wyoming Area Catholic, where he reached the 500-win mark.

Mark's dedication to his parish and his school sports teams reflect a level of volunteerism and community spirit to which we should all aspire. I offer Mark my sincere congratulations and thanks on this momentous occasion.

THE BASEL III CAPITAL IMPACT
STUDY ACT

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Basel III Capital Impact Study Act. This legislation requires the federal banking agencies to perform a thorough quantitative impact study (QIS) of the Basel III proposed rulemakings, taking into account the impact Dodd-Frank provisions will have on financial institutions in the United States, and report their findings to the Senate Banking Committee and House Financial Services Committee. The bill would also amend the International Lending Supervision Act of 1983 (ILSA) by requiring the federal banking agencies to ensure that differences in rules that implement capital requirements do not give competitive advantages to any one group of financial institutions.

The federal banking agencies have sufficient authority to perform a QIS for Basel III without Congressional action, but they have not conducted and publicly shared the results of any QIS specific to U.S. financial institutions. I am introducing the Basel III Capital Impact Study Act because we need more information about the effects of Basel III implementation. In my district, banks of all sizes have come to me with serious concerns about Basel III. While I appreciate that we want all banks to be as financially sound as possible, we must also be cognizant of homebuyers, small businesses, and families who need loans. We need to let banks do what banks do best, loan money. I don't want to see implementation of Basel III curtail business lending and slow our already weak economy.

Capital rules must be set in a manner that strikes the proper balance between safety and soundness and economic growth. The best way to determine whether such a balance is struck is to test new rules by examining the impact they will have on bank balance sheets and credit decisions prior to new capital rules taking effect. The QIS provides banking regulators with data that they can use to gauge the impact of proposed capital rules. This kind of pre-testing has been the model that was followed throughout the Basel process.

In the case of Basel III, the new rules require more than 7,000 U.S. depository institutions to make changes to their capital for the first time since the original Basel I rules took effect in 1992. The only review of the new Basel III rules was conducted through a "macro" level analysis conducted by the Bank for International Settlements. There has been no individualized analysis conducted in the U.S. This is problematic because there are thousands of U.S. banks that vary in size and business models covered under Basel III. Additionally, the lack of domestic scrutiny of the proposal means unique characteristics of the U.S. lending market, such as housing finance, have not been closely examined. Finally, the Dodd-Frank Act made a number of significant changes that will affect the capital and risk taking activities of U.S. institutions. These changes were not considered as part of the "macro" level review and should be factored in as part of some U.S. focused review of the new Basel III proposal.

We must make sure that financial institutions in the United States can continue to lend and do business with American families before moving forward with the implementation of Basel III.

HONORING DR. JAMES E. JOHNSON

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a long-time leader in the health care field, Dr. James E. Johnson, who is being honored by the McLaren Macomb Healthcare Foundation at their 28th Annual Crystal Ball on Saturday, March 16, 2013.

Dr. Johnson is a 1975 graduate of the Midwestern University Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his internship at the Detroit Osteopathic Hospital and a general surgery residency program at McLaren Macomb Hospital located in my Congressional District.

Throughout his career, excellence in surgical care and surgical education has been Dr. Johnson's top priority. He currently serves as program director for McLaren Macomb Hospital's vascular surgery fellowship program and was also program director of the hospital's general surgery residency program for 17 years. Dr. Johnson also served as the hospital's chief of staff in 2011 and is currently a member of the McLaren Macomb Board of Trustees.

As a leader in the osteopathic profession, Dr. Johnson was instrumental in creating the first osteopathic consortium of general surgery residency programs in the nation through the Michigan State College of Osteopathic Medicine, where he is a clinical professor of surgery. For 10 years, he served as the director of the consortium, which became the model for the Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institution for general surgery currently in operation throughout the United States.

Dr. Johnson has been a member of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons (ACOS) since 1982. He was awarded the designation of Fellow by the ACOS in 1990 and became a life member in 2008. He also served on the College's board of governors for nine years, as secretary-treasurer, and president in 1999–2000.

In 2012 the ACOS honored Dr. Johnson with the Orel F. Martin Medal, the organization's highest award. This recognition was designated to pay tribute to his outstanding career as an osteopathic surgeon, educator, mentor and leader.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. James Johnson. I thank him for his commitment to caring for those in need, and I am pleased to join with the entire community in paying tribute to him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on February 28, 2013, due to illness. If I

was present that day, I would have voted "yes" for Rollcall vote 54 and "no" for Rollcall vote 55.

I was unable to vote on March 6, 2013, due to illness. If I was present that day, I would have voted "yes" for Rollcall vote 62.

HONORING JOSEPH PARISI

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph Parisi. Joseph is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 601, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joseph has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Joseph has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph Parisi for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN LOZIER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize John Lozier for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Dr. John Lozier literally changes the lives of young Iowans every day as the Pediatric Interventional Cardiologist at Pediatric Cardiology P.C. After receiving his Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry from Yale University, John pursued and obtained his medical degree from the University of Iowa. Today in Des Moines, Dr. Lozier utilizes his highly skilled medical specialty to assist children by assessing and repairing a wide variety of cardiac conditions. Outside of Pediatric Cardiology, John is involved with multiple professional organizations that research cutting-edge techniques to treat congenital heart disease. Dr. Lozier also volunteers his time and expertise each year in Mexico to provide life-saving medical care for children. At home,

John and his wife Nicole are kept busy with two children of their own, Charles and Elise, with a third on the way. In all aspects of his life, Dr. Lozier is an example of service and hard work that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like John in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Dr. Lozier for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating John on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

HONORING BERNARD HOPKINS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Philadelphia's own, Bernard "The Executioner" Hopkins. On March 10, 2013, Bernard became the oldest boxer to win a major title. A champion both in and out of the ring, Bernard is among Philadelphia sports' greatest icons.

Breaking his own record from two years earlier, Bernard beat 30 year old Tavoris Cloud for the IBF light heavyweight championship. At 48 years old, Bernard proved that age is just a number as he out moved his opponent, something he has done many times before. After the fight he said, "Tonight was one of the bigger fights of my career."

Bernard has been a champion for a long time—he won the Pennsylvania Junior Olympics at age nine. He is among some of boxing's greatest like Sugar Ray Robinson, Carlos Monzon, and Marvelous Marvin Hagler. Oscar De La Hoya once said that Hopkins is "one of the great talents we've had in this generation."

His latest win is his 53rd professional win, 32 of which came by knockout. This is also not the first record Bernard has shattered. His record of 20 successful title defenses has been unbreakable since he reached the milestone in 2005.

