

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE PASSING OF SAN FRANCISCO LABOR LEADER WALTER JOHNSON

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Walter Johnson, the working men and women of San Francisco have lost an extraordinary champion and a powerful advocate; our nation has lost a strong voice for economic justice. Many of us in Congress were proud to call him a friend.

Walter Johnson was a giant in the labor movement, who dedicated his life to advancing and expanding the rights of workers—the cornerstones of a thriving middle class. He championed fair pay for a full day's work, equal rights and protection in the workplace, and social justice and opportunity for all. Walter's imprint can be seen across our city, whether in better conditions for home care workers, greater access to health care, more affordable housing options for families, or increased diversity at San Francisco City College.

Born on April 22, 1924, in Amenia, North Dakota, Walter arrived in San Francisco following three years of service in the United States Army during World War II. While working as an appliance salesman for Sears, he joined the Retail Clerks Union, where he was elected President in 1958, and in 1964 was elected Executive Officer, the top position in his local. Under Walter's leadership, the rights of women, people of color, and gay people working in retail were protected. His expert guidance resulted in his subsequent re-election over the next 11 years.

Walter was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the San Francisco Labor Council in 1985 and held that post until he retired in 2004. From that powerful perch, he fought for workers' benefits, health care reform, and workplace equality. Walter educated, enlightened and mobilized union members to fight the unjust and unfair practices that existed in the workplace. He had a special talent for negotiation, helping to settle many contentious disputes.

Walter possessed unflinching moral courage. He spoke out against the Vietnam War, even though it was supported by the AFL-CIO national leadership. He was one of the first labor leaders to give unconditional support to the gay rights movement. Even after his retirement, he was active in labor demonstrations, where he walked picket lines and was arrested at sit-ins.

A humanitarian, Walter's friendships extended far beyond the labor community. He was known by all, from the owner of the corner store to the homeless person on the street. His friends were blessed by his generous nature, his wry sense of humor, and his penchant for storytelling. He was rarely without a personal anecdote or a footnote from history.

Walter Johnson's life was a story of extraordinary courage, leadership, and service to the

labor community and the people of San Francisco. His legacy will live on in our continued pursuit of fairness and workers' rights in our city and across the country.

We hope it is a comfort to Walter's son Lawrence, his daughter Emily Davis, his grandchildren and a multitude of friends and loved ones, that so many share their grief and are praying for them at this sad time.

HONORING NANCY B. KELLEHER

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Nancy B. Kelleher of Scarborough, Maine, on the occasion of her retirement as AARP's Maine State Director.

Maine has the highest median age in the United States, and our state's seniors depend on a strong advocate for the issues that matter most to them: greater access to affordable health care and financial security. Since 2008, Nancy Kelleher has served Maine's 228,000 AARP members as State Director, spearheading legislative efforts to provide protection for Maine seniors on issues such as access to affordable health care and prescription drugs, predatory lending and homeowner protections, funding for home care services, and the repeal of the older worker penalty.

Prior to joining AARP, Nancy worked in the Speaker's Office of the House of Representatives, where she coordinated administrative and policy issues for three Speakers, and was named Chief of Staff to Speaker Steven Rowe. Nancy also served as the Deputy Secretary of State for Corporations, Elections & Commissions for former Secretary of State, Dan Gwadosky, and as the Director of the Division of Community Services, a cabinet level position under former Governor Joseph E. Brennan.

Nancy is a leader in her community. She serves on and volunteers for several health-related groups, amongst which are the Elder Abuse Task Force of Maine, the Stakeholders Group on Health INFONet, the Maine Health Management Coalition and the Aligning Forces for Quality Project. Her contributions are not limited to just health issues. Nancy volunteers for and has served as the President of the Scarborough Public Library Board of Trustees. Her additional interests include helping women and families with housing issues. Most recently she has worked with American Friends, a group that assists recent refugees to adjust to life in America. In 2002, she was named a YWCA Woman of Achievement.

She and her husband, Edward, live in Scarborough, Maine and are the proud grandparents of four. I wish her the best in her retirement.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Nancy B. Kelleher for her life-long dedication and service to the people of Maine.

CONGRATULATING STEVE COSTA ON HIS TENURE AS STATE PRESIDENT OF THE CABRILLO CIVIC CLUBS OF CALIFORNIA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations to Scott Costa, as he concludes his tenure as State President of the Cabrillo Civic Clubs of California. This prestigious organization is one of California's oldest and largest groups committed to promoting and preserving the memory of John Rodrigues Cabrillo, who discovered our great State in 1542. Scott's dedication to the Cabrillo Clubs, community service, and education makes him a role model and a source of pride for our community.

Scott grew up in southern California and graduated from Antelope Valley High School. Upon completion of his studies, Scott pursued a career in the hospitality industry, where he managed and sold hotel properties in El Paso, Texas, as well as Sacramento and Fresno, California. Not only is Scott a successful and savvy businessman, he is also a tireless advocate for the people of our community and California.

Demonstrating his commitment to community service, Scott joined Sacramento Civic Club No. 5 in 1999 as an Honorary Member. Honorary Members are recognized for having made "outstanding contributions to the welfare and advancement of the Portuguese in California." In 2005, he became an Affiliate Member, and was eventually eligible to serve as a subordinate club officer. Scott was elected to serve as President of the Sacramento Club and completed five consecutive terms. An Active Member of the Cabrillo Civic Club by 2008, Scott was elected 2nd Vice President at the State Council Convention in 2009, which led to the State Presidency in 2011.

Continuing its long tradition under Scott's leadership, the Cabrillo Clubs of California have proudly served California's students by providing over 175 \$500 scholarships to high school seniors throughout the State. In addition, members have volunteered over 130,000 hours in a year.

Scott Costa is the proud father of Kay Lee Hinds and Rebecca Jackson of Austin, Texas; Billy Ingraham of Seattle, Washington; and Lisa and Michael Gavin of San Jose, California, grandfather of seven, and soon-to-be great-grandfather of one. He has lived at the Costa Family Farm since 2002 and has become proficient in the farming of a vineyard.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Scott for his diligent work and many years of dedicated service to the Cabrillo Civic Clubs of California. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing Scott Costa's commitment, dedication, and success and wish him well as he embarks on new endeavors.

• 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.

RECOGNIZING 2011–2012 FULBRIGHT GRANTEES JULIA BAILEY, GREGORY DE ST. MAURICE, JAY EVICK AND SETH PACKRONE

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize four intelligent and accomplished students from my district for receiving one of the world's most competitive, merit-based grants to perform research in a foreign country. Since 1946, the Fulbright program has been fostering cross-cultural understanding and scholarly excellence by sending some of the world's brightest minds abroad to undertake innovative research projects. Julia Bailey of Latrobe, PA, Gregory De St. Maurice, also of Latrobe, PA, Jay Evick of Waynesburg, PA, and Seth Packrone of Uniontown, PA, each received a Fulbright grant for the 2011–2012 academic year. They were given this honor on account of their outstanding leadership skills, exceptional academic credentials and penetrating interest in foreign cultures.

Julia Bailey was awarded a Fulbright-Nehru English Teaching Assistantship. She is currently a graduate student at George Mason University, where she studies international development in Africa, as well as social anthropology. She has a wealth of education policy and classroom teaching expertise, having performed a significant amount of research to promote education in the developing world, and taught English in the United States and Egypt. Her worldliness, intellect and wide-ranging experience make her well-suited to serve as an ambassador for American culture and scholarship abroad.

Gregory De St. Maurice was given a grant to study Anthropology in Japan. He is currently working toward a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh. At present, his research focuses on the food culture of the city of Kyoto. Gregory's in-depth understanding of the people and traditions of Japan is laudable and will serve him well in his future studies.

Jay Evick received a grant to serve as an English teaching assistant at the Tyumen State University of Oil and Gas in Tyumen, Russia. He has spent the last four years studying Russian and linguistics at the University of Pittsburgh. Jay's ability to grasp the intricacies of Eastern European culture and complexities of the Russian language is a testament to his tremendous scholarly abilities.

Seth Packrone was awarded a teaching assistantship at Inonu University in Malatya, Turkey. Seth's passion is education reform. In the summer of 2007, he interned with Advocates for Children, a nonprofit that works to promote access to quality education for low-income, minority and special needs students. Seth has also been the recipient of an Arthur Liman Public Interest Law Fellowship. As a Liman Fellow, he researched and developed education policy with the Center for Law and Education in Washington, DC. Seth's unwavering desire to unlock the potential of young students everywhere speaks to his inherent selflessness and kindness.

Mr. Speaker, these four individuals possess an exemplary work ethic, profound intelligence and a precociously broad worldview. I am

overjoyed that they have been granted such a prestigious and coveted opportunity to study and work abroad.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF BENET ACADEMY

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of Benet Academy, a Catholic Benedictine college preparatory high school located in Lisle, Illinois. On March 2, 2012, Benet will celebrate its Founder's Day, representing 125 years of dedication to academic excellence and Christian morality.

Benet Academy was founded in 1887 on the Benedictine motto "Ora et Labora," "Pray and Work." Generation upon generation of the Academy's devoted faculty and promising students have upheld this motto in a tradition that carries back 1,500 years to the Order of Saint Benedict.

I applaud Benet Academy's commitment to nurturing an atmosphere of prayer, work, and stability among its student body. Its distinctive qualities draw students from six counties, including many in Illinois' Sixth Congressional District. Benet Academy has helped students consistently achieve at rigorous academic levels while instilling the Benedictine core values of community, hospitality, respect, stewardship and love of learning.

On this special occasion, we recognize Benet Academy's rich history and faithfulness to God. We thank the Academy for its partnership with parents, who strive to educate the current generation that will become our nation's future leaders. For well over a century, Benet Academy has contributed toward this brighter future.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in honoring the legacy of Benet Academy, and in wishing them continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD'S 400 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the selfless service of the Virginia National Guard, which is now celebrating 400 years of service to the Commonwealth of Virginia and our nation.

With its roots dating back to the Jamestown Colony in the early 1600s, the Virginia Guard has established itself as one of the oldest institutions of our nation's armed forces. From protecting the colonies during the earliest days of the Commonwealth to its role in the Revolutionary War, the Virginia Guard was an essential force in the inception of our great nation.

For over four centuries, Virginia's guardsmen have come from all walks of life and volunteered to be "a guardian of freedom and the

American way of life." These men and women have gone into harm's way time and time again to preserve peace and ensure their fellow citizens of the Commonwealth are kept safe. Members of the Virginia Guard also have a proud history of public service to the nation at large, including five Virginia Guard officers who later went on to become U.S. Presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, and John Tyler.

More recently, the brave men and women of the Virginia Guard have again selflessly answered the call to duty. Since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, over 14,000 Virginia soldiers have been deployed across the world to protect our country. The enormous sacrifice of these soldiers and their families is something for which we will forever be grateful for.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the sacrifice and service of all past and present Virginia Guardsmen as we celebrate 400 years of courage and bravery in protecting the Commonwealth of Virginia and our country.

THE PALMER CENTER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize The Palmer Center of Missouri's Sixth District. The Palmer Center is being honored by The National Institute for Senior Centers for meeting and exceeding the NISC standards of accreditation.

Of the 11,000 senior centers in the country, only 126 senior centers are able to achieve accreditation. The Palmer Center is one of only two sites in all of Missouri to earn that lofty distinction. Throughout the year-long process to receive the accreditation, the NISC noted the Palmers Center's innovative partnerships with various organizations and businesses throughout the community, its dynamic health and fitness programs, and The Palmer Center's exceptionally organized and professionally operated senior program. The NISC also made special note of the most important strength of The Palmer Center, it's committed and dedicated volunteer staff.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing The Palmer Center located in the Sixth District of Missouri. It is an amazing place with an outstanding group of people dedicated to making a daily impact on the proud seniors in Independence, MO and the whole of the Sixth District. I am honored to represent The Palmer Center in the United States Congress.

IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY "DOT"
HALL FOWLER SHEFFEY

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks in memory of Dorothy "Dot" Hall Fowler Sheffey, a devoted wife, sister, mother, grandmother, and community

leader from Southwest Virginia. Dot left us on January 9, 2012.

Born on September 6, 1926, Dot was an active member of the Pulaski County community. Dot lived by the philosophy, "You get out of anything what you put into it." This philosophy was evident through her service in a number of local groups and the awards she received. In 1984, she was named Pulaski County Woman of the year. She also received the Gerry Atkinson Community Service Award. Dot was involved with local Girl Scout and Cub Scout groups, the PTA, Band Boosters, the Fairlawn Fire Department, and was a long-time member of the Pulaski County Republican Women. She served as a member of the Radford University Advisory Board on Vocational Education, the Advisory Committee for Marketing Curriculum at New River Community College, the American Cancer Society, and the American Red Cross Board. Dot was also an election officer in Pulaski County and an active member of Mountain View United Methodist Church.

Dot leaves behind her husband, Donald; daughter and son-in-law, Alice Fowler and Butch Buford; son and daughter-in-law, Dennis James and Eva Fowler; brother, Calvin Dexter Hall; sister, Ester Soper; sister-in-law, Thelma Hall; stepdaughters and their spouses, Rhonda and Phil Moser, and Sandra Kay and Brandon Clabes; stepson, Donald Keith Sheffey; as well as four grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and four step-grandchildren.

