

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MR. JOHN C. PITTS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Mr. John C. Pitts of Evans High School in Orlando, Florida. Mr. Pitts, a Florida native, bravely served our country in World War II as a Navy Seal in the Underwater Demolition Team #25. In 1957, Mr. Pitts began teaching junior high at Evans High School, and in 1961, he moved into administration as the school's assistant principal. After temporarily leaving Evans High School to lead several other schools in Orange County, Mr. Pitts returned to Evans in 1977 where he served as principal until his retirement in 1988.

Educators like Mr. Pitts are shining examples of the fruits of selflessness. Their commitment to students models the life-changing impact a dedicated educator can have on a community and on the individual lives of students.

For more than five decades, Mr. Pitts has been a tireless advocate for the students, athletes and families of Evans High School. It is with sincere appreciation that I thank Mr. Pitts for his commitment to our nation's youth and for his service to our country. His leadership and dedication continue to be an inspiration to us all.

A TRIBUTE TO SONIA CLAYTON

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Ms. Sonia Clayton for her tremendous accomplishments with her business, numerous awards she has received and for being featured on the cover of Small Business Today magazine. Sonia is a perfect example of the American Dream.

Sonia was born in Colombia, where she spent the first part of her childhood, before moving to Venezuela and eventually the United States. Growing up, Sonia said life was not easy. She had no father figure, and grew up poor in an underdeveloped country. She said that living without a paternal figure, she had to figure things out on her own and learn how to survive. It is during this time that Sonia learned how to "think outside the box," as she put it.

She said that she learned to get creative and embrace the challenge, tackle it and overcome it. As she explained, when there is someone there to prevent chaos in your life, you learn nothing, but when you have to figure it out on your own, you learn how to survive, because you have to.

In 1984, Sonia moved to the United States. In order to support herself, she had three jobs. She first worked as a caretaker for an elderly

couple close to death. She then worked in a rest home and from that job, created a crew who cleaned houses around the Salt Lake City area. It was during this job that Sonia learned English. Sonia also worked as an interpreter; she is fluent in French, Spanish, Portuguese and English.

In 1990, Sonia came to Texas. She first worked for Air France and from there went on to work for Continental Airlines. She started out doing transit operations and later went on to work in corporate security. Sonia pioneered a team that put together Continental Airlines first security group.

It is during this time that Sonia began working with different databases and programs for training purposes, and first got into IT. Shortly after 9/11, Sonia created Virtual Intelligence Providers, L.L.C. (VIP). VIP is an information technology company that focuses on oil and gas. It first started out as a way to help her friends find jobs that had been lost due to the events on September 11th. She began reaching out to different companies and as Sonia put it, she didn't just start with the little guy, she reached out to huge corporations and Shell Oil became her first client.

VIP grew very quickly, making \$300,000 in its first year and hitting the million dollar mark in its second. VIP has been in business for 13 years.

In all her success, Sonia always remembers to give back and promotes this spirit throughout VIP and its employees. She has started three nonprofits: The VIP Education Foundation, The Angels for Soldiers Foundation and The Cancer Foundation.

Sonia also continues to support the Mormon Church. It is through Mormonism that she grew to become familiar and be involved with Christian and American values, which she witnessed growing up through the works of missionaries and Red Cross workers.

Sonia said that Americans are very generous people and America is the only country in the world that worries about its neighbors and helps maintain their freedoms and liberties. She also knows that it takes genuine people who are willing to sacrifice that make this country great. She raised her children with the principle that they can either serve God or their Country. Her son is an officer in the US Navy and her daughter is a returned missionary in the Mormon Church.

Sonia believes all these works are a way to give back to America so that someone is able to benefit from her and her family's generosity, the same generosity that she once benefited from.

Sonia is a remarkable, successful woman, gracious and giving citizen and a cancer survivor. Her exceptional story reminds us that even in times of great adversity, we can succeed if we work with tireless determination. She teaches people everywhere the importance of giving back and I am thankful to have her as one of my many neighbors in Houston, Texas. Sonia embodies the character of a Texan through and through.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE CAMP MERRILL CHOW STAFF

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the exemplary actions of the Camp Merrill chow staff during the winter storms that hit Georgia in January and February.

L & S Services employees serve the 5th Ranger Training Battalion in the Camp Merrill Chow Hall.

When winter weather crippled parts of Georgia earlier this year, members of this team volunteered their personal time and even risked personal safety to ensure that Army operations would continue without degradation.

Thanks to the sacrifice of L & S Services personnel, more than 300 students were able to successfully complete the mountain phase of Ranger school.

In addition, this experience led to the development of a procedure for folks to stay at Camp Merrill to support operations during severe weather—a plan that was followed just a few weeks later, when a dangerous ice storm struck the area.

Even in the face of significant challenges this winter, L & S Services employees provided consistent and outstanding service to Camp Merrill.

I commend these individuals for going above and beyond the call of duty to support our men and women in uniform, and ultimately, our national security.

HONORING MR. GEORGE A. EMANUELSON

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of George A. Emanuelson, a World War II veteran who served as an Armed Gunner with the United States Navy aboard the S.S. *Mello Franco* as well as the S.S. *James S. Lawson*.

Mr. Emanuelson honorably and faithfully carried out his duties, and our country is indebted to him and his fellow sailors for their heroic service. As a member of our nation's "Greatest Generation," Mr. Emanuelson answered the call of duty during a perilous time of war. World War II was an event that shaped the trajectory of not only our country, but also the entire world. We owe service members like Mr. Emanuelson our eternal gratitude for standing up against fascism that threatened democracy and safety across the globe. Thanks to men and women like Mr. Emanuelson, our democratic ideals have persevered and led us to become the most influential nation in the world today.

● 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.

Mr. Emanuelson makes Minnesotans proud. On behalf of all Minnesotans and Americans, I recognize Mr. Emanuelson's dutiful service to our country during one of its most dire times of need.

OPERATION HELPING HAND 10TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Operation Helping Hand on its 10th Anniversary. Operation Helping Hand is a labor of love dedicated to providing support for our United States Military active duty personnel who have been injured in military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and are currently being cared for at the James A. Haley VA Hospital in Tampa, Florida.

Started in May 2004, Operation Helping Hand is a special initiative of the Tampa Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), which currently has over five hundred members. Operation Helping Hand is governed by five retired officers, one prior enlisted Non-Commissioned Officer, and operated by many dedicated volunteers. In the ten years since its inception, its efforts have assisted hundreds of active duty, recently retired, and wounded heroes and their families. Operation Helping Hand knows that one of the most important aspects of the patients' rehabilitation is having family support during their recovery. That is why it helps facilitate this through a myriad of services such as travel assistance with roundtrip air fare for immediate family members, rental cars for traveling, gas, lodging, and other various arrangements that help connect family members to their loved ones during their rehabilitation. These services would not be possible without the generous contributions and grants from individuals, corporations, and associations, which, through Operation Helping Hand's fundraising efforts, have been able to give well over \$1.8 million back to assist our wounded military service-members and their families.

Mr. Speaker, for wounded heroes and their families, Operation Helping Hand hosts monthly dinners—many of which I have been privileged to attend—at the James A. Haley VA Hospital. On May 15th, Operation Helping Hand will proudly host its 120th consecutive dinner. Those in regular attendance at the monthly dinners consist of concerned citizens, community leaders, active duty military and military retirees. Deliciously catered dinners are provided by local restaurants that, in conjunction with other local businesses, generously stuff gift bags chock full of useful personal items and gift certificates for the loved ones of wounded veterans.

Mr. Speaker, for its incredible charitable work, it is no wonder that Operation Helping Hand has received many accolades from, but not limited to, the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, the United Way of Tampa Bay, and the Mayor's Alliance. Additionally, Operation Helping Hand has been a recipient of the "Newman's Own" recognition, the 2010 Governor's Points of Light Award, the Florida Distinguished Service Medal, and the President's Call to Service Award. But, according to Oper-

ation Helping Hand, the most valuable and honored recognition comes from the grateful patients and their families once their rehabilitation has been completed.

Mr. Speaker, I could not be prouder to have many of these wonderful citizens as constituents. Caring folks like the ones at Operation Helping Hand are what makes America the land of the free and the home of the brave. God bless them, God bless our veterans, and God bless America.

CELEBRATING ONE HUNDRED
YEARS OF COMMUNITY IN THE
TOWN OF PROSPER

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the community of Prosper, Texas, in celebrating its 100th anniversary. This milestone is a true testament and living legacy of the hard work, perseverance, and spirit of community that the early settlers first fostered.

The Town of Prosper is conveniently located to the north of Frisco in Collin County. Incorporated in 1914 with a commission form of government, Prosper started off with a population of just 500 residents. After the war and the depression the mechanization of farming provided the next big impact on Prosper's population.

In 1980, the introduction of light industry, combined with the growth of the Metroplex, led to a comeback for Prosper. Today, Prosper continues to grow and is home to more than 11,000 residents, 100 businesses and one high school state football championship, Prosper High School. The town continues to welcome new ventures to their thriving community every year. While 100 years have passed since its founding, Prosper truly is a shining example of what makes North Texas a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Town of Prosper on their 100th anniversary. I also commend the Mayor of Prosper Ray Smith and all those who call Prosper home, for their dedication, commitment, and efforts in contributing to Prosper's continued growth and excellence while preserving the values of a close-knit community. That's something we simply can't put a price on. I look forward to seeing what the next 100 years have in store.

God Bless all your efforts, and I salute you.

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR BENNY TATE

HON. PAUL C. BROWN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Pastor Benny Tate, the Senior Pastor of Rock Springs Church in Milner, Georgia, for over 25 years.

When Dr. Benny Tate first arrived in Milner, Georgia, Rock Springs Church had just 60 members in its congregation. Today, that number has grown to more than 6,000.

Under the leadership of Pastor Tate, several ministries were formed at Rock Springs Church in order to meet the needs of the community, including:

The Rock Springs Medical Clinic to care for those who cannot afford medical insurance, the Potter's House, which ministers to women battling drug and alcohol abuse, Rock Springs Christian Academy, offering quality education to children K through 12, and the Impact Street Ministries, which helps the homeless by serving meals and providing clothing to those in need.

Psalm 68:5 says, "A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling." Or James 1:27 says, "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Dr. Tate's work is a shining example of what scripture tells us the role of the church should be—to care for the poor, the fatherless, and widows.

Today, Pastor Tate and his wife of more than thirty years, Barbara, reside in Griffin Georgia, and are parents to their daughter, Savannah Abigail.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Pastor Benny Tate for his 25 years of outstanding leadership and service to his community at Rock Springs Church. I wish him many blessed years ahead as he continues to lead, serve, and further the gospel at his full service church.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF SIERRA SANDS UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPER-
INTENDENT JOANNA RUMMER

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of my good friend Joanna (Jody) Rummer, who has served the Sierra Sands Unified School District for 26 years.

Joining the school district as a science teacher in 1988, Jody went on to serve as assistant principal at Murray Middle School and Burroughs High School before eventually becoming Burroughs' co-Principal. In 2001, she joined the district administrative staff as the coordinator of special projects before becoming the assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction. In 2004, Jody became the school district's superintendent and embarked on a journey that would ultimately transform the Sierra Sands Unified School District.

When Jody took the wheel, her vision was to enhance and grow Sierra Sands. Today, Jody's vision is rooted in the foundation of all eleven district schools, which have been recognized statewide as institutions of academic excellence, earned the California Distinguished School award, and designated as a California Blue Ribbon school. Within the halls of those schools, you'll find students excelling in California's finest programs for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education, mastering the art of music, visual arts, and drama, and setting athletic milestones as state champions in multiple

sports. Additionally, in the face of the most challenging of fiscal environments since the Great Depression, Sierra Sands Unified School District has maintained fiscal solvency throughout the entirety of her superintendency.

A relentless advocate for her students, I was honored to work recently with her to secure almost \$60 million in Federal defense funds to replace Murray Middle School and modernize Burroughs High School. Many of the parents of Sierra Sands students work at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake in state-of-the-art facilities and laboratories while their children attend class in 1940s and 1950s era buildings. Jody was instrumental in securing these funds and worked tirelessly with the Department of Defense through a competitive process to ensure her students can learn in modern buildings in today's digital society. Jody also was key to Sierra Sands securing \$7 million to build a state-of-the-art new Career Technical Education Building.

I have known Jody for years, and always sought her advice when I served in the California Assembly and now in the U.S. House of Representatives. Whether it is working to provide resources under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act so schools can better serve their disabled students, to critical reforms to the Impact Aid program to help ensure military-serving districts, like Sierra Sands, can continue to provide a world-class education to its students by cutting through bureaucratic red tape, to working on common-sense reforms to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act that focus on students, Jody has tirelessly represented her students, school district, and our Ridgecrest community's interest while providing sound, objective, and to-the-point advice. When I visit Jody in Ridgecrest and speak to students, she is always quick to laud her staff, teachers and students' achievements and hard work that have made Sierra Sands one of the best school districts in Kern County and the State of California. Those are some of the reasons why she has been twice recognized by the Association of California School Administrators as Administrator of the Year and named this year as California's Superintendent of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of our community, I would like to wish a happy retirement to Jody Rummer, who has devoted so much of her life to the success of the students and community she holds so close to her heart. I will miss working with Jody, but I know she will still be involved in education and our Ridgecrest community and I look forward to still be able to call on her for advice to strengthen the educational needs not only of Ridgecrest, our county, or our state, but of our country.

