EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ST. MARTHA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was proud to join the people of St. Martha's Catholic Church and School of Philadelphia in honoring the life and achievements of former parishioner and alumnus Commander Christopher Ferguson.

Commander Ferguson was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and his mother Mary Ann and step-father Norman now reside in Langhorne, Bucks County.

Ferguson graduated from Archbishop Ryan High School, going on to receive his Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Drexel University, and earning a Master of Science in aeronautical engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1991.

In 1986, Ferguson earned his Navy Wings and was ordered to the F–14 Tomcat training squadron in Virginia Beach, VA. Later, he joined the ''Red Rippers'' of VF–11, deploying to the North Atlantic, Mediterranean and Indian oceans onboard the USS *Forrestal.*

In 1995, he joined the ''Checkmates'' of VF–211, completing a deployment to the Western Pacific and Persian Gulf enforcing the Iraqi no-fly zone on board the USS *Nimitz.* Throughout his military career, Commander Ferguson has earned many commendations, including the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, and Navy Strike-Flight Air Medal.

In 1998, Ferguson reported to the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, where he served as spacecraft communicator for the STS–118, 120, 128 and 129 missions. He was also the pilot of STS–115, and commanded STS–126 and 135. In September 2010, he began training with a crew of four for a rescue mission that evolved into STS–135, a station cargo delivery flight that carried the Multi-Purpose Logistics Module ''Raffaello.''

Leading the final U.S. shuttle mission to the International Space Station, Commander Ferguson's final mission marked the end of a 30-year NASA program. The 33rd flight of the shuttle Atlantis was the 37th shuttle mission to the space station, and the 135th and final mission of NASA's Space Shuttle Program.

Commander Ferguson is a decorated military officer and a distinguished member of NASA's historic shuttle program, and the people of Pennsylvania are proud to call him one of our own.

RECOGNIZING MRS. DONNA FASSETT FOR HER SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA COMMUNITY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mrs. Donna Fassett for her selfless service to the Northwest Florida Community.

Donna Fassett is the Executive Director of ARC Gateway, an organization committed to improving the lives of persons with, or at risk of, developmental disabilities. For the past thirty-three years, she has served her community and the organization with unwavering commitment and immeasurable success. Under her leadership, ARC Gateway has expanded its programs to touch the lives of more than 900 children and adults.

Outside of her role with ARC Gateway, Donna Fassett is involved in myriad civic organizations, including: Impact 100, the Florida Council of Executive Directors, the Great Gulfcoast Arts Festival, Fiesta of Five Flags, and Pensacola Five Flags Rotary, where she previously served as President.

Mrs. Fassett's commitment to service and bettering the lives of others has been recognized through the countless awards bestowed to her. She is the recipient of ARC Florida's Robert Ettinger Award for Executive Excellence, Unsung Hero Award, and Life Time Achievement Award, as well as, the Center for Independent Living's Joe Oldmixon Award for Advocacy and the Able Trust Dr. George Spelios Leadership Award. There is no question that Donna Fassett's impact on Northwest Florida is immense, and we are all grateful for her dedication and service to improving our community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to recognize Mrs. Donna Fassett. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing Donna, her husband Charlie, their two sons Donald and Robert and two grandchildren, Morgan and Jake, all of the best.

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK SYSTEM

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to recognize the 80th anniversary of the Federal Home Loan Bank system. Chartered by Congress in 1932, the Federal Home Loan Bank system consists of 12 regional banks acting as a reliable source of critical funding for community financial institutions to finance housing and economic development.

The Federal Home Loan Banks provide safe, affordable liquidity to nearly 8,000 banks, thrifts, credit unions, insurance companies and community development financial institutions in every state. As such, they are an essential partner for community and economic development across the country.

The Federal Home Loan Banks operate under a cooperative model with ownership resting in its regional members and a management team focused on safety and soundness. This has protected taxpayers over the FHLBanks' entire 80-year history. During the recent economic downturn, the FHLBanks received no taxpayer support, and they were a vital player in supporting a broader U.S. housing market recovery.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge the Affordable Housing Program administered by the Federal Home Loan Banks and funded by contributions of 10 percent of the earnings from each of the FHLBanks. This important program represents the largest single source of private sector grants for housing and community development in the country. The Federal Home Loan Banks have distributed approximately $4.6 billion in private grants through their Affordable Housing Program since its inception in 1990. These grants have helped provide 1.5 million housing units to deserving families in every corner of the country.

IN HONOR OF DENNIS DONOHUE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, what an honor it is to recognize the work and achievements of one of the nation's most remarkable mayors. Dennis Donohue will step down as the Mayor of Salinas in December after serving in that position since 2006. He leaves office after six remarkable years that saw the city gain national attention for its efforts to solidify itself as the center of the nation's diversified fresh salad economy and turning the city away from its decades-old gang violence problem. Dennis stood at head—and heart—of both of these efforts and his leadership on these and other issues will be felt around California for years.

As a young boy, Dennis' family moved to Salinas. He graduated from Palma High School in 1972 and, ever since, has been a fixture at Palma sporting events. He earned a BA from the University of San Francisco and an MA from Gannon University in Pennsylvania. He then returned to California where he worked for several years in Silicon Valley's high tech industry. In 1988, he returned to Salinas to begin a career in agriculture, eventually rising in 1998 to become CEO of Salinas based European Vegetable Specialties, the world's largest radicchio producer. In 2005–06, he served as Chairman of the Salinas based Grower-Shipper Association of Central California.

In addition to his business leadership, Dennis took on many community service roles. He

co-chaired the campaign committee for Measure V, a half-cent sales tax proposition that rescued the City from a fiscal emergency. He helped bring national attention to saving the city libraries by working with the Steering Committee of Rally Salinas!, a coalition formed to fundraise for Salinas' threatened libraries. He was a director on the board of Second Chance Youth Program, a gang-prevention nonprofit, since 1992; and on the Palma High School Board of Directors; and on many other boards, commissions, and community efforts.

Although Dennis is fond of reminding folks that Salinas is the 158th most populous city in the United States, it is still small in comparison to major metropolitan centers. In many ways it retains the feel of a small farm town. That is—except for the curse of a big city gang violence problem. Several years after his 2006 election as Mayor, the city's long standing gang problem erupted in an explosion of youth violence. Dennis helped lead a community wide collaborative effort to bring together law enforcement, social services, faith, and community leaders, to begin a sustained and comprehensive response. That effort has drawn national attention and the White House selected Salinas to be among just six cities nationally to participate in a pilot project to turn back gang violence. Helping to put Salinas on the long term path to solving this problem will perhaps be counted as his greatest achievement as Mayor.

Dennis is married to the former Paula Johnson, who grew up on the old Williams Ranch in the Alisal. Paula, an alumna of Notre Dame High School, teaches physical education at Harden Middle School. They have two adult children, Emily and Allan.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in thanking Dennis and his family for his service as mayor. I thank him for being my delegate to the 2012 Presidential Electoral College where he proudly supported our president. I personally look forward with pleasure to working with citizen Donohue in the years to come. He will always be remembered for imagining a great city.

IN MEMORY OF CADET FIRST CLASS MATTHEW JOHN PATRICK

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today in memory of Air Force Academy Cadet First Class Matthew John Patrick. Matthew passed away on Friday, September 28, 2012.

Born in Dallas, Texas, Matthew developed a love for flying at an early age and dreamed of becoming a fighter pilot. He joined the Civil Air Patrol where he earned the prestigious Billy Mitchell Award and experienced flying solo for the first time. After graduating from the School of Science and Engineering Magnet in 2009, Matthew entered the United States Air Force Academy where he excelled. He majored in aeronautical engineering and would have graduated in May 2013.

I had the privilege of getting to know Matthew during the academy nomination process. Having won numerous math and science competitions, I already knew that Matthew was exceptionally bright. Aside from his academic achievement, I saw his passion when he spoke of his love for flying and of his desire to attend the Air Force Academy. I also noticed that Matthew possessed a quiet confidence, which told me a great deal about his character and leadership style. Indeed, I learned that Matthew was a loyal friend, an intelligent and hard working young man of great character, and the type of person who was always willing to lend a helping hand to others. He was unabashedly bold in pursuing his dream. Mr. Speaker, this is a great loss for the United States Air Force Academy and the State of Texas.