Dot impacted the lives of many through her work in Pulaski County. She never wanted to be in the spotlight. Instead, she pushed others to become leaders in the community and was content to stay in the background. She had a positive attitude and was always there with words of encouragement or advice. I had the honor of knowing Dot for many years. I am honored to pay tribute to this great woman's many contributions. Her legacy and influence will be long remembered in Pulaski County and throughout Southwest Virginia.

TRIBUTE TO ODELL MERRICK

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Odell Merrick, a successful Kentucky businessman and longtime community leader of Pulaski County, Kentucky. His passing is a great loss to his family, his community, and to me personally.

As the Co-Founder and CEO of Cumberland Wood & Chair, Co-Owner of Somerset Wood Products, and Director of Citizens National Bank, Odell Merrick has left behind a legacy of successful business ventures.

In 1985, Odell founded Somerset Wood Products, alongside his son, Steve Merrick, which grew over the years to become a nationally-recognized manufacturer of hardwood flooring. Odell remained a co-owner with the company up until his death last November.

In addition to his many successful business ventures, Odell was a highly active member of his church, where he taught Sunday school for more than 30 years. Serving as both a Dea-

con and Chairman of his church, Odell has been highly involved in many church projects, including the founding of Somerset Christian School.

Odell was a man of service and dedication to his community and in 2010, he was honored by the Somerset-Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce with the highest honor for those who have made significant contributions to the community, the "Distinguished Community Service Award."

Odell Merrick leaves behind a devoted family: his loving wife of more than 53 years, Nancy Routt Merrick; their children, Steve Merrick and Debbie Eades of Somerset, KY, along with four sisters and grandchildren. On behalf of my wife Cynthia and myself, I want to extend our deepest heartfelt sympathies to the Merrick family.

TRIBUTE TO GREATER CORONA VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR MIKE ZELLER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Corona, California are exceptional. Corona has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Mike Zeller is one of these individuals. On January 21, 2012, Mike will receive a prestigious honor when the Greater Corona Valley Chamber of Commerce names him the 2011 Citizen of the Year at the organization's annual awards and installation gala at the Eagle Glen Golf Club.

Mike began his career as an educator but 30 years ago he decided to make a change and open a life insurance business through Primerica. Mike's business offers clients options to purchase insurance, from term to life, and anything in between. Another component unique to his business is the marketing and structure of Primerica. Mike has been honored by Primerica often, and was again on January 15 as he celebrates 30 years of providing service to his clients.

In addition to his business acumen, Mike has also lived a compassionate and giving life. Twenty years ago, his son Chad was fatally injured on a bicycle ride. Both he and his wife Nancee refused to let this tragedy define their lives and in honor of Chad they formed a foundation, called the Chad Zeller Memorial. The foundation has held annual consecutive walks/runs to ensure public safety—giving thousands of helmets to children of all ages.

Throughout the many years that Mike has been a member of the Greater Corona Valley Chamber, Mike has been involved and supported the Chamber financially in sponsorships and door prizes. Every year, he is quick to recognize the Chamber for its involvement with the Chad Zeller Memorial Walk/Run events.

In addition to the Greater Corona Valley Chamber of Commerce, Mike is involved with service clubs and multitude of other charities.

Mike has a philosophy to help as many people as possible and lives his life in service to others, regardless of their status in life.

In light of all Mike has done for the community of Corona, the Greater Corona Valley Chamber of Commerce named Mike their Citizen of the Year. Mike's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Corona, California. He has been the heart and soul of many community organizations and events and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and I join them in saluting him as he receives this prestigious award.

HONORING GERALD ROPER

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, on January 25, 2012 longtime civic leader Gerald Roper will receive honors for his commitment to greening and beautifying Chicago, as well as improving the region's business and entrepreneurial communities.

A founding member of Chicago Gateway Green Committee, Jerry's commitment to beautifying Chicago over the past 25 years can be seen all across our city. As Chairman, Jerry oversaw the planting of 57,000 shrubs, 53,000 perennials, and 2,050 trees and the removal of more than one million pounds of litter from Chicago's expressways. He was instrumental in the installation of numerous sculptures at Chicago's beautiful landmarks and has helped make our hometown a place travelers from around the world want to visit and admire.

Under Jerry's leadership as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce for more than 18 years, the Chamber earned a 5-star accreditation by the United States Chamber of Commerce for its sound policies, effective organizational procedures, and positive impact on the region's business climate. The award is given to only the top five percent of all chambers in the country.

Jerry demonstrates the meaning of a true public servant. In 2000 he formed the Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center, an affiliate of the Chamber of Commerce. The Center's contributions features the innovative Bridge Program that connects emerging companies to establish Chicago area firms to their mutual benefit, as well as the Illinois Innovation Accelerator Fund that bolsters access to venture capital.

A founding member of the National Business Leaders for Transportation, Jerry is an outspoken voice for the aviation and rapid transit industries. He also participates actively in several civic and industry organizations, serving as Chairman of the President's Advisory Council for Harold Washington College, for example.

Jerry's passion and commitment to the City of Chicago is beyond compare. On this day, we thank Jerry for his outstanding service to our greater community and look forward to his future contributions.

STALEY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL
TEAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the outstanding achievement of the Staley Falcons High School football team on defeating the Kirkwood Pioneers, by a score of 35–21, to win the Class 5 State Championship.

The Falcons finished their incredible season by posting an undefeated 14–0 record. In a hard-won championship game, Staley scored an 80-yard drive in the 4th quarter, taking 7 minutes off the clock. Staley then made a defensive stop to win the school's first-ever state title, and the first football title for the North Kansas City School District. Staley's football team also became the first in Missouri history to have two 2,000 yard rushers, with Morgan Steward earning 2225 yards and Trent Hosick 2054 yards.

I want to recognize the great leadership of the team, including Head Coach Fred Bouchard and the work of his assistant coaches. I also want to acknowledge the work of Superintendent Todd White, and Principal Clark Mershon as additional keys to success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the Staley Falcons High School football team on their perfect season and State Championship. It is an honor to represent this team in the United States Congress and I wish them the best of luck in the seasons to come.

CELEBRATING RON SZAFARCZYK'S
RETIREMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Mr. Ronald Szafarczyk on his retirement from his position of Clerk-Treasurer for the town of Griffith, Indiana. Ron has dedicated his life to public service and the interests of the residents of Griffith. For his lifetime of serving the people of Griffith and Northwest Indiana, Ron will be honored at a celebratory reception on Thursday, January 19, 2012, at Andorra Banquets in Schererville, Indiana.

Ron's interest in local politics began in 1967, when he became a precinct committeeman for the town of Griffith. For the past twenty-four years, Ron has served the town of Griffith in numerous elected capacities. In 1987, Ron ran for a position on the town council and was elected as a councilman, serving from 1988 to 1996. Ron was then elected Clerk-Treasurer, and served in this capacity for sixteen years. Ron's passion, devotion, and continuous support to the town of Griffith are remarkable and he is to be commended.

In addition to his impressive career with the town of Griffith, Ron is a member of the Griffith Rotary, the Griffith Chamber of Commerce,

and serves on the committee for Griffith's "Park Full of Art" event. He is also a member of the Knights of Columbus and Saint Mary Catholic Church, where he serves as a Eucharistic Minister. Mr. Szafarczyk is the most generous of gentlemen.

Ron's dedication to the town of Griffith is noteworthy; however, it is his commitment to his family that is most impressive. Ron and his wonderful wife, Janice, have six beloved children and fourteen grandchildren.

I am proud that Ron Szafarczyk is my friend and I cannot thank him enough for all that he has done for me over the years. I am even more grateful for what he has done for so many for so long; strangers and friends alike.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Mr. Ronald Szafarczyk for his outstanding contributions to the town of Griffith and the community of Northwest Indiana, and to wish him well upon his retirement. Ron has given his time and efforts selflessly to the community and his service is worthy of the highest praise.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. TIMUEL D. BLACK, JR. OF CHICAGO

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life and legacy of my friend and constituent Dr. Timuel D. Black, Jr. on the occasion today of the unveiling of the "Timuel D. Black Jr. Papers" at the Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection of Afro-American History and Literature of the Chicago Public Library's Carter G. Woodson Regional Branch.

The grandson of slaves, Dr. Black was born in Birmingham, Alabama in 1919. He and his family, who were part of the first big wave of African-Americans to migrate from the South, came to Chicago when he was just 8 months old. He is the product of the Chicago Public Schools system, graduating from DuSable High School and completed his undergraduate degree at Roosevelt University and graduate degree at the University of Chicago.

Dr. Black taught in the Chicago Public Schools for 40 years, served as a Dean of Transfer Programs and Vice President in the City Colleges of Colleges. He is Professor Emeritus of Social Science at the City Colleges' Harold Washington College. Dr. Black is a revered political and social activist, community leader, oral historian, and philosopher.

It was while teaching in the City Colleges system that Black trained himself to be an oral historian. His collection includes the extended versions of the 400 interviews that were excerpted for Black's celebrated two-book series, *Bridges of Memory: Chicago's First Wave of Great Migration*, which chronicled black Chicago history from the 1920s to the present.

Dr. Black was a pioneer in the independent, progressive black political movement in Chicago which eventually saw the rise of Chicago's first Black Mayor, the late Harold Washington. Black has spent his life furthering

the cause of social justice, and promoting the political, educational and social empowerment of African Americans.

The "Black Papers", containing nearly 260 archival boxes, is the largest collection assembled at the historic Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection in more than two decades. It contains material from the 1963 March on Washington, rare photos of Black with the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and a vast jazz collection featuring Duke Ellington and others.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Timuel D. Black, Jr.'s life has been seen through the lenses of discrimination, restrictive housing covenants, marches and protests for human rights and dignity, and struggles for social and political self-determination and empowerment that have been preserved and will be unveiled for Chicago, this nation, and indeed the world to now see. I commend him and the Chicago Public Library for their forethought in capturing, recording, and displaying an important part of American history. I am privileged to enter these words in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING DR. FELICIA MOSS
MAYFIELD

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation,

Whereas, Thirty-six years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Educational System in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, Dr. Felicia Moss Mayfield began her educational career in teaching, she rose to the rank of Associate Superintendent for Student Support Services and has served the DeKalb County Public Schools System well and our community has been blessed through her service; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents as a Teacher, Educator, Administrator and Motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader, a devoted scholar and a servant to all who wants to advance the lives of our youth; and

Whereas, Dr. Mayfield is formally retiring from her educational career today, she will continue to promote education because she is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Dr. Felicia Moss Mayfield on her retirement from the DeKalb County Public Schools System and to wish her well in her new endeavors;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim December 16, 2011 as Dr. Felicia Moss Mayfield Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, This 16th day of December, 2011.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AUGUSTA BRANCH OF THE NAACP ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 38TH ANNUAL FREEDOM FUND BANQUET

HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of the Augusta Branch of the NAACP and to honor them as they celebrate their 38th Annual Freedom Fund Banquet.

For over a century, the NAACP has served on the front lines of change in America. So often when we recount their success, we think of the most prominent images of the Civil Rights Movement. We remember the heroes who marched peacefully and stood with dignity in the face of injustice. And we remember how they overcame those who hosed and humiliated college students and put dogs on women and children because of the color of their skin. But there has been—and always will be—more to the NAACP than this chapter in the Civil Rights Movement.

The NAACP has committed itself to shepherding the cause of equality and justice in America. In the 50 years before and since the sit-ins and marches that toppled Jim Crow, the NAACP has played a vital role in numerous communities to protect the political, educational, social, and economic rights of all persons regardless of color.

The Augusta Branch of the NAACP in my home district was recently honored with nine awards at the Georgia State Conference NAACP Convention. Among their commendations were awards for overall outstanding contributions as well as recognition for accomplishments in social justice and increased membership.

As a Life Member of the NAACP, it's a particular point of pride for me to see one of the NAACP branches that I represent recognized for their important contributions. I offer them my continued support and many more years of success in Affirming America's Promise.

CONGRATULATING TAIWAN PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU ON HIS RE-ELECTION

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou on being reelected as President of the Republic of China, also known as Taiwan, on January 14, 2012.

This free and fair election continues Taiwan's long tradition of being a strong and stable democracy. On October 10, 2011 Taiwan celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding. In the past century, Taiwan has matured into a free-market, multi-party democracy that is a model for the world. Taiwan is an important partner in maintaining peace and stability in the region.

As a proud member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I have had the privilege to

travel to Taiwan last year as part of a bipartisan delegation. I had the pleasure of meeting President Ma Ying-jeou and other government officials. I was strongly encouraged by their commitment to maintaining strong ties with the United States.

As a Member of the Homeland Security Committee, I also discussed Taiwan's request for inclusion in the Visa Waiver Program with President Ma. I raised my concerns with President Ma about the need to strengthen their passport security standards before I would be comfortable in supporting Taiwan's inclusion into the Visa Waiver Program.

I was pleased to hear that Taiwan has strengthened their passport standards, and I was proud to send a letter with some of my colleagues to Secretary Clinton recommending that Taiwan be included in the Visa Waiver Program. On December 22, 2011, the U.S. State Department announced Taiwan's nomination for inclusion into the Visa Waiver Program.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating President Ma on his reelection as the President of Taiwan. I look forward to maintaining the strong U.S.-Taiwan relations under his leadership.

IN MEMORY OF JAMES LAWRENCE
"JIM" ROSE

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great leader, entrepreneur and motivator, James Lawrence "Jim" Rose. He was a great inspiration and will be missed across the Commonwealth.

