

A. Doherty, Security Officers, were among the finest members of our diplomatic corps. They dedicated their lives to promote peace, support prosperity, and protect American citizens while advancing the interests of the United States abroad.

Ambassador Stevens was a champion of the Libyan people's efforts to remove Muammar Qaddafi from power and served as Special Envoy to the Libyan Transitional National Council in Benghazi during the 2011 Libyan revolution.

Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith, and security officers Tyrone S. Woods and Glen A. Doherty as well as the United States' citizens that were injured in these attacks made professional and personal sacrifices to faithfully serve the United States and its people to advance the ideals of freedom, democracy, and human dignity around the globe.

They are heroes and their contributions and sacrifices in service to America and the cause of freedom will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this resolution in its condemnation of the terrorists who planned and conducted the attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi, Libya, and those who vandalized the United States embassies in Cairo, Egypt, and Sana'a, Yemen. The resolution also reaffirms that nothing can justify terrorism or attacks on innocent civilians and diplomatic personnel.

Most importantly, the bill calls upon the Governments of Libya, Egypt, and Yemen, in full cooperation with the United States Government, to investigate and bring to justice the perpetrators of these attacks.

Finally, the resolution reiterates the United States' commitment to promoting its core values, including support for democracy, universal human rights, individual and religious freedom, and respect for human dignity.

Mr. Speaker, we are fortunate indeed to live in a country that produces exceptional men like Chris Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty. Their selfless devotion to our nation's ideals and values will forever mark them as American heroes. I hope their families can take consolation in the fact that they will live on in the memories of the grateful nation they gave their lives to serve.

It is for these reasons that I support H. Res. 786 and ask for a moment of silence in memory of Chris Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty.

CONGRATULATING ROCIO DE
MATEO SMITH

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues Congresswoman BARBARA LEE and Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI; to recognize and congratulate Rocio de Mateo Smith upon her retirement as Executive Director from the Developmental Disabilities Area Board 5.

Born and raised in Mexico City, Rocio de Mateo Smith attended Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, where she received a B.A. in Mathematics. In the United States, she received a B.A. in Psychology from California

State University, Hayward and an M.S.W. from the University of California, Berkeley.

For the past 30 years, Rocio de Mateo Smith has worked in the field of developmental disabilities with a special emphasis in services to immigrant communities. In her role as Executive Director of Area Board 5 on Developmental Disabilities, Rocio advocated for the service rights of people with developmental disabilities of all ages, both at the individual and systemic levels. Prior to this position, she was the Developmental Disabilities Coordinator for Alameda County Health Care Services Agency and, before that, was the Executive Director of Agency for Infant Development, a Fremont-based program for infants with disabilities and their families.

Rocio is a true champion when it comes to advocating for people with developmental disabilities and her knowledge with regard to resources in the community is unmatched. She has served and impacted countless individuals and families in the Bay Area, representing them and guiding them toward appropriate services. For all her efforts, Rocio is not only highly regarded, but has been recognized and honored extensively as an outstanding woman and as a true advocate for persons with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending Rocio de Mateo Smith for her committed and diligent service to the community. I am pleased to join her family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating Rocio on an outstanding career and wish her the very best as she begins a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE VETERANS AND
GOLD STAR FAMILIES OF THE
SEPTEMBER 20, 2012 QUAD CITIES
HONOR FLIGHT

HON. DAVID LOESACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. LOESACK. Mr. Speaker, today I have the great honor of welcoming to our nation's capital ninety-two Iowa veterans of the Greatest Generation and forty-three Gold Star family members who will be escorting them on their visit. This is truly a special Honor Flight because it is bringing together World War II and Korean War veterans with families who have made the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The 43 Gold Star family members travelling to our capital today represent 24 fallen servicemembers. I can think of no greater honor than to join them and our World War II and Korean War veterans at the National World War II Memorial during their visit and to personally thank Iowa's, and our nation's, heroes—our veterans and the families who have sacrificed so greatly on behalf of our country.