Matthew is survived by his parents, Beverly and Matthew Patrick; his sister, Catherine Ann Patrick; grandparents, Cathy and Jack Robertson; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

There are no words that can fully express my sorrow. There is nothing I can offer but prayers to comfort the Patrick family in the midst of this difficult time. May the peace of God be with those he loved and sustain them through this hour of sorrow.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING THE LIFE OF DARIO LORENZETTI

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dario Lorenzetti of Fort Worth, Texas was killed in action in the service of the United States in Qandahar Province, Afghanistan on October 13, 2012.

He was an Eagle Scout, a graduate of Saint Andrew Catholic School and Nolan Catholic High School, and a 1993 honors graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he was a champion boxer.

Commissioned as an infantry officer, Lieutenant and then Captain Lorenzetti served with distinction in the 75th Ranger Regiment. Those who bear the Ranger Tab follow a creed which reads in part, ''Never shall I fail my comrades,'' and ''I will shoulder more than my share of the task whatever it may be.'' Dario exemplified this motto. His military obligation complete, he volunteered to return to government service after America was attacked on September 11, 2001.

He worked overseas on behalf of our national security with courage, dedication and uncommon skill. Dario served in Saudi Arabia, India and finally Afghanistan, where he gave the last full measure of devotion to our country.

Every generation learns the hard truth that our nation's greatest heroes are found among the ranks of those who raise their hands to go forth and protect us, but never return home. Dario's death proves the sad wisdom of this lesson.

His sincere Catholic faith recalled Saint Francis of Assisi's advice that Christians ''preach the gospel wherever you go, and if necessary, use words.'' Dario inspired and led others by quiet example. He will always be remembered by his colleagues and friends for his generosity, humility, kindness, warmth and wit.

Dario is survived by his wife and soulmate Kirstin, and his daughters Arabella, Natalia and Aryanna. There has never been a happier husband or prouder, more doting father of baby girls than Dario Lorenzetti. His family was the center of Dario's life, and his loss to them is irreplaceable. Our prayers go out to them.

In the words of the Epistle of Timothy, Dario Lorenzetti fought the good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith. Dario, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

HEATHER CALLENDER-POTTERS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kathleen Callender and Heather Callender-Potters for their service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

Kathleen, founder of PharmaJet, and Heather, chairman of the board of directors, transformed the way vaccines and liquid medications are delivered by developing and marketing a unique, efficient, affordable and life-saving need-free syringe. These devices can deliver half a milliliter fixed dose of a liquid medication into the muscle where many vaccines are delivered, or into the subcutaneous layer between the skin and the muscle.

Pharmajet continues to serve communities around the world by creating a safer workplace with less exposure to needle stick injuries and reducing the amount of hazardous sharp medical waste in a way to better control the spread of blood borne HIV and hepatitis from needle reuse.

Pharmajet's mission is to serve individual patients in the community and promote public health in all areas of the world. Their partnership with UNICEF eliminates many of the risks of unsafe injections, along with the 1.3 million deaths per year.

Ms. Callender and Ms. Callender-Potters are champions in the community and throughout the globe. I am honored to congratulate them on receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure they will exhibit the same dedication and commitment in all their future endeavors.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MRS. ONIE BELL NORWOOD, AN ADMIRABLE CENTENARIAN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, recognize, and celebrate the 100th Birthday of New York City's own Mrs. Onie Bell Norwood, a true Harlem Legend.

Mrs. Onie Belle Norwood has lived a century in the United States of America and in that time has been privileged to witness its magnificent transformation. ''Old age'' is a term she's heard but not yet experienced as she is able to navigate the city streets better than individuals half her age and has a memory capable of challenging any young mind.

"Elegant" and "witty" are just two of the words that come to mind when friends are asked to describe Mrs. Norwood and she is known to freely share from her wealth of "experience driven" information.

In 1912, William Taft was president of the United States, Emmet O'Neal was governor of Alabama, segregation was a way of life, and, on November 16, Onie Belle Carter was born in the "Heart of Dixie," known as Union Springs, Alabama. She was the eldest daughter of the eight children born to the late Mr. & Mrs. Willie Carter. They were a hardworking family that pulled together to make ends meet. While many things seemed impossible, Onie Belle would soon discover that "all things are possible."

While the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote (1919) was ratified and the Ku Klux Klan boasted a membership of over 4.5 million members, Onie accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal Savior at First Baptist Church in Alabama. She worked hard and served as secretary for the Sunday school and the BYPU. After the death of her father as a young girl, Onie was forced to leave school and take on the responsibility of helping her mother provide for her sisters and brothers. It was the Red Summer of 1919 where race riots broke out across the country including in Chicago, Illinois, Washington, D.C. and Knoxville, Indianapolis. In 1920, less than 400 miles away, a Black-run town called Rosewood was being attacked and burned to the ground. Understanding the importance of an education, Onie traveled to Montgomery, Alabama to attend the H. A. Loveless Middle School.

In 1938, Fiorello LaGuardia was mayor of a bustling city called New York, where, just four years earlier, the now famous Apollo Theatre held its first live show, and Onie Belle, a twenty-six year old country girl from Alabama accepted an invitation for "live-in" work in Kew Gardens, Queens, New York so she could send money back to her mother. Onie and her mother prayed that God would protect her in this huge city.

Onie was a warm, friendly person who kept her business to herself. She was drawn to the Thursday "socials" that were a "meeting time" for many day workers, porters and laborers. That same year she met and married Clarence Norwood.

The sounds of Harlem echoed in Onie's ear and she enjoyed visiting the Apollo Theatre every week where the place was "jumpin" with the sounds of Count Basie, Louis Armstrong, Dizzy Gillespie, Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington and Nat King Cole. In 1939, Billie Holiday first performed a song entitled "Strange Fruit" in New York City which protested the horrid act of lynching. Some of the more popular cabarets and clubs in Harlem such as the Cotton Club, Connie's Inn, and Smalls Paradise were frequented by Whites and did not allow Blacks. Onie found herself in the midst of a changing nation. Onie sought to survive through hard work, diligence and determination.

On March 19, 1941, the 99th Pursuit Squadron became the first African-American active combat unit and Onie joined the war effort working for the Department of Defense making duffle bags and suspender belts for soldiers. After the war, she secured employment in factories making belts. On June 25th, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802, the "Fair Employment Act", to require equal treatment and training of all employees by defense contractors. In that same year, Mitchell v US, the Interstate Commerce Clause is used to successfully desegregate seating on trains. The country was changing and thirty something year old Onie was changing with it. The Civil Rights movement was in full swing and forcing America to deal with life-changing decisions.

Feeling her soul was not satisfied, Onie joined St. John's Baptist Church on West 152nd Street in Harlem under the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Wilson Major Morris in 1950. She has been an active member every since serving under the second pastor, Rev. Walter C. T. Willoughby and the present pastor, Rev. Dr. John Luster Scott. She is often heard saying how she "loves her Pastor and her Church family." Onie's magnetic personality attracts many young and old. Her favorite "suitors" are Christopher Williams, William "Sonny" Gamble and Ernest DeVerger. Presently retired from the Chimera Belt Factory, she still enjoys going to Church, taking pictures, shopping and listening to music.

A long time Harlemite, she has seen a century of great changes take place in her life, the Church, the Nation and African-American people, including the granting of the right to vote to women and the great Civil Rights Movement. She has seen the Ku Klux Klan membership dwindle to less than 8,000; 81 African-American mayors including John McGowan (1984) of her hometown of Union Springs, Alabama and David Dinkins (1988) of New York City; 3 "first" African-American governors; nearly 100 Members of the House of Representatives; 4 African-American Senators and one African-American President, her favorite, President Barack Obama. She has lived through 19 US presidents, 3 pastors and a multitude of African-American leaders and innovators. She keeps her favorite Bible verse close, Psalm 121, which begins, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help." On November 16, 2012 Onie Belle Norwood will be 100 years old. Blessed indeed, she has seen her prayers answered—a God who kept her safe in New York City.