Jim Rose was a successful businessman with a thriving entrepreneurial mind and a philanthropic spirit. After attending Berea College and the University of Kentucky, Jim's first taste of success started in his hometown of Manchester, Kentucky. He launched a small coal company in 1959, leading to his post as president and chief executive officer of Interstate Coal Company, continuing to span his company across a dozen counties in eastern Kentucky. When he retired in 1993, the company was one of the top three producers of coal in the Commonwealth and was nationally renowned for its safe coal mining practices and mine rescue team.

In the late 1970's, Jim launched two successful banking ventures. He formed the United Bancorp of Kentucky, Inc. and guided a successful merger with National City Corporation in 1995. He and his wife Judy also became majority stockholders, in the Bank of Lexington and Trust Company and subsequently sold it. His savvy business instincts were coveted across the country and he proudly served as a director or member of numerous trade associations.

With a golden heart of generosity, Jim committed a vast majority of his time to civic and charitable organizations. He served on the Board of Trustees of the University of Kentucky and the Albert B. Chandler Medical Center, Centre College, and Lees College. He was a founding member of the Commonwealth Endowment for Kentucky Educational Television and served as a member of Kentucky's State

Investment Commission. He left one of his largest footprints at the Lexington Christian Academy, where the "Rose Campus" covers 75 acres in Lexington, Kentucky.

Jim Rose leaves behind a devoted family: his loving wife of 49 years, Judy Sizemore Rose; his son, James F. "Jamie" Rose and his wife Kris; his daughter Sonya Rose Hiler and her husband Ken; eight grandchildren and three step-grandchildren. On behalf of my wife Cynthia and myself, I want to extend our deepest heartfelt sympathies to the Rose family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a dear friend and inspiration, the late Jim Rose.

HONORING GARY EICHEN FOR HIS 45 YEARS IN BROADCASTING ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Gary Eichten, a Minnesota broadcasting legend, as he prepares to retire after a distinguished 45-year career at Minnesota Public Radio, MPR, News.

It is increasingly rare today that one spends his entire career with one employer, but it is even rarer that one can say he helped to put his employer on the map. Eichten can make that claim, beginning his career in 1967 at Minnesota Public Radio as a student announcer at Collegeville's KSJR, MPR's first station. Today, MPR is one of the nation's premier public radio systems with a reputation for integrity and thoughtful civic engagement. Gary Eichten personifies this tradition.

As host of the MPR News "Midday" program, Eichten has been a familiar and down-to-earth voice on its airwaves, providing a forum for civil discourse that truly informs and educates the public. Throughout his career, he has retained his trademark Midwestern sensibility. His colleagues sum it up best, describing him as an "everyman in the newsroom." A recent article in the Star Tribune describes Eichten as a "kid from Mankato," Minnesota, who "traded stories and barbs with state legislators, sitting governors and presidential hopefuls. An evasive answer might be met with Eichten's lovable grumble: 'Aw, c'mon, Senator.'"

Eichten's success as a broadcaster has earned him many well-deserved awards, including the Corporation for Public Broadcasting Award for Best Local News Program. He also assisted in the development of two Peabody award-winning documentaries. In 2007, Eichten was inducted into the Pavek Museum of Broadcasting's Hall of Fame. Most recently, Eichten was awarded with the prestigious 2011 Graven Award by the Premack Public Affairs Journalism Awards Board for his contribution to excellence in the journalism profession.

For many years, Eichten and MPR Midday have been part of my midday ritual. As an MPR listener, I have appreciated his timely and insightful interviews. As an elected official, I have respected his tough, but fair questions—always delivered civilly. It has been an

honor to be a guest on his show. The excellent journalism practiced by Eichten and MPR is even more important today, because it has become a rarity in today's media landscape.

A testament to his notable career is the "Heckuva Farewell" planned for Eichten on January 19 in St. Paul. The evening will begin with what Eichten does best, an interview, with a guest who happens to be a former Vice President—Walter Mondale. Following this interview, Eichten will have the microphone turned on himself as he is subject to an interview about his incredible career at MPR. I know Minnesotans are looking forward to this night.

As he retires after 45 years on Minnesota Public Radio, Eichten's voice will be missed, but his legacy of broadcasting excellence will continue. Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Gary Eichten, a Minnesota icon.

CLAIRTON BEARS PIAA CLASS A
STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Clairton Bears on another perfect high school football season and their third consecutive PIAA Class A state championship victory.

The Bears' win in Hershey, PA extended their current winning streak to 47 games, the longest in the nation at the high school, collegiate, and professional levels.

These outstanding achievements are the culmination of years of hard work and dedication on the part of the coaching staff and players.

The staff included head coach Tom Nola and assistant coaches Tim Bukowski, Jim Dumm, Eric Fusco, Marc Gambino, Wayne Wade, Jr., and Remondo Williams, Sr.

The players consisted of ten seniors—Trenton Coles, Devante Gardlock, Dakota Halcomb, Remondo Williams, Capri Thompson, Reuben Kelley, Carvan Thompson, Garrett Gallmore, Erik Walker, and Donte Thomas—as well as underclassmen Tyus Booker, Bryon Clifford, Terrish Webb, Titus Howard, Vinny Moody, Robert Boatright, Armani Ford, Ryan Williams, Damion Rump, Devontae Hammonds, Tyler Boyd, Esaias Hammonds, Hasson Petty, Devonte Harvey, Dyran Davenport, Kenny Mason, Garrett Santoline, Jordan Gresse, Vance Gibson, Robert Wellington, and Israel Melvin.

Pittsburgh is proud of the Clairton Bears for continuing the rich tradition of athletic success which our community has come to expect. I congratulate the Bears once again on their victory and flawless season, and I wish the returning players and coaches further success next season. Thank you.

IN HONOR OF MR. JOE DECARO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Joe DeCaro, an iconic produce

vendor at Cleveland's West Side Market for almost 80 years.

Joe's parents, Italian immigrants, opened the DeCaro vegetable stand at Cleveland's West Side Market in 1934. Joe began working at the produce stand at the age of seven with his siblings. Throughout college at The Ohio State University, he would come home to work the stand on weekends. The only period of time in which Joe did not work at the DeCaro stand was during his service in World War II.

For seventy-seven years Joe has been a fixture at the West Side Market, taking the stand over when his parents passed away. He has run the stand by his motto, which is mounted above his produce: "Good food is not cheap and cheap food is not good."

Today, Joe is the patriarch of a large and close-knit DeCaro family. He is married to his wife Rhea, and together they raised nine children. Joe is also the proud grandfather of 23 and great-grandfather to 14 children.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Joe DeCaro, one of the West Side Market's most iconic produce vendors.

IN MEMORY OF EDWARD D. FRY II

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. ROSS of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a good friend and dedicated public servant who recently passed away. On Friday, Jan. 13, 2012, Edward "Ed" Fry, longtime congressional aide and Chief of Staff to three successive Arkansas Congressmen, died of cancer at the much too young age of 55. Ed worked so hard for his state and nation for more than 20 years that he eventually earned the honorary title of "Arkansas's Fifth Congressman."

I knew Ed Fry for many years and considered him a good friend since our days as active members of the Arkansas Young Democrats. In fact, we used to drive together across the state of Arkansas setting up Young Democrat chapters at colleges and universities wherever we could. Ed would later go on to serve as the President of the national chapter of the Young Democrats of America.

Considering himself a life-long "yellow dog" Democrat, politics and helping people were among Ed's top passions in life. So, when Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton decided to run for president in 1992, Ed jumped at the chance to help and joined an enthusiastic group of Clinton supporters—called the "Arkansas Travelers"—who traveled around the country to help elect the 42nd President of the United States.

Ed Fry was born in Illinois, but his family moved to Pine Bluff, Ark., in 1972, where his father worked as a naval architect. He enrolled in Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark., as a 16-year-old student and graduated with his bachelor's degree in just three years. He went on to earn a J.D. from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock Bowen School of Law and a master's degree from Emory University in Atlanta, Ga.

Ed also proudly served his state and nation as a congressional staffer in our nation's capital for more than 20 years, serving as Chief of Staff to three successive Arkansas Con-

gressmen and as a mentor to dozens of young people over the years. He became such a staple in Arkansas politics and was such a strong and passionate advocate for the people of Arkansas that he eventually earned the nickname "Arkansas's Fifth Congressman."

When not working, Ed took to the waters and had a great passion for boating his entire life, even earning his USCG Masters "Captains" License at the young age of 18. He had such a humble, infectious personality that as a friend, I know we will all miss him dearly.

Ed made public service his career, life and passion. Arkansas and the nation are a better place because of the time, energy and life of Ed Fry. Cancer took from us a wonderful human being and a person who loved the American political system and who worked hard to make Arkansas and America a better place to call home.

My thoughts and prayers are with his partner of 17 years, Mark McCullough; parents, Edward and Patricia Fry; sisters, Leah Ann Taylor and Andrea Zomber; six nieces and nephews; and, the rest of his family and friends.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring all of our congressional staffers who work hard every day for the people of this country. I also ask that they join me in honoring the life and legacy of an extraordinary congressional staffer and statesman, Ed Fry—"Arkansas's Fifth Congressman"—who will be deeply missed throughout the halls of Congress and throughout the state of Arkansas.

RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMHERST
BALLET THEATRE COMPANY OF
AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the invaluable work that Amherst Ballet has done to advance the culture and education of communities in Massachusetts. Amherst Ballet was founded in 1971 by Therese Brady Donohue to give ballet lessons to 30 students in the old Amherst Junior High School building. In 1977 Donohue relocated her dance school to within walking distance of three Amherst public schools, appended two studios to it, gathered a board of directors and incorporated the Amherst Ballet Theatre Company as a non-profit corporation. In the ensuing years hundreds of children have been trained in ballet, modern and jazz dance and thousands of audience members have delighted in their performances. In 2000 the Theatre Company bought the dance school and became a non-profit entity known as Amherst Ballet. 2004 saw the retirement of Donohue and in the following year Amherst Ballet purchased the building in which it had been housed to firmly establish its permanent home. Catherine Fair joined Amherst Ballet's staff as a teacher in 1997, became its director upon Donohue's retirement and has steadily grown the annual enrollment to more than 200 students.

The Amherst area is rich in cultural institutions, artists and musicians and Amherst Ballet has enjoyed collaborations with a wide variety of them including performances with Layaali Arabic Music Ensemble, Springfield Symphony Orchestra, Pioneer Valley Symphony Orchestra, Smith College Orchestra, Da Camera Singers, Hampshire Choral Society Young People's Chorus as well as with local authors Jane Yolen and Heidi Stemple. Amherst Ballet has worked with composers Karen Tarlow, Ted Trobaugh and John Cooper, visual artist Rebecca Guay and media artist Carlos Fontes. Director Fair collaborated on the libretto for the original ballet Emily of Amherst with Jane Wald, historian and executive director of the Emily Dickinson Museum. Amherst Ballet participates in ballets created by Picture Book Theatre which performs at the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art.

Amherst Ballet has been the recipient of Amherst Cultural Council grants for many years and in 2011 received the Massachusetts Cultural Council's Gold Star Award, one of only 6 in the commonwealth, in recognition of its success integrating arts into the community. Amherst Ballet has given special performances upon invitation including excerpts from *The Nutcracker* and *Chopiniana* with the Pioneer Valley Symphony, *Peter and the Wolf* with the Smith College Orchestra and Bob McGrath from *Sesame Street*, *The Arctic* at American International College in Springfield, *The Firebird* with the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, *The Nutcracker* with the Moscow Ballet and Emily of Amherst at the New York Botanical Garden.

Amherst Ballet has produced dancers who have joined professional companies including Pacific Northwest Ballet, New York City Ballet, Merce Cunningham, Omaha Ballet, Greater Houston Civic Ballet, Charleston Ballet Theatre, Hoehcher Ballet (Germany), Ballet Contemporain de Bruxelles, Delia Stewart Jazz Company, Luis Fuente's Ballet Company (Spain), Rachel Lampert Company and Mixed Company (New York City). Amherst Ballet students who audition for residential and summer programs are routinely accepted to them including programs at Alvin Ailey, American Academy of Ballet, American Ballet Theatre Company, Boston Ballet, Joffrey Ballet School, Kaatsbaan International Dance Center, Kirov Academy, North Carolina School for the Arts, Nutmeg Conservatory, Richmond Ballet and Walnut Hill School.

On this day it is my honor to recognize their hard work and to present them to this body as an institution that truly serves and benefits our Union.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN
HARRY ANDERSON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 102nd birthday of Captain Harry Anderson who celebrated his birthday on October 5, 2011.

Captain Anderson was born in Sweden on October 5, 1909. He emigrated to the United States at the age of ten in 1919. He had a passion for the sea at an early age and

served as a Second Mate with the United States Merchant Marines during World War II. He eventually became a Captain with the Cleveland Cliffs in 1963 where he was Master of the Cliffs Victory, the Cadillac, the Frontenac, the LaSalle, the Pontiac, and Walter A. Sterling, the Edward B. Greene and the William G. Mather. He retired as a Captain from the Cleveland Cliffs in 1974.