RECOGNIZING VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF WILLIAM A. THIEN FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AND UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Commander-in-Chief William A. Thien as he visits the State of Michigan and our Fifth Congressional District on Monday, May 12, 2014.

William A. "Bill" Thien was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars on July 24, 2013, at the VFW's 114th National Convention, held in Louisville, KY.

Having served in the U.S. Navy from 1969–1974 as well as five years in the Indiana National Guard, Commander Thien holds decorations that include the Vietnam Service Medal with 3 stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Bar, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea), National Defense Service Medal and several from the National Guard.

He joined the VFW in 1971 at Post 3281 in New Albany, IN, where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life Membership. He has served the VFW in many leadership positions including All American Post Commander, All State District Commander and All American State Commander. He has also held positions on numerous National committees, including Vice Chairman of Citizenship Education and Community Service and as Chairman of National Scholarship and Recognition.

Now retired, Commander Thien is a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Vietnam War Post 1, National Rifle Association, Patriot Guard Riders, Military Order of the Cootie Pup Tent 51 and VFW National Home.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Commander William Thien for his strong leadership and unwavering commitment to our country.

HONORING MICHAEL HEISLEY, SR.

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the passing of a great Illinois businessman and philanthropist, Michael Heisley, Sr. who passed last Saturday at the age of 77. He was a classic American success story. In 1979, he mortgaged his house and took out a loan to buy a bankrupt industrial equipment company which he then turned around to become profitable. He purchased other Rust Belt manufacturing companies, including some in the 6th District of Illinois, and in the process turned his Heico Companies into one of the largest private companies in the Chicagoland area. He did not buy businesses to flip them, but to fix them and make them thriving enterprises once again.

Mr. Heisley not only kept manufacturing jobs in the United States, he also brought jobs back to the United States. He was able to move the NBA's Vancouver Grizzlies to Memphis, Tennessee. Like the companies he fixed, he left the Grizzlies in far better shape than he found them. Mr. Heisley was a philanthropist who donated to numerous charities including: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, St. Patrick's Catholic School in St. Charles, his alma mater Georgetown University, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, in honor of his brother Joseph who served and his best friend Rocky who died in Vietnam.

Mr. Heisley never lost track of his ties to St. Charles, IL his home of 35 years. He served on the St. Charles School Board and was a longtime parishioner at St. Patrick's in St.

Charles. He is survived by his wife of more than fifty years Agnes, five children and 12 grandchildren. Mr. Speaker and my distinguished colleagues in the House, please join me in honoring Michael Heisley, his family, and his legacy of service and achievement.

RECOGNIZING TAYLOR COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPUTY ROBERT
LUNDY

HON. STEVE SOUTHERLAND II

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SOUTHERLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly heroic and remarkable man, Taylor County Sheriff's Deputy Robert Lundy. On February 5, 2014, Deputy Lundy was having his car serviced in Perry, Florida, when a crazed gunman drove his vehicle through the front of the store and opened fire.

Despite being off duty at the time and suffering a close range shotgun blast, Deputy Lundy courageously engaged the shooter without hesitation and took him down. As a result of Deputy Lundy's bold and selfless actions, innocent lives were saved that day and a gunman intent on causing mayhem was stopped before he could do any more harm.

After spending several weeks in a coma and being told he would need at least a year in the hospital, Deputy Lundy was able to return home in just over two months—a testament to his strength of spirit and an unyielding determination to be there for his wife and two young daughters.

While Deputy Lundy has a long road ahead in his recovery, his bravery and selfless sacrifice will not be forgotten. On behalf of the people of Florida's Second Congressional District, I express my sincere gratitude to Deputy Lundy and wish him a speedy and successful recovery.

HONORING PASTOR EUGENE
ROBERSON OF FIRST CORINTHIAN
MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH IN NORTH CHICAGO ON
HIS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate my friend, Pastor Eugene Roberson of First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church in North Chicago on his 20th Pastoral Anniversary. Over those 20 years, Pastor Roberson has been a dedicated community servant and a passionate religious leader, making him a prominent figure throughout the suburban Chicago district that I represent.

With his leadership and guidance, First Corinthian has grown tremendously over the past two decades, both physically and spiritually. Membership continues to rise annually, and in 2001, First Corinthian finished a brick and mortar addition and renovation, fulfilling part of Pastor Roberson's vision for the church.

His weekly sermons and Bible study courses offer insight and inspiration. His passion and enthusiasm engage all generations of

his community. And his vision and determination help enrich his flock and his city with community initiatives and charitable activities.

After 20 years, Pastor Roberson is an undisputed community leader in Lake County as well as a respected faith leader. The breadth of his work in the community has drawn many accolades and much recognition, including awards from the city and the College of Lake County and recognition from the Illinois General Assembly.

Leaders like Pastor Roberson ensure our communities remain close and strong and focused, in common purpose, on giving back and helping out. Congratulations again to Pastor Roberson on 20 years with First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church. I look forward to many future successes for many years to come.

AMERICAN RESEARCH AND COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 4438. This bill is the exact opposite of the fiscal conservatism which has been preached by the G.O.P.

H.R. 4438, the American Research and Competitiveness Act, permanently extends the research and development tax credit that expired at the end of 2013, but modifies the credit to make it simpler to calculate.

I think we can all agree that on the merits, the R&D Tax Credit is one of the most practical, useful, and well-subscribed tax credits. Not only do large multinationals and many small research facilities use it; but numerous universities, including the University of Houston, the University of Texas, Texas Southern University, Texas A&M, and Texas Tech, among others, also take advantage of this job-producing credit.

Yet, the Republicans hypocritically failed to do something which they usually love to take credit for—and that is—to PAY for the bill by including an offset.

It provides no offset for the cost, which the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates would reduce revenues by \$156 billion over 10 years. This bill is the first in a series of individual tax “extenders” that I understand the Republican House leadership intends to consider. And make no mistake, this bill, and the others likely to follow, blow a hole in the deficit. Though at some point in the near future, President Obama will somehow be blamed for this.

This is a textbook example of Congress picking winners and losers.

Many of us support the R&D tax credit but there is no excuse for not offsetting the cost of the bill, noting that permanently extending the R&D credit and five other tax provisions that GOP leaders want to act on would add \$310 billion to the deficit.

Two years ago my Republican colleagues managed to hijack the legislative process and increase the federal budget deficit by insisting on an extension of the Bush Tax Cuts, originally enacted in 2001 and 2003.

These tax cuts cost \$1 trillion a year to extend and while many are critical to individuals

and businesses, the fact remains that if we are going to have a serious discussion about tax reform and balancing the budget, Congress cannot simply ignore the other side of the ledger: revenues. In addition, Congress cannot and should not be in the business of picking winners and losers.

Again, it is “hypocritical” that our Republican friends won’t offset the R&D credit but let emergency unemployment insurance for the long-term unemployed expire because they claim that we could not find an offset that they would support.

I ask my colleagues to reject this bill and end this partisan lawmaking.

RECOGNIZING MIKE GRECO

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I stand before you today to honor Mr. Michele “Mike” Greco for his more than 60 years of outstanding commitment to The Bronx and to my congressional district. Michele, better known as Mike, has consistently been a commendable contributor to The Bronx community, and stands as a living example of true commitment, citizenship, and good service to the community.

Michele Greco left the small town of Mendicino in Calabria, Italy in 1949, and immigrated to the Arthur Avenue section of The Bronx. While not a native member of the community, Mike has grown to embody all of the best characteristics of our community, and I am proud to call him a colleague in service, and even more proud to call him a friend.

Mike has grown to be an invaluable member of the community whose dedication to the neighborhood can be seen through all facets of his work.

Today, at 85 years young, Mike’s commitment is shown through his opening of The Bronx’s favorite neighborhood deli, Mike’s Deli. For New York City residents, having a neighborhood staple open for business day in and day out serves as a steady reminder that there is always someone in our community here to help, and for many people, that someone is Mike.

Mike Greco has dedicated himself to promoting his neighborhood’s rich Italian heritage, and to tirelessly demonstrating his love for The Bronx and all it has to offer. Most importantly, this gentleman serves as an outstanding example of how one person’s lifelong work can leave such a permanent mark in the hearts and minds of so many.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Mike Greco for his remarkable dedication to improving The Bronx, and sharing its wonders with visitors and residents alike.

RECOGNIZING THE U.S. BORDER PATROL’S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United States Border Patrol’s 90th anniversary of its founding.

First established as the Mounted Guard, founding members came from a large number of disparate groups that included Texas Rangers, sheriffs, and deputized cowboys who patrolled the Texas frontier looking for smugglers, rustlers, and people illegally entering the United States.

A Department of Labor Appropriation Act on May 28, 1924, formally established the U.S. Border Patrol with an initial force of 450 Patrol Inspectors, each patrolman responsible for furnishing his own horse.

Prohibition radically changed the role of the early Border Patrol due to the rampant smuggling of alcohol across the borders. As a result, a formal training regime was initiated for this young organization at Camp Chigas in El Paso, Texas.

In August 1942, the Border Patrol’s emblem was officially designated with a circular solid navy blue background surrounded by yellow with the continental United States centered in the middle with the words “U.S. BORDER PATROL” embossed in yellow on top, becoming a highly recognizable emblem worldwide.

The original emblem is still in use and is worn proudly by the men and women of the Border Patrol on all of their uniforms. The motto of the U.S. Border Patrol, “Honor First,” grew out of the dedication and actions of the first men who called themselves U.S. Border Patrol Inspectors, later to be known as U.S. Border Patrol Agents.

In the past 90 years, Border Patrol Agents have enforced our Nation’s immigration laws, provided border security, responded to civil disturbances, acted as air marshals, assisted State and local law enforcement, trained foreign officers, and provided humanitarian assistance. The present force of over 21,000 agents, located in 139 stations within 20 sectors across the southern and northern borders has been given an immense responsibility—protecting more than 8,000 miles of international land and water boundaries.

Whether dealing with the problem of illegal immigration or facing the threat of international terrorism, Border Patrol agents continue to be known for their dedication to duty, integrity, ingenuity, and rugged determination.

The threats have changed over the years but their commitment to the mission has remained steadfast. For nearly one hundred years, they have protected the Nation’s borders in unforgiving terrain against all who would do us harm.

Let us never forget the dangerous nature of this work—118 agents and pilots have given their lives in the line of duty.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, I want to commend the men and women of the Border Patrol for their many years of service and wish them a happy 90th anniversary.

Honor First.

AMERICAN RESEARCH AND
COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation, which is especially important to New Jersey, one of America's most research-intensive states. Yet I must ask how my Republican colleagues can support this tax expenditure while opposing all other forms of government spending.

Republicans say America can't afford to pass unemployment insurance for 2.5 million Americans struggling to find work. NIH is at the lowest funding in three years, distributing fewer and fewer grants, but we can't afford to fund scientific and health research. There is a \$2 trillion transportation backlog, but we can't afford to repair and upgrade our roads, bridges, tunnels, and dams. Yet somehow, they say we can afford special tax cuts?

That's nonsense. To quote Martin Feldstein, the former chief economic advisor to Ronald Reagan, "These tax rules . . . are equivalent to direct government expenditures."

The distinction between tax expenditures and direct spending is one that only Grover Norquist could love. If America can afford this tax cut—and indeed we can—then we can afford to do so much more.

So I thank Republican leaders for correctly acknowledging the role of government investment in our economy. And I call on them to use this same logic to find more ways to invest in America. Let us pass a transportation bill that funds our roads and bridges. Let's meet the funding goals for scientific research that we set in the 2007 and 2010 COMPETES Act. Let's help the millions of Americans looking for work with the support they need. We can do better. The American people deserve better.

LEGISLATION THAT WOULD
ALLOW FAA TO CONTINUE WITH
ADOPTION OF OEI CRITERIA**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to a proposed policy that could have a significant adverse effect on jobs, private property, tax revenues, and economic development in several major American cities that host airports, and their surrounding communities.

The proposed change seeks to significantly alter current criteria used to evaluate structure heights around airports by changing the way a single engine failure at the moment of takeoff scenario is considered. This more rigorous standard would effectively lower the maximum permissible structure height around airports, affecting nearly 4,000 existing buildings in 48 States that would exceed the new criteria, not to mention a number of planned developments.

No one disputes aviation safety must be the top priority when considering these proposals.

However, every air carrier is already currently required to individually plan for a single engine failure scenario. These contingency plans may result in costly measures for the carriers such as greater fuel burn, reduced cargo, or reduced numbers of passengers. For this reason, FAA has historically considered OEI as an economic issue.

Given the potential far-reaching economic impact of this change and the competing economic interest at stake, we believe that this action should only be accomplished in accordance with standard rulemaking procedures, requiring a cost-benefit analysis with input from OMB and other agencies, and taking into consideration the real-world effects of such a change. A bipartisan, bicameral group of legislators wrote to Secretary Foxx and Administrator Huerta earlier this year asking for this very thing.

Last month, FAA posted a notice of policy change to the Federal Register announcing their intention to proceed with consideration of OEI via a change to policy, thus bypassing the rigors of a formal rulemaking. This action allows FAA to circumvent the rigors of cost-benefit and federalism analysis under Executive Order 12866 by calling this significant change to Part 77 a policy change, when it is, in fact, a rule change.