I ask my colleagues and our Nation to join me in this special Congressional Recognition of the 100th Birthday of a true patriot and Harlem legend Mrs. Onie Bell Norwood.

HONORING CYNTHIA PALMER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues I rise today to honor a worthy member of our society Mrs. Cynthia Palmer. Mrs. Cynthia Palmer was born in Los Angeles, California but was raised in Canton, Mississippi and attended Holy Child Jesus School. After her family relocated to Jackson, she attended Brinkley Jr. High School and Callaway High School where she excelled in all areas. Cynthia was chosen as the first Black "Miss Callaway High School" & the first black female "Student Body President" among many other honors. She attended Tougaloo College and majored in Business Communications and was listed on the Dean's List.

Music has been a passion of Cynthia's from a very early age. Throughout her career, Mrs. Palmer has received world-wide acclamation while participating in various local, state, national and international events. She has toured in more than 35 of the 50 United States and has performed in the following countries: Alaska, Canada, Bermuda, West Indies, England, Germany, France, Brazil and Holland. One of the highlights of her travels was to sing in Cape Town, Umtata and Johannesburg, SOUTH AFRICA. In 2003, Cynthia was featured on the "Bobby Jones Gospel Show" on The Word Network. She is a 3-time winner at the Mississippi Gospel Music Awards. One of the blessings of her career was being able to sing to women who are currently on Death Row at the Alabama State Prison.

She has appeared on radio and television stations throughout the United States and abroad. She was the first gospel singer to sing at the Jewish synagogue in Dayton, Ohio. Cynthia has participated on concerts featuring such artists as Mary Mary, Byron Cage, Shirley Caesar, Richard Smallwood, Bishop Paul Morton, Rev. Marvin Sapp, The Canton Spirituals and Rance Allen just to name a few.

She has recorded and self-produced 5 CD's, entitled "JUST ENOUGH FAITH TO TRY", "ANOINTED PSALMS OF PRAISE", "A SOULFUL CHRISTMAS", "HEAVEN IS THE PLACE TO BE" and "THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION". Cynthia produced the highly successful CD titled, "Gospel Praises, Volume 1" for MESSAGE MAGAZINE, the oldest black religious magazine in the country.

In 2004, after relocating back to Mississippi, Cynthia founded the Canton Gospel Music Association (CGMA). One of the main focuses of the organization is to raise monies to pay for music lessons for up and coming musicians in addition to awarding scholarships to graduating seniors. To date, the COMA has awarded over $12,000.00 to over 60 students.

In 2005, she served as Executive Producer for "The Gospel at Colonus" presented by the Mississippi Opera. Most recently she served as Operations Director for the Return of the Freedom Riders, 50th Year Reunion celebrated in Jackson in May 2011. Most recently, Cynthia worked at Jackson State University as the Resources and Media Technology Manager for the Margaret Walker Alexander National Research Center. Currently, she is the Executive Director of the Veterans of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement, Inc.

Mrs. Palmer, was presented with a Public Service Award by the Robinson-Watson Book Company for the State of Mississippi at the 20th Year Honors Awards Celebration Banquet on June 26, 2009. The Public Service recipient is involved in the community during the year (s) working with various groups or agencies. They have succeeded in exercising their unselfishness in making an impact on the general Mississippi community and society. She is also listed in the inaugural edition of "Who's Who" in Black Mississippi. She is a member of the board of Directors of The Mississippi Opera, United Christian Artist Association, Women For Progress and MADDRAMA Performance Troupe. Mrs. Palmer has been a contributing writer to The Mississippi Link Newspaper and the Metro Christian Magazine. In 2010, she was featured on the cover of the Metro Christian Magazine.

Mrs. Palmer has served on the following committees: Jackson State University's Church Music Workshop of America, Commemorative Stamp Ceremony honoring

Medgar Evers & Fannie Lou Hamer, Mission Mississippi Mayor's Prayer Breakfast and Governor's Prayer Luncheon, among others. In 2003, Mayor Alice Scott, of Canton, Mississippi presented the 'Key to the City' to Mrs. Palmer and proclaimed October 3 as ''Cynthia Goodloe Palmer Day''.

She is a singer, song writer, producer, entrepreneur, friend, humble servant and a lover of people. Her personal testimony is: 'In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths' Proverbs 3:6.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Cynthia Palmer for her dedication to serving others.

CLOTHE A HOMELESS HERO ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6328, the ''Jamie Zapata Border Enforcement Security Task Force Act,'' which Directs the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration [TSA]) to transfer unclaimed clothing recovered at airport security checkpoints to local veterans organizations or other local charitable organizations for distribution to homeless or needy veterans and their families. Moreover, it authorizes the Assistant Secretary to enter into agreements with airport authorities for disposing of such clothing.

In my home state of Texas, we have nearly 1.7 million veterans. I represent 18th District in Texas which is home to over 32,000 veterans. Of the 200,000 veterans of military service who live and work in Houston; more than 13,000 are veterans from Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Veteran homelessness has been a substantial problem going back to at least the Vietnam era.

An estimated 10–16 percent of our nation's homeless population (between 76,000–136,000) are veterans.

Nearly one in seven homeless adults are veterans, as of * * *

More than 67,000 homeless veterans were counted on a given January night in America last year. More than 4 in 10 homeless veterans were found unsheltered.

Almost half of homeless veterans were African American in 2008 despite the fact that only 11 percent of veterans overall are African American.

1.5 million veterans are at risk of homelessness due to poverty, lack of support networks, and dismal living conditions in overcrowded or substandard housing.

30.2 percent of veterans ages 18 to 24 were unemployed according to unpublished 2011 Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

Nearly 1 in 10 veterans with disabilities were not employed in 2010.

According to Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, a 2007 survey showed that more than one-third of employers were unaware of protections they must provide to servicemembers, and more than half spent less than 2 percent of their recruitment budget on military advertising and/or did not understand the qualifications of military service.

In that same survey more than half of all veterans were unsure of how to professionally network, and nearly three in four felt unprepared to negotiate salary and benefits and/or unable to effectively translate military skills.

More than 968,000 of veterans ages 18 to 64 had been in poverty in the past year in 2010.

More than 33,000 veterans were housed since 2009 by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Veterans Affairs in permanent, supportive housing with case managers and access to VA health care.

$31 million of SNAP/food stamps funding in 2008 was spent at military commissaries to help feed military members and their families who struggle against hunger.

A veteran lives in one in five households benefiting from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which provides heating and cooling assistance.

After serving this country and protecting our rights and freedoms, these veterans often sustain debilitating injuries or post-traumatic stress that make readjusting to life in the U.S. an arduous task. It is often difficult for them to find jobs and as they slip further into hopelessness, they become more susceptible to drug abuse and violent acts which can lead to homelessness.

This is a disturbing trend that must end. Surely, in this great nation, we can provide for those who fought to defend us. As our men and women in the armed forces have served us, it is our duty to, in turn, serve them.

H.R. 6328 is a step in the right direction towards finding creative solutions for the basic needs of certain veterans. By using unclaimed clothing that has been left at airports is a wonderful way to help ensure that veterans who have fallen on hard times have access to clothing.

With the epidemic of depression, anxiety, and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in our military, along with the burden of long and repeated deployment during our nation's most recent wars, we must be vigilant about combating the issue of homelessness among our nation's heroes.

Throughout my tenure in Congress, I have remained committed to meeting both the needs of veterans of previous wars, and to those who are now serving. Veterans have kept their promise to serve our nation; they have willingly risked their lives to protect the country we all love. We must now ensure that we keep our promises to our veterans.

I have introduced and supported legislation that increases medical services to our troops, veterans and their families. I recently introduced a measure that resulted in $500,000 additional funding for PTSD research and treatment. Yet, as we work to improve the physical and mental health of our returning heroes; we must also work to ensure that our service men and women retain their dignity when they return home, and providing them with access to clothes is the least we can do to honor their service. For that reason, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6328, the ''Clothe a Homeless Hero Act,'' on Suspension.

