

the Space Shuttle program. While the names of the astronauts will be recorded in the history books, we must also note the thousands of individuals who worked behind the scenes to make history by challenging the final frontier.

I am concerned about losing the workforce that has dedicated their knowledge to the exploration of our universe. I believe that we could lose a competitive and innovative edge that we maintain at the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Soon the Space Shuttle Fleet will be shipped off to museums around the country and will become items that school children will visit to see America's past glories in space. These children will see these space exploration vehicles, then look towards the stars sparking their imagination to ask the question "what lies beyond?" However, when the Space Shuttle *Atlantis* lands in the next several days for the first time in my entire 50 years on Earth we will not have a vehicle or a plan to send humans from our planet into space.

The space program is essential to the State of Florida. Thousands of the brightest scientific minds reside in the area surrounding the Kennedy Space Center and billions of dollars of economic activity are generated in the States of Texas, California and my home State of Florida. In addition, since the Mercury Program, the Space Program has placed our Nation on the cutting edge of innovation.

President John F. Kennedy challenged our Nation to land a man on the Moon. In the space race with the Soviet Union, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin placed an American flag on the lunar surface in 1969. Now the former Soviet Union is our taxi cab ride to the International Space Station at a cost of approximately \$63 million a seat. Further, China is now building their ability to be the leaders in space exploration. This is unacceptable and the antithesis of American exceptionalism.

While we have had failures in the space program along the way, such as *Apollo 1*, *Challenger* and *Columbia*, when some individuals felt we should stop manned space flight after the *Challenger* accident, President Ronald Reagan stated: "We'll continue our quest in space. There will be more shuttle flights and more shuttle crews and, yes, more volunteers, more civilians, more teachers in space. Nothing ends here; our hopes and our journeys continue."

I am concerned that the United States has no plans for human exploration capability to go beyond Earth's orbit for an indeterminate time into the future. Space will always be challenging and dangerous, but we are Americans and we have always met our challenges and faced danger. And with regard to space we must continue the journey, focus on the stars, reach for the heavens, and be a leader in space exploration in the 21st century.

Americans, by our nature, do not accept being in second place. I am committed to ensuring that one day we again will be the leaders in manned space exploration.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall votes No. 495–501, I am not recorded because I was absent from the U.S. House of Representatives. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner.

On rollcall No. 495. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 496. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 497. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 498. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 499. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 500. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 501. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### IN TRIBUTE TO THE RONALD REAGAN PRESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION

### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and, in particular—Frederick Ryan, Jr., Chairman of the Foundation Board of Directors, and John Heubusch, Foundation Executive Director—and the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission for their leadership in conducting a series of successful European events last week honoring our 40th President.

I and a number of my colleagues traveled to Europe last week to meet with our allies, particularly those in Eastern Europe, and to reassure them of America's continued friendship and support in light of Russia's continued commitment to one-party rule and suppression of human rights.

While there, we were fortunate to participate in several Foundation events honoring Ronald Reagan's role in bringing freedom to Eastern Europe. The people of Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and other former communist satellite states know well how President Reagan's commitment to peace through strength led him to abandon the failed policy of détente and to embrace a policy of actively opposing communist regimes around the world.

That opposition led to the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Iron Curtain and to freedom for millions of people choked by the Soviet's stronghold on their nations. In Krakow, we attended a Mass of Thanksgiving in honor of Pope John Paul II and President Reagan, the two leaders the Polish people credit with inspiring their revolution against the Soviet empire. In Budapest, we participated in the unveiling of a statue of President Reagan in Freedom Square. In Prague, we participated in naming the street in front of the U.S. Ambassador's residence for President Reagan.

Those public displays only underline the true love Eastern Europeans have for Presi-

dent Reagan. In meetings with East European officials and chance meetings with local people in East European capitals, everyone was effusive in their praise of Ronald Reagan. Americans recognize the peace and prosperity President Reagan brought to the United States during his presidency. For Eastern Europeans, he helped bring them their very freedom.

As the author of the bill that created the Centennial Commission and as a member of the Commission, I was duly impressed with the events and tributes the Foundation and Commission, under the direction of Mr. Ryan and Mr. Heubusch, masterfully undertook both in Europe and the United States to honor Ronald Reagan this year.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues on both sides of the aisle join me in paying tribute to those who worked so hard to remember and honor a great president who changed the course of history both here and around the world and to thank them for their service to our nation.

#### A TRIBUTE TO KACIA CAIN

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Kacia Cain, who teaches anatomy, physiology and biotechnology and was named outstanding biology teacher of the year for the state of Iowa by the National Association of Biology Teachers.

Ms. Cain previously taught biology at Des Moines East High School for 19 years before transferring this school year to Des Moines Central Campus High School. She is a native of Indianola, Iowa, and will be recognized in October at the National Association of Biology Teachers convention in Anaheim, California.

Having a hands-on teaching style has allowed Ms. Cain to be very successful with her students. Using resources from nearby colleges ensures that students are making as many connections with real world research experiences as possible.

I am honored to represent Kacia Cain in the United States Congress, and I wish her the best of luck in Anaheim, California. I also wish Ms. Cain the very best as she continues to serve as a mentor and role model to the students at Des Moines Central Campus High School. I know my colleagues in the U.S. Congress will join me in congratulating Kacia Cain.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN D. FILAMOR

### HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Ranking Member CONYERS, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize John D. Filamor who is leaving the House to take a position with the Department of Justice. Mr. Filamor served in the Office of the General Counsel for 10 years, first as a law clerk while he was still a student at George Washington University Law School; from 2001–10