I, along with a bipartisan group of my colleagues, have introduced legislation today that would allow FAA to continue with adoption of OEI criteria only if the policy is adopted via a formal rulemaking, requiring input from OMB, OIRA, and other agencies, as well as a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis weighing competing economic interest and proposed practices versus current ones. This bill applies only to OEI consideration, and would not preempt the agency's ability to act in the event of an emergency situation.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL
SEERSUCKER DAY**HON. BILL CASSIDY**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

In celebration and appreciation of seersucker manufacturers and admirers around the country, I extend a Happy Seersucker Day. With a rich history dating back to 1909, seersucker clothing is a unique American fashion. The original seersucker suit was designed by Joseph Haspel at his Broad Street facility in New Orleans and has been enjoyed since by many Americans. The lightweight cotton fabric with its signature "pucker" has provided comfortable fashion ware during the hot summer months. As Mr. Haspel said, "hot is hot, no matter what you do for a living", seersucker clothing is now enjoyed by Americans across the country in all walks of life. In the late 1990s, Seersucker Day was established to honor this unique American fashion. I wish to restart this tradition by designating Wednesday, June 11th as National Seersucker Day. I encourage everyone to wear seersucker to commemorate this iconic American clothing.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of May, in the year of our

Lord two thousand fourteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-eighth.

RECOGNIZING AWANA CO-FOUNDERS ART & WINNIE ROHRHEIM'S
75TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**HON. MICHELE BACHMANN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Art and Winnie Rohrheim's 75th wedding anniversary.

When the couple married in 1939, little did anyone know the impact that they would have on the world. What began as a personal passion for working with children in Chicago, Illinois, grew quickly into a successful program driven by their love and dedication to God and the kids.

By 1950, the Rohrheims founded Awana, the now-internationally renowned program, which stands for "Approved Workers Are Not Ashamed." Today Awana Clubs International reaches more than 2 million children in more than 100 countries on a weekly basis, encouraging young people everywhere to grow in their faith and learn more about the Bible's teachings.

At the heart of Awana is the Gospel. Art and Winnie have devoted a lifetime to their Lord and Savior. Not a day goes by that they aren't sharing with those they meet the truth of Jesus dying for our sins.

For three quarters of a century, Art and Winnie's strength of love and commitment has been a testimony for their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and all those who have had the honor of knowing them.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body join with me in honoring Art and Winnie Rohrheim for their milestone wedding anniversary, and their exemplary contributions to this nation and the lives of millions around the world.

HONORING THE BRAVE AND TALENTED LAKE FOREST COUNTRY
DAY SCHOOL STUDENT PARTICIPANTS IN THE 39TH ANNUAL
ROBBIE BIRMINGHAM SPEAKING
CONTEST**HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 13 exceptional students at Lake Forest Country Day School (LFCDS) in the suburban Chicago district I represent.

These fifth through eighth grade students honored a 39-year tradition born out of a moment of pure courage, when Robbie Birmingham, recently diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, rose to his feet, delivered a speech from his heart and moved all those in attendance.

This year's 13 finalists spoke with poise, passion, pride and great courage themselves. They elucidated universal topics, big and small, and brought them to life with personal experiences.

Angelique Alexos on technology; Foster Graf on courage; Chapin Grumhaus on community cooperation; Heather Knobel on dyslexia; Luke Maggos on stereotypes; Olivia Maggos on Russian adoption; Tyler Medvec on unsung heroes; Calvin Osborne on NASA; Charlie Shattock on optimism; Lily Silvester on baking; Scotty Skinner on Falling Whistles; Kimberly Stafford on underdogs; and Chloe Whelan on what is normal.

Since the Annual Robbie Bermingham Speaking Contest is, in fact, a competition, special recognition must go to Chloe Whelan, who took First Place, to Tyler Medvec for a Second Place finish and to Heather Knobel and Chapin Grumhaus for jointly taking Third Place.

These students, their enthusiasm, their eloquence and their vision truly inspired me and gave me hope for our future.

I am grateful for the lasting impression that young Robbie Bermingham has left on Lake Forest Country Day School, its faculty and students, and I am glad that they carry on that legacy of public speaking excellence today. Congratulations once again to all 13 finalists, and thank you for bringing us hope and perspective.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 204 held on May 7, 2014, I intended to vote "no." I oppose H. Res. 565, "Calling on Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr., to appoint a special counsel to investigate the targeting of conservative nonprofit groups by the Internal Revenue Service," and support the ongoing efforts of the Justice Department to investigate the alleged targeting of both conservative and liberal groups.

HONORING BATTALION SGT. MAJOR ROBERT J. BLATNIK

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize Battalion Sgt. Major Robert J. Blatnik for his exceptional service to our country. He joined the US Army's 1st Battalion, 26th Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, on October 19, 1938, and would remain in this unit for the entirety of his time in the service. He saw combat during WWII in North Africa, Tunisia, Sicily, Germany, and France. On June 6, 1944 he took part in the first wave of the invasion of Normandy at Omaha Beach—Fox Red 1. Mr. Blatnik earned 4 Purple Hearts, the Silver Star, 5 Bronze Stars, and several other medals.

Mr. Blatnik remains a true patriot, and last summer, he was among six Normandy vets from Texas selected to go back to the beachhead where so many gave the ultimate sacrifice for the cause of freedom. Humbly, I echo the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be

proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free." And humbly, I offer my sincere gratitude to Battalion Sgt. Major Robert J. Blatnik for his service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

REQUESTING AN EXPEDITED ACCREDITATION PROCESS FOR COMPTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, on August 22, 2006, Compton Community College lost its accreditation. Because it is a core educational institution for students from Compton and neighboring cities such as Carson, Lynwood, Paramount, Watts, and North Long Beach, I would like to take this time to recognize its excellence and request an expedited accreditation process.

Compton Community College has a proud history of being a primary provider of high quality post-secondary education for persons of color in the greater Los Angeles County region from 1927 until 2006. Not only is it a source of community pride and positive stimulus for students and families, but it also supports the continued development of the surrounding communities.

Since 2006, the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees, under the direction of the highly regarded Dr. Keith Curry, have partnered Compton Community with El Camino College, an accredited school of good standing in order to offer accredited courses to 6,780 students.

El Camino College's involvement have kept the higher education alive in Compton, however the people of Compton deserve a college to call their own. Compton Community College served as a source of community pride, a positive stimulus for students and families, and supported the continued development of the surrounding communities.

Therefore, I am introducing a resolution to urge an expedited accreditation process for Compton Community College. I stand with the faculty and students of Compton Community College, and look forward to Compton College once again leading the young people of Compton through their pursuit of higher education.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG POLICY COMMISSION ACT OF 2014

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to introduce the Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Commission Act of 2014, a bill that will create an independent commission to evaluate U.S. policies aimed at reducing drug production and trafficking in the Western Hemisphere. A similar bill passed the House of Representatives unanimously on December 8, 2009 with a bipartisan group of 30 cosponsors.

I thank my good friend and colleague Congressman MATT SALMON, the Chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, for being the lead Republican sponsor of this legislation. I also thank Representatives SIREN, ROSELEHTINEN and O'Rourke for being original cosponsors of the bill.

With \$15.7 billion spent on counternarcotics programs in Latin America and the Caribbean between 1980 and 2012, it is important to take stock of what has worked, what has not worked and what future U.S. drug policy should look like. This independent commission will be required to submit recommendations on future U.S. drug policy to Congress, the Secretary of State and the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy 12 months after its first meeting.

The time to examine U.S. drug policy is long overdue. While billions of U.S. taxpayer dollars have been spent over the years to fight the drug trade, illegal drug use in the United States remains high. In 2012, there were an estimated 23,900,000 illicit drug users in the United States. In particular, I am concerned by the dramatic increase in heroin use in our country. Attorney General Eric Holder recently noted that heroin overdose deaths in the United States increased by an alarming 45 percent between 2006 and 2010.

On the supply side, nearly all cocaine consumed in the United States originates in South America while most of the heroin consumed here is from Colombia and Mexico. In addition, Central America and the Caribbean are key transit regions for drugs entering the United States.

To tackle our nation's horrific drug problem once and for all, we must have a better sense of what works and what does not work. Our partners in the Americas, who have worked closely with us in fighting drug trafficking for years, and the citizens of our great country, who deal every day with illegal drugs on their streets, deserve no less.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF EDWARD IWANICKI, SR.

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, the State of Connecticut lost one of its great sons with the passing of Edward Iwanicki, Sr., a leader who served Connecticut through a long and distinguished career in public service.

Mr. Iwanicki, one of ten children born to Polish immigrants Konstanty and Mary Pauline Boczkowska Iwanicki, was born and raised in Meriden, Connecticut. A talented athlete, he excelled at sports, even being named All-State Quarterback in 1937. He went on to share his passion for athletics with younger generations of Meriden youth, serving as a coach and umpire for city baseball and football teams.

When the United States entered World War II, Mr. Iwanicki served his country as an infantryman in the U.S. Army.

Following World War II, Mr. Iwanicki returned to Meriden and began his 35-year career at New Departure, which was then part of

General Motors. Mr. Iwanicki was a proud member of the United Auto Workers and spent much of his life fighting for the rights of workers everywhere.

Mr. Iwanicki devoted his entire life to serving his community. He was the Boy Scout Master of Troop #31, President of the Meriden Um-pires Association, President of Father's Club of Meriden Girls Club, and participated in many other cultural organizations.

Mr. Iwanicki continued his service to his country and his community when he got involved in Meriden and Connecticut politics. He served as Treasurer of the Meriden Democratic Party, Alderman in the City Council, and was then elected State Representative from the 79th Assembly District.

Edward Iwanicki, Sr.'s life embodied the spirit of civic engagement that strengthens our communities and makes our country a better place. His contributions to the City of Meriden, the State of Connecticut, and to the United States will not be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING MAY AS ALS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it's estimated that each year 5,600 Americans are diagnosed with ALS—or Lou Gehrig's Disease. A disease that occurs throughout the world with no racial, ethnic or socioeconomic boundaries.

For one young man in my district in Pennsylvania, those stats hit close to home when a close family friend received the diagnosis.

Nine-year-old Jared Laff wasn't satisfied with just sitting by, though. He set out to earn his Junior Black Belt in karate—dedicating months of hard work and training to his friend Ron. Through his perseverance, Jared was awarded his belt in March as well as raising \$2,200 for the fight against ALS.

Jared's commitment and compassion are an example to all who want to make a difference.

May is ALS Awareness Month, but thanks to people like Jared the goal of drawing attention—and funding—to the fight against ALS is a year-round effort.

HONORING CLAUDINA MCCAMMACK

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my friend and one of my constituents, Claudina McCammack, of Muncie, Indiana.

Claudina was a longtime resident of Muncie and active community leader. She served as District Secretary for former Congressman David Dennis, as Delaware County Commissioners Secretary, part time in Voters Registration, and as a Republican Precinct Committeewoman. Claudina, whose faith was so central in her life, was also an active member of the Full Gospel Temple in Muncie.

Claudina could always be counted on as a strong advocate for the people and policies in

which she believed. She was leader in the Delaware County Republican Party and in the city of Muncie. Much of her life was spent in the service to others. Claudina received numerous awards and recognition for her work, including a key to the city of Muncie. Perhaps her greatest legacy is the impact she had on so many lives in east-central Indiana. Countless people can recount the help they received from Claudina, who always possessed a commitment to serve and had a smile on her face.

I ask the entire 6th District to keep Claudina's children, Randall, Beth, and Kaye, along with the entire extended McCammack family, in your thoughts and prayers.

HONORING YEOMAN 1ST CLASS ANDREA JEAN SMALL

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize Yeoman 1st Class Andrea Jean Small for her exceptional service to our country. In April of 1943, at the age of 23, she joined the Navy in lieu of nursing school. Mrs. Small completed her basic training in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Upon completion, she moved to Washington, DC to begin her service.

As one of the first WAVES—Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service—Mrs. Small left her childhood home of Peoria, Illinois, was among the first women to serve our country in a military capacity during WWII. Due to the scarcity of manpower and the urgency of protecting our nation, nearly 400,000 women took on new roles in all military branches during the war.

At the age of 95, Mrs. Small can still remember many of the experiences she had prior to and during her service in Washington. She can recall hearing about the attack on Pearl Harbor just as she was leaving church on that cold December morning, and the funeral procession of Franklin Delano Roosevelt on April 14, 1945. Perhaps the fondest memory was the night she met the man who would later become her husband of 29 years, Yeoman 1st Class Joe Breithaupt, at a Navy USO party. The two were married on July 13, 1945, just three months after they had met. After completion of their service, the two made their home in the Corsicana area, where they raised three sons. Following Joe's death from cancer, Jean later remarried to Mr. Marlyn Small, and they were married for nine years until his passing.

Humbly, I echo the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free." And humbly, I offer my sincere gratitude to Yeoman 1st Class Andrea Jean Small for her service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

SOUTH CAROLINA'S SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AS A "PURPLE HEART DISTRICT"

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to South Carolina's Second Congressional District as home to recipients of the Purple Heart. So many of its residents have honorably served our nation in its time of need—all gave some and some gave all. As a reflection of the Midlands of South Carolina's pivotal role in war efforts past and present, and the deep personal sacrifice of so many of its residents, I stand to proclaim that South Carolina's Second Congressional District should be recognized as a "Purple Heart District."

