

7 a.m. Under the capable control of Commander John W. Young and pilot Robert L. Crippen, the STS-1 mission showed that a safe launch into orbit and safe return of the orbiter and crew was possible. In performing the test flight, Space Shuttle *Columbia* traveled over 1 million miles at an orbital altitude of 166 nautical miles. This was the first of over 130 shuttle missions over a period of 30 years during which astronauts recovered and repaired satellites including the Hubble Space Telescope, conducted cutting-edge research, and built and supported the largest structure in space, the International Space Station.

Mr. Speaker, on this 30th anniversary of the first flight of the Space Shuttle, we are also on the verge of retiring the Space Shuttle fleet. It is appropriate to honor the brave individuals who have paid the ultimate price so that the Nation could pursue its goals, vision, and leadership in human spaceflight and exploration and to recognize the bravery and heroism of all astronauts who have flown on the Space Shuttle. It is also appropriate to acknowledge the tireless and dedicated work of the men and women of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration ("NASA"), its field centers, and its contractors without whom these achievements would not have been possible.

The Space Shuttle has been a source of pride and inspiration for the American people. It sparked interest in many fields of engineering and science which benefitted the United States economy, inspired successive generations, and contributed to our leadership in science and technology. We must continue to provide our children and grandchildren with a similar source of inspiration. As the chapter on the Space Shuttle closes later this year, a new chapter in the book of human exploration begins.

Today, unlike 30 years ago, our leadership in space is being contested by many other nations. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in reaffirming our support for NASA and in committing to a robust national program of human space flight and exploration. That will be the best way to mark this historic anniversary.

HONORING SHRINERS HOSPITAL
FOR CHILDREN—CHICAGO

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, on the 85th anniversary of its founding, I rise today to honor and recognize the outstanding impact that the Shriners Hospital for Children has had on the lives of children in Chicago. It is their mission to provide the highest quality health care to all children with orthopedic and neuromusculoskeletal conditions.

The Shriners founded their first children's hospital in Shreveport, Louisiana in 1922, and since then, their network has grown to include 21 more hospitals. The Chicago facility was founded on March 20, 1926 in the historic Oak Park District. Here, children are treated for a host of orthopedic and neuromusculoskeletal conditions, spinal cord injuries, as well as cleft lip and palate. Not only do they provide for the needs of the children, the hospital takes into

account the needs of the whole family throughout all phases of the child's injury and recuperation, including free transportation to and from the hospital if necessary. Once children are accepted for treatment, they become part of the Shriners Hospital System and are provided treatment for all facets of their condition.

All care is provided by an interdisciplinary team which works together to integrate the expertise of all appropriate healthcare disciplines in one center. In addition to providing treatment for these conditions, all Shriners Hospitals for Children are dedicated to continuing research in their specific fields and discovering new knowledge to better improve the quality of the lives of their patients and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Shriners Hospital for Children in Chicago for its dedication to providing healthcare to suffering children without regard to religion, race, nationality, disability, or ability of the family to pay. This organization provides an invaluable service to the city and has improved the lives of countless Chicago children. I thank them once again for their 85 years of exceptional services to children in need and their families.

PROCLAMATION FOR DR. JOHN
LOGAN CASHIN, JR.

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a great American, Dr. John Logan Cashin, Jr., a visionary civil rights leader and extraordinary Alabamian.

Dr. Cashin was born in Huntsville, AL on April 16, 1928 to John Logan Sr., a dentist, and the former Grace Brandon, a school principal. His parents were active in social justice and civil rights work. His paternal grandfather, Herschel V. Cashin, served in the Alabama Legislature during Reconstruction. Dr. Cashin received his B.A. degree from Fisk University and D.D.S. degree from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee and joined his father in dental practice. He was a devoted member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Dr. John L. Cashin, Jr. was drafted into the U.S. Army, where he was made a first lieutenant and Chief of dental services for soldiers stationed near Fontainebleau, France. Dr. Cashin Jr.'s wife of 39 years, Joan Carpenter Cashin, died in 1997. They are survived by their children, Sheryll Cashin Esq., Professor of Law at Georgetown University, John M. Cashin of Lagos, Nigeria and Carroll L. Cashin of Huntsville, Alabama. Dr. Cashin has five grand-children: Winton, Etalvia, Jasmine, Langston and Logan. He is also survived by his wife, the former Dr. Louise R. White of Washington, D.C. whom he married in 1998.

As a visionary leader in the struggle for social justice and equal rights for African Americans, Dr. John L. Cashin, Jr. founded the National Democratic Party of Alabama in 1968 and served as its Chairman until it disbanded in 1976.