Bernard is not just a champion in the ring but a champion to Philadelphia, the city he always called home. He works tirelessly with the city's youth to help them get on and stay on the straight and narrow. He is a husband and a father and great American.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues join me in honoring a great champion, and an even greater person, Bernard Hopkins.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANDREW JASON ASHBY, RECIPIENT OF THE FRANCIS SWINGLE AWARD BY THE GREATER PITTSBURGH FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Andrew Jason "Andy"

Ashby, who will receive the Francis Swingle Award of the Greater Pittsburgh Friendly Sons of St. Patrick on the evening of March 17, the occasion of that organization's 99th annual St. Patrick's Day banquet.

As a young man, Andy Ashby attended Park Hill high school in Kansas City, Missouri and then played baseball for Crowder College. In 1986, he was signed as an undrafted free agent by the Philadelphia Phillies. In his second start as a pitcher, against the Cincinnati Reds, he became part of an elite category of players by throwing an "immaculate inning," a feat accomplished by striking out the first three batters of the opposing team in exactly nine pitches.

In 1993, Andy was acquired by the new, expansion-team Colorado Rockies. He later became a member of the San Diego Padres and enjoyed the height of his career. In 1998, he helped the Padres reach the World Series by compiling an impressive 17–9 record. He also represented the Padres and the National League in the 1998 and 1999 All-Star games. Andy later played for both the Atlanta Braves and the Los Angeles Dodgers. He returned to San Diego before retiring from Major League Baseball in the mid-2000s. During his professional career he posted 98 wins, pitched 1,810 innings and struck out over 1,100 batters. He is an example of how discipline and hard work can lead to success on the field and in life.

Since retiring, Andy has become a part of the Heroes of the Diamond tour, traveling overseas several times to visit our troops in Iraq. I thank Andy for his community service and for serving as a role model and inspiration to many young Americans, and I offer my congratulations on this momentous occasion.

HONORING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AND FORMER MEMBER LINDY BOGGS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this week, a beloved former Colleague of our House, Representative "Lindy" Marie Corinne Morrison Claiborne Boggs, of New Orleans, Louisiana, celebrates her 97th birthday. In describing her life and career, one does not use single syllable words.

Traiblazer, gracious, erudite, compassionate, witty, diplomatic, visionary, indefatigable, inspirational, enduring. These words capture her. When I think of words she utters, certain come to mind: "darlin'," "precious," and the manner in which she forms the words "New Orleans," held a lilt and tone hard for others to emulate.

Wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, Congresswoman, Ambassador, author, woman of faith. When she retired from Congress in 1991 at age seventy-five, she was the only Caucasian woman serving in Congress from the Deep South (excluding Florida). Part magnolia, part Tabasco sauce, part French Quarter grande dame, she represented the maturation of a modern political miracle—a Roman Catholic, Caucasian woman elected for nine consecutive terms to the U.S. Congress from Louisiana.

"Lindy" was born in Pointe Coupee Roads, Louisiana on March 13, 1916. Her father Ro-

land Claiborne, a prominent lawyer, died when she was only two years old. After her father's death, her mother remarried and Lindy spent her formative years on a plantation. Her grandmother Morrison had a great influence on her life and lived to be ninety-seven. The Morrison family's roots can be traced back to the Mayflower. Her grandmother Morrison had a fondness for artichokes. Solari's a fancy, southern grocer, did not have them at certain times of the year which prompted Boggs' grandmother to experiment growing them herself. Soon, she was shipping her artichokes to Solari's. Lindy says she was introduced to politics as she listened to the conversations between sugar planters and cotton planters. "The sugar planters were very isolationist, protectionist, and they kept talking about high tariff walls. And in the country, we had constructions called 'stiles,' which were really steps over fences. And I kept wondering if Uncle Joe could build me a stile tall enough so I could see what was on the other side of that high tariff wall. But then on the cotton plantation, of course, the cotton people were free traders, to get rid of all that surplus cotton they had, so the conversation was entirely different. So I learned early on that families can be divided over political situations."

Lindy matriculated at Newcomb College in New Orleans, the first women's college in Louisiana and the sister school to Tulane University, where she majored in history and education. At Newcomb, she was editor of the student newspaper and it was in that capacity she met her future husband Congressman Hale Boggs, who was then the paper's general editor. Upon graduating, Lindy taught high school history and English, served as school librarian and coached the girls' basketball team. In January 1938, at 21, she married Hale and through university connections, Hale and Lindy embarked on a political career, becoming a part of the grass-roots reform movement that took place in Louisiana in the late 1930's. With Lindy's support, Hale was elected to Congress in 1941. Lindy orchestrated his re-election campaigns as well as set up his district offices in New Orleans, canvassed voters, arranged her husband's many social gatherings and acted as his political surrogate as he climbed in House leadership. When Hale's plane tragically crashed in 1972, Lindy emerged as a top choice to take over his seat. "When the various people were trying to persuade me to run . . . Lady Bird Johnson . . . called and talked to me for a long time about how I had an obligation and all of these things. Then when she thought maybe she had convinced me, she said, 'But darling, do you think you can do it without a wife?' I've told her many times, it was very hard without a wife."

In March 1973, Lindy Boggs was elected to the House of Representatives in a special election. Her victory made her the first woman to represent Louisiana in the House and the first Catholic elected from a state that had never elected a Catholic to any major state office. She won her election by 75 percent in the Democratic primary and by 80 percent in the general election. "I had a Republican running against me by the name of Robert E. Lee," she has said, "I knew he was an imposter!" Lindy was at first appointed to the Banking and Currency Committee, where she played a key role during the mark up of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974. She cites her experience as a newly widowed woman seeking

credit as her motivation to add "sex or marital status" to the provision barring discrimination on the basis of "race and age, and their status as veterans." Without informing the other committee members, Lindy inserted those words and made copies of the revision for her colleagues saying, "Knowing the Members composing this committee as well as I do, I'm sure it was just an oversight that we didn't have "sex" or "marital status" included. I've taken care of that and I trust it meets with the committee's approval." The bill passed unanimously, 47-0.

In 1976, she became the first woman to preside over a national political convention. In 1977, Lindy was elected to the House Committee on Appropriations at her retirement, she remained the longest serving member of that committee, serving for 12 years. That same year, she helped cofound the Congressional Women's Caucus and later served as its secretary. Throughout her career, Lindy maintained that the most important women's issues were economic, backing those causes. "The major issues of importance that I have worked on are economic ones; equal rights for women in business, banking and homeownership, the promotion of women in the workplace, better jobs in government and contracts, and equal opportunities for higher education, especially in science and medicine. Women vote with their pocketbooks . . . it boils down to that." Lindy was also a champion for civil rights in her diverse district. A political observer once noted, "She is the only white Congress Member representing a black voter majority in the United States."