Following his retirement, Captain Anderson spent his time volunteering on the William G. Mather, which was docked as a museum on the shores of Lake Erie in downtown Cleveland. He is the oldest member of the International Shipmasters Association's Cleveland Lodge Number 4.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Captain Harry Anderson and wishing him a happy 102nd birthday.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF HIS
EXCELLENCY, DR. JAMALUDIN
JARJIS, AMBASSADOR OF MA-
LAYSIA TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speak, as the former Chairman and current Ranking Member of the Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, which has broad jurisdiction for U.S. policy affecting the region, including Malaysia, I rise today to honor the service of my good friend, His Excellency Dr. Jamaludin Jarjis, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Malaysia to the United States.

Dr. Jamaludin has served his country and ours with remarkable distinction which merits historical recognition in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. A prominent political and corporate figure in the U.S. and Malaysia, Dr. Jamaludin is a Member of Parliament and has represented Rompin, Pahang since 1990. He is also an elected member of the UMNO Supreme Council.

In 2002, Dr. Jamaludin joined the Malaysian Cabinet as Second Finance Minister. He also served as Minister of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs, and Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation.

Dr. Jamaludin began his career as a lecturer at University Technology Malaysia (UTM) and in 1984 started his own consultancy services, specializing in electrical power and mechanical engineering. He later became Chairman of Malaysia's national power utility, Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB), which is the largest listed company on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange (KLSE) in terms of market capitalization.

Dr. Jamaludin holds a Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours) in Electrical Engineering from the University of Manchester, Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST), United Kingdom; a Masters Degree of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Manitoba, Canada; and a PhD in Electrical Engineering (Power System) from the University of McGill, Canada.

Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Jamaludin is also married to Dr. Kalsom Ismail and they have four children. While I extend to Ambassador Jamaludin and his family my highest regards and well wishes, I am pleased

that Ambassador Jamaludin has been appointed to serve as Special Envoy to the United States.

Because of his tenure as Ambassador, U.S.-Malaysian relations are stronger than ever. Economic ties are robust, and the U.S. and Malaysia cooperate closely on security matters, including regional stability. With his new appointment as Special Envoy, we can be assured that our partnership will continue to grow, and I look forward to continuing my association with Dr. Jamaludin who is to be commended for his loyalty in discharging his duties for and on behalf of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and the people of Malaysia.

IN MEMORY OF GENE HUFF

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great leader, public servant, and an inspiration, Gene Huff.

Although he was born and raised in Ohio, Gene Huff planted his home in London, Kentucky, where he raised his family and pastored the First Pentecostal Church for 25 years. When he retired in 1994, he took the Great Commission to the airwaves with the launch of a 50,000-watt Christian Radio Station, WYGE. In combination with his desire to communicate, his passion for public service expanded beyond the stained glass windows, into the state capitol.

Gene was successfully elected to two terms in the Kentucky House of Representatives before he was elected in 1971 to the state Senate where he spent more than 22 years. During that time, he stood firm on conservative principles, representing his constituents with great honor and loyalty.

Gene Huff leaves behind a devoted family: his loving wife of nearly 60 years, Ethel Dayberry Huff, five children, 19 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren, with more on the way. My wife, Cynthia and I extend our deepest heartfelt sympathies to the Huff family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a divine public leader and minister of God, the late Gene Huff.

OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) REMARKS:
JANUARY 9, 2012

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following. My name is DENNIS KUCINICH, K-U-C-I-N-I-C-H. Oh, and also, one other, n-o. I'm here as the Congressional Representative of the people of this area. I'm also here as the ranking Democrat in the United States Congress and the subcommittee that has jurisdiction over the EPA. I want to state for the record that regarding some of the questions that have been asked here, (I'm) totally dissatisfied with the way that this process has been conducted. The community has not been involved but it will be involved, I can promise you.

I want to announce here tonight, that I am going to work to bring representatives of our Domestic Policy Subcommittee in the Congress here for a full Congressional hearing where preliminary to that we will gain access to the EPA's documents on this. I can promise you that, that we'll gain access to information that has not been brought forward in a full way with respect to the toxic emissions, with respect to public health impacts, with respect to the way that this thing has been set up, that the public has a right to have their health protected. And that as the person who has responsibility and jurisdiction over the EPA, I've already sent a letter to EPA Administrator Jackson to let her know that there are environmental health issues here, public policy issues, and also environmental justice issues.

We look very closely at the census track that this particular facility would be recycling. And there are compelling reasons under environmental justice principles why this should not be built. We need to involve the larger community here. It's good that you're all here tonight. We need to make sure that all of these questions that you have are on the record, are brought forward in the record and we'll put them in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

And I can make one other prediction. There was a few years ago when people were rushing to try and get rid of what was then called Muni Light, now it's Cleveland Public Power, and there was someone who stood in front of the community and said, you know what? You may say that you're going to sell that system, but it's never going to happen. The people in this community made sure of that. The people in this community were the ones that helped protect what is now Cleveland Public Power.

I'm going to give the EPA a little bit of advice. If I know the people in this community, you're not going to shove this down their throats. Your bureaucratic process might be okay to satisfy some legal minutia, but it's not going to satisfy a community that is intent on protecting the quality of the air, the quality of the water, their children, their schools, their neighborhoods, the quality of health. Welcome to Cleveland.

RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING THE AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING ON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the American Bureau of Shipping on its 150th anniversary.

What today is known as the American Bureau of Shipping, or ABS, was originally founded by John Divine Jones as the American Shipmasters' Association. Through a legislative act by the State of New York, the Association was formally incorporated on April 22, 1862.

From the time of its founding, ABS has been committed to its mission to promote the safety of life, property and the natural environment. To fulfill this mission, ABS has evolved into a global not-for-profit organization with more than 200 offices in 70 different countries.

ABS published its first technical standards, Rules for Survey and Classing Wooden Ves-

sels, in 1870. As the technology evolved, so too did ABS' rules. In 1890, ABS published its first version of the Rules for Building and Classing Steel Vessels. These Steel Vessel Rules continue to be revised and published annually, embodying the service, experience, and technological achievements accumulated since that first edition.

With the passage of the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, ABS became the Agent of the United States Government on all matters of ship classification for government vessels. This led to ABS providing classification services for 2,710 Liberty Ships and 531 Victory Ships during World War II. This record of working side-by-side with our naval shipbuilders continues today as ABS provides classification-related services to a host of government vessels including the Navy's DDG-1000 and Littoral Combat Ships; the Coast Guard's Offshore Patrol Cutter and Fast Response Cutters; and NOAA's Oceanographic Research vessels. ABS also works with the Military Sealift Command and Maritime Administration Ready Reserve Force in support of our national sealift capabilities.

ABS continues to be a leader in establishing technical standards for the commercial maritime industry as well. This longstanding technical experience has led to ABS providing over 3,000 inspections of commercial U.S.-flagged ships on behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard this past year.

ABS has also provided guidance and support to the offshore energy industry for more than five decades. In recent years ABS has provided independent third party safety, security, and risk assessments to insurance, chemical, mining, nuclear power and renewable energy companies, as well as the U.S. Government.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating ABS on its 150th anniversary and in recognizing ABS' significant service to the American marine and offshore industries and our sea services. As the Classification Society of the United States, ABS continues to serve today as a vanguard to mariners, public safety, and our natural environment.

HONORING ROBERT ABRAMSON

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an old friend and personal hero, Robert Abramson of Cotati, CA, who turned 88 last month. Bob and his wife Barbara traveled the world for 17 years in connection with his work for the United Nations and the World Bank and were later active leaders in the United Nations Association of Sonoma County.

Born in San Francisco, Bob earned his BA in Sociology and Philosophy followed by an MA degree in Social Welfare at UC Berkeley. As a pilot in the Air Force in World War II, he flew 27 missions over Japan and earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal Oak Leaf Cluster.

While at a Cessna aircraft factory in Kansas, Bob met local girl Barbara, and they married in 1945. The couple lived in the Bay Area for several years while Bob, with his social

welfare background, worked as a parole agent. During this time, he was introduced to a program at the University of Southern California that led to him setting up classes in management training in Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The United Nations recognized his special talents in this field, and he embarked on a career teaching management training internationally to government officials who needed to work together to help their countries thrive in a rapidly changing world. Barbara frequently traveled as his aide, learning the niceties of social icebreakers in a large variety of cultures, including Bangladesh, New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Uganda, and Brunei.

"Since Bob spoke only English fluently, we worked in former British colonies," says Barbara. "The colonials had kept the people in menial jobs, and Bob trained them in modern methods of governance." He was committed to ensuring that the new leaders of fledgling democracies had the skills to run their countries for the benefit of their people.

Bob was also a Professor of Public Administration at the University of Pittsburgh where he trained leaders in U.S. agencies that worked abroad.

The U.N. had a mandatory retirement age of 65, but Bob continued to take short-term work assignments for a number of years. The couple retired to the Bay Area where their best friends lived in Sonoma County. Twenty-two years ago, they settled in Sonoma themselves and became active in the United Nations Association of Sonoma County, a group whose purpose is to build public understanding and support for the United Nations and to foster constructive U.S. leadership to make the U.N. more effective. Bob served as President for four years and Membership Chair for many more ("because he has a good head for details," according to Barbara).

The Abramsons have two children and two grandchildren. Daughter Julie lives in southern California, and son Bruce lives in Healdsburg. Growing up, the children lived in different countries with their parents and experienced a broad view of global culture.

Mr. Speaker, I admire Robert Abramson's respect for different cultures and the passion he conveys for demonstrating that the path to peace is to engage cooperatively with other countries. His work and his volunteerism have exemplified the best of this approach. Please join me in honoring him on this special occasion.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MR. TONY J. SUSTARSIC

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Tony J. Sustarsic, the former Mayor of Euclid, Ohio.

Born in 1925, Tony was a lifelong resident of Euclid, Ohio and graduated from Euclid Central High School. Before he began his career in politics, Tony bravely served his country as a member of the U.S. Army's 3d Armored Division during World War II. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge and the Normandy Invasion. During his service, he suffered almost a dozen injuries and was later honored

with a Purple Heart and four battle stars. Following his military career, Tony helped establish the Euclid Veteran's Club. He was also a member of the American Legion Euclid Post 343, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1056 and was an inductee to the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Class of 2008.

Mr. Sustarsic was appointed to the Euclid City Council in 1954 and served until 1968 when he was appointed Administrative Director. He was elected as the ninth Mayor of Euclid in 1975. During his term as mayor, Mr. Sustarsic expanded senior programs and facilities, and oversaw infrastructure improvements and the opening of Euclid Square Mall.

I offer my condolences to his wife, the former Helen Palsa; children, Jerry and Judy Malachowski; two grandchildren, Tony (Pam) and Paula (George); and great-grandchildren, Eddie, Alex, Tony III, Jordon and Joey.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mr. Tony J. Sustarsic, who bravely fought for his country and valiantly served the residents of Euclid.

VETERANS WALK FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS

HON. ALLEN B. WEST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. WEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and stand alongside four United States Army Veterans on a mission to raise awareness for our Wounded Warriors.

All residents of South Florida, Sgt. Larry Maroto, Sgt. Katrina Taylor, Staff Sgt. Lewis West, and Staff Sgt. Stephen Murphy are enduring a 101-mile walk from West Palm Beach to Homestead, as our brothers in arms endure injuries from a distant war.

"101" is a symbolic number for these Warriors, as they all served in the 101st Airborne Division of the United States Army. Known as the "Screaming Eagles" the 101st Airborne Division was renowned during World War II and its role in Operation Overlord, the D-Day landings on June 6, 1944 in Normandy, France, and action during the Battle of the Bulge near the city of Bastogne, Belgium.

The 101st Airborne is one of the most highly decorated units in the United States Army.

Although our Military Warriors bear harsh conditions away from home and from the love of their friends and family, many Wounded Warriors find the return home can be even more harrowing. The Wounded Warrior Project, of which these Veterans are walking to support, seek to help injured veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars transition to civilian life.

My heart is always with my fellow comrades in arms and their families who are serving in Afghanistan and across our globe. Their sacrifice, courage, and patriotism are the lifeblood of our great nation. These Veterans' commitment to our brothers and sisters in uniform reminds us all why America is the greatest and most exceptional nation on the face of the Earth.

I believe that the United States Congress can learn a lot from these Veterans. They do not know personally all of the people they are helping with the money raised from this walk. They do not care whether they are Repub-

licans or Democrats. They care that at the end of the day, they did their best to help their fellow brothers and sisters.

I truly commend these Veterans for their unwavering service to our nation and to our Wounded Warriors. May they rendezvous with destiny on their mission.

Steadfast and Loyal.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S MIXED MESSAGE ON SUDAN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit a copy of a letter I received from the assistant secretary for legislative affairs at the State Department in response to a December 13, 2011, letter to President Obama expressing my disbelief that the administration had granted the necessary waiver for the genocidal government of Sudan to obtain legal representation from Mr. Bart Fisher, a lawyer in Washington. I also submit the December 13 letter to the president.

I have written various administration officials at the State Department, Treasury and the White House since I learned of this indefensible development. Every response I have received to date attempts, unsuccessfully, to put my mind at ease by assuring me that the U.S. government has a "firm policy of denying authorization to U.S. persons who seek to lobby or provide public relations services on behalf of the Government of Sudan for the lifting of sanctions or for any other purposes." However, the administration argues that "Our system allows even the worse actors to receive legal advice on how to comply with our laws and to challenge sanction enforcement actions in court."