U.N. IS NOT THE FORUM FOR RESOLVING MIDDLE EAST TENSIONS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, the United Nations will vote on whether or not to recognize the Palestinian Authority as a nonmember observer state of the U.N. With 132 nations having already recognized the Palestinian territory as a sovereign state and only 97 votes needed, I suspect the Palestinian Authority's effort will be successful. Yet, despite a ceasefire reached between Israel and Hamas last week, the Middle East remains a volatile tinder box far from peace. Admitting the Palestinian Authority as a nonmember observer state will hurt, not help, a peace process that is already on shaky ground.

The United States has opposed the Palestinian Authority's effort from the very beginning because it recognizes the instability that such recognition would create. The Palestinian Authority wants all the benefits of a state, without any of the responsibility. They fully admit that they don't know what their borders are. By definition, a state is a geographic territory with a sovereign government. Yes, there are some countries with border disputes, such as India and Pakistan in the Kashmir region, but the Palestinians have no agreed upon border whatsoever. What is a state if it can't define its own land?

The Palestinians themselves agreed to resolve statehood issues at the negotiating table in the Oslo Accords (which means they are required to negotiate bilaterally with Israel). Now they are figuratively walking away from the negotiating table and literally blowing it up with attacks from Hamas. Meanwhile, Israel continues to help the Palestinian economy, including collecting over $100 million a month in taxes for the Palestinians and allowing more and more Palestinians to travel to the West Bank. One thing is for sure: it is not Israel that is holding up the peace process.

With upgraded status at the U.N. come certain benefits. Here lies the real desire for the Palestinian U.N. gambit. A Palestinian state could bring war crimes charges against Israel in the International Criminal Court, putting the fate of Israelis in the hands of some international judge. This Court is so dangerous that even President Obama refuses to allow Americans to be prosecuted by it. The Palestinian Authority remains fiercely committed to bringing Israel to the International Criminal Court. Many of the nations who support Palestinian Statehood have requested assurance that Israel would be left alone if statehood was granted. The Palestinian Authority defiantly rejected these requests. Just yesterday, Hanan Ashrawi, a senior member of the PLO said: ''We have not succumbed to pressure, we did not give any commitment.'' The world should know they mean what they say; granting them this request means endangering Israel.

Yes, the Palestinians may be successful today and no, the U.S. does not have veto power in a U.N. General Assembly vote, but there still can and should be consequences for the irresponsible actions of President Abbas and his old cronies in the Palestinian Liberation Organization, PLO. Last year, we gave

the Palestinian Authority $495 million. In the same timeframe, President Abbas' office budget was $72 million yet he refuses to tell us or anyone else how he spends it. There are even press reports that his own salary is $1 million a month. According to their own documents, the Palestinian Authority spent $194 million last year alone on offices that helped promote the Palestinians' push for recognition at the U.N. The U.S. should immediately cut funding to the PLO by at least $72 million next year and require President Abbas to open up his budget for all to see. The days of giving money away to other nations with no transparency and no consequences for irresponsible behavior should be over.

The United Nations has no business getting involved in the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Dore Gold, a former Israeli ambassador to the U.N. said: "If there was a U.N. resolution whose first clause was anti-Israel and whose second clause was the earth is flat, the U.N. would pass it." Peace will not come from decisions made by a corrupt international body. If the Palestinians were committed to peace they would be working with Israel, not hiding behind the U.N. And that's just the way it is.

GREG POULOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Greg Poulos for his service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

As founder and chairman of the Golden Schools Foundation, Greg continues to drive the organization to excellence through high performance rates and accountability in the Golden articulation area.

Greg portrays his commitment to the people of Golden through his surveys of the residents on their expectations and reviews of Golden schools, then employs these testimonials in strategic goals for the community. Greg aims to have 95% of Golden students enrolled in their neighborhood schools. With Greg's determination and diligence, this goal will undoubtedly be achieved in the near future.

Mr. Poulos is a champion in the community and I am honored to congratulate him on receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure he will have the same dedication and commitment in all his future endeavors.

RUSSIA AND MOLDOVA JACKSON-VANIK REPEAL AND SERGEI MAGNITSKY RULE OF LAW ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 6156, the Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal Act of 2012. This legislation sends the wrong message, rewarding President Putin with trade privileges at a time when he is crushing pro-democracy voices at home and arming the murderous Assad regime in Syria.

Russia has repeatedly and deliberately blocked international efforts to bring an end to the violence in Syria. The Russian government continues to arm President Bashar alAssad as he murders his own people. Just last month, the Turkish government seized munitions from a Russian flight intended for the Syrian Army. The violence has had a devastating impact on Syrian civilians, with 2.5 million internally displaced and over 400,000 registered refugees living in neighboring countries. By early next year, 4 million Syrians will need humanitarian assistance. Russia's support of the Syrian Army is extending the conflict, which increases the risks of destabilization within the region. The conflict has already spilled over Syria's borders into Turkey and Lebanon. Before I support any legislation favorable to Russia, that country's leaders must stop arming the Syrian regime and allow the international community to take action to end the violence.

Proponents of this legislation argue it is time for Russia to graduate from Jackson-Vanik. This graduation, however, would take place in the middle of a serious crackdown on human rights in Russia. In the past year, the Russian government has forced international non-governmental organizations out of the country and imposed harsh sentences on individuals for peaceful protest. Just three days ago, President Putin signed a law that expands the definition of treason so broadly that any individual working with an international organization is at risk of being jailed for treason. These repressive tactics signal a serious step backward for Russia's human rights record.

H.R. 6156 contains the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act, which would require President Obama to publically name those responsible for Mr. Magnitsky's torture and murder. The President would then be able to address those persons and other human rights abusers with individual sanctions, including prohibitions on travel to the United States and the use of American banking facilities. Those responsible for Mr. Magnitsky's murder should be brought to justice. While I support this provision, it is not enough to justify voting for the bill, which ignores the continued suffering of millions in Russia and Syria.

I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 6156.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF HARLEM'S GENERAL COUNSEL JOSEPH FLEMING, ESQ.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the life and legacy of Joseph Fleming, fondly known to many as Papa Joe, Joe Cool, The People's Lawyer, The Master Negotiator and Harlem's General Counsel. On Monday, September 10, 2012, Harlem's honorary elite gathered at the Sanctuary of the historic Abyssinian Baptist Church to celebrate the life of our dear beloved attorney and friend, Joseph Fleming, Esq.

It was a special gathering of people that knew Joseph as clients, as activists, as educators, as business partners, as media personalities, as religious leaders, as entertainers and promoters, as elected officials and as family members and friends. In his very short time here on this earth, my dear friend Joe Fleming lived a complete and compact life of excellence and accomplishment, which included being the best husband in the world, a wonderful loving and complete father, a devoted son, a trusted friend and confident, an author, inventor, entrepreneur, role model, track runner, singer, a man who loved to party and dance with the ladies, but a man who gave all of his unyielding heart to his only true love and partner Temple-Jene.

Great men like Joseph Fleming, Esq. are precious gifts we temporarily have in this world, but their assistance and contributions are far remembered and everlasting. Although Joe will be missed, his legacy now lives through his wife, Temple-Jene, his son, Joseph Harris, his three daughters, Lavon Robin, Lateefah Shariene and Terilyn Marshelle, his grandson, Nathaniel Joseph Williams, his God-daughter, Nyah Cha' Ron Uhuru and through Maschil Entertainment, whose mission is to create, produce, and promote music and artists who "make music with a conscious message". That is indeed a great comfort to all who knew this amazing, articulate, soft spoken, serene and outspoken man, who lived life positive despite pain and discomfort as an example to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, on a very personal note, when I remember Joe Fleming, I think about myself as D'Artagnan who joined Athos (Joe Fleming), Porthos (Leon Ellis) and Aramis (Reggie Williams), the Black Musketeers, inseparable friends who live by the motto "all for one, one for all" ("tous pour un, un pour tous"). The friendship and kinship of these amazing three Amigos, The Black Musketeers is a story that bears and dares to be written in the mortals of Harlem's history, which will tell a story of three very best friends who were always there for me and the community we love so deeply.

I am honored to include the Obituary of our dear beloved Musketeer, Joseph Fleming, Esq.