As you know, The Purple Heart is one of the oldest and most recognized American military medals, awarded to service members who were killed or wounded by enemy action. In 1782, George Washington created the Badge of Military Merit to reward "any singularly meritorious action" displayed by a soldier, non-commissioned officer, or officer in the Continental Army. This award was intended to encourage gallantry and fidelity among soldiers. General Douglas MacArthur (then Army Chief of Staff) revived the award on February 22, 1932, the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth. Since its inception and through several wars and conflicts, the Purple Heart has been given to more than a million wounded or killed while serving our nation.

South Carolina is home to a proud military tradition, from Fort Moultrie to recent deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. Because of its unique location to include Fort Jackson and North Air Force Auxiliary Field, with adjacent Shaw Air Force Base, McEntire Joint Air Base, Parris Island Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort Naval Hospital, and Fort Gordon, the Second Congressional District of South Carolina is an ever-expanding center for military life. I am honored to represent these valiant men and women.

Mr. Speaker, South Carolina has dispatched thousands of its sons and daughters to fight the enemy, many have sacrificed their health and many have sacrificed their lives. We will never forget their sacrifices and are grateful for the valiant men and women who have been harmed defending their country and our freedom.

I ask that my colleagues to join me in recognition and appreciation of South Carolina's Purple Heart recipients past and present. Now, in the spirit of that appreciation, let it be known that South Carolina's Second Congressional District should be recognized as a "Purple Heart District."

CELEBRATING ROYCE SCHERTZ

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Royce Schertz who will graduate as

a Second Lieutenant from the U.S. Air Force Academy on May 28, 2014. While his time at the academy is coming to an end, there's no extended summer vacation in store for him. Lt. Schertz has been accepted into the prestigious pilot school program which starts three weeks later.

While the Academy's aviation programs give cadets the opportunity to fly in both powered and unpowered aircraft, learn advanced parachuting skills, and compete against students from colleges around the world, only the elite move on to the pilot school program. Lt. Schertz's next year will be focused and devoted to the program as his time will be filled flying and preparing for flights. Taking control of the most advanced aircraft in the world—and pushing their performances to the limit—requires extraordinary skill, precision, and commitment to mission accomplishment. All of these are attributes Lt. Schertz has shown time and time again.

At the Academy, Lt. Schertz distinguished himself as both a scholar and a leader. A regular presence on the Dean's List, he also found time to support and motivate his classmates, raise funds for charity, and host foreign exchange students. In addition to his intense military training, Lt. Schertz devoted many hours to community service and was a key member of the Academy's competitive athletic programs. All this was atop an academic workload that challenges our nation's best and brightest.

Lt. Schertz's dedication to excellence displays the best values of central Texas and is a reflection of the greatness of the men and women of our armed forces. I commend his achievements, celebrate his commitment, and wish him well in the future. I'm grateful that brave young men like him will be providing our nation's security in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING GRAND AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND SMITH STREET SCHOOL

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and commend two schools in my district—Grand Avenue Elementary School in North Baldwin, NY and Smith Street School in Uniondale, NY—for being honored during the National Schools of Character recognition ceremony in Washington, DC, on Thursday, May 15, 2014.

In February, 48 schools and districts across 14 states were named as "State Schools of Character for 2014" by the Character Education Partnership. Grand Avenue Elementary School and Smith Street School were two out of six schools recognized from the state of New York for their outstanding achievement in character development. By imbedding values and character at all levels of learning, these schools are ensuring our students are successful at all aspects of life.

As a senior member of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, I have advocated for new and innovative ways to educate our students and help them become more engaged and productive members of society. Our future depends on their success, both in

and out of the classroom. Schools like Grand Avenue Elementary and Smith Street School are shining examples of this creative and well-rounded approach to learning, and I could not be more proud of the recognition they are receiving because of it. I commend the principals, administrators, teachers and parents on receiving this honor and for their ongoing commitment to preparing our students for success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DENNIS CAMPBELL

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I submit the attached letter on behalf of myself and Congressman ROBERT HURT.

Mr. Speaker we rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Dennis Campbell, who—after seventeen years of service—will retire from his position as Headmaster of Woodberry Forest School next month. We are both honored to have represented Madison County, VA, where this excellent academic institution is located, and are proud of the great tradition Woodberry has of training great students and first-rate citizens.

Prior to becoming Woodberry's eighth headmaster in 1997, Dr. Campbell served as the dean of the Divinity School and professor of theology at Duke University from 1982 until 1997. Before his appointment as dean, he was a professor, college and university administrator, and college chaplain. Dr. Campbell grew up in Elmwood Park, Illinois, and is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Duke University with both A.B. and Ph.D. degrees. In addition, Yale University awarded him the B.D. degree. A noted lecturer, seminar leader, and author, he is particularly known for his work in ethics and moral education. He has written numerous journal articles and reviews, and is the author or editor of eight books.

Dr. Campbell will leave Woodberry Forest a much stronger institution in all phases of secondary education including Woodberry's faculty, curriculum, athletics and physical plant. Moreover, these achievements have been made at the all-boys school while continually upholding Woodberry Forest's venerable honor code.

We are certain Dr. Campbell's contributions to American education will continue. He remains a trustee of The Duke Endowment, one of the nation's largest private philanthropic trusts, based in Charlotte, N.C., where he chairs the audit committee and serves as a member of the committees on educational institutions and child care. He also serves on the board of trustees of the International Coalition of Boys' Schools, the Boys and Girls Club of Orange, Va., and the Association of Boarding Schools. The Campbells are the parents of two children, Margaret and Trevor.

Today Woodberry Forest School will celebrate the tenure of Dr. Campbell, and we are honored to congratulate him for exceptional service to a unique educational institution of excellence in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

ERIC CANTOR,
Member of Congress.
ROBERT HURT,
Member of Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of Bethel Baptist Church in Vienna, Georgia as the church's membership and leadership celebrate a remarkable 150 years. The congregation of Bethel Baptist Church will celebrate this very significant anniversary with a celebration on Sunday, May 18, 2014 at the church in Vienna, Georgia.

Tracing its roots back to the Civil War era, the church was founded in 1864 as a brush arbor church by Reverend Randolph Beach. Along with Rev. Beach, Deacons William Cobb, E.D. Brown, Sandy Nealy, and Adam Lewis cut logs and rolled them together to form seats. The building was called Bethel.

During the first year, Rev. Beach and the members purchased the one acre of land on which the church still sits today. The first church built on this land was a "shanty" church. The membership continued to increase and Rev. Beach served as pastor for eighteen years until he was called home to be with the Lord.

Rev. Beach was succeeded by Rev. Nathan Brown, who facilitated improvements to the church's structure. Rev. Brown resigned and was succeeded by Rev. Daniel Amica, who then resigned after one year. Rev. Brown returned to Bethel and continued to serve for eighteen more years until he was called from labor to reward.

Rev. Brown was succeeded by Rev. Amos Reid, a strong and beloved leader. For the next several years, the church was served by a number of pastors, each leaving their lasting mark on the church in some form or fashion. Perhaps the most notable were Reverend S.P. Miller, who advocated for a brick building to be erected, resulting in the foundation of the present brick structure being laid, and Rev. C.S. Wilkins, who continued the work by raising money to complete the erection of the brick building. The main auditorium and a tower, which cost \$10,000, were built, and a seven-hundred-pound bell was installed. Rev. Wilkins, who had stepped up to lead the church at a time when it was experiencing difficulties, set high goals for Bethel Baptist Church. He instituted many internal changes, including organizing the membership into clubs, which raised the spirit and morale of the church. The membership was very sorry to see him resign due to his poor health.

Throughout the years, the church would continue to improve both aesthetically and spiritually under the leadership of several devoted pastors. In May 1957, Rev. Moses A. Lee became pastor of Bethel Baptist Church. The church was transformed during the first twelve months of his pastorate and continued to make progress under his remarkable forty-one year tenure.

In September 1998, longtime Bethel member and ordained deacon, Rev. Dr. Bobby G. West, accepted the pastoral invitation and continues to serve as pastor today. He and his

family not only serve the church and its members, but also work hard to serve the surrounding community through an active and expansive outreach ministry.

The story of Bethel Baptist Church, which began as a small group of people worshipping in a brush arbor 150 years ago and has grown into an expansive and successful church, is truly an inspiring one of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful congregation of people who put all their love and trust in the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the membership of Bethel Baptist Church in Vienna, Georgia for their long history of coming together through the good and difficult times to praise and worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and for serving the community through Him.

COMMEMORATING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONTINENTAL TAVERN

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today we commemorate the Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the Continental Tavern, Yardley Borough, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Restoring the tavern to its historic state has been a passion shared by the Lyons family. Frank Lyons' enthusiasm for America history has lead him, for more than a decade, to spend his Christmas mornings volunteering in the annual reenactment of General George Washington's Christmas Day Crossing of 1776. Families and history buffs gather at the spot Durham boats left quietly taking soldiers across the Delaware River and on to fight heroically in the battles of Trenton and Princeton. Frank Lyons has said, "Reenacting is a progressive disease, the more you do it, the more you want to do it, the more you want to learn, the more things you want to do."

Frank was compelled to do more things which included restoring an old tavern on Main Street, Yardley Borough, known by locals as "The Continental." Joined by his wife Patty and daughter Kelly Lyons Vliet, they lovingly restored the 19th century tavern and created a gathering place for our community.

Once just an outbuilding on the estate of Thomas Yardley, over the centuries, the Continental Tavern has been a restaurant, tavern, home, hotel, library, speakeasy and perhaps even a destination point for runaway slaves traveling on the Underground Railroad. Speculation about unsolved mysteries, ghosts and infamous hotel guest John Wilkes Booth continue to fuel local legend and add to the character of The Continental.

Renovations have unearthed 5,000 empty whiskey bottles from the Prohibition era, children's toys, coins, old light bulbs, scraps of newspaper from the early 20th Century and even a bloody corset riddled with bullet holes. Many of these items are currently displayed throughout The Continental and will be part of the tavern's third floor museum.

Today, I would like to thank the Lyons family for their hard work, commitment to history and our community and congratulate them on the 150th Anniversary of the historic Continental Tavern.

CONDEMNING THE KIDNAPPING OF NIGERIAN SCHOOLGIRLS BY BOKO HARAM

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my outrage over the brutal assaults on human dignity and freedom committed by the Boko Haram, a militant group that has no respect for the rights of women and girls.

Since 2013, more than 4,400 men, women, and children have been slaughtered by Boko Haram.

The victims include Christians, Muslims, journalists, health care providers, relief workers. And schoolchildren.

I rise today to urge our government, the United States of America, to assist the Government of Nigeria, working through the African Union, to rescue the more than 200 schoolgirls who were kidnapped from the Chibok School for Girls in Borno State on April 15, and the 11 schoolgirls kidnapped last night in the Warabe community of Borno, and reunited with their families and loved ones.

Boko Haram's reign of terror must be brought to an end.

I call upon the international community to work in concert to detect, disrupt, and dismantle Boko Haram's funding sources derived from other Islamist groups, including Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and to al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), the Al Muntada Trust Fund, and the Islamic World Society.

I commend President Obama on his decision to deploy American security experts and equipment in Nigeria to help locate and rescue the abducted schoolgirls and we applaud Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan for accepting that assistance.

The leader of Boko Haram has threatened to ransom or sell the abducted schoolgirls into the human trafficking market for about twelve dollars each (\$12.00 USD).

I say to him: "Don't you dare."

Boko Haram's outrageous conduct will be tolerated or overlooked for not only is it a violation of the girls' human rights, it is also contrary to United States policy which supports and promotes equal access to education and economic opportunity for women and girls.

As the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

So we will not stand idly by.

But we do stand in solidarity with the good people of Nigeria and especially those beautiful and courageous schoolgirls who wanted nothing more than to get an education to make life better for themselves and their beloved country.

We will not forget or forsake you.

This is what I think we should do.

Since we know that terrorist groups cannot operate effectively without reliable and steady funding to support their criminal acts, the United States should work with the international community to detect, disrupt, and dismantle the funding networks financing Boko Haram, which published reports indicate has received as much as \$70 million from other Islamist groups, including Al-Qaeda in the Is-

lamic Maghreb (AQIM) and Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), the Al Muntada Trust Fund, and the Islamic World Society.

Additionally, the United States should work with the Government of Nigeria to develop its own capacity to deploy specialized police and army units rapidly to prevent and combat sectarian violence in cities and around the country where there has been a history of sectarian violence.

The creation and deployment of an elite highly-trained rapid response unit was used to successful effect by the Indonesia Government in 2004 to neutralize the Laskar Jihad terrorist organization.

The United States should also take appropriate action to help the Government of Nigeria establish a Victim's Fund to provide humanitarian relief and economic assistance to the victims of attacks by Boko Haram so that they can rebuild their lives and communities.

"People are the great issue of the 20th century," declared, then-Senator Hubert Humphrey in 1948.

Mr. Speaker, the well-being of people remains the great issue of the 21st century.

And there is no better measure of any society than the way it treats its women and girls.

Boko Haram understands that when Nigerian girls are educated, Nigerian women can succeed; and when Nigerian women succeed, Nigeria succeeds.