Under the leadership of Dr. John L. Cashin, Jr., the National Democratic Party of Alabama changed the face of local political leaders in office throughout the state. In November of 1968, seventeen of the party's candidates won

local offices in Alabama's Black Belt region, comprising seventeen counties in the central and western part of the state.

In 1970, Dr. John L. Cashin Jr., ran for Governor of the State of Alabama as the first African American candidate since Reconstruction. His courage paved the way for numerous African American candidates to win and hold elected offices. Dr. John L. Cashin, Jr. passed away on March 21, 2011 at the age of 82 in Washington, D.C.

Therefore I, Terri A. Sewell, Representative to the United States Congress from the 7th District of Alabama, do hereby recognize Dr. John Logan Cashin, Jr. for his numerous contributions to the region, state, and nation. I do hereby extend deepest sympathy to the family of Dr. John L. Cashin, Jr., a visionary leader for the Civil Rights movement who never forgot his roots, and who fought for equalities for all mankind. I stand on the shoulders of Dr. John L. Cashin, Jr. and for that I am eternally grateful.

STATEMENT ON H.R. 658, THE FAA
REAUTHORIZATION AND REFORM
ACT OF 2011

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the amendment offered by my colleagues Messrs. Garret, Engel, Andrews, and Himes.

Since the publication of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) "preferred alternative" for the New York/New Jersey/Philadelphia Metropolitan Airspace Redesign project, I have sponsored and cosponsored several similar amendments that have sought to rectify this deeply flawed project that will increase aircraft noise over Northern New Jersey.

Throughout my tenure in Congress and the New Jersey legislature, I have been a staunch advocate for reducing aircraft noise. I have attended dozens of public hearings, had meetings with officials from the FAA, and responded to thousands of calls from constituents whose lives have been affected by existing air traffic patterns and related noise.

While the safety of passengers is paramount, and the vitality of the air transport system is important, people on the ground have a right to a quality of life with a minimum exposure to aircraft noise overhead.

I understand the need for improving the efficiency of our Nation's aviation infrastructure to better accommodate the high demand for flights.

However, the FAA has continually turned a "deaf ear" to the issue of aircraft noise, which affects all citizens on the ground, regardless of whether they travel by plane or not.

Again, I have long fought against such noise increases. In particular, I strongly opposed the FAA's original redesign proposal in 2005, which would have had substantial noise increases throughout the New Jersey and New York metropolitan areas.

The FAA's amended plan included some noise reductions from their original proposal, but did not go far enough.

Now, despite strong opposition from Members of Congress and citizens throughout the

region, the FAA is plowing ahead with its redesign plan, despite its flaws with respect to increased aircraft noise exposure. The FAA must cease this flawed redesign plan and come back to the drawing board to develop a proposal that strikes the proper balance between airspace efficiency and preventing noise increases, as well as any other environmental impacts.

I urge the FAA to carefully consider alternatives that accomplish this goal. We must not forget about the "silent majority" of constituents on the ground!

I urge support for this amendment and any effort to reduce the impact of aircraft noise above New Jersey.

RECOGNIZING THE DC 41

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the 41 District of Columbia elected officials and residents who stood up for the self-governing rights of the American citizens who reside in the nation's capital by sitting down in a peaceful act of civil disobedience on Constitution Avenue in front of the Dirksen Senate Office Building on Monday, April 15, 2011. The rally, organized by DC Vote, protested the final 2011 continuing resolution (CR) which contains two anti-home-rule riders. The CR prohibits the District from spending its local taxpayer-raised funds on abortions for low-income women, even though many state and local jurisdictions have done so for decades. Without consultation with any District of Columbia elected official, the CR also mandates a D.C.-only private school voucher program, while the House Republican majority refuses to bring a bill to the floor that would allow districts that desire this alternative to select it on a home-rule basis. The District of Columbia is almost alone in the nation in establishing a robust alternative to our local public schools, our public charter schools, which educate almost 40 percent of the city's children and have long waiting lists. The House voted to approve these riders while denying voting representation in this body to District of Columbia residents.

The D.C. elected officials who engaged in civil disobedience were D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray, Council Chair Kwame Brown, At-Large Council members Sekou Biddle and Michael Brown, Council members Yvette Alexander, Muriel Bowser, and Thomas Wells, and House Shadow Representative Michael Panetta. The District residents were Ann Aldrich, Lafayette Barnes, Peter Bishop, Robert Brannum, Jason Cross, Billie Day, Jack Evans, Marc Ferrara, Corryn Freeman, Mary Gosselink, Lawrence Hams, Karen Hixson, Anise Jenkins, Eugene Kinlow, John Klenert, Rachel Madelham, Adam Maier, George Marion, Jr., Nicholas McCoy, Martin Moulton, Brian Pate, Joseph Perta, Jeffrey Richardson, Deangelo Scott, Deborah Shore, Carly Skidmore, Daniel Solomon, Bruce Spiva, Jay Tamboli, Maceo Thomas, Ryan Velasco, Patricia Vrandenburg, and Ilir Zherka.