Joseph Fleming was born January 4, 1951 in Richmond, Virginia to Mary Terry Fleming and the late Rev. Leroy Fleming, Sr. His family moved to Mt. Vernon, New York in 1953, and later to the Bronx in 1957. Joseph is a product of the New York City School System, P.S. 103, Olinville Jr. High School, and Evander Childs High School. He graduated from New York University School of Liberal Arts at its Uptown Bronx Campus in 1973, where he received his B.S. Degree in Economics and Political Science. While attending NYU, Joseph was the Founder and one of the Directors of the Educational Development and Community Enrollment Program, a program designed to enroll and mentor students with promise, but without the grades. He was also President of the Black Students Organization.

Joseph loved the law. At an early age, after watching Perry Mason, he decided he was going to be a lawyer. Upon receiving his Juris Doctor from New York University in 1976, Joseph began working as an Associate in the Law Offices of Reginald F. Lewis. It was an opportunity of a lifetime to be able to gain firsthand experience with one of the top African American attorneys on Wall Street. Within a couple of years, Joseph knew that his passion for the law would only be truly

satisfied by having his own firm. In January of 1978, Joseph started his private practice, Joseph Fleming, Esq., which was located in his home on Central Park West. In the beginning he only had a handful of clients, but word began to spread about this young attorney who could get the job done. In 1986, he moved his home office downtown nearer the Court Houses, first to Hudson Street, and then in subsequent years, as his practice grew, he maintained offices in the Wall Street area on John Street. The Law Offices of Joseph Fleming was a general practice law firm committed to providing superior legal representation in a personalized and cost effective manner. Many who sought professional advice and counsel from Joseph were also fortunate to have a personal relationship with him. He often gave out his cell phone number so that he could be reached directly by his ''client/friend'' anytime of the day or night. During his 34 years of having fun practicing law, Joseph never advertised his practice. You had to be his client by referral only.

Attorney Fleming's practice concentrated in the following areas of expertise: Federal Civil Litigation, General Civil Litigation in all courts including Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury, and Medical Malpractice; Corporate, Commercial, and General Business matters; Real Estate transactions on all levels from the sale and purchase of property to major corporate mergers, acquisitions, and development; Entertainment, Media and the Arts; Estates, Wills and Trusts, Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, and Trademark and Copyright. Joseph served as legal counsel to a wide range of professionals, corporations, not-for-profit corporations, and individuals. Although his practice was spread worldwide, the majority of his clients were from the Village of Harlem. Joseph also provided opportunities to many law students and young attorneys. Whatever he could do, he expected them to do the same, from making photocopies, interacting with clients and other attorneys, to standing before Judges and Clerks. He gave young men and women a full and true experience of what it was to be an attorney in all facets.

Joseph was admitted to practice in the United States Supreme Court; the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; the Second Circuit Court of Appeals; United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York; United States District Court for the Southern District of New York; United States Tax Court; and the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division First Judicial Department. He was a member of the New York State Bar Association and a founding member of the Society of African American Law Firms. Joseph was also one of the founding members and Chairman of the Board for the Education of People of African Ancestry. He had been an adjunct Professor at John Jay College for Criminal Justice.

Joseph was most proud of his victory in the case of Professor Leonard Jeffries v. the City University of New York, where he successfully defended Dr. Jeffries in his First Amendment suit against the College. He was also proud of his skillful legal prowess in successfully recovering the property of Malcolm X, from an eBay auction and a near storage facility sale, and returning the property to the Shabazz Family.

Joseph was so much more than an attorney and counselor. He was one of the best husbands in the world, a wonderful loving father, devoted son, trusted friend and confident, an author, inventor, entrepreneur, role model, track runner, singer, a man who loved to party and dance with the ladies, and Temple-Jene's handyman. Among his many entrepreneurial activities, in 1974 he served as the publisher of one of the first African American fashion magazines. ''Black In Vogue'', which was the first fashion publication to give credit to models and photographers directly on the page of the photo magazine. Attorney Fleming was named to Who's Who in Black New York City in 2009. He was an Officer in his son's company, Maschil Entertainment, Inc., and was Executive Producer and co-host of Maschil's critically acclaimed live art, music show ''LoveJonesNYC''. He worked with other giants in the entertainment industry including Dr. Benjamin Chavis and Russell Simmon's Hip Hop Summit, Doug E. Fresh, Lion King's Sophia Nicole, and his son, J-Harris; as well as a number of other celebrities and up and coming artists.

Joseph was amazing! He had been battling several cancers over the years, starting in 1999, culminating with his transition in 2012. Joseph's faith in God was so strong! Without God, none of the above could have happened!

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Harlem's General Counsel, Joseph Fleming, Esq. It is my hope that his example will serve as a testament that, with hard work and genuine character, we can achieve our greatest dreams.

HONORING PATRICIA COLEMAN BRACEY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Librarian, Patricia Coleman Bracey, who has possessed a passion for reading since she was a child. Any type of literature or new book that she could put her hands on was, in her words, ''like icing on the cake''.

Patricia, or Pat as a lot of people call her, is the oldest of four children born to George and Marie White Coleman of Raymond, Mississippi. She was educated in the Hinds County Public School System and graduated in 1966. She received a B.S. and a Master Degree from Jackson State University in Education with a concentration in Library Science. She is a member of the Pine Grove M. B. Church and an associate member of Seven Springs United Methodist Church, both in Raymond.

As a child, Mrs. Bracey's passion was always reading and finding new books to discover the world. Reading a book can take you anywhere you want to go. She realized this at a young age; therefore, she wanted to help children realize it too. With this passion and drive, Mrs. Bracey felt that she could serve children best as a librarian—and that is exactly what she did. Patricia worked to instill in boys and girls the love of reading and how to correctly use the library and its resources effectively for 32 years at Woodville Heights Elementary School in Jackson, Mississippi.

After retiring from the Jackson Public School District, Patricia continued her service as a librarian with the Jackon-Hinds Library System.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Patricia Coleman Bracey, a dedicated public servant who has touched the lives of thousands of children.

JULIE KERWIN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Julie Kerwin for her service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

Julie transformed an unhealthy form of fundraising at Shelton Elementary, a local grade school, into a beneficial athletic and healthy fundraiser for the children. Rather than the yearly sale of candy and cookie dough, she created a 5K race to aid the school.

In preparation for the event, Julie founded a running club, in which 60 children eagerly joined to run for the event. The successful event has blossomed into a sustainable community event.

It is members of the community like Julie who show us through innovation we can create healthy lifestyles in our neighborhoods, while promoting education and enriching the community. Her unprecedented ideas shine as a beacon for all other community members in our Nation and Colorado.

Ms. Kerwin is a champion in the community and I am honored to congratulate her on receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure she will have the same dedication and commitment in all her future endeavors.

MEDICAL PREPAREDNESS ALLOWABLE USE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to debate H.R. 5997, the ''Medical Preparedness Allowable Use Act,'' which amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the use of Urban Area Security Initiative and State Homeland Security Grant Program funding for enhancing medical preparedness, medical surge capacity, and mass prophylaxis capabilities.

Moreover, this would involve the development and maintenance of an initial pharmaceutical stockpile, including medical kits, and diagnostics sufficient to protect first responders, their families, and immediate victims from a chemical or biological event.

As a proud Member of this body and as the Ranking Member on Homeland Security Transportation Subcommittee on Transportation, I understand the importance of maintaining an unyielding commitment to keeping the American homeland safe from weapons of mass destruction by increasing our preparedness for dealing with chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats, whether they originate from individuals, terrorist organizations, and state sponsors of terror, or horrible accidents.

While much has been done to prepare our first responders for a nuclear, chemical or biological incident in the United States, the healthcare system in this country is not fully

prepared to handle the resulting mass casualties that would likely result from such an attack.

Thousands of lives could potentially be saved if our medical personnel are adequately prepared and trained for such an occurrence.

The Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) provides funding to State and local governments to assist in preparing for and responding to mass casualty incidents resulting from acts of terrorism, natural disasters, and other events.

Using the grants, jurisdictions develop response plans, conduct exercises and training, and acquire medical countermeasures and personal protective equipment for dealing with biological events that occur on a large scale.

As it stands, the MMRS program has not been reauthorized or appropriated funds due to recent budgetary constraints.

MMRS Characteristics include: Integrated medical response system; detailed system response & operations plans; specially trained responders at all levels; specialized response equipment; specialized medical equipment and pharmaceutical cache; enhanced medical transport and treatment capabilities.