I don't agree with their analysis. But even if I did, the restrictions on representation that the administration claims to have in place are inconsistent with what Mr. Fisher is actually being permitted to do. Mr. Fisher wrote me a letter claiming, "Although the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has granted my law office a license, that license does not authorize any lobbying activities, and my office will engage in none. We will respond (emphasis added), however, to requests, for information from Members of Congress or the Obama Administration."

As I pointed out in a December 15, 2011 letter to Treasury Secretary Geithner, I never requested information from Mr. Fisher. And yet, in the letter to my office, he tries to convince me, as a member of Congress, not anyone involved in court proceedings with the Government of Sudan, that the current sanctions regime should be altered. How can this not be understood to be lobbying?

Meanwhile, on Monday, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations (UN) Susan Rice sent a strongly worded letter to the president of the UN Security Council about the tragedy presently unfolding in Sudan—specifically in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile. Rice wrote, "It is clear that the Government of Sudan has instituted a deliberate policy to prevent humanitarian agencies from reaching vulnerable civilians impacted by the conflict. She said that the people of these regions have been pushed to the 'brink of a major humanitarian crisis.'"

She warned of "famine conditions" and concluded, "A humanitarian disaster of this magnitude is unacceptable in any circumstance. It is particularly shameful when the path to averting large-scale loss of innocent lives is so clear. Mr. President, this crisis can be addressed by the Government of Sudan, if it were to allow the United Nations and other relied organizations immediate and unimpeded access to vulnerable civilians across Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile."

I would argue that that is not the only thing that is shameful. This administration is splitting hairs. It is blind to its own inconsistency. I agree wholeheartedly with Ambassador Rice's analysis. And yet, the administration, in the face of past crimes against humanity and genocide and present actions which jeopardize the lives of thousands of people, has given the Government of Sudan the privilege a legal representation in our nation's capital—representation which constitutes lobbying.

The administration must reverse course and revoke Mr. Fisher's license lest Secretary Clinton, Secretary Geithner and President Obama be complicit in aiding a genocidal government.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC, January 12, 2012.

Hon. FRANK R. WOLF,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. WOLF: Thank you for your letter of December 13, 2011, to President Obama and your subsequent call to Secretary Clinton concerning reports that the Government of Sudan has attempted to retain a lobbyist to represent its interests in the United States. While we cannot comment on specific cases, the United States government has a firm policy of denying authorization to U.S. persons who seek to lobby or provide public relations services on behalf of the Government of Sudan for the lifting of sanctions or for any other purpose. There are no current Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) licenses allowing U.S. persons to lobby or provide public relations services on behalf of the Government of Sudan.

We also recognize the importance of due process and opportunity for redress under the Sudan sanctions regime. Our system allows even the worst actors to receive legal advice on how to comply with our laws and to challenge sanction enforcement actions in court. However, such legal services do not include lobbying activities. There are investigation and enforcement mechanisms in place to ensure compliance with U.S. sanctions, which include the possibility of civil and criminal penalties for violations of sanctions regulations.

We hope this information is helpful in addressing your concerns. Please feel free to contact us further on this or any matter of concern to you.

Sincerely,

DAVID S. ADAMS,
Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
December 13, 2011.

Hon. BARACK H. OBAMA,
The President,
The White House, Washington DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I was appalled to learn yesterday that the genocidal government of Khartoum has hired a firm to represent it in Washington for the express purpose of trying "to lift American sanctions against it," according to a piece which ran in Africa Intelligence, on December 10. This is an outrage.

The publication reported that the Law Office of Bart S. Fisher would be paid \$20,000 a month plus expenses to represent this government which literally has blood on its

hands. I have enclosed the article for your reference along with Mr. Fisher's documentation from the Foreign Agent Registration Unit which I accessed on the Department of Justice (DOJ) Web site.

I write today seeking immediate clarification on what appears to be an indefensible situation. According to this news report and information available on DOJ's Web site, Mr. Fisher is providing legal counsel to the government of Sudan and intends to make "representations (including petitions) . . . to U.S. government agencies regarding sanctions against the Republic of the Sudan." Was he granted a license from the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) at the Treasury Department to do so? If not, is his representation in violation of the law? If so, why would the administration allow this to move forward?

Sudan's president, Omar Hassan al-Bashir, is an internationally indicted war criminal. He is accused by the International Criminal Court of five counts of crimes against humanity (murder, rape, torture, extermination, and forceful transfer of civilian population) and two counts of war crimes (for directing attacks against the civilian population and pillaging). In June 2004 I led the first congressional delegation with Senator Sam Brownback to Darfur, soon after the world began hearing about the atrocities being committed against the people of that region. I witnessed the unfolding nightmare with my own eyes. I saw the scorched villages and teeming camps of displaced people. I heard the stories of murder and rape.

But Bashir's assault on his own people is not simply a thing of the past. My office has received regular reliable reports from individuals on the ground in the Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan states of aerial bombardments, extrajudicial killings, illegal detention, disappearances, and indiscriminate attacks against civilians.

Furthermore, evidence gathered through satellite imagery by the Satellite Sentinel Project have found at least eight mass graves in and around Kadugli, the capital of Southern Kordofan.

Thousands have fled the violence. More than 20,000 are living in Yida refugee camp just over the border in South Sudan. But it turns out they aren't safe there either. Yida was hit by air strikes in November. A November 16 APP story reported that, ". . . an Antonov aircraft flew in from the north and dropped five bombs in and around Yida." This cross-border assault by the government of Sudan has put humanitarian assistance to this vulnerable population in jeopardy. Bear in mind that it appears that this aerial assault on innocent civilians happened just days after the Mr. Fisher signed a contract with the government of Sudan.

Mr. Fisher's client has a notorious history of brutalizing its own people. No amount of "representation" can erase the images seared into the minds of many of charred bodies, brutalized women and mass graves.

I look forward to a prompt and detailed response from the administration about this important matter.

Best wishes.
Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF SERGEANT AARON BENNETT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Sergeant Aaron Bennett, a highly decorated U.S. Army sergeant.

Sgt. Bennett was born in Mississippi and raised in Hawaii and Ohio. He attended Valley Forge High School in Parma Heights, where he was a member of the swim team. He graduated in 2003.

Sgt. Bennett joined the U.S. Army in 2007 and served as an infantryman with the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division. He completed a yearlong tour in Iraq in June of 2011. Additionally, Sgt. Bennett was a member of the Presidential Honor Guard and was recently selected to participate in Scouts and Ranger Sniper School.

Because of his bravery and service to the country, Sgt. Bennett was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, an Army Commendation Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal and the Iraqi Campaign Medal. Sgt. Bennett was also the recipient of the Army Achievement Medal which he earned by saving the lives of two soldiers injured in a mortar attack.

I offer my condolences to his wife, Michelle; parents, David and Sally; and sister, Rachel.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of one of our country's heroes, Sergeant Aaron Bennett.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE "G.W." GRIFFIN

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late George "G.W." Griffin, a successful businessman in the food industry and admired leader in his community of London, Kentucky.

George began his career in 1950, at Laurel Grocery, a local wholesaler based in London, KY, where he served as President for 34 years up until his retirement in 1997. Using honesty and wisdom as the secret to his business success, George taught his co-workers to be forthright in following through with their commitments and careful in not committing to something they could not accomplish.

George's other grocery industry activities included chairing the Food Marketing Education Council, as well as sitting on the boards of the National-American Wholesale Grocers Association, and the Kentucky Grocers Association, of which he was elected president in 1979. A passionate and highly regarded businessman, Griffin was named the "Grocer of the Year" in 1986 and in 2005 he was honored as the first inductee into the Kentucky Grocers Hall of Fame.

Outside of his professional commitments, George served proudly in the United States Navy during World War II, and was very active in civic events and in service to his community. An avid golfer and thoroughbred horse

owner/racing enthusiast, George traveled throughout the world to pursue his passions. As a graduate from University of Kentucky and a member of the board of trustees for 16 years, George was a diehard Kentucky fan, and never missed a home football game until he became too ill to attend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in memory of George "G.W." Griffin for his dedication and service to the leaders and families of Eastern Kentucky. His enthusiasm and zeal will be greatly missed.

RECOGNIZING THE UNITING OF TWO MARINE FAMILIES

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the uniting of two Marine families. On January 14, 2012, Lance Corporal Ronnie Porta met the parents—Chuck and Teri—of Corporal Charles Palmer II of Manteca, California.

LCpl. Porta and Cpl. Palmer served together in Iraq, braving daily dangers in order to protect our freedoms and liberty. Tragically, in March of 2007, Palmer and Porta's vehicle hit an improvised explosive device, severely injuring LCpl. Porta and taking the life of Cpl. Palmer, the first casualty of the war from the City of Manteca.

Palmer, who grew up in Manteca before joining the Marine Corps in 1992, received the Global War on Terrorism Service Award and Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal for his service.

Since the event in 2007, LCpl. Porta has undergone more than 120 surgeries over 4½ years at a medical facility in Texas. His ability to endure and succeed through the years is indicative of his good will and tremendous spirit. LCpl. Porta traveled from Texas to California to meet Chuck and Teri for the very first time.

At the January 14 event, members from all corners of the community rallied together in support of both families and to express their gratitude to those who serve. The City of Manteca, the Patriot Guard Riders, Marines, veterans' organizations, families, business leaders, and other members of the community worked as one to make this event possible.

As a nation, we are truly blessed to be represented by the brave men and women wearing the U.S. uniform.

I ask my colleagues to join me in support of this tremendous occasion and in honor of the sacrifices of Cpl. Palmer and LCpl. Porta.

IN MEMORY OF MR. ROBERT M. SEELIE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Mr. Robert M. Seelie, a former councilmember and council president for the City of Lakewood.

Mr. Seelie was born and raised in Lakewood, Ohio by his father, a police officer for

the City of Lakewood, and mother, a nurse at Lakewood Hospital. He attended St. Edward High School, where he played on the hockey team. He later earned bachelors' degrees in political science and communications from Cleveland State University. He also earned a master's in public administration degree from CSU in 1991.

Mr. Seelie dedicated his life to serving the residents of Lakewood and Cuyahoga County. He was a youth services coordinator for the county in 1979 and in 1980 began working as a county employment service specialist. In 1985 he began a seventeen year stint as an assistant in the county administrator's office.

Mr. Seelie served the City of Lakewood, Ohio as a councilman and council president from 1992 until 2007. He was elected as a councilman to Lakewood's Ward 3 in 1991, which he represented for 16 years. He was eventually chosen by the council as the council president for 10 years.

I offer my most heartfelt condolences to his children, Kelly and Patrick; two grandchildren, three brothers and his sister.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mr. Robert M. Seelie, his service to the City of Lakewood will not be forgotten.

AID TO COUNTRIES WHO DON'T PLAY BY THE RULES

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in 1996, Evelyn Mezzich was driving drunk.

She fell asleep at the wheel and had a head-on collision with a telephone pole.

The accident barely harmed Evelyn, but it killed her 18-year old roommate Lindsay Brashier and permanently paralyzed another passenger.

Mezzich was indicted for intoxicated manslaughter in Texas.

After posting bail, she and her parents skipped town, heading to their native Peru.

But Peru refuses to extradite her in flagrant disregard for the provisions of the extradition treaty between Peru and the United States.

Evelyn Mezzich is living out her life in Peru, while Lindsay Brashier's family and the other victim are suffering.

Yet we still continue to give foreign aid to Peru.

This is just one example of a case in which countries who have treaties with the U.S. fail to comply.

This is an injustice for United States citizens.

Why do we continue to hastily give money to countries that hate us and refuse to cooperate with our government?

Members of Congress decide how to spend Americans' tax dollars overseas by voting on one big bill that sends money to various countries around the world.

I believe it is irresponsible and plain wrong to give money to countries who are denying justice to our citizens.

Let's start voting individually on every one of these countries that want our aid rather than put all countries in one massive bill.

We need to start taking care of America before we start sending American money to countries throughout the world.

We cannot continue to reward countries that do not comply with treaties and refuse to extradite criminals.

It's a time to reconsider foreign aid.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO SAN CLEMENTE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR COURTNEY SMITH

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of San Clemente, California are exceptional. Courtney Smith is an exceptional young woman and on February 23, 2012, Courtney will receive a prestigious honor when the San Clemente Chamber of Commerce names her the 2012 Citizen of the Year at the organization's annual awards and installation dinner at the Talega Golf Club.

Courtney is the 15-year-old daughter of Christina and Jeff Smith, sister to Amy and Andrew, and sister-in-law to Bobby. Courtney Faye Smith was born with a genetic disorder called Spinal Muscular Atrophy; it is a rare form of Muscular Dystrophy. She has never been able to walk and has been driving a wheelchair since she was four years old and has a service dog, Michaela. Her body is in pain every single day of her life, but you would never know it or hear her complain. Through it all, she always remains light in heart and spirit.

Courtney is a freshman at San Clemente High School and is currently receiving straight A's. Besides choir, all of her classes are Advanced Academic. She is extremely social and attends every football game as well as school plays. She adores singing and is currently saving to go to Hawaii with her high school choir 'Acapella' to perform over spring break.

Courtney loves to sew and loves fashion design. She is contemplating the idea of going to college to become a costume designer. She also enjoys horseback riding, which she has done since the age of four and has won several blue ribbons. She also loves to train dogs and hopes to help train service dogs in the future. Courtney has been a Muscular Dystrophy Ambassador for close to 10 years and a Make-A-Wish Ambassador for 7 years.