In the early 1980's, Lindy was instrumental in the creation of the House Historian's Office. She helped create and served as a member of the Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families. From 1985 to 1989, she served as the chair of the Bicentenary of the United States House of Representatives. In July 1991, shortly after her retirement from Congress, the House named a room off the Rotunda in her honor, the Lindy Claiborne Boggs Congressional Women's Reading Room, of which she says, "I was always so proud that room was named for me because I felt that Abigail Adams had finally succeeded. She had asked her husband, John, to 'remember the ladies' when the Constitution was drafted or they would foment a revolution. He had not done so, and so their son's final resting place is now occupied by women and named for a woman."

Retirement did not slow Lindy down. She remained politically active and in 1994 authored her autobiography, *Washington Through a Purple Veil*. In 1997, President Clinton appointed the 81 year old as U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican, a position in which she served until 2001. In 2002, Congress honored Lindy for her "extraordinary service" to Louisiana and the country. The occasion marked the 25th anniversary of the Congressional Women's Caucus.

Of the accomplishments she is most proud of, she cites bills cosponsored on behalf minorities, women, and children; her efforts to improve education from the elementary to the college level; her work on the children's task force on crisis intervention; efforts to open the National Museum of African American Art in Washington, D.C.; establishing the Office of Historian of the House of Representatives; and achieving Margaret Chase Smith's dream of making the rose the national flower.

On a personal level, Mrs. Boggs mentored me in the ways of this institution, introduced me and so many others to the Appropriations Committee, and hosted me as our nation's Ambassador to the Vatican. She has served our nation with a grit and grace that demonstrates to us all what service can be. Lindy Boggs has become a legend in her own time. How privileged I am to be able to honor her 97th year anniversary of life and pay tribute to her honorable service to America and the world.

HONORING THOMAS GORDON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Thomas Gordon. Thomas is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 601, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Thomas has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Thomas has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Thomas has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Thomas Gordon for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO JOEY HINKE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Joey Hinke for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Joey Hinke is president of his company, Miller, Fidler and Hinke Insurance Agency Inc. From a startup company in 2009, Joey's insurance agency has grown rapidly through acquisition and now achieves annual revenues of \$1 million. Joey takes pride in the fact he has been able to provide his employees with 100 percent company-paid health insurance as well as connecting several other entrepreneurs with the resources to launch their own busi-

nesses. Outside of work, Joey is kept busy through his extensive involvement in several professional organizations and charities including, but not limited to, the Emerging Leaders Initiative, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Iowa and the Young Professionals Connection. An Iowa native, Joey met his wife Angie while they attended the University of Northern Iowa, and today have been married for 12 years with three children. In all aspects of his life, Joey is an example of service and hard work that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Joey in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Hinke for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Joey on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

GLENN BERNET, 50 YEARS AT EVANGEL UNIVERSITY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 50th anniversary of Glenn Bernet's career at Evangel University, a Christian university in Springfield, MO.

Dr. Bernet began his career in 1963 as a professor of mathematics while finishing his master's degree, and he rose to become dean of the university in 1985, a position he still holds today.

Through his tireless work as an educator over the last 50 years, Dr. Bernet has proven to be a constant factor that has given encouragement and growth to not just the university, but to each individual student.

Dr. Bernet's leadership has inspired the university to reach for greater things. Under his leadership, Evangel achieved university status, and student enrollment has quadrupled to over 2,100 students.

Throughout his career at Evangel, Dr. Bernet has proven to be a model example of an educator, and Evangel University and the Springfield community have benefited greatly because of it.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Glenn Bernet on his 50th anniversary at Evangel University.

HONORING TED WAHBY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated, compassionate an effective public servant, Ted Wahby, who is being honored by the McLaren Macomb Healthcare Foundation at their 28th Annual Crystal Ball on Saturday, March 16, 2013 for his leadership in the health care field.

Mr. Wahby has been a pillar of the community in Macomb County for nearly 50 years. He

and his wife Yvonne moved to the City of St. Clair Shores in 1964, where they raised six children and still reside today.

Mr. Wahby began his successful career in the financial services industry working at Comerica Bank, serving in numerous high-level capacities for 31 years. In addition to his accomplishments as a businessman, Mr. Wahby believes in giving back to the community and has devoted his immense talents to serving the public for the last 34 years. Since 1979 he has served as a school board member, city councilman, Mayor, and as County Treasurer from 1995 to present.

However, the main reason for this honor is for his strong leadership and advocacy for better health care. Mr. Wahby has been a charitable leader for over four decades. Through the years, he has strategically leveraged his business and political skills to make critical advances for very important causes. He has served as a member of McLaren Macomb's Hospital Board of Trustees since 2000 and has been chair of that board since 2002.

In 2001, almost 70 percent of cancer patients in Macomb County had to drive far from their home. McLaren Macomb saw the need for compassionate cancer care of the highest quality close to home and with the leadership of Ted Wahby, they decided to open a cancer center.

This mission of opening the center was very personal for Mr. Wahby, as he and his wife both lost family members to cancer. Those involved with the project felt profoundly that the generous amount of time and expertise Mr. Wahby gave was vital to its success. He was a tireless supporter and fund-raiser from the very beginning, and worked for many years to influence other local leaders to get behind the project and to invest in the capital campaign. The hospital was proud to name the facility the Ted B. Wahby Cancer Center, which opened its doors in 2004.

For his selfless efforts, Mr. Wahby has earned many accolades, including the 2005 Health Care Leadership Award from the Michigan Health & Hospital Association, and the 2005 Thanks for Giving Award, presented for extraordinary volunteer service to hospitals in the Metro Detroit area. For all of the numerous awards he has received, Mr. Wahby summed it up best when the cancer center opened, by stating that "his greatest reward will come when the center is operating and more people can access the quality care they need."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Ted Wahby. I thank him for his immeasurable contributions, and I am so pleased to join with the entire community in paying tribute to him.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF YOANI SÁNCHEZ, A COURAGEOUS BLOGGER AND ACTIVIST FOR FREEDOM IN CUBA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution honoring Yoani Sánchez, a courageous blogger and activist for freedom in Cuba, for her ongoing efforts to challenge political, economic, and so-

cial oppression. She has become a prominent voice through social media for millions of Cubans who reject the oppression of the Castro regime, having said, "We Cubans don't deserve what we are living through. I think Cubans deserve to be citizens of the 21st century, in all senses, to test the challenges of modernity."

Yoani Maria Sánchez Cordero was born in Havana, Cuba on September 4, 1975, and went on to major in Spanish Literature at the Pedagogical Institute before completing a degree in Hispanic Philology at the University of Havana in 2000. While working at Editorial Gente Nueva, Sánchez came to the realization that, like many Cubans, the wages she earned legally were not enough to support her family and highly qualified individuals were unable to find sufficient work. Disenchanted and seeking greater economic opportunities, she moved to Switzerland in 2002 but returned to Cuba in the summer of 2004, discovering her passion for computer science.