The city has long advocated its rights through the usual channels and official re-

sponses. However, from the day the 112th Congress convened, the House Republican majority has repeatedly introduced bills to violate the rights of our citizens, beginning with the approval of new rules that summarily stripped the District of the only vote on the House floor it has achieved, the House Committee of the Whole vote, approved by the federal courts.

The DC 41, as they are called, recognized that the House Republican majority intends to return with more anti-home-rule riders. An additional anti-home-rule rider was included in the original Republican spending bill, H.R. 1, but failed this time to become a part of the final agreement. The message of the DC 41 was that DC elected officials and residents will not walk away from the infringement of their rights to govern themselves and to spend their taxpayer-raised local funds as they choose.

I ask the House to join me in saluting the DC 41, who acted in the long American tradition of incurring arrests during peaceful civil disobedience to protect and to further their right to full equality with the residents of the 50 states.

RECOGNIZING RONALD MCNAMARA'S 25 YEARS OF SERVICE ON THE COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to pay tribute to Ron McNamara, and to thank him for 25 years of faithful and dedicated service to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Helsinki Commission. Ron joined the staff of the Helsinki Commission on April 14, 1986, at a time when many OSCE countries suffered under Soviet repression and widespread violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Ron's relationship with the Helsinki Commission actually precedes 1986, having served as the liaison to the Commission for the former Senator from New York, Alfonse D'Amato. Perhaps as a result of this experience, Ron got up to speed quickly. He was soon negotiating human rights and humanitarian issues at the Vienna Follow-Up Meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which is today the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, or OSCE. From late 1986 to 1989 he was stationed in Vienna and participated in this multilateral negotiation—progress in the respect of human rights in the Soviet Union and its East European allies had suddenly become possible. As part of the team that translated that potentiality into reality, Ron stayed on top of ever-changing developments, networked with our European allies on strategy, and pressed the one-party communist governments to adopt a new set of human rights commitments. When the Berlin Wall fell and multi-party elections were scheduled, Ron's diplomatic skills helped produce landmark documents which solidified democracy as the chosen form of government and clarified the understanding that a government's treatment of its citizens is not an inter-

nal matter but rather a legitimate concern to all. Ron was especially instrumental in negotiating new commitments in the area of cross-border human contacts, which led to greater freedom of movement for those previously denied permission to emigrate to reunite with their families or travel to visit family members.

Throughout the years, he has been deeply involved with preparations for the annual sessions of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. He has served as a member of numerous U.S. delegations to various OSCE conferences and as an OSCE election observer in Georgia, Belarus, Ukraine, Russia and Azerbaijan. Ron also participated in Commission efforts to respond to the genocidal and other atrocities in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He was particularly active in legislative efforts to lift the arms embargo on that country, which had denied it the capacity to exercise its rights of self-defense in the face of Bosnian Serb aggression. Ron's portfolio has also included work with Turkey, Greece and Cyprus, religious liberty issues and combating anti-Semitism. A notable result of Ron's work was the willingness of the Turkish government to allow a more open dialogue on human rights and civil society in return for agreement on holding the 1999 OSCE Summit in Istanbul. In addition to his ongoing human rights work, Ron at times has had the Commission staff portfolio for security issues and for economic cooperation.

During 2001–2002, Ron served with distinction as Chief of Staff under the Chairmanship of Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, and in both 1999–2000 and 2003–2004 served as Deputy Chief of Staff under my Chairmanship. I have often benefited from Ron's counsel and have always been impressed by his deep integrity. Since Senator Campbell's retirement, he has served in a variety of capacities, including International Policy Advisor. His knowledge and insight into the workings of the U.S. government and various OSCE institutions has proved invaluable to the work of the Commission. He is a man of great prudence and justice.

Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I am very pleased to commend and thank Ron McNamara for his faithful, dedicated and tireless service to the Helsinki Commission and to the cause of human dignity and freedom.

CELEBRATING THIRTY YEARS OF BEAUTILLION COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Donna LaVerne Daniels Rice, a community activist, businesswoman, councilmember, and founder of the Columbia, Maryland chapter of Jack and Jill of America's Beautillion Ball. For the past 30 years, outstanding high school juniors and seniors from Columbia, Maryland; Baltimore, Maryland; and Washington, D.C. have been selected, honored and praised for their accomplishments as they move from one stage of their lives to the next.

Through stimulating educational workshops, mentoring, culturally enriching experiences,