Courtney is very humble; she never asks for anything, and despite life's challenges, she is happy and content with life. She loves her family dearly and they treasure her. This is a special year for Courtney, as she will see one of her dreams come to fruition, with the development of "Courtney's SandCastle."

The idea for "Courtney's SandCastle" was cultivated because, as most kids do, Courtney always wanted to play on playgrounds as a little girl. Her mom knew it was next to impossible, so they would drive to Los Angeles in order to play on an accessible playground where, amongst other things, she could reach the sandbox from her wheelchair and actually swing on the swing set by herself, safely buckled in. "Courtney's SandCastle" is a universal playground, which was developed as a part of the Vista Hermosa/La Pata Community Park. It will serve special needs children and adults

as well as able-bodied children. Special recreational equipment will also be available to handicapped veterans. Along with many amazing and supportive community members, Courtney has remained tenacious and followed this project through after almost 10 years to ensure that "Courtney's SandCastle" is completed.

In light of all Courtney has done for the community of San Clemente, the San Clemente Chamber of Commerce named Courtney their Citizen of the Year. I am humbled by the composure and tenacity of this young woman who has faced more challenges in her life than many of us will in our entire lifetime. I know that many community members are inspired and grateful for Courtney's service and I join them in saluting her as she receives this prestigious award.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MR. THOMAS F. O'MALLEY, SR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Thomas F. O'Malley, Sr., a man who bravely served his country and selflessly worked on behalf of his fellow residents in Northeast Ohio.

Mr. O'Malley was born on May 13, 1928 to Thomas E. and Marie E. O'Malley. He was raised in Parma and graduated from St. Ignatius High School in 1946. He went on to Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland State University's Cleveland Marshall Law School. Mr. O'Malley served bravely with the U.S. Army before returning to Cleveland and beginning his career in law. He was the former law director for the cities of Fairview Park and Brooklyn. Overall, Mr. O'Malley practiced law for more than 52 years.

I offer my condolences to his wife, Colleen; children, Jackie Needham (John), Judge Kathleen O'Malley (Ray Gallucci), Brigid O'Malley, Judge Thomas F. O'Malley, Jr. (Kelly), Dr. Martin J. O'Malley (Marina), Joseph P. O'Malley (Cathy), and Jamie Farina (Gerald); grandchildren Kathleen Dunham (Josh), John and Tom Needham; Brian and Michael Cuiffo; Thomas III, Joseph, Farrell and Jack O'Malley; Quinn, Olivia, Micaela, Emmett and Cecelia O'Malley; Lauren and Colin O'Malley and Gennaro Farina; great-grandchildren James Dunham; siblings Carol Henry (Thomas), and the late Jeanne Schneider and Jack O'Malley.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mr. Thomas F. O'Malley. His contributions to Northeast Ohio and the country will be missed.

HONORING HENRY HORBACZEWSKI

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Reed Elsevier, Henry Horbaczewski, as he is retiring from the company. Henry Horbaczewski has been with

Reed Elsevier for over 25 years. During his tenure, Mr. Horbaczewski has been a key participant in many of the transformative events that have built Reed Elsevier into one of the world's leading publishing and information companies. Mr. Horbaczewski played a key role in the acquisitions of LexisNexis, Matthew Bender, Variety, and other businesses that have helped to grow Reed Elsevier into a world-class company. Today, Reed Elsevier has over 30,000 employees in over 200 locations worldwide. Reed Elsevier's LexisNexis business has its roots in Ohio, with nearly 3,000 employees in the state and around 65 employees in the Seventh Congressional District where LexisNexis, a key data center, is located.

Henry Horbaczewski has been a vocal proponent for the strong protection of intellectual property rights. He is a recognized leader in the area of copyright law and has worked across business sectors to promote the strong enforcement of intellectual property rights that fuel creativity and innovation and help our country remain strong.

Mr. Horbaczewski's contributions extend beyond Reed Elsevier. He has been a strong advocate for human rights and has worked tirelessly to promote the Rule of Law around the world. Mr. Horbaczewski has made significant contributions in the area of human rights and has worked to protect basic rights for all individuals, and ensure the fair and equal enforcement of laws. In 2011, Mr. Horbaczewski was honored for his contributions in the human rights area by Humanity in Action, an international organization dedicated to promoting human rights around the world.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Horbaczewski on his many accomplishments, and thanking him for the significant contributions he has made in protecting human rights, promoting the protection of intellectual property rights, and advancing the Rule of Law around the globe.

HONORING DIANNE JACKSON

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a stalwart champion for New York's working families. After more than 27 years of service to the residents of Cooper Park Houses, Dianne Jackson is retiring. Through her decades of service, she has made countless contributions, improving not just Cooper Park Houses, but the surrounding Williamsburg community.

Throughout her nearly three decades of service, Dianne has been an unwavering voice for some of the most vulnerable members of our City. As President of the Cooper Park Resident Council, she advocated for tenants' rights on a range of issues—from fighting to ensure buildings are repaired and maintained to pushing for more green space and ensuring the local community is consulted when development decisions affect the residents.

A graduate of the Neighborhood Women's College Program at LaGuardia Community College, Dianne's career is characterized by a tireless commitment to helping others. In addition to serving as President of the Cooper

Park Resident Council, she was one of the founding members of the Center for Elimination of Violence in the Family. Today, that organization houses up to 1,000 women and children, each year, providing a helping hand to members of our community most in need of assistance.

In addition to her tireless advocacy and work in the community, Dianne overcame personal struggles, as well. A cancer survivor, she exhibited the perseverance, resolve and toughness to not only recover, but remain a driving force for positive change in Brooklyn.

Mr. Speaker, one would be hard pressed to find a better example of how one person can make a difference improving their community, city and society, overall. Dianne Jackson should be commended for her years of service. I wish her only the best for an enjoyable, well-earned retirement.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF WALTER T. MAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and in memory of Mr. Walter T. May, a former Captain with the Cleveland Police Department and president of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 8.

Walter was born on December 11, 1958 in Cleveland, Ohio to his parents, Walter "Matt" E. and Sally May. He graduated from St. Joseph High School and later attended Cleveland State University.

Walter was appointed to the Cleveland Division of Police on February 9, 1987 and served for more than 25 years. He worked as a Patrol Officer, Detective, Sergeant, Lieutenant and was promoted to the rank of Captain in 2000. In March 2006, Walter was appointed Commander of Community Policing.

In addition to his career, he was the president of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 8 which serves its members as the labor representative for the supervisors of the Cleveland Division of Police. Walter was also an active member of the Retired Irish Police Society and Anchor Club Branch 17.

I offer my most sincere condolences to his wife, Terry; son, Jake; sister, Patty; nephew, Chris, many nieces and nephews; and his canine companion, Maggie May.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mr. Walter T. May, who served his community with honor and dedication.

IN MEMORY OF DONALD E. GIRDLER

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my most trusted advisors and one of southern Kentucky's most savvy political strategists, Donnie Girdler.

Donnie proudly served Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District as my field representa-

tive for nearly a quarter of a century. With sheer tenacity and courage of conviction, Donnie played a key role in orchestrating new opportunities and projects for southern and eastern Kentucky. However, it was his passion for politics that many sought during campaigns. Donnie's political insight was invaluable to local, state and federal leaders across the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In fact, he became acquainted with five U.S. Presidents and assisted with presidential elections. Donnie befriended people from all walks of life and had a keen perception of character.

As a former U.S. Marine and a former Commonwealth's Detective, Donnie was a man of integrity and loyalty. He pledged his life to his country, his home region and especially his family. My wife Cynthia and I extend our deepest heartfelt sympathies to the Girdler family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a dear friend and a true patriot, the late Donnie Girdler.

IN MEMORY OF RANDY RHOADS

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of Randy Rhoads, a close personal friend to my wife Janice and me, who passed unexpectedly and way too young.

Randy was only 52, but he packed a lot of life in those years. He managed the family business, Green Acres Market in Simi Valley, California, which his parents, Dick and Brenda, bought in 1968. Randy worked there as a young teen sweeping up and doing other odd chores, and after graduating high school told his dad it was the only place he wanted to work.

Over the years, Randy's winning smile greeted thousands of customers who came in for the market's fresh meat, produce, and breads. Many of those who landed their first job at Green Acres were trained and mentored by Randy, and they became lifelong friends.

Randy believed in helping the less fortunate and was a big contributor to the MANNA Conejo Valley Food Bank and Simi Valley Care & Share Food Bank, even storing food for them at times in the grocery's refrigerator. One of the last philanthropic events he worked on was the Elton Gallegly & Friends Operation Toy Drop 2011 at Naval Base Ventura County in December. He supplied the 400 hams that went with bicycles, toys, and other food to thank military spouses and children of deployed, formerly deployed, or soon-to-be-deployed service members, who must endure long periods without a loved one.

When Randy wasn't at the store or caring for the less fortunate, he enjoyed camping, barbecuing, fishing wherever there was a stream, riding his motorcycle, playing poker, and being with his family.

Randy had a quotation hanging over his work bench at home. It read: "It doesn't matter where you go in life . . . What you do . . . Or how much you have . . . It's who you have beside you."

Those of us who had Randy beside us are very grateful to have known him and to have shared our lives with him.

Randy leaves behind his parents and Janice and my friends for more than 40 years, Dick

and Brenda; his wife, Gina; their two daughters, Ashton and Brandie; sister, Julie; Julie's children, Tisa, Rachelle, and Ryan; and hundreds of friends.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in remembering Randy Rhoads, in thanking him for his many gifts to others, and in sending our condolences to his family and friends. Godspeed, Randy.

RECOGNIZING CSM STEPHEN BLAKE

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Stephen Blake, Command Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command. Today CSM Blake is retiring after 30 years of service to the U.S. Army and our country.

CSM Blake has served with distinction throughout his career. He has completed multiple overseas tours including combat tours in Southwest Asia during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom, and a tour in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He has earned numerous awards and decorations.

During his time at ASC Headquarters at Rock Island Arsenal, CSM Blake and his wife Karen have been tremendous ambassadors for the Army to communities throughout Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. They have opened their home and generously shared their time. The Quad City region is a better place because they are in it.

Since CSM Blake arrived at Rock Island Arsenal in 2008 I have observed and admired his service to soldiers, military families, and our community. I've seen him embrace and support Gold Star Families. He has mentored community leaders including my own staff. Through his words and actions he consistently demonstrates compassion for others. He does what all of us are called to do: help each other.

Congratulations to CSM Blake and the entire Blake family. We are grateful for your service.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 26, 1995, when the last attempt at a balanced budget amendment passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 300–132, the national debt was \$4,801,405,175,294.28.

Today, it is \$15,236,288,061,558.65. We've added \$10,434,882,886,264.37 dollars to our debt in 16 years. This is \$10 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

GOVERNOR BILL JANKLOW

HON. KRISTI L. NOEM

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the passing of Governor Bill Janklow, who served the state of South Dakota with great dedication and resolve. His persistence and ambition to achieve great things for South Dakota were truly one of a kind. My family's thoughts and prayers go out to Mary Dean and the rest of Governor Janklow's family during this difficult time. He was a passionate advocate for our State and will be missed.

Because I will be attending his funeral service today, I will not be present for the vote on H.J. Res. 98, which states the disapproval of the President's exercise of authority to increase the debt limit. If present, I would have voted "yes" in favor of the resolution.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MR. DONALD L. FERFOLIA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor of the memory of Mr. Donald Louis Ferfolia, a man who was dedicated to his family and the Catholic Church.

Mr. Ferfolia was born on February 11, 1929 to his parents, Louis and Theresa Ferfolia. He was a licensed embalmer for 61 years and eventually became the president and chief executive officer of Ferfolia Funeral Homes.

Mr. Ferfolia was a dedicated member of the Catholic Church. He was a member of St. Wenceslas Church until its closing when he became a parishioner at St. Basil the Great Catholic Church in Brecksville. He was a member, and at one time the president, of the Maple Heights Catholic Club. Donald was also a founding member of the Callistian Guild, "an organization dedicated to the fundamental principle that the poorest of God's children are entitled to be buried with dignity."

I offer my condolences to his wife of 61 years, Alice; children, Donald B. Sr. (Margaret), Donna (the late C. Richard III) Mark L. Sr. (Christine) and Mary (Jeffrey A. Sr.); grandchildren, Donald B. Jr. (Dawn), Maureen, Joseph (Leanne), Allyson, Michelle (Michael), Megan, Colleen, Jeffrey (Erin), Kristin, Brian (fiancee, Anne), Meredith, Mark Jr., Rachael, Alex, Amy, Jeffrey Jr., Christina, Susan, Richard and Paige; great-grandchildren Ryan, Lauren, Donna, Caroline, Isadora and Julia; brother-in-law of Robert (Donna), Elaine and the late Carol Bandsuh (the late Richard).

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mr. Donald L. Ferfolia. His contributions to Northeast Ohio and the Catholic community will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE E. MCCARRON

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Mr. BRADY, our Ranking Member, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Katherine E. McCarron who is leaving the House to take a position with the Federal Trade Commission. Ms. McCarron served in the Office of the General Counsel for nearly 4 years as an Assistant Counsel. We will miss her.

Ms. McCarron provided frequent and invaluable legal advice and representation to the Committee on House Administration, as well as to Members, officers and other committees of the House more generally. Our staff came to rely on her expertise and guidance, particularly in connection with their internal oversight activities. Over the years, Ms. McCarron played a significant role in safeguarding the legal and institutional interests of the House of Representatives.