And that is why it is so important that the United States help Nigeria ensure that Boko Haram fails.

HONORING GWEN MOFFEIT'S DEDICATED SERVICE TO HENDERSON COUNTY

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, Gwen Moffeit has served Henderson County for over thirty-five years—twenty-four of them as County Clerk. She was elected to the position in 1990 as the first Republican candidate to win a county-wide election. During her tenure, she converted the process of recording documents from the traditional hardback books to the new technology of digital imaging. Gwen has had the pleasure of working with many elected officials during her tenure, including five County Judges: Winston Reagan, Tommy Smith, Aubrey Jones, David Holstein, and Richard Sanders.

Gwen has been very active in the community and has recently served on the I.T. committee, the Henderson County Elections Committee, the Bail Bond Board, as well as many other county committees throughout the years. She has also been a member of the Athens Kiwanis for over twenty years—serving as secretary for almost ten of those years. She is a member of Lone Star Republican women, Henderson County Republican Women's Club and the Cedar Creek Republican Club.

Ms. Moffeit has been married to her high school sweetheart 43 years. They have two daughters: Misty Wilmeth and Amy Cooper, with four grandchildren: grandson Bailey and granddaughters, Allie, Bradie, and Gracelyn. Ms. Moffeit and her husband are longtime members of Leagueville Baptist Church.

HONORING DR. CHARLES R. ROOTS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Dr. Charles R. Roots on his retirement and to recognize his tireless work as the Senior Pastor of the Free Methodist Church in Ripon. Ministering to thousands, Pastor Roots has earned the respect of fellow clergy and civic leaders alike.

Although born in New Haven, Connecticut, on September 5, 1948, he claims California as his home. In 1969, he began his military career as an enlisted Marine. He served with numerous commands during his nine years in the Marine Corps: AE-A School, NAS Jacksonville, Florida; VMFA 531, MCAS El Toro, California; VMCJ 1, MCAS Iwakuni, Japan; VMCJ1 det A (Cubi Point, the Philippines and Da Nang, South Vietnam); VMA 133, NAS Alameda, California; and 4th LAAM Battalion, Fresno, California. He was commissioned as a Navy Chaplain December 23, 1983. After attending the Navy Chaplain Corps Basic Course, NS Newport, Rhode Island, he served the following commands: Chaplain, MAG 39, MCB Camp Pendleton, California; Command Chaplain, USS *White Plains* (AFS4), NS Guam; Base Chaplain, NCS Stockton, California; Post-Graduate School, School of Theology at Claremont, California; and Chaplain at NS Rota, Spain. Within the active naval reserve he has served as: Chaplain, 1st MEFREL 220, Treasure Island, San Francisco, California; Battalion Chaplain, 1st Battalion 14th Marines Artillery, Alameda, California; Battalion Chaplain, 2nd Battalion 23rd Marines Infantry, Encino, California; Plans and Policy, Navy Chief of Chaplains Office, Washington, DC (The Pentagon); Command Chaplain, NARC, San Jose, California; and Command Chaplain, I MACE, Camp Pendleton, California.

In November of 2002 he was called back to active duty for two years in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) I & II. He served as the Commanding Officer of 1st MEFREL 220, NMCR Alameda, California. He was chosen by the Reserve Officers Association (ROA) as "Chaplain of the Year" for 2004. His last duty assignment was the Wing Chaplain for the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, New Orleans, Louisiana. He retired in September 2008 after 34 years of total service.

During his illustrious military career, he has received many awards, including: Legion of Merit; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal; Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal; Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2nd Award); Joint Meritorious Unit Award; Navy Unit Commendation; Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation; Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal; Navy Fleet Marine Force Ribbon; Selected Marine Corps Reserve Medal; National Defense Service Medal with two stars; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Vietnam Campaign Medal with one star; Iraq Campaign Medal with EGA device; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal with EGA device; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal; Navy/Marine Corps Sea Service Deployment with three stars; Navy/Marine

Corps Overseas Service Ribbon; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hour glass and Mobilization devices; Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with bracket and palm leaf; Vietnam Civil Actions Unit Citation with bracket and palm leaf; Vietnam Service Medal; Marine Corps Rifle Expert Badge; and Marine Corps Pistol Expert Badge.

During his service, he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Radio and Television Broadcasting from San Jose State University in 1976. He continued his education by graduating from Western Evangelical Seminary in Portland, Oregon with a Masters of Divinity in Biblical Studies in 1979. In 1995, he earned his Doctor of Ministry Degree in Pastoral Counseling from the School of Theology at Claremont. Charles R. Roots is an ordained minister through the Free Methodist Church of North America.

Dr. Roots settled in Ripon, California and is the Senior Pastor of the Free Methodist Church. As a volunteer, he serves as the chaplain for the Ripon Police Department and is a member of the International Conference of Police Chaplains (ICPC). In addition, he is the past president of the Ripon Ministerial Association; the Police Activities League (PAL); a past director of the Ripon Chamber of Commerce, and numerous other community organizations. He belongs to the Military Chaplains Association (MCA); The Naval Reserve Association (NRA); the Reserve Officers Association (ROA); the Marine Corps Association; the Marine Corps Club of Stockton, California; the Joe Rosenthal Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Association (MCCCA); the vice president of the Ripon Arts League (RAL); and the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America (SPEBSQSA).

During his spare time, he became a published author: *The Sandwich Generation: Adult Children Caring for Aging Parents*. He also writes a weekly column, *Roots in Ripon*, for the *Ripon Record* newspaper. He is currently writing a historical novel about his great grandfather, Rev. Daniel Thatcher Lake, a Civil War veteran and one of the last of the Circuit Riding Preachers in the South.

Dr. Roots is married to the former Isaura Maria Cabral of Los Banos, California. They have two married daughters, Laura Christine Spence and Jennifer Kathleen Sousa, and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Charles Roots for his unwavering leadership, and recognizing his accomplishments and contributions as Pastor of the Free Methodist Church. Dr. Roots serves as an example of excellence to those in our community.

HONORING MICHELLE MILLBEN

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to take this opportunity to thank one of the most dedicated members of my Judiciary Committee staff, Michelle Millben, for her service to both the Committee and the House of Representatives. This month she will be leaving to join the White House in the Office of Presidential Personnel as the Outreach and Recruitment Director (Congressional Affairs).

To say that Michelle is a multi-talented attorney would be an understatement. A native of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Michelle received her Bachelor's degree in Music Performance, with honors in the violin and piano, from Oklahoma City University. Her musical talent is evidenced by a strong performance resume, impressively amassed while pursuing her legal education. She has performed in gospel choirs backing up Bruce Springsteen's Super Bowl halftime show and also sang at concerts for President Obama on the National Mall and at his first inauguration. In addition, Michelle has appeared as a choral singer in TNT's "Christmas In Washington" and participated as a vocal performer in the annual Kennedy Center Honors, providing background vocals alongside music legends such as Sting, James Taylor, Mavis Staples, Steven Tyler, Carrie Underwood, Heart, and Garth Brooks.

Michelle realized a longstanding dream of coming to Washington by studying at the Georgetown University Law Center as a visiting student during her third year of law school. She was ultimately awarded her Juris Doctor from The University of Oklahoma College of Law in 2009 and joined the Committee staff that fall. Michelle has served as a key resource to Members and staff on both sides of the aisle. While working as an Oversight Counsel, Michelle focused on such issues as the foreclosure crisis, the Fair Housing Act, and oversight of the Department of Justice. After our transition to the minority, Michelle's portfolio grew to encompass matters impacting women and women's health, civil rights, voting rights, human rights, election administration, and campaign finance. Michelle had significant staff responsibility for important pieces of legislation, most notably the National Defense Reauthorization Act of 2011 (H.R. 1540), the Voting Rights Act Amendments of 2014 (H.R. 3899), and a number of significant civil rights bills that have promising bipartisan support. Michelle has also worked to spearhead efforts around the filing of amicus briefs on behalf of Members of the House Judiciary Committee in the landmark Supreme Court cases of *Shelby County v. Holder* and *McCutcheon v. FEC*.

While her work on the Judiciary Committee staff clearly evidences a strong commitment to Federal service, Michelle has also taken the time to focus on service to youth and families in her newly adopted home state of Virginia and the City of Alexandria. Michelle currently serves as a Commissioner for the City's Redevelopment and Housing Authority, which strives to provide affordable housing and economic opportunity for city residents, and also serves on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington's DC region. As an Associate Minister at the historic Alfred Street Baptist Church, Michelle also directs children's programs during the summer for the congregation's Vacation Bible School which gathers almost 1,000 people nightly during one week in June, while also leading music ministry to hundreds of students during their weekly Tuesday bible study at the church.

Michelle's energy and dedication to community service have not gone unnoticed. She was accepted into the Political Leaders Program Class of 2014 at the bipartisan Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership in Virginia. Michelle has been awarded the Dawn Lawson Leadership Development Award from the Virginia Leadership Institute, and was also

awarded the Oliver Hill Award for Social Activism by the National Black Law Students Association for her efforts in battling against social injustices.

On behalf of the Judiciary Committee, its staff, and this distinguished body, I would like to thank Michelle for her exemplary work, generosity, sense of humor, and loyalty over the past five years. She will be sorely missed as a colleague, advisor, and friend. We wish her the best of luck and extend to her our deepest gratitude.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H. RES. 567, ESTABLISHING
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
BENGHAZI

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule for H. Res. 567, which establishes a Select Committee on the Events Surrounding the 2012 Terrorist Attack in Benghazi.

I oppose this resolution because it is a distraction, intended by the House Republicans to divert public attention from their failure to address the problems Americans care about like creating jobs, raising the minimum wage, passing immigration reform, and extending unemployment insurance benefits to the long-term unemployed.

Mr. Speaker, instead of working with Democrats to address the priorities of the American people, Republican leaders are gearing up to exploit the tragic attacks in Benghazi with another deeply partisan review.

There have already been seven reviews of that terrible attack: one by the State Department Accountability Review Board, two bipartisan reviews in the Senate, and four reviews in the House—producing more than 25,000 documents and dozens of interviews with high-level officials throughout the government.

Mr. Speaker, responding to endless, repetitive and partisan congressional requests has cost the Department of Defense and other agencies thousands of man-hours and expenses running “into the millions of dollars,” according to Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs Elizabeth King.

Throughout these reviews, Republican Members have made numerous accusations in public that have turned out to be untrue after further investigation, undermining the credibility of their investigations and the House.

Mr. Speaker, our colleagues across the aisle have shown no interest in making the Select Committee on Benghazi any different from the extreme and counter-productive partisanship that has defined their previous investigations into the Fast and Furious and the IRS, and their dogged efforts to hold the Attorney General in contempt of Congress.

For example, in the resolution establishing the committee, Republicans stack the committee with seven Republicans to Democrats’ five, and explicitly exempt the new committee from adopting written rules.

From the pointless vote to hold former IRS official, Lois Lerner, in contempt, to the latest committee on Benghazi, it is clear that Repub-

licans will do anything to divert attention away from their do-nothing record.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better. They want and deserve for us to work together to solve the real problems facing our country.

I urge my colleagues to reject this rule and vote against the underlying resolution.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JENNIFER
PETT-RIDGE

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) in Livermore, California.

The Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Science has selected Dr. Jennifer Pett-Ridge to receive funding as part of the Department’s Early Career Research Program (ECRP). Her project, entitled “Microbial Carbon Transformations in Wet Tropical Soils: The Importance of Redox Fluctuations,” was selected by the Office of Biological & Environmental Research.

The ECRP is crucial to our ability to maintain American leadership in science. It was created to support the development of individual research programs of outstanding scientists early in their careers and stimulates research careers in the disciplines supported by the DOE Office of Science.

Dr. Pett-Ridge is the lead scientist of LLNL’s Genomic Science Biofuels Scientific Focus Area and is a Deputy Group Leader of the Isotopic Signatures Group within LLNL’s Chemical Sciences Division. She received her B.A. in biology and environmental studies and her M.S. in forest sciences from Yale. Her Ph.D. in soil microbial ecology from the University of California at Berkeley was earned in 2005.

Awardees were selected from a large pool of university and national laboratory-based applicants. Selection was based on peer review by outside scientific experts.

I am privileged to represent LLNL and its brilliant scientists like Dr. Pett-Ridge. Their hard work and skill are what keeps America secure and at the forefront of scientific innovation. I want to congratulate Dr. Pett-Ridge and wish her well in her work with ECRP.

SUCCESS AND OPPORTUNITY
THROUGH QUALITY CHARTER
SCHOOLS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to amend the Charter School Program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the Success and Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Act, a bill that strengthens the existing charter schools pro-

gram while including important reforms for accountability and access.

Public charter schools are an important testing ground for new ideas and innovative practices that can benefit our entire school system. Today’s bill supports the expansion of high quality charter schools while making vital improvements to the program to increase oversight and access. While current law requires charter schools to be open to all students, this bill would encourage enrollment and retention of underserved populations like students with disabilities and English language learners. It also enhances charter authorizing practices to include quality controls for student achievement and management.

I applaud the Education and Workforce Committee for working in a bipartisan fashion to bring this legislation to the Floor. I hope that we can apply that same spirit of cooperation to fully reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and improve education for all students in every public school.