In 2004, Sánchez and a group of like-minded compatriots founded *Consenso*, a magazine of reflection and debate, and three years later she worked as a web master, columnist, and editor for the website *Desde Cuba*. In April 2007, Sánchez created the blog known as "Generation Y," which started as an outlet for self-expression but has since found an audience with half a million people around the world. Through her weekly blog posts, tweets, and Facebook updates, made possible thanks to the donations of online supporters and Sánchez's unwavering persistence, she has provided an unfiltered glimpse into the realities of day-to-day life in Cuba.

The Castro regime branded Sánchez as a dissident and, since March 2008, blocked access to her blog from within Cuba, where mobile phones, flash drives, and used laptop computers have become lifelines of communication given economic and government barriers to the internet. Sánchez refused to be silenced and continued to write with the help of friends and volunteer collaborators abroad, who post her entries in solidarity and have translated *Generation Y* into 20 languages.

Sánchez attempted to travel outside of Cuba on 20 occasions, but was repeatedly denied the required exit visa. In January 2013, the Cuban government lifted travel restrictions for citizens and issued Sánchez a passport, allowing her to embark on an 80-day international tour, including Brazil, the Czech Republic, Spain, Mexico, and the United States, to share her experiences living under the Castro regime firsthand. On her first U.S. visit, she will meet with Members of Congress in Washington, D.C. Following her tour, Sánchez intends to return to Havana, where she lives with her husband Reinaldo and their 20-year-old son Teo, and dreams of starting an independent news outlet, saying, "Life has taught me that the wall comes tumbling down only when you push it."

Sánchez is the recipient of numerous honors and awards for her activism. In 2009, she became the first blogger to ever interview U.S. President Barack Obama, who applauded her efforts to "empower fellow Cubans to express themselves through the use of technology." She has also received the Ortega y Gasset Award for Digital Journalism in 2008, was named one of Time magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World in the "Heroes and Pioneers" category for 2008, been award-

ed the Maria Moore Cabot Prize from Columbia University in 2009 for coverage of Latin America, and received the International Woman of Courage Award from then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in 2011.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, which honors Yoani Sánchez and commends individuals like her who have dedicated their lives to protecting and strengthening civil rights in the face of adversity. Despite violent attacks and protests from Castro supporters and leftists, she has vowed to never stop writing until the people of Cuba are able to express their views freely. I join Yoani Sánchez and her fellow activists in looking forward to the day when all Cubans can freely express themselves in public without fear of reprisal.

HONORING JACOB CONNER WILSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Conner Wilson. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 214, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jacob planned and constructed an additional walking trail in the Parkville Nature Sanctuary in Parkville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Conner Wilson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO JOSH FLEMING

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Josh Fleming for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Josh Fleming is the Digital Strategy Director at Lessing-Flynn Advertising Company. In this role, Josh has excelled through his outstanding creativity and enthusiasm. One of Mr. Fleming's creations for Lessing-Flynn, AdMavericks.com, has now become one of Iowa's most-read marketing blogs. Another creation, Lessing-Flynn's Battle of the Brands, provides Iowa companies a chance to compete and showcase their brands in an innovative social media format. Outside of the office, Josh serves as president of the American Marketing Association of Iowa, is a board member of Prevent Blindness Iowa, and travels the country as a public speaker on topics relevant to advertising in the digital age. Josh's passion for his work and community engagement is something that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Josh in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Fleming for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Josh on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMBASSADOR
RAYMOND TELLES

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the legacy of a great American, Ambassador Raymond Telles, a true pioneer in international and civic leadership.

Ambassador Telles passed away on March 8, 2013 at the age of 97 in the company of those who loved him. He is survived by his daughters, Dr. Cynthia Telles and Dr. Patricia Telles-Irvin and their families. His life was the very definition of a trailblazer. Ambassador Telles was America's first ambassador of Latino descent, the first Latino to be mayor of a major American city and a decorated U.S. Air Force Colonel.

Born September 5, 1915 in El Paso, Texas, Ambassador Telles began his career at the Department of Justice before being drafted into the United States Army Air Force where he admirably served as the Chief of the Lend-Lease Program for South and Central America. In honor of his distinguished work, he was awarded the Mexican Legion of Merit, the Order of the Southern Cross from Brazil, Columbian wings, and the Peruvian Flying Cross. Later Ambassador Telles served as a military aide for President Harry S. Truman and General Dwight D. Eisenhower during World War II.

After being recalled as the Executive Officer of the 67th Tactical and Reconnaissance Group during the Korean War, Raymond Telles was elected Mayor of El Paso, Texas in November 1957. While in office, he encouraged fire and police departments around the city to diversify their workforce. Following a close first election, he went on to win a second term unopposed. After his tenure as mayor, President John F. Kennedy appointed

him as U.S. Ambassador to Costa Rica. In 1967, President Richard Nixon called on Ambassador Telles to serve as Chairman of the U.S.-Mexican Border Commission. He would later be appointed as Commissioner of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission where he served in the administrations of Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford.

Although Ambassador Telles will be known in many political circles as a tireless public servant, he will eternally be remembered by those closest to him as a caring father, loving husband, and mentor who paved the way for others to succeed long after his passing. As someone who advised so many young emerging leaders, he can rest comfortably knowing that the light of his legacy will shine for several generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, we are truly fortunate to live in a country which gives every one of us an opportunity to make our dreams come true. A few remarkable Americans achieve a level of service to country that opens the door not just to their dreams but to ours as well. Many of us, therefore, have a profound desire and abiding obligation to look up to the sky to say to Ambassador Raymond Telles, "Thank you!" Surely, he is smiling upon us now as he surveys the countless dreams he brought to life. May Ambassador Telles rest in peace and may his family celebrate the life and memory of a dear family man and American patriot.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF HAR-
LEM'S BELOVED ADVOCATE FOR
EDUCATION ARTHUR "ARTIE"
GEORGES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great sadness as I pay tribute to one of Harlem's distinguish dynamic and influential members, Arthur "Artie" Georges, who passed away on January 29, 2013. As I speak with profound sorrow, I ascend to celebrate a life well lived and to remember with fondness the accomplishments of a remarkable leader.

It is without question that Artie's outstanding contributions to the Holcombe Rucker Basketball League, the National Association of Each One Teach One, Inc. and our famed Harlem Week Golden Hoops places him in a very special category in a long line of remarkable men who have given so much to our children and to the Greater Harlem community and beyond. Artie's passion for public service is well documented by his important and outstanding 30-year career work as a Methadone Maintenance Treatment Counselor—at a time when heroin crippled and took the lives of so many of our best and brightest young men and women.