Ms. McCarron served the House with great distinction, and we know she will serve the Federal Trade Commission with that same level of distinction. On behalf of the Committee on House Administration, we thank Ms. McCarron for her devoted service, and extend to her our very best wishes for her continued success.

REMEMBERING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is important that we remember the contributions of the Tuskegee Airmen in protecting our freedom and way of life during World War II. These heroic World War II veterans just recently celebrated the 70th anniversary of their first training session on July 19, 1941. It is important that we constantly remind ourselves of the sacrifices of veterans in pursuit of our liberty.

The Tuskegee Airmen were not only heroes but pioneers, becoming the first African Americans to pilot and instruct others on how to fly combat aircraft. Though only approximately 140 Tuskegee pilots remain, it is essential we celebrate their accomplishments as a realization of the American Dream that inspired millions of African Americans, as Congress did in 1998 by establishing Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site in Tuskegee, Alabama.

The Tuskegee Airmen fought courageously for their country at a time when they were denied vital freedoms and liberties at home. They endured segregation and hostility from the local community, and especially stringent standards meant to exclude as many of them as possible from the piloting program. When they finally reached combat, they fought in segregated units, but still managed to distinguish themselves—engaging in over 200 bomber escort missions, damaging or destroying 409 German aircraft, and sunk a battleship

destroyer. Their prowess became so legendary they were nicknamed the "Red Tails Angels," by the pilots they protected, as only the red back end of the aircrafts were visible while they flew in front of U.S. air bombers on their vital missions. After the desegregation of the military in 1948, the Tuskegee Airmen went on to make exceptional individual contributions in the integrated U.S. Air Force.

I had the pleasure of attending the Tuskegee Institute of Technology, now Tuskegee University, the site of the training program for these brave young men, as an undergraduate. Tuskegee University has provided me and a multitude of African American youth with the most precious commodities in life, education and self-esteem.

HONORING THE HONOREES OF THE OXFORD HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the recipients of the 2012 Annual Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce Awards. Representing over 400 area businesses and organizations, the Oxford Hills Chamber has been instrumental in advocating for economic growth throughout the region.

Each year, the Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce honors local businesses, business leaders, and individuals who promote and advance a vital and healthy economic environment. These honorees embody the kind of entrepreneurship and resourcefulness which has helped the state to weather one of the harshest economic climates in American history.

This year's award recipients include Business of the Year, New Balance Athletic Shoe, Inc.; Employee of the Year, Ted Moccia, Principal of Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School; Rising Star of the Year, Mitch and Judy Green of Crazy Horse Racing Parts and Engines. Additionally, Connie Allen, Jean Delmater, Karen Ellis, Doreen Tibbetts, Carlene Treadwell, Wendy Williams, and John Williams of Right Start will receive the Community Service Award.

These recipients are among the best that Maine has to offer. Through their leadership and incredible commitment to their communities and to the region, Maine is a better place to live and to do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the Oxford Hills Region Chamber of Commerce and these individuals on their outstanding service and achievement.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNI- VERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF MILL SPRINGS

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Mill Springs and to honor

the soldiers who fought and died in this significant battle during the Civil War 150 years ago today.

The Battle of Mill Springs took place on January 19, 1862, in Pulaski and Wayne Counties in Kentucky and was the first significant victory for the Union Army in the west during the Civil War. The battle marks the death of Confederate General Felix Zollicoffer, who was the first general to die in the Civil War.

The Battle of Mill Springs was the second largest battle to take place in Kentucky and engaged over 10,000 soldiers. The outcome of this battle broke the main Confederate defensive line that was anchored in eastern Kentucky and opened the path for the Union Army to move through Kentucky and into Tennessee, affecting the outcome of the war.

The Mill Springs Battlefield is considered a National Historic Landmark, as the Mill Springs Battlefield Association along with countless volunteers have made significant strides in preserving the site and educating the public about this historic event.

With the Mill Springs Battlefield Association Visitor Center providing visitors with battlefield tours, access to Civil War artifacts, and a Civil War library, there have been 50,000 Civil War enthusiasts who have traveled to this uniquely preserved, nearly 500 acre historic battlefield. On this anniversary, I would like to honor and thank the Mill Springs Battlefield Association for preserving this important site, particularly Chairman Bill Neikirk, who has dedicated significant time and energy to the museum and battlefield acquisition. In honor of those who fought valiantly during the battle 150 years ago and in appreciation for all that Chairman Neikirk has done in preserving this historic site, an American flag will be flown over the Capitol Building on the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Mill Springs.

Today I am also introducing non-binding legislation which commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Mill Springs and its significance during the Civil War, as well as binding legislation that directs the Department of the Interior to conduct a study which evaluates the feasibility of incorporating the battlefield into the national park system. Such an addition will ensure its preservation for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand with the Mill Springs Battlefield Association and Civil War enthusiasts in commemorating this anniversary today and in seeking to preserve these hallowed grounds for tomorrow's visitors. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Mill Springs and to recognize those who bravely fought to help preserve the union of the United States.

TRIBUTE TO GREATER CORONA VALLEY CHAMBER OF COM- MERCE CHAIRMAN AWARD RE- CIPIENT DEAN SEIF

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Corona, California, are exceptional. Corona

has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Dean Seif, a board member of the Greater Corona Valley Chamber of Commerce, is one of these individuals. On January 21, 2012, Dean will receive a prestigious honor when the Greater Corona Valley Chamber of Commerce gives him the Chairman's Award at the organization's annual awards and installation gala at the Eagle Glen Golf Club.

Dean was voted onto the Board to serve in 2011 and as a new board member took on the responsibility of chairing the weekly networking group, "Chamber Networking Solutions." Taking his board responsibility seriously, Dean attended a special Southern California Training for Chamber Volunteers, bringing his wife, Shannon, who also is a member of the Chamber. They enthusiastically participated, taking notes and bringing back to the Board a full report which engaged and motivated other board members to consider future training. This past September a similar training session was held and Dean and ten other board members attended this time, bringing value back to the Chamber and its members.

Annually, the Chamber travels to Sacramento for Legislative Days and the Chamber excels in bringing a contingent of volunteers to the trip each year. In 2011, both Shannon and Dean were part of the 18-person group from the Greater Corona Valley Chamber.

Dean's passion and leadership is contagious and when it comes to commitment, Dean matches his words with his actions. He was the top ticket seller for the Super Bowl Ticket drawing contest. Dean has attended countless meetings for creating and revising the 2012 budget. This next year, Dean will serve as an officer, becoming the Treasurer and overseeing the Finance Committee. Additionally, Dean will move to the chair position for the Ambassador's committee and is planning on having the Chamber host the Ambassador Rally in 2012.

In light of all Dean has done for the community of Corona, the Greater Corona Valley Chamber of Commerce has given Dean their Chairman's Award. Dean's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Corona, California. He has been the heart and soul of many community organizations and events and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives this prestigious award.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF KATHLEEN "KATIE" DEVRING

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Kathleen "Katie" Devring who dedicated her life to those in need.

Katie was the second child of John and Margaret Devring and grew up on Cleveland's West side. She attended St. Rose Elementary School and began high school at St. Peter's.

She graduated from West Tech High School in 1966.

Throughout her life Katie was known as a compassionate soul that dedicated her life to those less fortunate. She worked tirelessly as a case worker for the Cuyahoga County Welfare Department for 25 years.

In addition to her work, Katie was a long-time volunteer and advocate for the LGBT community. She worked with the Northern Ohio CoDA Intergroup (NOCI) for decades arranging events and fundraisers to benefit the marginalized and disenfranchised of Northeast Ohio.

I offer my condolences to her brothers, John, Bill (Margie), Eddie and Marty (Mary); as well as her nieces, nephews and many friends.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Kathleen "Katie" Devring.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF JOHN T. FISHER II (JOHN T.)

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John T. Fisher II, an unsung hero of the Civil Rights Movement. John T. was born on February 10, 1934 and became a community leader who spent his life working on racial equality in Memphis, Tennessee and around the world.

John T. Fisher II earned his Bachelor of Science in Commerce from the University of Virginia. Afterwards he entered into Officer training with the U.S. Marine Corps. After serving two years as a Marine in Okinawa, Japan, he returned to Memphis and assumed the presidency of the John T. Fisher Motor Company which was founded by his grandfather in 1907 and was one of the original Chrysler franchises in the country. By 1968, John T. operated a highly successful car dealership and once sold a car to Elvis Presley. Even so, he risked his reputation by being one of the few white businessmen to support the sanitation strike that brought Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to Memphis. In the days after the assassination of Dr. King, John T. did not hesitate in trying to bring the Memphis community together. Working with clergy members and professionals of all races, he invited all members of the community, regardless of race, to join in a peace rally called "Memphis Cares," which 6,000 people attended.

Mr. Fisher's ethical and religious convictions took him to work with the Council of World Churches in Geneva, Switzerland where he worked with the Faith and Society Committee and the Finance Committee. His task was to lead the divestment of all World Council financial holdings in South African companies that supported apartheid. This work moved him across Europe where he attended seminars and coordinated meetings with the World Council and eventually was asked to be a delegate to the 5th Assembly of World Council of Churches in Nairobi, Kenya in 1975.

In 2001, at age 67, John T. accepted a post at the Regional Medical Center at Memphis as Vice President for Development where he

oversaw the MED Foundation. During his time there, he was credited with raising millions of dollars for the MED and was influential in building The Rehabilitation Hospital of Memphis (RHM). Today, RHM delivers comprehensive acute care, inpatient rehabilitation and outpatient treatment. RHM is a complement to the Elvis Presley Memorial Trauma Center, the Firefighters Regional Burn Center and serves the same five-state region in which the MED serves.

John T. Fisher II remained deeply committed to the community. He served as Chapter's Warden and Bishop's Warden at St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Board of Advisors at St. Mary's Episcopal School, and on the boards of the Memphis Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Memphis Arts Council, the Better Business Bureau, the Committee of Southern Churchmen, the Center for Urban Ministry, and the Wake Forest University Divinity School Board of Visitors. In addition to these responsibilities, he was a founding director of the Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association (MIFA). Today MIFA continues to unite the Memphis community and address the challenges of poverty by engaging the community to sustain the independence of seniors, transform the lives of families in crisis, and equip teens for success.

John T. will be remembered for his many contributions and accomplishments. Those who knew him best will also remember him for his collection of "words to live by," which he kept in his wallet to reference at any time and any place. Some of his favorite quotes were "Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood," ". . . Leadership is the willingness to state an opinion, the motivation to commit to a project, and the ability to make difficult choices . . ." and "quality is never an accident; it is always the result of intelligent effort." He used these quotes to reflect upon vision, leadership and quality, all of which embodied his lifelong work.

John T. Fisher II passed away on Friday, December 30, 2011, at 77 years of age. He is survived by his wife, Jean Carter Fisher, his three children: Jean Kelley Fisher, Suzannah Fisher Ragen, and John T. Fisher III, five grandchildren, his sister, Billie Fisher Carr Houghton and close mentor, Lewis Donelson of Memphis.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the many accomplishments and contributions of John T. Fisher II. His was a life well-lived.

HONORING CAPTAIN LOUIE A. WRIGHT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Captain Louie A. Wright on his retirement as President of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 42.

A self-made man from humble beginnings, Louie graduated from Ruskin Heights High School and joined the Kansas City Fire Department in 1972. Louie was first elected as President of Local 42 in 1976. In 1988, Louie

resigned as President of Local 42 in order to run for General Secretary of the IAFF. This hiatus from the Presidency gave Louie the opportunity to finish his Juris Doctor with distinction from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, finishing a collegiate journey that included receiving his Master of Public Administration from the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government. Louie was again elected President in 1995, leading Local 42 ever since.

His time with Local 42 has been marked by many memorable moments. When the negotiations over 40 hour work weeks and mandatory overtime grew fierce in the late 1970s, Louie and around 70 other firefighters were arrested. An agreement was later reached and Louie was pardoned by the governor. However, it was not the only time this happened and Louie often jokes that he is the only member of the Missouri Bar Association to have been arrested and pardoned twice. For the past 35 years Louie Wright has led the Local 42 to unprecedented growth with skill, street smarts and toughness. Local 42 members, their friends, families, fellow firefighters and the citizens of greater Kansas City will always remember Louie Wright as a "fireman's fireman."

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me, Louie's children Joanna and Nick and his family and friends in congratulating Captain Louie A. Wright on his retirement after 29 years with the Kansas City Fire Department and the IAFF and in wishing him the best of luck in the years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL EDGAR E. STANTON III'S 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR NATION

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lieutenant General Edgar E. Stanton III for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to the United States of America. Lieutenant General Stanton will retire from active military duty in April 2012 after 40 distinguished years of service to the United States Army. Lieutenant General Edgar E. Stanton III has distinguished himself throughout his 40 years of service to his Nation by exceptionally meritorious service to the United States Army and the United States of America, culminating as the Military Deputy for Budget to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management & Comptroller). He is currently the Army's senior uniformed financial manager. Throughout his career, Lieutenant General Stanton has served in command and staff positions at every level from the Finance Section, to the Army Secretariat, including Commander, 18th Finance Group; Commandant, US Army Finance School; Deputy Chief of Staff, Resource Management, TRADOC, and Commanding General, US Army Soldier Support Institute. During his tours as the Director, Army Budget and Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary, Lieutenant General Stanton was directly and intimately involved in supervising the formulation, justification, and execution of Army Appropriations valued at over \$1.5 trillion.