When our country was threatened, our World War II and Korean War Veterans rose to defend not just our nation but the freedoms, democracy, and values that we hold dear. The Greatest Generation did not seek to be tested both abroad by a war that fundamentally challenged our way of life and at home by the Great Depression and the rebuilding of our economy that followed. But, when called upon to do so, they defended and then rebuilt our nation.

This generation of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans is no less humbling in their service and sacrifice. They have fought overseas for over a decade so that we may live in peace here at home. While our country may never be able to repay the debt we owe our Gold Star families, we must uphold the promise that we will never forget the ultimate sacrifice made by their loved ones.

I am tremendously proud and humbled to welcome the Quad Cities Honor Flight, our World War II and Korean War veterans, and our Gold Star families to our nation's capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service and sacrifice.

HONORING TREVOR GREENE

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2013 National Principal of the Year, Principal Trevor Greene, from Toppenish High School in my Congressional District. Principal Greene is an outstanding school administrator and I am grateful for his leadership and dedication to the students and faculty at Toppenish High School.

Four years ago, Principal Greene returned to the Yakima Indian Reservation, where he grew up, to serve as principal at Toppenish High. Once an underperforming school, Toppenish High has become a top performing institution whose successful model is followed by other schools in the region, thanks to the hard work of the staff under his leadership.

Principal Greene energized Toppenish students and helped them gain the confidence needed to work harder and dream bigger. By implementing a rigorous science, technology, engineering and mathematics, STEM, education program and expanding academic opportunities to his students, test scores have improved by 67 percent and graduation rates are over 90 percent.

At a time when the United States is falling behind in science and math, the Toppenish High STEM program continues to increase in popularity among students, with enrollment jumping by more than 100 students in just one school year. Students are receiving a high quality education and graduating with the resources and tools they need to succeed in college and beyond.

Each year, MetLife Resources along with the National Association of Secondary School Principals Association, NASSP, selects one highly deserving principal from a pool of more than 100 middle and high school principals nationwide. These individuals, who have been nominated by their state, are highly successful at providing top-quality learning opportunities for students and have demonstrated commendable contributions to the profession.

I am pleased that as a result of Principal Greene's selection as National Principal of the Year, Toppenish High School will receive a \$5,000 school improvement grant from the MetLife Resources/NASSP National Principal of the Year program.

We need more people like Principal Greene working to make a difference in our schools. I applaud his dedication to the students and faculty at Toppenish High School.

RECOGNIZING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON ITS 101ST ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Double Ten Day, the National day of the Republic of China. On October 10th, Taiwan will celebrate the 101st anniversary of China's military Wuchang Uprising, the start of the Xinhai Revolution, which led to the collapse of the Qing Dynasty, the end of 2,000 years of imperial rule in China and ushered in the Republican Era.

By the end of the 1683 century, Ching rulers governed all of China. After the first three emperors, the Ching Court began to decline, becoming weak and corrupt. In response, a group of national capitalists began inciting uprisings. One of the leaders of this nationalistic group, Sun Yat-sen, spent much of his youth in the United States and wanted a Western-style government for his country with a parliament and separation of powers. After the success of the uprisings, Sun Yat-sen became the first president of the Republic of China, a post from where he promoted the idea of a democratic society. Dr. Sun is now remembered as the father of modern China.

When the Republic of China lost control over the mainland in 1942, the government retreated to Taiwan where its constitution remains in command today. Taiwan is an exemplary standard of civil, liberal government in East Asia, and the Republic of China has stood shoulder to shoulder with the United States to defend and promote the very values and ideals that inspired Dr. Sun and founded the Republic all those years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I thus urge my colleagues to acknowledge the Founding Father Sun Yat-Sen and his vision to a democratic China, and join me in congratulating the Republic of China in Taiwan on its 101st anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 585–586. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted “yes” on 585 and “no” on 586.

IN HONOR OF KEVIN QUIGLEY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Kevin Quigley, outgoing President of the National Peace Corps Association. After nine years at the NPCA, Kevin is moving on to serve as Peace Corps Country Director in Thailand, the country where he served as a Volunteer from 1976–1979.