MMRS has 12 MMRS Capability Focus Areas, which include the following: Strengthen Medical Surge; strengthen Mass Prophylaxis; strengthen CBRNE Detection, Response, and Decontamination Capabilities; strengthen Interoperable Communication Capabilities; strengthen Information Sharing and Collaboration Capabilities; expand Regional Collaboration; triage and Pre-Hospital Treatment; medical Supplies Management and Distribution; mass Care (Sheltering, Feeding, and Related Services); emergency Public Information and Warning; fatality Management; volunteer Management and Donations.

H.R. 5997 would authorize use of Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) funding toward the enhancement of medical preparedness, medical surgery capacity, and mass prophylaxis capabilities.

This would effectively allow to MMRS program to continue using these funds, which provide important measures such as a pharmaceutical stockpile, medical kits, and diagnostics that will help to protect first responders, their families, and immediate victims from a chemical or biological act of terror or accident.

As Americans, we must ensure that we are adequately prepared for whatever challenges that we face in our Nation; and nowhere is that more true than with the potential for large-scale disasters.

Preparing for large and debilitating disasters has become an inconvenient but necessary facet of modern America, a task that our government has met head on since 9/11. This bill will help to ensure that the resources are there in order to make those preparations.

DEPUTY LARRY GILDER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to recognize Jefferson County Deputy Larry Gilder, who was presented with a Life Saving Award during a ceremony on October 30, 2012. Deputy Gilder put himself into harm's way on two separate occasions this year alone, earning him accolades and the title of ''hero.''

During a routine patrol in Beaumont, Texas, on October 12, 2012, Deputy Gilder came across an 18-wheeler loaded with heavy equipment that was stuck on a railroad track. Gilder used his vehicle to block traffic so they could attempt to dislodge the vehicle with no success. The truck could not move. Deputy Gilder went to make an assistance call and saw the worst possible sight—a train headed straight towards them.

Thinking quickly, Deputy Gilder alerted his dispatch and began racing to get the driver out of the vehicle. Thanks to the noise and commotion, the driver never heard the train. They were able to move him into safety while Gilder had enough time to move his vehicle out of the way of the train. Mere seconds later, the trailer was destroyed. No injuries were reported, including the son of the driver, who was asleep in the cab. Deputy Gilder saved three lives that day, including his own.

This was not the first incident where Deputy Gilder went above and beyond in the line of duty. Earlier this year, Deputy Gilder and his partner came upon a trailer on fire. A woman found herself trapped inside with the fire growing and time running out. They were able to rescue the woman, and Deputy Gilder suffered injuries due to his daring escape. When asked about the injuries, he responded that he would do anything for the citizens of Jefferson County.

President Ronald Reagan once said that ''Heroes may not be braver than anyone else. They are just braver for five minutes longer.'' Thanks to two daring moves by Deputy Larry Gilder, lives were saved. He is a true American hero.

And that's just the way it is.

A TALL TEXAN AMERICAN HERO

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and great leader in this body: Science Committee Chairman RALPH HALL, who just became the oldest known House member to cast a recorded floor vote. I am honored to serve on the Science Committee with the Chairman, and I have seen first hand his dedication not only to America's scientific endeavors, but also to our country and the great state of Texas.

Chairman HALL was born in Rockwall County, Texas, a place he has represented in Congress since he was elected in 1980. He was an aircraft carrier pilot in the Navy from 1942–1945 and received his law degree from Southern Methodist University in 1951. In the 1950s, he served as Rockwall County judge and in the 1960s he served in the Texas state senate. During this time he was also a successful business leader in Rockwall County.

He brought his strong sense of leadership and service to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he has faithfully served since Ronald Reagan was elected president. As House Science Committee chairman, he has been a leader promoting science, technology, engineering, and math education. He has worked to ensure that sound scientific principles are the bedrock of any related public policy decisions being made. He has put a priority on research and development to ensure that America remains competitive. And he has been a leading proponent of America's space exploration program.

In addition to all of his professional achievements, Chairman HALL has a great sense of humor. Congress can be a place of intense political maneuvering and infighting, and he always brings levity to tense situations with his wit and charm. He endears his colleagues to him on both sides of the aisle.

It is with great pride today that I congratulate my friend and colleague, RALPH HALL, on his distinguished career; his service to our country; and his leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives. This body is better because of his service, and I wish him many more years of success and happiness.

MARV KAY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mr. Marv Kay for his service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

Marv's story is one of long-term dedication to the community of Golden. Through great amounts of perseverance Marv has served the community as mayor, mayor emeritus, serving chair of the Blue Ribbon, honorary co-chair of the 2012 Jefferson County Schools Mill and Bond Campaign, as a member of the Golden Good Government league, a mentor of numerous civic leaders, and a valued Colorado School of Mines leader and guide.

Marv continues to serve Golden, regardless of the hat he wears each day. Through his pure selflessness, he is committed to leading the town in the right direction towards success. Each community could benefit from having a member such as Marv advocating in their streets.

Mr. Marv Kay has been a champion in the community and I am honored to congratulate him on receiving the 2012 Mayor Award for Excellence. I am sure he will exhibit the same dedication and commitment in all his future endeavors.

HONORING HARLEM'S HISTORIAN AND BLACK FILMMAKER WILLIAM ''BILL'' MILES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Harlem's historian and Black Filmmaker, William ''Bill'' Miles. William Miles was born in Harlem, New York, and has used his deep knowledge and experience of Harlem to produce films that tell unique and

often inspiring stories of Harlem's history. Based in New York City at THIRTEEN/WNET New York Public Media, William Miles produced many films dedicated to the African-American experience that have been broadcast nationwide over the Public Broadcast System, PBS. Bill Miles' interest in creating historical documentaries was nurtured through 25 years of restoring archival films and early feature classics for Killiam Shows, Inc. and the Walter Reade Organization in New York City.

Bill Miles breakthrough film was Men of Bronze, which opened at the New York Film Festival in 1977 and was later broadcast on PBS. This film tells the story of the black American soldiers of the 369th Infantry Regiment, known as the Harlem Hellfighters, who, because of segregation in the U.S. Army, fought under the French flag in World War I. The regiment spent more time in the front-line trenches than any other American unit, fighting alongside French, Moroccan, and Senegalese soldiers. First organized in 1916 as the 15th New York National Guard Infantry Regiment and manned by black enlisted soldiers with both black and white officers, the 369th Infantry is known for being the first African-American regiment to serve with the American Expeditionary Force during World War I. The regiment was nicknamed the Harlem Hellfighters and the Black Rattlers, in addition to several other nicknames. Federalized in 1917, it prepared for service in Europe and arrived in Brest in December. The next month, the regiment became part of the 93rd Division (Provisional) and continued its training, now under French instructors. In March, the regiment finally received its Federal designation and was reorganized and reequipped according to the French model. That summer, the 369th was integrated into the French 161st Division and began combat operations. Dubbing themselves ''Men of Bronze,'' the soldiers of the 369th were lucky in many ways compared to other African Americans in 1918 France. They enjoyed a continuity of leadership, commanded throughout the war by one of their original organizers and proponents, Colonel William Hayward. Unlike many white officers serving in the black regiments, Colonel Hayward respected his troops, dedicated himself to their well-being, and leveraged his political connections to secure support from New Yorkers. Spending over six months in combat, perhaps the longest of any American unit in the war, the 369th suffered approximately fifteen hundred casualties but received only nine hundred replacements. Unit histories claimed they were the first unit to cross the Rhine; they performed well at Chateau-Thierry and Belleau Wood, earning the epithet ''Hell Fighters'' from their enemies. Exhibiting extraordinary valor, the 369th, an integral part of the Fourth French Army, fought on the front until the Armistice. During the Meuse-Argonne Offensive the 369th showed exceptional bravery, especially on September 29, 1918, during the liberation of Sechault, when a third of the regiment suffered casualties. Whereas African American valor usually went unrecognized, during its service, the regiment suffered 1500 casualties and took part in the following campaigns: Champagne–Marne, Meuse–Argonne, Champagne 1918 and Alsace 1918. One Medal of Honor and many Distinguished Service Crosses were awarded to members of the regiment. The most celebrated man in the 369th was Pvt. Henry Lincoln Johnson, a former Albany, New York, rail station porter, who earned the nickname ''Black Death'' for his actions in combat in France. In May 1918, Johnson and Pvt. Needham Roberts fought off a 24-man German patrol, though both were severely wounded. After they expended their ammunition, Roberts used his rifle as a club and Johnson battled with a bolo knife. Johnson was the first American to receive the Croix de Guerre (Cross of War) awarded by the French government. By the end of the war, 171 members of the 369th were cited for their heroism and decorated with the Croix de Guerre and Legion of Honor. Upon their return to the United States, the Harlem Hellfighters were honored by the City with a victory parade up Fifth Avenue. During World War II, the 369th distinguished itself at Okinawa, and later fought in the Korean, Vietnam, Persian Gulf Wars and the War on Terror in Afghanistan. The unit serves today as the 369th Sustainment Brigade.