As the Military Deputy for Budget to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management & Comptroller) since July 2008, Lieutenant General Stanton continued to be instrumental in resourcing the Army at war, and was also intimately involved in the planning for the force of the future in a rapidly changing strategic and economic environment. He helped senior Army leaders maintain a strategic focus in these efforts and craft a story that can be clearly understood by leaders at the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Congress.

Throughout his tenure as both the Director, Army Budget and Military Deputy for Budget, Lieutenant General Stanton forged and maintained countless valuable relationships with Congressional members and staffers, key leaders at the Office of Management and Budget, leadership in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and with his Service counterparts. These relationships were critical communications links when the Army needed to provide key information and have a voice in critical resource decisions that affected its programs. Lieutenant General Stanton's exemplary leadership and selfless devotion to duty has touched fully two generations of Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians, and their Families. His integrity and credibility are unsurpassed, and expertise is unquestioned. Lieutenant General Stanton's 40 years of service to our Army and the Nation can only be characterized as distinguished.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in saying thank you to Lieutenant General Edgar E. Stanton III, for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to his country throughout his distinguished career in the United States Army and we wish him, his wife Paula M. Stanton, his son's Edgar "Chip" E. Stanton IV, LTC Paul Stanton, and William "Billy" Stanton, all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING SACRIFICES BY FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

HON. FRANK R. WOLF
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, every federal employee has repeated the following oath: "I, [name], do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

Within the past month, northern Virginia residents have attended services for two federal law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty: U.S. Park Police Sergeant Michael Andrew Boehm of Burke, Virginia, and National Park Service Ranger Margaret Anderson, who previously lived in Lovettsville, Virginia, before her post in Washington State.

I urge all members to read Washington Post columnist Joe Davidson's piece entitled "Park ranger's death highlight the risks in federal law enforcement," which I am submitting for the RECORD. This piece highlights the sacrifices made in 2011 by 13 federal law enforcement

officers who died in the line of duty, including: Senior Special Agent John Capano, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; Special Agent Daniel "Danny" Lee Knapp, Federal Bureau of Investigations; Officer Bart Child, Fort Huachuca Police Department; Special Agent Timothy S. Briggs, Federal Bureau of Investigations; Border Patrol Agent Eduardo Rojas, Jr., Customs and Border Protection; Border Patrol Agent Hector R. Clark, Customs and Border Protection; Senior Officer Specialist Christopher Cooper, Bureau of Prisons; Deputy Marshal John Perry, U.S. Marshals Service; Park Ranger Julie Weir, National Park Service; Deputy Marshal Derek Hotsiniller, U.S. Marshals Service; Special Agent Jamie Zapata, Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and Park Ranger Chris Nickel, National Park Service.

Their sacrifices remind us that many federal employees are repeatedly put in dangerous situations. According to the Office of Personnel Management, since 1992, nearly 3,000 federal employees have paid the ultimate price while serving their country. The first American killed in Afghanistan, Mike Spann, was a CIA agent and a constituent from my congressional district. CIA, FBI, DEA agents, and State Department employees are serving side-by-side with our military in the fight against the Taliban. Customs and Border Patrol and Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents are working to stop the flow of illegal immigrants and drugs across our borders. Federal firefighters work to protect federal lands and mitigate the spread of deadly fires.

Federal employees who are not in harm's way on a daily basis are also dedicated civil servants. The medical researchers at the National Institutes of Health working to develop cures for cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer's and autism are all dedicated federal employees. Dr. Francis Collins, the physician who mapped the human genome and serves as director of the NIH, is a federal employee.

The National Weather Service meteorologist who tracks hurricanes, and the FDA inspector working to stop a salmonella outbreak, are federal employees. The ATF agents who were in Blacksburg, Virginia, immediately following last month's shooting are federal employees. These are but a few examples of the vital jobs performed by federal employees.

I thank all federal employees for their service to our nation, and know that all my colleagues are grateful to the families of those who have died while working to ensure that our country is a safer and better place.

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 4, 2012]

PARK RANGER'S DEATH HIGHLIGHTS THE RISKS IN FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT (By Joe Davidson)

In a stark reminder of how dangerous working for Uncle Sam can be, 13 federal law enforcement officers died in 2011. Then the new year began with the murder of an officer in an otherwise peaceful park.

Margaret Anderson, a ranger with the National Park Service, was gunned down in Washington state's Mount Rainier National Park on New Year's Day.

The day before, John Capano, an agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agent, was killed in Seaford, N.Y., as he tried to stop a pharmacy thief. Capano, 51, who was off-duty at the time, apparently was mistakenly shot by another law enforcement officer, according to the Associated Press and New York media reports.

Last Thursday, Daniel Knapp, a 43-year-old FBI agent, drowned in Puerto Rico while trying to assist a distressed swimmer.

A day earlier, U.S. Park Police Sgt. Mike Boehm was buried. Boehm suffered a heart attack while on duty Dec. 16, trying to assist a man who plummeted from the Key Bridge in Georgetown.

Kevin Bacher, a ranger who served with Anderson at Mount Rainier, said she "always had a smile and always had a kind word and would bend over backward if you needed something."

Anderson, a 34-year-old mother of two girls who was married to another ranger, probably would have been more than willing to assist even the likes of Benjamin Colton Barnes. But the 24-year-old Iraq war veteran allegedly shot her before she could even get out of her car. He then fled into the woods, where he developed hypothermia and drowned in a creek.

Before transferring to Mount Rainier in 2008, Anderson was assigned to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park in Hagerstown.

"When I think of Margaret's tenure here, I think of her big smile. But she also was a no-nonsense law enforcement officer," said Kevin Brandt, the park's superintendent. Unlike many officers, she became an emergency medical technician "to provide that important service to visitors," he added. "She had a real love of nature. . . . She was a consummate ranger. She was everything that you'd want a ranger to be."

Anderson's death points to the perils that rangers face. "This tragedy serves as a reminder of the risks undertaken by the men and women of the National Park Service and law enforcement officers across the Department every day," said Interior Secretary Ken Salazar.

Rangers are far more than park tour guides in peculiar hats. Particularly in remote parks, they carry out a variety of critical duties, including fighting fires, saving lives and being the cops many of them are authorized to be. There are two types of rangers, those with law enforcement powers such as Anderson, and interpretive rangers who have some of the same responsibilities but don't carry guns, wear body armor or confront killers.

Generally, guns and bulletproof vests are not necessary, because national parks are safe places. "Margaret Anderson's case was incredibly tragic for us, but it was very rare at the same time," said National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis.

Like Anderson, many park service employees have a strong sense of mission and devote their careers to protecting America's natural resources. "The Park Service . . . is a big family," said Jarvis, himself a 35-year Park Service veteran. "To lose one of the family is devastating to us."

While its people are devastated, he said, the Park Service "also will evaluate the situation in extraordinary detail to see if there is anything we can do to prevent this from happening in the future."

The 13 officers who died in the line of duty, including deaths from job-related illness and accidents, compares with just four in 2000 and 17 in 2007, according to the Officer Down Memorial Page, a nonprofit organization. "These officers selflessly put themselves in harm's way to protect their fellow Americans," said Office of Personnel Management Director John Berry. "All Americans are saddened by their loss, and grateful for the courage every Federal law enforcement officer shows daily as they keep our nation safe."

For all of the sadness the deaths bring, the killings of officers also generate understandable anger. When Jaime J. Zapata, an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

agent, was killed in Mexico in February, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano did not mince words:

"Let me be clear: Any act of violence against our ICE personnel—or any DHS personnel—is an attack against all those who serve our nation and put their lives at risk for our safety."

OFFICERS LOST IN THE LINE OF DUTY LAST YEAR

Thirteen federal law enforcement officers died in the line of duty in 2011, according to the Officer Down Memorial Page, a nonprofit organization. In addition to officers who were killed by gunfire, as National Park Service Ranger Margaret Anderson was on Sunday, the list includes officers who died because of job-related illnesses, such as heart attacks, or in vehicle and other accidents.

Senior Special Agent John Capano, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Dec. 31, New York.

Special Agent Daniel "Danny" Lee Knapp, FBI, Dec. 29, Puerto Rico.

Sgt. Michael Andrew Boehm, U.S. Park Police, Dec. 16, District of Columbia.

Officer Bart Child, Fort Huachuca Police Department, Aug. 18, Arizona.

Special Agent Timothy S. Briggs, FBI, May 31, Kentucky.

Border Patrol Agent Eduardo Rojas, Jr., Customs and Border Protection, May 12, Arizona.

Border Patrol Agent Hector R. Clark, Customs and Border Protection, May 12, Arizona.

Senior Officer Specialist Christopher Cooper, Bureau of Prisons, April 7, Kansas.

Deputy Marshal John Perry, U.S. Marshals Service, March 8, Missouri.

Park Ranger Julie Weir, National Park Service, Feb. 24, Nebraska.

Deputy Marshal Derek Hotsiniller, U.S. Marshals Service, Feb. 16, West Virginia.

Special Agent Jaime J. Zapata, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Feb. 15, Mexico.

Park Ranger Chris Nickel, National Park Service, Jan. 29, Utah.

HONORING CURTIS LUCILLE SANDERS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, one hundred years ago a virtuous woman of God, Curtis Lucille was born in Lawrenceville, Georgia on January 7, 1912 to Frank and Gussy Hutchins; and

Whereas, she was raised up at Macedonia Baptist Church in Gwinnett County, Georgia, and she married Mr. John W. Sanders and she had one son, Mr. Porter Lucas, Jr., and one daughter, Ms. Lizzie Ruth Flanigan and eleven grandchildren; and

Whereas, this phenomenal Proverbs 31 woman has shared her time and talents as a Wife, Mother and Motivator, becoming a Georgia citizen of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all by always advancing the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mrs. Sanders has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; and

Whereas, Mrs. Sanders along with her family and friends are celebrating this day a remarkable milestone, her 100th Birthday, we pause to acknowledge a woman who is a cornerstone in Lithonia, DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Sanders on her birthday and to wish her well and recognize her for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim January 7, 2012, as Mrs. Curtis Lucille Sanders Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 7th day of January, 2011.

RECOGNIZING MARY CZEMERDA FOR RECEIVING THE CLEARVIEW FEDERAL CREDIT UNION'S JOSEPH C. CIRELLI COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a skilled and selfless community leader for receiving an award for outstanding dedication to the greater good. Each year, the Clearview Federal Credit Union presents the Joseph C. Cirelli Community Service Award to an individual who works ardently and effectively to advance the foundational cause of a charity. This year's recipient is Mary Czemerda, Program Director for Lower Burrell Meals on Wheels. Thanks to Mary's exceptional managerial skills and kindhearted spirit, the Meals on Wheels program in Lower Burrell has grown from a small, church-based charity into a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. I am proud to represent a woman of such great character and ability in Congress.

Clearview's Award includes a \$2,500 donation to a charity of the recipient's choice. Mary has already given this money to Meals on Wheels. It will be used to feed five meal recipients who cannot afford the \$4 per day charge for an entire year.

Mary has been with Lower Burrell Meals on Wheels for the last seven years. She came to this organization desiring to be a driver, but due to her track record as a proven leader at the Alcoa Technical Center, she was almost immediately appointed to her current post. As program director, she records financial transactions, solicits donations and manages driver schedules. Her ability to adeptly juggle these multiple responsibilities is a testament to the wide range of her talents.

Mary began volunteering long before getting involved with Meals on Wheels. Over the years, she has done extensive work with scout troops, the United Way of Westmoreland

County and a number of religious education programs. Devotion to others has been the abiding theme of Mary's life. In addition to being a model philanthropist, she is a loving and dedicated wife, mother of three and grandmother of two.

Mary has said that the driving force behind her community service is her faith in the inherent goodness of the people she works with and serves. I share this faith; the kindness and selflessness of those I represent hold the communities of western Pennsylvania together. Mary's own example serves as clear evidence for this.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Mary for receiving such a well-deserved honor.

HONORING THE HONOREES OF THE BANGOR REGION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorees of the 2012 Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner. Founded in 1911, the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce serves Bangor and 21 surrounding communities. The positive economic effects of the Bangor Chamber's committed advocacy can always be felt throughout the state.

Each year, the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce recognizes local businesses, business leaders, and individuals who promote and advance a vital and healthy business environment. These individuals and businesses are committed to strengthening opportunity and prosperity in Maine.

This year's award recipients include John Bragg of N.H. Bragg, recipient of the Norbert X. Dowd Award; Habib Dagher of the University of Maine, recipient of the Catherine Lebowitz Award for Public Service; Nelson Durgin, recipient of the Arthur A. Comstock Professional Service Award; Sutherland Weston Marking Communications, recipient of the Bion and Dorain Foster Entrepreneurship Award; Cross Insurance, recipient of the Business of the Year Award; Bill Lucy and Peoples United Bank, recipient of the Community Service Award; Maine Discovery Museum, recipient of the Non-Profit of the Year Award; Bangor Greendrinks, recipient of the FLAVA (Fusion Leadership and Vision Award); and Husson Hospitality Program, recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award.

These nine recipients are among the best that Maine has to offer. Through their leadership and incredible commitment to the communities and the region, Maine is a better place to live and do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce and these individuals on their outstanding service and achievement.