Kevin's dedication to the Peace Corps community is evident in the legacy he leaves be-

hind at the NPCA. Under his leadership, the association launched new programs designed to connect Returned Peace Corps Volunteers to schools and community groups in the United States that are interested in learning more about Peace Corps, established a mentoring program to assist volunteers returning from overseas service, and provided alumni with continued service learning travel opportunities to Peace Corps countries. Kevin also guided the NPCA into the digital age with the Africa Rural Connect Program, which provides an online platform allowing global collaboration to advance small-scale agricultural development initiatives in rural Africa, and NPCA Twitter Chat, a weekly online gathering of the Peace Corps community to discuss how to address key issues of the day.

Kevin brought a unique skill set to the NPCA, drawing from his experience as Senator John Heinz's Legislative Director, staff member at the Office of Management and Budget, and Vice Chairman of USAID's Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Assistance. He also served as Acting CEO of the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, Executive Director of the Global Alliance for Workers and Communities, and Vice President of Policy and Business at the Asia Society.

And uniting many of Kevin's diverse abilities is his commitment to volunteerism. In addition to his Peace Corps service, Kevin played a founding role in the formation of the Building Bridges Coalition, a consortium of more than 200 leading organizations working collaboratively to promote the field of international volunteering.

Mr. Speaker, while I will miss collaborating with Kevin at the NPCA, I wish him the very best in his ongoing service to our country. Peace Corps Thailand is lucky to have him.

IN HONOR OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, on Taiwan's National Day (October 10, 2012), I am pleased to take this opportunity to wish the leaders and people of Taiwan many happy returns. I look forward to continued bi-lateral relations between Taiwan and the United States of America.

Also, I would like to bid a personal farewell to Taiwan Ambassador, Mr. Jason Yuan. He has been reassigned as Taiwan's Secretary-General of the National Security Council. During his last four years in Washington, DC, Ambassador Yuan has been instrumental in fostering the strong relationship between the Taiwanese people and the Government of the United States. I wish Ambassador Yuan and his family best wishes and a smooth transition in his new position, and I thank him for his service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE ALBANIAN CULTURAL GARDEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the dedication of the Albanian Cultural Garden, taking place on September 22, 2012.

The 254 acre piece of land that constitutes Rockefeller Park was donated to the City of Cleveland by John D. Rockefeller in 1896. The Cleveland Croatian Cultural Garden is a two acre piece of land within Rockefeller Park. The Cleveland Cultural Gardens were founded in 1926 to create a memorial area for the diverse ethnic groups that shape the region, and to serve as a space for reflection on peace, cooperation and understanding. The Cultural Gardens are currently a collection of more than 30 gardens which include African-American, American Indian, British, Chinese, Czech, Estonian, and Slovenian gardens, among others.

The planning and construction of the Albanian Cultural Garden started in 2007. Legislation sponsoring its dedication was spearheaded by Cleveland City Councilwoman Dona Brady. Members of the Albanian American Association of Cleveland, Ohio, Albanian Cultural Garden Committee, Jim McKnight and Kreshnik Xhiku were instrumental in creating the Albanian Cultural Garden.

The dedication of the Albanian Cultural Garden will occur on September 22, 2012. In addition to inaugurating the Albanian Cultural Garden, it will also commemorate the 100th year of Albanian Independence and dedicate the Mother Teresa memorial statue. Special guests of the dedication will include Albanian President, Bujar Nishani; Albanian Ambassador, Gilbert Galanxhi; Mayor Baftjar Zeqaj; and Mary, Mariano and Christian Gannon.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the dedication of the Albanian Cultural Garden.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lincoln High School, in Tacoma, WA, for its many achievements over the almost one hundred years it has been open, and to congratulate all who work and study at Lincoln as they prepare to celebrate the school's 100th anniversary.

Lincoln High School accepted its first students in 1914. Since then, the teachers at Lincoln have educated thousands who would go on to graduate, and the school has supported many of its students by raising scholarship funds for future graduates. In the coming year, Lincoln High School hopes to raise \$100,000 in scholarship money to celebrate their centennial anniversary. This year's fundraising will build upon the successes during the school's 75th anniversary, when \$75,000 was raised to