Artie served his Nation proudly in the United States Army and was a loyal member of the Colonel Charles Young American Legion Post 398. An advocate of education, he loved being a part of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association and Basketball Tournament Weekend; the Pelham Fritz Basketball League Scholarship Fund; and the John Hunter Memorial Camp Fund.

Great men like Artie are precious gifts we temporarily have in this world, but their assist-

ance, contributions and accomplishments are far remembered and everlasting. Artie was a dear friend and was known to many of us as a brilliant hardworking community leader who dedicated his life work to the education of our youth.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and the 50th anniversary of the March On Washington, let us celebrate the life of our beloved Arthur "Artie" Georges who dedicated his life to our youth and the Black American Experience.

CLARITY RECOVERY AND
WELLNESS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sigma House of Springfield, Inc. under its new name, Clarity Recovery and Wellness.

First opened in 1977, Sigma House of Springfield, Inc. was the area's first addiction treatment center. Focused on individualized long-term treatment of substance abuse, it provided 1,150 units of treatment in its first 19 months. Over the last 25 years, the center has expanded to include four facilities. In 2012 alone, it treated nearly 12,000 people.

Treatment and long-term recovery from substance abuse can offer a renewed outlook on life for those who are addicted and their family members, which can lead to more productive and fulfilling lives and an improved quality of life for the entire community.

Resources for treatment and recovery provide important assets for the communities of Springfield, Branson and surrounding counties, and I am proud that Clarity Recovery and Wellness remains committed to providing quality care to those in need of rehabilitation services.

HONORING RICHARD GRIFFITH
KESLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Richard Griffith Kesler. Griff is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Griff has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Griff has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Griff has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow. Griff has also served as a counselor-in-training at Rotary Camp and is a member of the National Honor Society. For his Eagle Scout project, Griff contributed to his community by designing and constructing five

insect boxes for Maple Woods State School, a school for the developmentally disabled, in Kansas City, Missouri. Griff also designed a curriculum for the students and delivered nine classroom presentations for the students.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Richard Griffith Kesler for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN SOLEMN REMEMBRANCE OF
THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
HALABJA MASSACRE

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solemn remembrance of the 25th anniversary of the massacre of over 5000 innocent civilians in the Iraqi Kurdish city of Halabja by the criminal regime of Saddam Hussein. This atrocity took place on March 16, 1988, during Saddam's genocidal Anfal Campaign to exterminate or expel the Kurdish people of northern Iraq. The Halabja massacre is worthy of our remembrance for several very important and timely reasons:

First, the Halabja massacre is one of the few examples of use of chemical weapons by a government against its own people in the history of mankind. Iraqi forces used a lethal mix of nerve agents, asphyxiating gas and other toxins to inflict over 5000 deaths and thousands of permanent injuries on survivors. The attack on Halabja continues to inflict its toxic legacy on the Kurds today in the form of birth defects and disabilities of Halabja survivors. As we monitor the unfolding events in Syria and Assad's threatened use of chemical weapons against his own people, we are reminded of the Halabja massacre. In the course of the Anfal campaign, the Iraqi Army committed countless atrocities, razed thousands of Kurdish towns and villages, forcibly displaced thousands of families from their homes and livelihoods and murdered an estimated 200,000 Kurdish men, women and children. Halabja was perhaps the single worst day of the Anfal campaign. The suffering, death, crimes and horror of that day were famously documented and burned into the consciousness of the world by a Time Magazine cover and feature article which contained scores of ghastly photographs, many of which were used by prosecutors to secure the convictions and executions of Saddam Hussein and General Ali Hassan al-Majid, known as "Chemical Ali." I can never forget—and the world must never forget—those haunting images of dead children in the lifeless arms of their mothers, their mouths frozen open in their final desperate attempts to breathe. A crime of this magnitude must never be forgotten and must never be allowed to happen again.

Second, the 25th anniversary of the Halabja massacre is worthy of our remembrance and reflection because thousands of Americans gave their lives to liberate Iraq and give the Iraqi people the freedom and opportunity to create a stable, safe and prosperous country where all minorities can flourish. Over four thousand Americans died and over 40,000 were wounded in that war to secure the peace

to bring Saddam to justice, and win the right of self-determination for the Kurdish people of Iraq and for all Iraqis. Their sacrifices must never be forgotten.

Third, it is important to remember Halabja, because of America's strong and vital relationship with the Kurds of Iraq. In the immediate aftermath of the first Gulf War, Saddam again unleashed his wrath on the Kurdish people. Thousands of Kurdish refugees fled into the mountains of northern Iraq to escape another massacre. The United States intervened in Operation Provide Comfort to join forces with the Kurds and to prevent another massacre. Under the umbrella of the no-fly zone of northern Iraq, the resilient, strong and resourceful people of Kurdistan rose from the ashes of the Anfal campaign to restore their land and lay the foundations of democracy and prosperity for all of Iraq. When US forces deployed to northern Iraq in 2003 as part of Operation Iraqi freedom, Kurdish forces joined with US forces to defeat 13 Iraqi Army divisions in the northern area of operations. Today, the Kurds are continuing to build on their friendship with our country and have created an economic and cultural miracle in the Kurdistan Region, where the rights of religious and ethnic minorities are protected and respected in law and in fact, which is a model for all of Iraq to emulate.

Finally, as we remember Halabja and the Anfal campaign on this 25th anniversary, we must maintain our resolve and use all of our diplomatic and economic power to ensure that peace and democracy take root and thrive in Iraq. That peace and the future of democratic government in Iraq is now jeopardized by the increasingly negative relations between the Iraqi government of PM Maliki and the Sunni and Kurdish minorities of Iraq. It is not my purpose today to cast blame for the current state of those relations, but only to remind my colleagues of the grave dangers of ethnic and sectarian strife in Iraq. Let us remember Halabja in light of the sacrifices our country has made to ensure that such crimes are never repeated and to renew our resolve to use our power and influence to achieve a lasting peace and the security of the Iraqi people.

IN RECOGNITION OF RENOVATING
HOPE

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Renovating Hope, a nonprofit organization that assists America's heroes in need. Renovating Hope's mission is to provide professional and sustainable home repairs and renovations to families of men and women currently serving in the armed forces, as well as veterans. This organization delivers renewal and hope to the members of our military who are in need of assistance, and provides comfort to their families.

I recently had the privilege of observing Renovating Hope's service and commitment to our military heroes in my district. The organization developed a project to remodel the home of Retired Army Sgt. Robert C. Costley, a Purple Heart Award recipient who was critically wounded by a roadside bomb during his

tour in Iraq. The renovation of Sgt. Costley's home in Erin, New York, would not have been completed without the leadership of Renovating Hope and the hard work of countless volunteers from the community.