IN RECOGNITION OF TAMARAC
CITY COMMISSIONER DIANE
GLASSER

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend Diane Glasser, who currently serves on the City Commission for Tamarac, Florida. I have been lucky to work with Diane for many years to make Florida a better place for all Floridians, but, for over 40 years, I have been even luckier to call Diane a friend. It is a 40-plus year friendship that has meant the world to me, and I thank her for it.

Diane hails from Mill Basin in Brooklyn, New York. She went to high school and college in New York, but then in 1973, we in Florida were lucky enough to entice her down our way—getting to avoid those New York winters probably helped us look like a good place to live too. Diane moved to Florida with her husband who was a 100 percent disabled veteran having served bravely in World War II. Diane’s husband, due to the injuries he suffered fighting for his country, was unable to work, but this did not stop him from being a tireless advocate for veterans. I think Diane would agree that her husband’s advocacy helped in part in laying the ground work for her future successes as an advocate for the members of our community.

After working in the construction industry for 12 years, Diane was ready for something new. Mr. Speaker, my friend Diane turned her tremendous energy and insight to helping the members of her community by volunteering for her local Democratic Party. Of course, Diane was not going to volunteer here and there. No, instead, Diane, through dedicated effort, went from starting as a volunteer and worked her way to First Vice Chair of the Florida Democratic Party. In addition, she was elected to the Democratic National Convention as a National Committeewoman, and was appointed to the Electoral College.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all Floridians and members of the Democratic Party, I would like to thank Diane for her tireless work in pursuit

of justice for not only all Floridians, but all Americans. She is an inspiration to all of us who strive to make our communities a better place to live.

TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTHEASTERN
PENNSYLVANIA SOCCER HALL
OF FAME 2014 HONOREES

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2014 inductees of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Soccer Hall of Fame. The inductions will be held on May 10, 2014 during the 67th Annual Hall of Fame Banquet.

Dating back to 1947, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Soccer Hall of Fame recognizes the best of our region's soccer community. Through hard work and dedication, the inductees and award winners have achieved both on and off the field.

The banquet is an opportunity to gather in celebration and recognition of the area's soccer community. This being the 67th banquet is a testament to the strength and standing of the Hall of Fame within the soccer community. As the world of soccer has evolved, so has this organization, ensuring that future generations will have the chance to participate in this great game. I congratulate and thank all of those honored for their important contributions.

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Soccer Hall of Fame also deserves special recognition for their Coats for Chester event. Since 2010, the Hall of Fame along with many dedicated volunteers collected over 4,800 winter coats to donate to needy families in Chester, PA.

I invite you and all of my colleagues to join in congratulating the Southeastern Pennsylvania Soccer Hall of Fame and those being honored at the 67th Hall of Fame Banquet.

COMMENDING SALVE REGINA ON
RECEIVING A 2014 ARTHUR ROSS
AWARD

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to congratulate Salve Regina University, in my home state of Rhode Island, on receiving the 2014 Arthur Ross Award for Stewardship. Given by the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art, the Arthur Ross Awards celebrate achievements in the classical tradition. According to the ICAA, "In protecting the architectural legacy of its campus, the university has commissioned new buildings that harmonize with its historic structures." My time on the campus has only confirmed Salve's success in preserving Newport's rich architectural and cultural heritage.

Since the donation of Ochre Court, the second largest mansion in the city, to the University in 1947, Salve has had a unique relationship with its buildings. Located on seven contiguous estates from Newport's gilded age, bordering the famous Cliff Walk, the natural

beauty of the grounds (some of which were designed by the Olmstead brothers) is only enhanced by the magnificence of the architecture. Beyond Ochre Court, Salve also counts McAuley Hall, the former estate of tobacco heiress Catherine Lorillard Wolfe; Conley Hall, once known as Faxon Lodge; and the National Historic Landmark, the William Watts Sherman House, among its many facilities.

In addition to acquiring and preserving these architectural gems, Salve has also commissioned buildings that promote and enhance the overall campus aesthetic. Two recent additions, the Rodgers Recreation Center and Our Lady of Mercy Chapel, both designed by internationally renowned architect Robert A.M. Stern, are stunning examples of Shingle style American architecture that mesh perfectly with their hundred year-old neighbors.

My favorite building on campus might be the Antone Academic Center, which originally served as the stables and carriage house for Chateau-sur-Mer, the oldest of the Bellevue Avenue mansions. The Antone Center is the home of Salve's Cultural and Historic Preservation Department, and it houses labs where students and professors develop new ways to protect our country's artistic legacy. By taking advantage of the natural resource that Rhode Island's rich architectural heritage represents, Salve has made important contributions to the Ocean State while training the next generation of preservationists.

In 2002, Salve became the first New England school to receive a Getty Grant to develop a campus heritage preservation plan. Barely a decade later, I am thrilled to see their hard work rewarded and highlighted on the national stage. Congratulations to University President Sister Jane Gerety and all of the Salve community for this honor!

HENDERSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, on May 17, 2014 the citizens of Henderson County, Texas will observe the 100th year anniversary of the current county courthouse in Athens, Texas. While Henderson County has had three previous Courthouse buildings, the one that stands today has passed the century mark.

Henderson County, established in 1846 by the Texas Legislature, was carved from Nacogdoches and Houston Counties and named for Texas' first Governor, J. Pinckney Henderson.

The Henderson County Commissioners Court approved the building of the current courthouse on June 12, 1913. They authorized L.R. Wright & Company to erect the structure for the cost of \$113,500. The L.L. Thurmon Architectural firm of Dallas designed the courthouse in the "Classical Revival" style, the dominant type of architecture for Texas courthouses in the early 1900s. A marble cornerstone and time capsule on the northeast corner commemorates the structure's construction. In early 1914 the new courthouse opened for operations.

The courthouse today stands in the square of Athens, Texas. Its entrances face the four

cardinal points of the compass at the intersections of State Highway 19 and 31 and US Highway 175. In the beginning, this building housed county and district offices, auto and property tax offices, and courtrooms. Throughout the years, many improvements were made to the building. Major renovations were completed during the year of 1965 with the addition of an elevator, new windows, and improvements to the stairs. Other renovations were made in 1986. The courthouse today still serves as the heartbeat to the county operations and community events.

IN HONOR OF LIGHTHOUSE
MINISTRIES

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Lighthouse Ministries for a decade of serving men, women and children in central and eastern Kentucky.

Lighthouse Ministries is a non-profit, faith-based organization dedicated to reaching the low- and moderate-income population of Lexington, and the Fayette County area, by providing free meals for people in need, and also by providing housing and support for men who are disadvantaged, whether due to recent imprisonment, drug-related issues, or poverty.

Lighthouse Ministries also provides educational and psychological support for people who are in need of drug, alcohol and vocational rehabilitation.

Since 2004, Lighthouse Ministries has served more than 330,000 meals—each accompanied by a Bible message, individual prayer if requested, and clothing and toiletries when needed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating Lighthouse Ministries' decade of service. I would also like to extend my personal gratitude to this organization for all that they do to better our community and our Commonwealth.

BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I seek to mark the start of Building Safety Month. Each May, we recognize the importance of building safety and the leadership of the International Code Council (ICC) that develops and publishes the model building safety and energy efficiency codes. These codes are used in my home state of Vermont, and throughout the United States, as well as in many other nations.

Building codes are the foundation for safety, stability and performance in buildings. Without strong building codes, flood would lead to increased damage, earthquakes would flatten communities, and countless lives would be lost. Strong model building codes also ensure our buildings are high performing and energy efficient.

So I want to congratulate the leaders of the ICC, who sponsor Building Safety Month, celebrated in May every year for over 30 years.

The leaders of ICC, including the President Stephen D. Jones, Construction Official for Millburn Township/Short Hills, New Jersey; Past President of the Board of Directors, Ronald Piester, Director, Division of Code Enforcement and Administration from the New York Secretary of State's Office; Vice-President Guy Tomberlin, Code Specialist for Fairfax County, Virginia; and Alex Olszowy III, Building Inspection Supervisor, Lexington/Fayette Urban County Government, Kentucky will join ICC's Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims in Washington the week of May 19th, to discuss the critical need to support the adoption and enforcement of current building codes, to make sure Americans are safe at home, at work, at school and at play.

The model building codes, produced by ICC, allow every community in the United States to share the advantage of adopting building codes that are adaptable to local conditions, but at the same time incorporate the very latest research, materials, and building practices. This is achieved in a private-public partnership, saving local jurisdictions from bearing the large expense of code revision, updating and coordination. These model codes are produced through the cooperation of thousands of local officials, working with the building industry, to produce codes that represent a consensus on what the minimum safety requirements are for various building types.

Congratulations to the hard working members, and leadership, of the International Code Council.

IN SUPPORT OF VA SECRETARY
ERIC SHINSEKI

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, I rise today in strong support of Secretary Shinseki and his leadership of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. No veterans should ever go without the healthcare they deserve, but it is important to not just focus on anecdotal problems but to look at what the Secretary and the VA have accomplished.

The VA operates 1,700 sites of care, and conducts approximately 85 million appointments each year, which comes to 236,000 health care appointments each day.

The latest American Customer Satisfaction Index, an independent customer service survey, ranks VA customer satisfaction among Veteran patients among the best in the nation and equal to or better than ratings for private sector hospitals.

Since its peak in March of 2013, the VA has reduced the benefits claims backlog by nearly 50 percent, on track to eliminate the backlog in 2015. VA has also implemented an automated electronic claims processing system to better serve Veterans into the future. In 2013, VA paid out \$66 billion in compensation claims to 4.5 million eligible Veterans.

Under the leadership of Secretary Shinseki, VA has also greatly expanded access to earned benefits for Veterans of all eras.

In addition, VA granted presumption of service connection for three new Agent-Orange-re-

lated conditions: Parkinson's disease, hairy cell and other chronic b-cell leukemias, and ischemic heart disease; and for Gulf War Veterans, VA granted presumption of service connection for nine diseases associated with Gulf War Illness.

For all combat Veterans with verifiable PTSD—World War II, Korea, Dominican Republic, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, Somalia, Operation Desert Storm, Iraq, Afghanistan, among others—VA loosened the evidentiary standard to receive benefits.

Since 2009, VA has reduced the estimated number of homeless Veterans by 24 percent. They have conducted over six million clinical visits with over 600,000 Veterans who were homeless, at risk of homelessness (including formerly homeless). In 2013 alone, VA served more than 240,000 Veterans who were homeless or at risk of becoming homeless—21 percent more than the year before.

The VA has made progress for veterans of the future by providing Post-9/11 GI Bill educational benefits to more than one million students and decreasing the disability claims backlog by nearly 50 percent.

I welcome Secretary Shinseki's announcement that the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) will complete a nationwide access review at all health care facilities. As stated, the purpose of this review is to ensure a full understanding of VA's policy and continued integrity in managing patient access to care. As part of the review during the next several weeks, a national face-to-face audit will be conducted at all clinics for every VA Medical Center.

I am confident in the health care our veterans in Florida are receiving. With eight VA Medical Centers in Florida, Georgia and Puerto Rico and over 55 clinics serving over 1.6 million veterans, the care veterans are getting is the best in the world.

Over 2,312 physicians and 5,310 nurses are serving the 546,874 veterans who made nearly 8 million visits to the facilities in our region. Of the total 25,133 VA employees, one-third are veterans.

In 2013, 37,221 women received health care services at VA hospitals and clinics in Florida, South Georgia and the Caribbean—more than any other VA healthcare network nationwide. This means that more than 75 percent of women Veterans enrolled for VA healthcare in VISN 8 were seen by providers in 2013.

I am especially pleased at the new Jacksonville Replacement Outpatient Clinic that was recently opened. The two-story, 133,500 square foot clinic provides state of the art technology and increased specialty services including diagnostics, improved laboratory facilities, expansion of women's services, minor ambulatory surgical procedures, expanded mental health telehealth services and additional audiology.

When opened, the Orlando VA Medical Center will include 134 inpatient beds, an outpatient clinic, parking garages, chapel and central energy plant. Currently, the 120-bed community living center and 60-bed domiciliary are open and accepting veterans.

The VA provides quality timely healthcare to our veterans. We have a duty to make sure that all those who have defended this country when called upon receive the care they have earned through their service. I support the Secretary in his nationwide access review and

look forward to hearing his report when it is finished.

IN HONOR OF WALTER "RANDY"
RANDALL

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a great man and dedicated public servant, Lt. Col. Walter "Randy" Randall, USAF (Retired). Sadly, Lt. Col. Randall passed away on Saturday, May 3, 2014. A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 10, 2014 at the Base Theater at Robins Air Force Base. Interment with full military honors will be held on Monday, May 12, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. in Jacksonville National Cemetery in Jacksonville, Florida.

"Randy" was born on November 13, 1946 to the late Katie Randall and Walter Randall, Sr. in Chicago, Illinois. He grew up in Jacksonville, Florida and earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Bethune Cookman College and a Master of Science degree from Florida A&M University. After teaching Biology in the Jacksonville Public School System for a few years, he enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1975.

He earned his commission through Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas in May 1975; completed several assignments at McConnell Air Force Base in Kansas before serving a three-year tour in Germany; was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel (Lt. Col.) and served in the Aeronautical Systems Division at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio before coming to Robins Air Force Base in Georgia in August 1994. He served as the C-5 Transition and Supportability Manager for the C-5 System Program Office since April 1999.