Mr. Speaker, as a Korean War Veteran and Member of the 369th Harlem Hellfighters Veterans' Association, I included this comprehensive history of the 369th Regiment as documented in film by our beloved William ''Bill'' Miles because these brave Men of Bronze were game changers that fought as proud Americans to protect and serve our nation.

As I continue to talk about the great work of my dear friend filmmaker Bill Miles, I must also recognize his best known artistic documentary, I Remember Harlem, a four part comprehensive series, which chronicles the history and changes of the Village of Harlem and changes from its beginnings in the early 1600s through the early 1980s. The program's episodes include segments on Harlem's early history and settlement, the Harlem Renaissance, the Great Depression in Harlem, the Civil Rights Movement and political activism in the era of Malcolm X, and the problems and redevelopment of the '70s. Miles spent three years researching materials for I Remember Harlem, which traced Harlem's 350-year history. As a visual counter to the oral histories in the film, Miles unearthed archival photographs and motion picture stock footage along with newsreel films, much of it rare and never before seen by the general public. In early 1982, one year after it was broadcast, I Remember Harlem won an Alfred I. DuPont Columbia University citation and an American Film Festival Award.

Bill Miles, president of Miles Educational Film Productions, Inc. produced and directed The Different Drummer: Blacks in the Military (1983) concentrated on African-American soldiers in recent decades. A three-part documentary that explores the history of blacks in the American Armed Forces. Part One, ''Unknown Soldiers,'' examines the earliest black involvement in the military, from the Civil War to World War I; Part Two, ''The Troops,'' continues that history from World War II to the war in Vietnam; Part Three, ''From Gold Bars to Silver Stars,'' features interviews with today's highest-ranking black officers, who describe their how they rose up the military ladder.

Miles's three-part program Black Champions (1986) dealt with a three-part chronicle of the historic achievements by black athletes in America. The documentary uses rare archival footage to illustrate how many black champions, both famous and little-known, successfully challenged racism to achieve a level of prominence almost always denied them in other areas of American life. ''Who Will Wear the Crown?'' (Part One) examines early black participation in sports, focusing on the athletic departments of segregated Negro colleges during the first half of the century. ''New Times: The Integration of American Sports'' (Part Two) explores black pioneers who became superstars in the white sports arena. ''Looking For Tomorrow: Black Athletes and the Sporting Life'' (Part Three) focuses on the world of corporate sports and the financial and emotional pressures facing black superstars. Important topics included the impressive performances of various black athletes at the 1936 Berlin Olympics, Jackie Robinson's integration of Major League Baseball, Althea Gibson's achievements in tennis, and the careers of early black football stars.

Miles co-produced the film on literary legend James Baldwin: The Price of a Ticket, which debuted in 1989 as an episode of PBS's American Masters series. James Baldwin: The Price of the Ticket captures on film the passionate intellect and courageous writing of a man who was born black, impoverished, gay and gifted, by using striking archival footage to evoke the atmosphere of Baldwin's formative years—the Harlem of the 30s, his father's fundamentalist church and the émigré demi-monde of postwar Paris. Newsreel clips from the '60's record Baldwin's running commentary on the drama of the Civil Rights movement. The film also explores his quiet retreats in Paris, the South of France, Istanbul and Switzerland—places where Baldwin was able to write away from the racial tensions of America. Writers Maya Angelou, Amiri Baraka, Ishmael Reed, William Styron and biographer David Leeming place Baldwin's work in the African-American literary tradition—from slave narratives and black preaching to their own contemporary work. The film skillfully links excerpts from Baldwin's major books—Go Tell it on the Mountain, Notes of a Native Son, Another Country, The Fire Next Time, Blues for Mister Charlie, If Beale Street Could Talk—to different stages in Black-white dialogue and conflict.

Bill directed Black Stars in Orbit (1990), a documentary that profiles black astronauts and the contributions of African-Americans who worked behind the scenes in the NASA Space Program, featuring Edward J Dwight Jr., Ronald E McNair, Frederick D. Gregory, Patricia S. Cowings, Isaac T. Gilliam, IV, Guion S. Bluford, Jr., Charles F. Bolden, Jr., Mae C. Jemison, Robert H. Lawrence, Jr. Robert E. Shurney, Lee Archer, Jr. and George Carruthers.

Black Stars in Orbit was followed by Liberators: Fighting on Two Fronts in World War II (1992), which Miles co-produced with Nina Rosenblum. Liberators, featuring actors Denzel Washington, Louis Gossett Jr. and Leon Bass is a documentary film account about Black American soldiers in World War II who combated racism in the segregated military and on the home front. In April 1945, some Black American soldiers were among the first 'liberators' to enter Nazi death camps, encountering the survivors described by one GI as ''walking skeletons.''

Bill Miles and Nina Rosenblum collaborated and co-directed, The Black West, which is part of a three-volume series of the TBS Emmy award-winning film and Cable Ace nominee series, The Untold West. Narrated by Actor

Danny Glover, The Black West episode depicts the story of African Americans of the early western frontier of the late 19th century. The segment salutes the black cowboys of the western wilderness who fought alongside their Native American and white counterparts during the development of the frontier. The contributions of these nearly forgotten African-Americans are portrayed through realistic re-enactments, including a special segment on cowboy Bill Pickett, one of the best rodeo performers of all time.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Miles' life's work is dedicated to exploring the entire African American Experience including the history, culture and achievements of African Americans from their arrival in America in the 16th century to their achievement as astronauts, aeronautical scientists, and engineers. Mr. Miles has won an Emmy Award, has been nominated for the Oscar, and was inducted into the Black Filmmaker's Hall of Fame. Among numerous other awards garnered both at home and abroad, he has received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Independent Video and Filmmakers, AIVF in acknowledgment of his outstanding contribution to the history of African American in the medium of film. I ask you and my colleagues to join me in a very special congressional salute to Harlem's Historian and Black Filmmaker William ''Bill'' Miles, a titan of a man who has documented the history and contributions of African Americans and the Black American Experience with film, a camera and a lens.

HONORING LOGAN'S CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR ITS COMMITMENT AND SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a leader and innovator of the community, Mr. Melvin Logan, owner of Logan's Construction Company in Sharkey County, Mississippi. Logan Construction Company has been a thriving force in the community for more than thirty years.

Mr. Logan was born and raised in Rolling Fork, Mississippi to the late James and Thelma Logan. At an early age, Logan developed a passion for building things and working with his hands. After graduating from Alcorn State University and spending years perfecting his craft with a local contractor, Logan's dream became reality.

In 1976, at the age of twenty-six, Melvin opened Logan's Construction Company. Initially the primary focus of Logan Construction was renovation of properties until 1978 when Mr. Logan expanded his craft after being approached to build a house. After successfully tackling this challenge, Logan's Construction Company secured a surplus of contracts, becoming the number one builder of new homes and remodeling in the Sharkey County area.

Logan's attention to detail and quality workmanship has garnered him the reputation of being the community expert of helping customers with their desired projects from conception to completion.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Logan's Construction Company and Melvin Logan for his entrepreneurial spirit and continued dedication to serving the Sharkey County community.