I am proud to recognize the efforts of Renovating Hope in assisting our military heroes, and I commend their dedication to giving back to the individuals who have given so much of themselves to serve this great country. This organization truly exemplifies the commitment to serving the men and women of the United States military. As Americans, we should strive to emulate this commitment every day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 14th, 2013, I missed rollcall vote number 70 for unavoidable reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 70: "yea" (On ordering the previous question.)

RECOGNIZING DAVID LEONG

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize long time family friend David Leong, a truly unique American hero who has become a local Springfield legend for his creation of Cashew Chicken.

Born in Guangdong, China, David immigrated to the United States in 1940 and later went on to serve his new country during World War II. He trained in Fort Lee, Virginia for 3 months before shipping out to Europe. He participated in the Normandy invasion where he hit Omaha Beach as part of the fourth wave of troops. By the war's end, he had served in England, France, Italy, and Belgium.

David and his late wife, Wong Shau Ngor, are the proud parents of seven: the late Wing Cheong Leong; Evelyn Leong Mousted; Wing Ling Leong; Wing Yee Leong; Yim Fong Leong; Wing Loke Leong; and Wing Wah Leong.

In November 1963, David opened Leong's Tea House, a 350 seat white tablecloth restaurant on the edge of town in what had been a cornfield in Springfield, Missouri. When he started the restaurant he knew that most people were not familiar with Chinese food, but they loved fried foods. He decided to come up with a recipe that combined both worlds together. He created a cashew gravy from soy and oyster sauce, added stock, and poured it over fried chicken, creating the immensely popular Cashew Chicken. There are now over 300 restaurants in the Springfield area that serve it.

He decided to close the original restaurant in December 31, 1997, following the death of his beloved wife. After falling ill in 2009, David decided he wanted to open a new restaurant to keep busy. Two years of success at the new Leong's Asian Diner inspired David to

launch Leong Foods Incorporated, which specializes in David's original sauces and foods for retail sale in grocery stores. Today at age 92, he still comes in at 8 a.m. and leaves when it gets dark seven days a week.

Throughout David's life, he has served his country and city proudly. His story is an American story, and I am honored to recognize his service.

HONORING ALEX DALY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Daly. Alex is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 601, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alex has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alex Daly for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ANGELINA TABBITAS LARSEN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished life and service of Mrs. Angelina Tabbitas Larsen. Mrs. Larsen, known by those in the community as "Angel", was born July 28, 1941 to Nunzio and Frances Tabbitas in Brooklyn, New York, and for the past few decades, Mrs. Larsen has called Northwest Florida home. She will be missed by many, but her memory will live on through the timeless legacy she leaves behind.

Mrs. Larsen spent her life in service to God and country. For twenty years, she dedicated her time to serving the brave men and women of our Armed Forces at the Pensacola USO Centers. Through her support and gratitude, she had the ability to lift spirits and bring warmth and merriment to our troops and their families.

To some, Mrs. Larsen will be remembered for her commitment to our nation's heroes; to others, she will be remembered for her strong faith in God and as a fellow member of Kingsway Church. To her family and friends, she will be remembered for Nana's Sunday dinner gatherings and as a loving and caring wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize the life and service

of Mrs. Angelina Tabbitas Larsen. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our thoughts and prayers to her husband, Bob; daughter, Jeanne; sons, Salvatore, Mario, and Edward, and the entire Larsen family.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL BLACK NURSES DAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, recognize, and celebrate the New York 25th Annual Celebration of National Black Nurses Day. On Friday February 22nd, the National Black Nurses Association recognized, honored and awarded the New York Black Nurses Association, Queens County Black Nurses, Caribbean American Nurses Association, Kappa Eta Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority and Theta Chi Chapter of the Chi Eta Phi Nurses Sorority for their excellence of service and outstanding contributions in the field of nursing to citizens in the State of New York.

The National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) was organized in 1971 under the leadership of Dr. Lauranne Sams, former Dean and Professor of Nursing, School of Nursing, Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, Alabama. NBNA is a non-profit organization incorporated on September 2, 1972 in the state of Ohio. NBNA represents 150,000 African American registered nurses, licensed vocational/practical nurses, nursing students and retired nurses from the USA, Eastern Caribbean and Africa, with 83 chartered chapters in 34 states.

The mission of the National Black Nurses Association "is to provide a forum for collective action by African American nurses to investigate, define and determine what the health care needs of African Americans are and to implement change to make available to African Americans and other minorities health care commensurate with that of the larger society."

In 2003, the National Black Nurses Association became one of the five founding organizations of the National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations (NCEMNA), along with Asian American/Pacific Islander Nurses Association, Inc., National Alaska Native American Indian Nurses Association, Inc.; National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Inc.; and, the Philippine Nurses Association of America, Inc. This collaboration gives voice to 350,000 minority nurses. Dr. Betty Smith Williams is the NCEMNA President and a past NBNA President.

Its goals include support for the development of a cadre of ethnic nurses reflecting the nation's diversity; advocacy for culturally competent, accessible and affordable health care; promotion of the professional and educational advancement of ethnic nurses; education of consumers, health care professionals and policy makers on health issues of ethnic minority populations; development of ethnic minority nurse leaders in areas of health policy, practice, education and research; endorsement of best practice models of nursing practice, education, and research for minority populations.

I was pleased to cosponsor legislation, a proposal brought forth by Dr. Catherine Alicia

Georges, past President of the National Black Nurses Association and Chair of the Nursing Department at Herbert H. Lehman College—The City of University of New York, that resulted in the U. S. Congress establishing the first Friday in the month of February as the day to recognize the contributions to healthcare made by Black nurses. I have a special place in my heart for the work of nurses, as my own dear sister was a retired nurse and I am keenly aware of the role that nurses, especially Black nurses have played in addressing the physical, mental, social and spiritual needs of all patients—a cornerstone of this organization. I am so very appreciative for the many contributions of the Black nurses to the City of New York and our Nation.

Let me congratulate and salute all of this year's award trailblazers in the field of nursing who have contributed locally, nationally and internationally. Your dedication and devotion to the health needs of everyday Americans is most commendable and deserving of Congressional Recognition. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington, let us also celebrate the 25th Anniversary of National Black Nurses Day.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN LATINO MUSEUM ACT

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Smithsonian American Latino Museum Act, a bill that supports the creation of the Smithsonian American Latino Museum and whose genesis began 20 years ago. I first introduced this bill, with my colleague Rep. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, in the 112th Congress.