In addition to his faithful service to our country, Randy has served his community with much loyalty and dedication. As the Chairman and longtime member of the Warner Robins Regional Chamber of Commerce, he strongly advocated for a regional approach to improving the Middle Georgia community as a whole. He was a firm leader but his friendly approach to all he met gained him tremendous respect in the region.

Randy served as Vice President of Operations for Cirrus Technology and was Senior Vice President of Progressive Consulting Technologies, Inc. (PCTI). He was also a member of the Warner Robins Rotary Club, Tuskegee Airmen's Association, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 9998. He was an active member of Robins Air Force Base Chapel, a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and the Museum of Aviation Foundation's National Board of Advisors, and a longtime official of the Georgia Recreational Football League. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, golfing, and ballroom dancing.

Maya Angelou once said, "A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies." We are all so blessed that Mr. Randall passed this way and during his life's journey did so much for so many for so long. He leaves behind a great legacy in service to all those whose lives he touched.

On a personal note, I have been truly blessed by Randy's steadfast friendship and support. I was delighted when, several years ago, his good friend Colonel Curtis Wright, USAF (Retired) introduced us. My wife, Vivian, and I will cherish the wonderful memories we have of Randy's bright smile, upbeat personality, and close friendship.

Randy is survived by his two sons, Walter Andre and Marshall; three sisters, a niece, three nephews, and other beloved relatives and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me and my wife, Vivian, in saluting Lt. Col. Walter "Randy" Randall, USAF (Retired) for his outstanding service to his country and to his community. We extend our deepest sympathies to Randy's family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time and we pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

REMEMBERING DEMI BRAE CUCCIA

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Demi Brae Cuccia. Demi was a student and cheerleader at Gateway High School in Monroeville, PA with an outgoing personality and big aspirations for a successful future.

Tragically, Demi was a victim of teen-dating violence, murdered just one day after her sixteenth birthday on August 15, 2007.

Teen-dating violence such as physical, emotional, or sexual abuse and stalking is unacceptable. No child deserves to be subjected to abuse and violence. As a father of six, my heart goes out to the family and friends of Demi, especially her parents, Dr. Gary and Jodi Cuccia.

More must be done in our communities to prevent future tragedies like the one that took Demi. The Cuccia family is working hard to educate Western Pennsylvania students and families about how to recognize and prevent teen-dating violence through the Demi Brae Cuccia Awareness Organization. Because of the Cuccias efforts, Demi's story has also been recognized by national news outlets and in the documentary Teen Dating Violence: The Murder of Demi Cuccia.

It is my hope that thanks to the Cuccias efforts more families can be spared from the tragedy of teen-dating violence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Demi today and in thanking the Cuccias for their commitment to end teen-dating violence.

TRIBUTE TO CYNTHIA K. RAFFETY

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cynthia K. Raffety, who on June 13, 2014 will step down from an exceptional ca-

reer as a public school mathematics teacher, a profession in which she has been engaged over the past four decades.

Born in Baltimore, MD on February 23, 1948, Cynthia is the daughter of Samuel and Ellen Kirby, an engraver and a nurse, respectively. She graduated from Eastern High School in 1966 and attended the University of Maryland, where she earned a BA in Education—Mathematics. In 1991, Cynthia obtained her Masters of Education from West Virginia Wesleyan College (WVWC).

Upon graduation from the University of Maryland, Cynthia served as a public school teacher in Prince George's Co., MD, and Gloucester Co., NJ. After a stint as a stay-at-home mom in the mid-70s to raise her two children, Jennifer and Robert, Cynthia returned to teaching in Fairfax Co., VA in 1980, and has been active in the classroom ever since.

Cynthia's most notable contributions as an educator took place in the Upshur County (WV) Public School System. From 1983 to 1990, Cynthia taught 8th Grade Math at the Buckhannon-Upshur Middle School as a member of Team H. She then transitioned to the Buckhannon-Upshur High School, where from 1990 onward Cynthia instructed a wide range of math courses, including: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, and Dual Credit College Algebra and College Trigonometry. Along the way, in 1991, Cynthia picked up her Masters of Education from West Virginia Wesleyan College (WVWC).

Outside of her duties as a public school teacher, Cynthia also serves as an Adjunct Professor of Mathematics Education at WVWC and Fairmont State University. She also served as Program Director for WVWC's Summer Institute, as well as lead instructor of SAT Math Prep. Cynthia routinely opens her high school classroom to undergraduate and graduate student teachers, as well as students engaged in clinical education research in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education.

In addition to her excellence as a math educator, Cynthia also graciously volunteers her time as the faculty advisor to several school organizations, including the alcohol, smoking, and drug-awareness activities of Teen Institute/RAZEWV, and the civic and volunteer undertakings of Interact (Youth Rotary).

In all of her cherished duties—wife, mother, teacher, mentor, advisor, role-model, and civic leader—Cynthia has displayed unparalleled spirit, drive, and devotion. I am, therefore, honored and pleased to have this opportunity to call to the attention of my colleagues the extraordinary accomplishments of Cynthia K. Raffety. I admire Cynthia's idealism and lifelong commitment to her community, and I join her family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues in thanking Cynthia for her life of service.

SUCCESS AND OPPORTUNITY THROUGH QUALITY CHARTER SCHOOLS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

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

consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to amend the Charter School Program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Chair, on Tuesday, my amazing wife Rachel gave birth to our seventh child, a fifth daughter to add to our brood. And whether it is our seventh or seventeenth baby, the first few days always feel the same. The curiosity of who this little girl will become is just as high with her as it was when our oldest was born.

We wonder, will she have an affinity for math or be drawn to the classics? Will she excel in music or languages? Will she have an interest in history or world affairs? With all of our children, we know only time can answer these questions, but her schooling will certainly play a part.

It is a sentiment shared by millions of parents. That is why I rise in strong support of H.R. 10, the Success and Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Act. I am a proud cosponsor of this legislation, and am happy to see it on the floor, especially today.

My congressional district has the 25th highest number of charter schools in the country. All parents want choices and opportunities for our children and charter schools provide those options. Schools no longer have to be dictated by where families buy their house, and a zip code should no longer dictate the quality of education our children receive. These things should be chosen based on the education parents want their children to receive.

Demand for charter schools has never been higher. Currently, over 1 million student names are on waiting lists for a public charter school. From New York City to rural Wisconsin, these schools play an integral role in educating our children. As our new baby girl grows up, we will value the choices she is given because of the Success and Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Act.

I'm thankful for the committee's work on this important bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on May 6, 2014, I missed rollcall vote 194 and 195. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 194 and "yes" on rollcall 195.

HONORING THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day.

Sixty-six years ago, the state of Israel celebrated its first independence day. The creation of a modern Jewish homeland is no small achievement, and I am honored to join with Israelis and millions of other people around the world to continue this celebration.

I have now been fortunate enough to visit Israel twice, most recently as part of a Congressional delegation last summer. I was again struck by the diversity that exists in such a small country and the creativity and energy that makes Israel so special.

In speaking with political, business, and social leaders, I learned so much more about what links our two countries. The similarities between Arizona and Israel, where people work hard, embrace ingenuity and creativity, and build stronger communities for their families, are also striking.

On this anniversary I reaffirm my commitment to Israel's security and to a lasting peace in the region. I am proud of the bond between our two countries, a bond built on mutual respect for human rights, democracy and freedom.

As we celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut in Israel and the United States, we can reflect on a shared past and look towards a safe and secure future.

RECOGNIZING AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the American Society of Clinical Oncology, ASCO, on its 50 years of advancing progress against cancer. Back in 1964, seven physicians committed to improving the care of people to cancer came together with a vision for a professional society that would educate and lead physicians through this journey. At that time, cancer was largely untreatable and only a handful of hard-to-tolerate and mostly ineffective therapies were available. Flash forward fifty years and ASCO has nearly 35,000 members around the world. In the 1960s, less than one-half of patients with cancer were alive five years after diagnosis. Today more than two-thirds of patients with cancer are alive five years after their diagnosis. The number of drugs available to treat cancer has grown from a small handful to more than 170, and options for toxicity management have vastly increased. Patient quality of life has improved dramatically. This is cause for celebration, but we cannot rest. An estimated 1.6 million Americans will be diagnosed with cancer this year. The growing, aging, and more overweight population makes it likely that cancer will become the leading cause of death by 2030. I commend ASCO for its contributions to the progress against cancer over these 50 years and look forward to working with the cancer community to continue the progress.

HONORING DWAYNE GARNER

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize Dwayne Garner of Henderson County for his exceptional service to our country. Beginning his service with the

Air Force in 1954, Mr. Garner served with distinction, finally earning the rank of Senior Master Sergeant in 1971. Upon completion of twenty years of service with the Air Force, while serving in the Philippines, Mr. Garner was honorably discharged. Soon after, he decided it was time to move back home to Texas with his wife and two young daughters, where he worked as an adult probation officer in Henderson County until his retirement.

Coming from a distinguished family of veterans that "bleeds red, white, and blue," Mr. Garner was no exception. During his time with the Air Force, he was awarded several medals, including the Bronze Star, two Commendation medals, and the Presidential Unit Citation. He remains a true patriot, volunteering his time with different military service organizations in East Texas.

Humbly, I echo the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free." And humbly, I offer my sincere gratitude to Mr. Dwayne Garner for his service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

RECOGNIZING MAY AS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as one of the original co-sponsor of the resolution recognizing May as National Foster Care Month, I rise to recognize the selfless foster families who open their hearts and their homes for children in need and to all of those individuals and organizations that work to ensure that every child has an opportunity for a brighter future.

I am honored to be a founding member of the Congressional Caucus for Foster Youth, a caucus that allows Members to gain a better understanding of the current state of foster care throughout the nation and identify potential federal policy modifications that could improve outcomes for the children in our country's foster care systems.

Mr. Speaker, currently there are over 463,000 children living in foster care. These children have been placed in homes on the account of the physical, sexual and emotional abuse they have endured with their biological caretaker.

My state of Texas currently has more than 69,000 children and young persons in foster care.

Nearly two of every three (65%) of children who are not placed in a permanent home emancipate themselves from the system often left unemployed, without a place to live and resorting to homeless shelters.

Less than 3 percent go on to college and emancipated females end up four times more likely to receive public assistance compared to the overall population of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, it is vital that we continue to create more programs, events and activities that will enlighten citizens of the United States on stories of children successfully placed in permanent homes, debunk myths about the process and acknowledge the thousands of children who could potentially become a part of these statistics.

Through these efforts we can increase the rate of adoption, decrease the rate of homelessness among the youths in this group and help develop future leaders and innovative thinkers of tomorrow.

I would like to take a moment to recognize the families who have opened their hearts and homes to foster children. Foster parents play a critical role in the lives of some of the most vulnerable youth in Texas and across the country.

They help hold our nation's social fabric together by ensuring that thousands of young people in this country stay on track towards successful futures. This month, we celebrate you and your efforts to change the lives of these children.

National Foster Care Month is an appropriate time to recognize and commend all those who are helping to improve the lives of children in foster care.

But it also serves as a reminder that more must be done. These children deserve to grow up in a loving home that is safe, happy, and most importantly one they can call their own.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. TODD GAMBLIN

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) in Livermore, California.

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Science has selected Dr. Todd Gamblin to receive funding as part of Department's Early Career Research Program (ECRP). His project, entitled "Statistical Methods for Exascale Performance Modeling," was selected by the Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Research.

The ECRP is crucial to our ability to maintain American leadership in science. It was created to support the development of individual research programs of outstanding scientists early in their careers and stimulates research careers in the disciplines supported by the DOE Office of Science.

Dr. Gamblin is a computer scientist in the Center for Applied Scientific Computing at LLNL and has been with the lab since 2008. He received a Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in computer science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2009 and 2005. He received his B.A. in computer science and Japanese from Williams College in 2002.

Awardees were selected from a large pool of university- and national laboratory-based applicants. Selection was based on peer review by outside scientific experts.

I am privileged to represent LLNL and its brilliant scientists like Dr. Gamblin. Their hard work and skill are what keeps America secure and at the forefront of scientific innovation. I want to congratulate Dr. Gamblin and wish him well in his work with ECRP.

RECOGNIZING STANISLAUS
COUNTY FARM BUREAU

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Stanislaus County Farm Bureau as they celebrate their 100th year anniversary.

The Stanislaus County Farm Bureau (SCFB) was organized in 1914. Through the efforts of the old Stanislaus County Board of Trade, its President, J.W. Davison, Secretary, Geo T. McCabe, and other Directors of that body, an appropriation was made by the Board of Supervisors for the expense of a Farm Advisor. In 1975, they changed from center concept to regional concept for the purpose of electing directors and gathering members.

To keep their members apprised of what was happening, the Farm Bureau began publication of the Stanislaus County Farm Bureau Monthly newsletter in 1949. They changed the format in 1971, and the publication was sent out weekly. A few years later, in 1980, the title was changed to the Stanislaus Farm News, and is presently the only weekly county farm bureau publication in the Nation.

The SCFB is a nonprofit, voluntary membership organization whose mission is to serve as the voice of Stanislaus County agriculture at all levels of government, while providing programs to assist its farms and family members and educate the general public on the needs and importance of agriculture.

The Bureau provides a network of support both on and off the farm. From delivering breaking legislative and local news, to providing educational tools and helpful discounts, they are there to serve the farmers. As of today, the organization serves over 3,000 members in Stanislaus County with the motto: "Farmers Feed Families."