While the wonderful museums and monuments on the National Mall provide a sense of America's history and treasures, many have felt that more must be done to ensure that the contributions of all Americans, including those of Latino descent, are better represented.

The 2010 Census revealed that there are over 50 million Latinos in the U.S. plus an additional 3.7 million citizens of Puerto Rico. Even with the large and growing Latino population in the our country there is still no real significant, permanent representation of Latinos in our nation's capital.

The Latino community first moved to address this issue in 1993. But, it was not until 2008 that the Commission to Establish the National Museum of the American Latino Act was passed by the House and Senate and signed into law. A panel of 23 bipartisan commissioners was appointed by President George W. Bush, President Barack Obama, House leaders NANCY PELOSI and JOHN BOEHNER, and Senate leaders HARRY REID and MITCH MCCONNELL.

That Commission dedicated itself to creating a comprehensive report and a singular vision—one that would reflect the hopes, opinions, cultural values, recommendations and insights of Americans of diverse origins and geographic regions of the U.S. In 2011, that Commission presented its report, Illuminating

the American Story for All, early and under budget, to the President of the United States.

Since that time, the notion of a Smithsonian American Latino Museum has continued to gain support from a diversity of people and places. Despite that long-standing support and almost 20 years later, we are still not there yet, but we are getting closer.

To move forward in our effort, the House and Senate must pass the Smithsonian American Latino Act. Our bill would do 3 things:

Designate the now-vacant Arts and Industries Building (AIB) within the Smithsonian Institution as the location of the museum, including an annex that would be constructed underground and adjacent to the AIB. The bill requires that the planning, design and construction of the museum be harmonious with open space and visual sightlines of the National Mall.

Provide the Board of Regents 18 months to conduct a study to determine the best way to plan, design, fund and construct the Museum of the American Latino, taking into account the Commission's report.

Authorize private fundraising to begin for the planning, designing and construction of the museum.

Upon the bill being passed by both chambers and signed into law by the President, the Smithsonian American Latino Museum would be on its way to becoming the 20th museum within the Smithsonian Institution, forming part of the world's largest museum and research complex.

Many may ask: at this moment in time how can we afford to create a new museum? The better question is how can we not?

These are challenging times. And in these times, the arts, culture and humanities have a distinct role to play in helping unite us during episodes of adversity and prepare us to share in the prosperity to come. Cultural and historical institutions play a critical role in investigating, educating, sharing, celebrating, preserving, and convening the American people—as we are doing today—to show that we are in this together.

Mr. Speaker, the Smithsonian Institution was created for the purpose of helping increase and diffuse knowledge. It is in that same spirit that we seek to advance the Smithsonian American Latino Museum effort. Just like the National Museum of American History, the National Museum of the American Indian, The National Museum of African American History and Culture, the National Air and Space Museum, and others, the future Smithsonian American Latino Museum will help display America in its full bloom.

IN HONOR OF THE PARADISO
FAMILY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, on September 2, 1912, Arthur Rose Eldred of New York earned this Nation's first Eagle Scout Award. Arthur would be the first of three generations of Eldred's to rise to the rank of Eagle; his son and grandson hold the honor as well. The title of Eagle is an exceptional and extraordinary achievement earned by just

2% of Boy Scouts. This uncommon accomplishment is precisely why, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michael and Cheryl Paradiso. On Saturday, March 16, 2013, Daniel Paradiso will be the fourth child of Michael and Cheryl to attain scouting's highest honor. Their daughter, Stephanie, has achieved the Gold Award in Girl Scouting and their three sons, Tony, M.J., and now Daniel have all earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

A century has passed since Arthur Eldred earned our Nation's first Eagle Award. One hundred years later, dedicated parents Mike and Cheryl Paradiso provide the guidance, support and commitment for their children just as Arthur Eldred did for his son and grandson. Congratulations, Mike and Cheryl for your extraordinary achievement.

CONGRATULATING DAVID J.
JOHNS ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS
DIRECTOR OF NEW WHITE HOUSE
INITIATIVE ON EDUCATIONAL
EXCELLENCE FOR AFRICAN
AMERICANS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud Secretary Duncan's appointment of David Johns to head the new White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans. David's expertise will be critical in helping to address the academic challenges that many Black students face. America's educational system has undergone a remarkable transformation in the years since segregation, and we must continue to move forward to ensure equality of access and opportunity for education for all.

Here in Congress, I have advocated for advancing the educational opportunities for minorities through increased funding to public schools, federal fellowships, and tuition reimbursement programs. However, substantial obstacles to equal educational opportunity still remain in America's educational system. Black students lack equal access to effective teachers and principals, safe schools, and challenging college-preparatory classes. It is no coincidence that over a third of them do not graduate from high school on time, and those that do are not nearly as prepared as their peers. I look forward to working with David to bridge this gap and to provide all Americans regardless of race or gender the skills they need to compete in the workforce.

Education is the key to success in today's world, and everyone in America is entitled to equal opportunity to obtain a degree, get a good paying job, and live fulfilling lives. America needs to come together to solve the problems of today in order to create a brighter future tomorrow. I am confident that David Johns will help us get there sooner."

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTION
OF DELTA ENTERPRISES IN AS-
SISTING THE MOST VULNER-
ABLE VICTIMS OF SUPERSTORM
SANDY

HON. MICHAEL G. GRIMM

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contribution made by Delta Children's Products and it's President, Mr. Joseph Shamie, in assisting the most vulnerable victims of Superstorm Sandy.

Staten Island and Brooklyn were ravaged by the unprecedented force of this natural disaster, leaving thousands of residents without homes or even the bare necessities of life.

While the damage of Superstorm Sandy uprooted the lives of so many it also left the most vulnerable victims of this tragic event, infants and young children, without the essentials they needed to provide for their well being.

As a resident of Brooklyn, Mr. Shamie saw firsthand the devastation left in Sandy's wake, and understood that there would be a desperate need for child care products. Moving swiftly he ensured that Delta Children's Products filled this much needed gap in supplies by donating cribs, changing tables and infant supplies to those affected.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Mr. Shamie and Delta Children's Products for their overwhelming support in helping to protect and care for the most vulnerable victims of Superstorm Sandy, and I ask you to join me in recognizing their commitment to the ongoing recovery effort.

RECOGNIZING MARIA FOOTE AS
THE 2013 OKALOOSA COUNTY,
FLORIDA EDUCATIONAL SUP-
PORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE
YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Maria Foote as the 2013 Okaloosa County Educational Support Professional of the Year. I am honored to recognize her achievements and dedication to the students and teachers of the Northwest Florida community.

Since 2008, Mrs. Foote has worked as an English Language Learner (ELL) interpreter at Destin Elementary School. While serving the Okaloosa County School District, Mrs. Foote has never wavered in her commitment to the ELL program and her students. She works tirelessly to facilitate learning amongst students, teachers, and the community. In a school district that comprises a high ELL population, Mrs. Foote's role as an interpreter is extremely critical, as she translates conferences, documents, and provides academic support. Mrs. Foote also continuously accepts new challenges, and when the Okaloosa County School District began English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) class for families, she was tasked as the liaison between ELL families and the district facilitator.

She has accepted and carried out this role with grace and excellence.

Out of her passion for service, Mrs. Foote's involvement extends beyond the classroom. She is active in fundraising activities to benefit the English Language Learner population, as well as readily answering calls for help after school hours. It is not uncommon for Mrs. Foote to go above and beyond for the families of Okaloosa County, as she places their needs before her own. The significant improvement and learning gains demonstrated by students working with Mrs. Foote truly exemplify her steadfast commitment to excellence and desire for her students to succeed. Instructors like Mrs. Foote leave a perpetual impact on their schools and community.

Mrs. Foote's efforts and hard work have not gone unnoticed. She has been widely recognized and honored for her accomplishments in the school and community and is the recipient of several awards, including Service Beyond the Call of Duty awarded by Northwest Florida State College and Taking the Lead Organizing Projects awarded by AmeriCorps.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Maria Foote on her achievements and contributions to the Okaloosa County School District. She is a dedicated teacher, an inspiration to her students, and an honorable public servant. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mrs. Foote, and we wish her all the best for continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE SALINAS VALLEY MEMORIAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System on its sixtieth anniversary of caring for the health needs of Monterey County. Community leaders began fundraising for a new hospital in 1941. World War II postponed those efforts. They resumed in 1947, after the State of California passed an act allowing taxation districts to be established in local communities for the building of hospitals. All funding for the hospital was local; no state or federal funds were used in the project.

The hospital was named Salinas Valley Memorial to honor the memory of "the men and women of the armed forces who made the supreme sacrifice for their community and their nation." It opened on April 20, 1953 with 138 beds, 100 employees and 45 physicians. President Dwight D. Eisenhower sent a letter of congratulations in which he wrote, the "People of Salinas have every right to be proud of this admirable example of local self-reliance and initiative." Roy Diaz, who survived the Bataan Death March, was in attendance at the dedication; he still lives in the area and will help Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System celebrate its anniversary.

The hospital was state-of-the-art when it opened. Still, the advancements in technology over the next twenty-five years were greater than the founders could have imagined. Partnerships with universities and other healthcare organizations like Visiting Nurses and Doctors On Duty allow Salinas Valley Memorial to expand and deliver world-class health care into communities across the Central Coast. It is currently licensed for 269 acute care beds. Today there are more than 1,600 employees with more than 250 physicians on staff.

The hospital has won numerous awards for its cardiac care center from such organizations as the American Heart Association and Blue Cross/Blue Shield. In 2011, it was honored as being one of only 110 U.S. hospitals given the international designation of baby-friendly by the World Health Organization and UNICEF.

Mr. Speaker, I know the whole House joins me in congratulating Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System on its anniversary, and wish them many more years of quality service to the public.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MINERVA JOHNICAN

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a champion for the rights of women, a leader in her community and a stalwart for Civil Rights, Minerva Johnican, who passed away in her hometown of Memphis, Tennessee. I was proud to call her my friend and she will be greatly missed throughout the City of Memphis.

Minerva was born in Memphis on November 16, 1938 and was the sixth of seven children to John Bruce and Annie B. Johnican. She attended Hamilton Elementary and High School and began her college studies at Central State College in Ohio before graduating from Tennessee State University in 1960.

After graduating from college, Minerva earned her certificate in library science from the University of Memphis in 1965. She served in the Memphis City Schools system as a teacher and librarian for a total of 18 years, and later, she became the head librarian at Colonial Elementary School. She was always active in politics. However, her interest crystallized in 1967 when she was driving home from school and heard on the radio that a group of ministers were maced while marching for the rights of sanitation workers in downtown Memphis. From this experience, she became an instrumental member of Citizens on the Move for Equality, which advocated for higher wages for sanitation workers. In 1971, she founded the Inner City Voter Education Committee that helped inner-city 18-year-olds register to vote. During this time, she also founded the Volunteer Women's Round Table, which was a coalition of women from different racial backgrounds who worked

to support women in the Democratic Party. Additionally, in a sign of her future political aspirations, Minerva worked on Shirley Chisholm's presidential campaign.

Over the next 15 years, Minerva's political accomplishments broke several glass ceilings for African-Americans and women. In 1975, Minerva became the first woman to serve on the Shelby County Quarterly Court, now called the Shelby County Commission, and held this seat for two four-year terms. I was honored to work with her on the Board of Commissioners and one of our proudest achievements was establishing the MED Hospital when others wanted a smaller hospital. In 1983, she became the first African-American elected to represent an at-large district on the Memphis City Council. As a City Councilwoman, she founded the Building Better Bridges for Memphis Task Force, which encouraged African-Americans and Caucasians in Memphis to work together on community problems. In 1987, Minerva came in second in a six-way race for city mayor. Not to be discouraged from public office, in 1990, she became the first African-American and the first woman to be elected Shelby County Criminal Court Clerk. During her time as County Clerk, she automated the Clerk's office and implemented computers to maintain records, making it easier and more efficient to serve the needs of Memphians and staff. Her vision for improving the County Clerk's Office earned three national awards.

After leaving office in 1994, Minerva worked as a managing loan officer at Mid-America Mortgage and transferred her skills into opening up her own company, OMO Mortgage Financial Services. Although she no longer served in a public office, her passion for public service and community involvement continued. She was a vital member and supporter of my campaigns in 2006 and 2008 and she served as Co-Campaign Manager for Herman Morris's mayoral run. Minerva also served on the board of directors for the Mid-South Muscular Dystrophy Association, Mid-South Chapter of the ACLU, NAACP, and numerous other organizations.

Throughout her public and private sector work, Minerva received countless recognition for her diligence and commitment to the city of Memphis. The Women's Foundation for a Greater Memphis honored her with the Legends Award in 2009. In addition, she was awarded with the Distinguished Leadership Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews, History Makers Award from the National Council of Negro Women, and the NAACP Life Membership.

Sadly, Minerva lost her battle with cancer on Friday, March 8, 2013 at 74 years of age. She will be remembered as a pioneer for her tireless public service at a time when women were not expected to take a leading role. Her dedication to improving her community is unparalleled. Minerva's passion led her to take risks during an era of heightened racial tensions and to encourage people from across racial lines to work together for the betterment of the city. Hers was a life well-lived. Thank you, Minerva, for coming our way.