The SCFB is actively involved in agricultural education of the public and students in Stanislaus County through programs such as Ag in the Classroom and Ag Adventure. Programs such as Farm Team, Rural Crime Alert and the Stanislaus Safety Seminar are highly successful member and public service programs that enhance community awareness of agriculture and the issues faced by today's farmers and ranchers.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating with the Stanislaus County Farm Bureau for their significant contributions, not only to agriculture, but to the community and the State of California. Congratulations on the past 100 years, and I wish you the best success in the years to come.

CELEBRATING BELTON, TEXAS
MAYOR JIM COVINGTON

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the fantastic public service of Belton, TX Mayor Jim Covington as he begins the next exciting chapter of his life. Recognizing

the importance of allowing younger leaders a chance to make a positive impact, Jim is stepping down from his nearly two decades of dedication to making Belton a great place to live and work.

Under Jim's leadership, Belton escaped the cycle of "management by crisis" by adopting forward-thinking strategic policies. Reviewed annually and updated every five years, these plans have put Belton on the right track. As a result, Belton has seen its population grow as the city has been repeatedly honored with awards from the Texas Municipal League, the prestigious Preserve America Presidential Award in 2008, and a Scenic City Award in 2010.

Jim's tenure was dedicated to making Belton's natural beauty his top priority. Nolan Creek winds through the heart of Belton and connects many important areas of the city including three major parks, the University of Mary Hardin Baylor, and the historic downtown area. Recognizing this uncut gem flowing through his city, Jim worked tirelessly to improve and promote this critical waterway. His vision will dramatically enhance the quality of Belton life by offering a unique recreational corridor with watersports opportunities while promoting strong economic development.

Widely admired and respected for his leadership, Jim has been a mayor both his colleagues and constituents could rely upon. His commitment to public service doesn't end when he leaves the office. A proud part of the larger Fort Hood community, he's been involved in troop support for years.

Retirement is to be celebrated and enjoyed. It is not the end of a career, but rather the beginning of a new adventure. I commend Jim Covington for his selfless service to his beloved community. I wish him only the best in the years ahead.

IN MEMORY OF NEVIN "NEB"
WILLIAM WHITESIDE, JR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, May 2nd, funeral services were held for Nevin "Neb" William Whiteside, Jr. a patriot and veteran of the United States Navy who served his country with honor in the Korean War.

Funeral services for Mr. Whiteside were held at St. Peter's Lutheran Church of Lexington, South Carolina. As a testament to Mr. Whiteside's love of his country, funeral flowers were red, white, and blue with a patriotic theme throughout the service according to his wishes. Interment followed in the church graveyard.

His obituary in The Lexington County Chronicle newspaper contained this tribute:

NEVIN "NEB" WILLIAM WHITESIDE, JR.

Mr. Whiteside was born November 28, 1929 in Leesville, SC, and passed away on April 30, 2014. He was the son of the late Nevin William Whiteside and Bertie Eargle Whiteside. Mr. Whiteside served our country in the US Navy during the Korean War. He retired from Kenan Transportation. He was a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, VFW and Lexington Masonic Lodge 152. He loved to ride his Harley Davidson and enjoyed work-

ing in the yard and cleaning his car. Mr. Whiteside is survived by his wife, Barbara "Bobbie" Sox Whiteside, of Lexington; sons, Stan and Wayne Whiteside of Lexington; daughter, Kim (Tim) French of Lexington; grandchildren, Lauren, Andrew, and Brandon Whiteside, Ashley (Bowe) Butler and Malia and Devin French; great-grandchildren, Reece and Paxton Butler; sister, Doris Goff of Saluda and man's best friend "Bandit", (Poppy's Lil Buddy).

He is predeceased by his parents and his brother Horace Whiteside.

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF INCORPORATION OF
THE CITY OF COMPTON

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, on May 14th, the City of Compton will celebrate its 125th birthday. This anniversary comes after a year-long celebration of Compton's cultural heritage and its history. In the few days before the 125th anniversary, I would like to do my part to ensure that Congress recognizes the anniversary of one of California's oldest cities.

Located in the heart of Los Angeles County, the City of Compton is the "Hub City" for both culture and trade. Several of the world's most talented athletes and artists, such as Olympic Gold Medalist Charles Dumas and the influential hip hop group N.W.A., have called this city home. Not only does Compton export talent, but it also conducts 25 percent of all U.S. waterborne international trade.

Furthermore, the City of Compton has historically been in the forefront of promoting diversity in leadership. It is the first city in California to elect an African American mayor, Douglas Dollarhide, and a female African American mayor, Doris Davis.

Therefore, I am introducing a resolution to recognize and celebrate the anniversary for the City of Compton. I hope that it can continue to grow and to develop its identity and culture. Congratulations to the City of Compton on 125 years, and may the best be yet to come.

CRUDE TRUTH

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we are in the middle of an American energy revolution, but the U.S. government is getting in the way. Until recently, U.S. crude production had been on a steady decline. In 1970, domestic production peaked at 9.6 million barrels a day. By 2008, we were almost half that with a mere 5 million barrels being pumped per day. Then, America did what America does best: innovate. New technologies of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing that no one else in the world could do has increased U.S. crude production 56 percent since 2008. By next year, according to the International Energy Agency, the U.S. will become the largest crude producer in the world. More than Saudi Arabia,

more than Venezuela, and yes, more than Mr. Putin's Russia.

But it is not all so rosy. The oil we drill here is what is characterized as light and sweet crude oil. However, the oil that our refiners can process in order to make crude into refined products, like vehicle gasoline, is heavy and sour. That's because these refineries were built before our energy revolution to process crude oil from places like Venezuela and North Africa. These refineries can process this heavy crude better than any other refineries in the world, but they cannot help us much when it comes to refining the oil that we are drilling right here at home. We need new refineries to be built to process this light crude, but that will take years. In the meantime, we should sell our light crude abroad instead of just letting it waste away here. That would bring billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to our economy. It is an obvious solution for a simple problem, but we cannot do it. Why? Because of outdated legislation.

In 1975, Congress passed the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, making it illegal to export U.S. crude. It was the height of the Arab oil embargo, and Congress wanted to insulate Americans from global price shocks.

The problem is that domestic gasoline prices are largely set by the global crude price—not the domestic price—since crude is a globally traded commodity. Of the crude oil we consume, 46% is imported. These imports are subject to market uncertainty just like every other traded good. Our energy revolution is actually not going to change that number much either. Our domestic refiners were made to process the heavy crude oil imported from such places like Venezuela and North Africa. But the oil that is coming out of the ground right here in the United States is light crude. Currently, refiners can mix a little of our light domestic crude with imported heavy crude to process it, but they cannot handle all of our domestic production. Not being able to export our extra domestic crude has caused the price to artificially drop. Economists predict that if the ban is not overturned, domestic crude production companies will not be able to make a profit and will have to decrease drilling in the next 18 to 36 months. If they are forced to cut back on drilling, they are going to also be forced to lay off hard working Americans.

Refiners, who have no such ban on exporting the crude oil once they refine it, are reaping the benefits, buying our crude oil at these artificially low prices while selling their refined products abroad at the going global market rate. We do not prohibit the export of iPhones to keep the prices of iPhones artificially low here in the United States. Nor should we do the same when it comes to banning the export of our crude oil to subsidize our refineries. If refineries are allowed to export, so should producers. We should have no interest in subsidizing one part of the industry over another.

If we lift the ban we would actually make domestic consumers less susceptible to global price shocks. Allowing our producers to export crude oil and add U.S. crude to the world market would lessen the market share of bad actors like Iran and Venezuela and unstable ones like Algeria and Libya. More U.S. crude on the market grows the pie and our share of it, making these countries' portions less impactful.

The presence of U.S. crude could also drive down the global price of oil and thus the price

Americans pay at the pump. The math is simple: more supply with the same amount of demand means a lower price. In a Congressional hearing last week, Elizabeth Rosenberg from the Center for a New American Security cited a study that showed domestic gasoline prices could drop between three to seven cents per gallon if the ban were lifted. More studies are expected to be released in the next few weeks.

It is time to revisit the crude oil export ban. Last week, my Subcommittee held a hearing on this issue, bringing together representatives from both aspects of the industry, as well as Senator LISA MURKOWSKI and a renowned energy economist.

We live in a completely different world today than we did when the ban was passed in 1975. Back then, U.S. troops were coming home from Vietnam, the Soviet Union still occupied East Germany, and Osama bin Laden just turned 18. America has changed considerably since those days. It's time for our energy policy to do the same. And that's just the way it is.

HONORING ED DELOACH

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize Ed DeLoach, a veteran of the Korean War, for his exceptional service to our country. Beginning his service with the U.S. Navy on April 3, 1951, Mr. DeLoach trained as an Electronic Technician and served aboard two aircraft carriers, the USS *Kearsarge* and the USS *Hancock*.

While aboard the USS *Kearsarge*, he was deployed on two combat tours in the Korean War zone in support of air operations over the Korean peninsula. As a member of the crew, he received the National Defense Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the China Service Medal, and the Korean Service Medal with two stars. Subsequently, Mr. DeLoach was transferred to the USS *Hancock* and supported operations testing an advanced system for launching carrier-based aircraft until he was honorably discharged on March 24, 1955.

Humbly, I echo the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free." And humbly, I offer my sincere gratitude to Mr. Ed DeLoach for his service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

RECOGNIZING 66TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE OF STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Israel's 66th Independence Day, which was celebrated this week. Since its founding on May 14, 1948, Israel has experienced many challenges and adversity, but has al-

ways overcome. Today, the United States and Israel are working more closely together than ever before and I look forward to building upon this steadfast partnership.

Against impossible odds, Israel has become a vibrant democracy, with an active and free press, freedom for all religions, and a leader in the protection and promotion of gay rights. In its 66 years, Israel has produced remarkable inventions that have improved our lives and its contributions to environmental protection, energy independence, medicine, and agriculture technology have spanned the globe.

Israel's accomplishments are incredible and inspiring. It is with great honor that I extend my deepest congratulations to Israel, our greatest ally, on 66 years of independence.

HONORING MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT SERGEANT FIRST CLASS JOSE RODELA

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant First Class Jose Rodela, Medal of Honor recipient and a true American hero. Sergeant First Class Rodela was born in Corpus Christi, Texas, on June 15, 1937. He entered the U.S. Army in September 1955, at the age of 17.

Sergeant First Class Rodela was recognized for his valorous actions and awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his service on September 1, 1969, while serving as the company commander in Phuoc Long Province, Vietnam. He commanded his company throughout 18 hours of continuous combat when his battalion was attacked and taking heavy casualties. Throughout the battle, in spite of his wounds, Rodela repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire to attend to the fallen and eliminate an enemy rocket position.

On March 18, 2014, President Barack Obama awarded Sergeant First Class Rodela the Medal of Honor For "Conspicuous Gallantry and Intrepidity at the Risk of His Life Above and Beyond the Call of Duty." His Medal of Honor citation reads:

"Sergeant First Class Jose Rodela distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving as the company commander, Detachment B-36, Company A, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces during combat operations against an armed enemy in Phuoc Long Province, Republic of Vietnam on September 1, 1969. That afternoon, Sergeant First Class Rodela's battalion came under an intense barrage of mortar, rocket, and machine gun fire. Ignoring the withering enemy fire, Sergeant First Class Rodela immediately began placing his men into defensive positions to prevent the enemy from overrunning the entire battalion. Repeatedly exposing himself to enemy fire, Sergeant First Class Rodela moved from position to position, providing suppressing fire and assisting wounded, and was himself wounded in the back and head by a B-40 rocket while recovering a wounded comrade. Alone, Sergeant First Class Rodela assaulted and knocked out the B-40 rocket position before successfully returning to the battalion's perimeter. Sergeant First Class Rodela's

extraordinary heroism and selflessness above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.”

Sergeant First Class Jose Rodela served our country valiantly, and should be honored as such. As a nation, there is no better symbol of our gratitude than the Medal of Honor. Because of his commitment, America remains a land of hope, opportunity and, as Ronald Reagan so eloquently put it, “a shining city upon a hill whose beacon light guides freedom-loving people everywhere.”

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN’S UNIVERSITY CLUB

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the Women’s University Club in Seattle. For a century this commendable organization has been a steadfast leader within the women’s movement and a critical source of education and empowerment for women throughout Seattle and the United States.

Since its founding in 1914, WUC has continuously broadened its reach throughout the community to meet increasing demand for social and educational fulfillment. What started as a small, local establishment to network and learn grew into a treasured institution with 900 current members representing over 400 dif-

ferent colleges and universities. The home of WUC, which was built in 1922, proudly stands today as a local and national historical landmark.

I applaud WUC for generously committing its resources to scholarships and community service. Since 2003, 31 scholarships have been awarded to deserving young women seeking to pursue higher education. WUC helps keep the American Dream alive by providing hard-working individuals with the networking and educational opportunities to permanently improve their lives. With the publication of a commemorative book, *The First 100 Years: Women’s University Club of Seattle, 1914–2014*, WUC shares the rich tapestry of its first century and reaffirms its commitment to remain a stalwart presence in the community for the future.

I would like to convey my sincere congratulations to WUC on its proud centennial and express my heartfelt gratitude for all the WUC has done over this last century.