JAMIE ZAPATA BORDER ENFORCEMENT SECURITY TASK FORCE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to debate the Senate Amendment to H.R. 915, the ''Jamie Zapata Border Enforcement Security Task Force Act,'' which amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) the Border Enforcement Security Task Force (BEST), which shall establish units to enhance border security by addressing and reducing border security threats and violence.

More specifically, this Border Enforcement Security Task Force will achieve its goal of border security enhancement by (1) facilitating collaboration among federal, state, local, tribal, and foreign law enforcement agencies to execute coordinated activities in furtherance of border security and homeland security; and (2) enhancing information-sharing, including the dissemination of homeland security information among such agencies.

As the Representative for the 18th Congressional District of Texas, I am deeply concerned about spill-over violence along the border between my state and Mexico. The recent increase in drug trafficking-related violence in Mexican cities, such as Juárez and Nuevo Laredo, is cause for concern, particularly in the neighboring U.S. cities of El Paso and Laredo, TX.

In fact, in 2010, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a safety alert to law enforcement officers in the El Paso area warning that drug trafficking organizations and associated gangs may target U.S. law enforcement.

The BEST program is currently administered by DHS, and involves information sharing and law-enforcement operations between personnel from federal, state, local, tribal, and foreign law-enforcement agencies to combat criminal activity near the United States borders.

There are currently 34 BEST units.

Since inception in June of 2005, these DHS-led task forces made 10,024 criminal arrests; 6,541 administrative arrests; 5,802 indictments; and 4,999 convictions.

They seized over 88,500 pounds of cocaine; 870,748 pounds of marijuana; 4,669 pounds of methamphetamine; 4,383 pounds of ecstasy; 1,404 pounds of heroin; 3,866 vehicles; 14,243 weapons; 2,920,155 rounds of ammunition; and in excess of $111.8 million in U.S. currency and monetary instruments.

Additionally, BEST units have initiated approximately 8,490 investigations.

Jamie Zapata was a Homeland Security Investigations Special Agent from Brownsville, Texas who was killed in the line of duty on February 15, 2011 while serving on assignment in Mexico for United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

This bipartisan bill, named in Jamie Zapata's honor, seeks to enhance our nation's abilities to deal with the dangerous activities occurring near our borders and, hopefully, prevent the tragic deaths of more of our agents. These are men and women who put their lives on the line in order to protect our country's interests.

We know that this program works and has provided American citizens with improved border security and greater security throughout the United States.

I urge my colleagues to support the ''Jamie Zapata Border Enforcement Security Task Force Act,'' which will ensure that our agents tasked with securing our border, who work under extremely perilous circumstances, are better protected through enhanced information sharing and greater collaboration between agencies.

TED RAINS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ted Rains for his service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

Ted exemplifies a commitment to the community through innovation that is unprecedented. As captain of the Golden Optimists Bicycle Recycle Program, Ted repaired and distributed thousands of free bicycles to the residents of Golden and the metro area, as well as students of the Colorado School of Mines.

However, Ted did not stop with his mission in Golden. He has also rebuilt and donated bikes to Native American reservations and citizens of Mexico, Haiti, and Tanzania. Ted and Golden Optimists Bicycle Recycle Program have repaired and given a total number of over 9,000 bicycles around the globe and in Golden. Ted truly epitomizes the selfless nature of an outstanding community member and servant.

Mr. Rains is a champion in the community and I am honored to congratulate him on receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure he will exhibit the same dedication and commitment in all his future endeavors.

CONSTITUENTS FOR CASA

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to recognize the achievements of three constituents of Texas's 2nd congressional district: Rose DeRouen, Judge Randy Shelton, and Eleanor Johnson for their work with the organization CASA as Court Appointed Special Advocates. These distinguished citizens received high honors for their volunteer advocacy work for abused and neglected children.

With a mission to place every child in a safe, loving, and permanent home, CASA relies on the work of volunteer advocates for the interests of children overlooked by society. In

order to ensure that every child is properly taken care in the eyes of both the law and the community, these volunteers provide judges with detailed information of a child's home life and legal situation to help judges better understand each and every child's unique story.

Among the many volunteers that help make CASA possible, three Texans have gone above and beyond what is expected, and they have been recognized for their extraordinary efforts. Rose DeRouen earned the Volunteer of the Year award for her selfless and extensive services for children. Judge Randy Shelton was recognized for his honorable services with the Big Voices for Little Texans Judge of the Year award, and Eleanor Johnson was the first ever recipient of the Joseph Gagen Leadership Award.

CASA and their advocates have done right by their community, and, most importantly, right by children in need. Their efforts have been an exemplary manifestation of American values in local communities, and Texas's 2nd congressional district is blessed to benefit from the work of these outstanding Americans.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUTSTANDING WORK OF OUTLOOK NEBRASKA, INC.

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize—Outlook Nebraska, Incorporated—an organization that I've had the pleasure of visiting and seeing firsthand the positive impact they have in the lives of so many. This organization is part of the AbilityOne Program, which enables more than 50,000 Americans and 3,300 wounded warriors nationwide, who are blinded or severely disabled, to work and provide products and services to federal and commercial customers.

Today in America, seventy percent of blind and visually impaired working-aged adults are not employed. Opportunities provided by Outlook Nebraska and the AbilityOne Program have played an important role in bringing people with disabilities into the workforce. As one of Outlook's employees said to me, ''They looked at me for my abilities—not my disability.''

The AbilityOne Program affords Americans who are blind or disabled the opportunity to acquire job skills and training, receive good wages and benefits, and gain greater independence and a better quality of life. I applaud Outlook Nebraska and the work it does each day to open doors of opportunity for Americans who are blind or disabled.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED PALACE CATHEDRAL

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, recognize, and celebrate the United Palace Cathedral's 45th anniversary and 45 years of ministry's services to the community.

The United Palace Cathedral has been an important institution of the Northern Manhattan community with an esteemed reputation of devotion to our families and youth. The congregation has opened its doors, providing service and hope, to the poor, middle class and immigrant communities. The church has united the community and provided a welcoming place to practice the Christian faith.

United Church, under the leadership of our pastoral beloved founder REVEREND IKE, is a place of worship for thousands of people of various races, faiths, and social strata. It is also a classic, architecturally grand, international, inter-cultural Center for the Arts.

The square block United Building Complex, containing the Palace Auditorium, was purchased by the United Christian Evangelistic Association in 1969, under the direction of Dr. Frederick Eikerenkoetter (''Rev. Ike''), Founder and Pastor of the United Church. It fronts on four streets, occupying a full block on Broadway, 175th Street, and Wadsworth Avenue.

The building was the last of the ''Wonder Theatres'' erected between 1925 and 1930. These ''Wonder Theatres'' were so named because of their extravagant design and were placed in strategic areas of Manhattan. Intended as a stage theatre, it opened February 15th, 1930, and housed vaudeville shows for uptown residents. With the decline of vaudeville and the growing popularity of moving pictures, the theatre was quickly converted to a deluxe movie house and renamed Loew's 175th Street Theatre. The Church provides an impressive roster of youth programs ranging from tutoring classes for elementary to high school students to the Collegiate Society for the elder students. These programs have become vital in the fostering of young talent. United Palace has joined in a concerted community effort to keep our children off the streets by providing simulative, spiritual and cultural alternatives. The United Palace Cathedral demonstrates the power and fortitude of our community. Their congregation serves as a positive outcome produced by uniting in the face of adversity.

The United Palace Cathedral believes and affirms: The Omnipresence of God—God is absolute good, everywhere present—The Divinity of Humankind—The Power and Value of Thought—Practicing the Presence—The Law of Demonstration. Knowing the Ancient Wisdom Principles, Universal Law and the laws of life, also called Truth, is not enough, we must also live and practice the Truth we know. ''But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and God's righteousness; and all these things will be added unto you.'' (Matthew 6:33)

As a Spiritual and Multicultural Community, we: Believe that spiritual power lives within us, eager to be discovered and expressed; Emphasize universal spiritual principles and welcome people of all races, religion, social backgrounds, lifestyles and economic levels; View religion as an open-ended search for Truth rather than as a closed system of pre-established beliefs; Embrace Jesus Christ as the perfect expression of our own indwelling spiritual potential, and his teachings as a guide to our own spiritual empowerment; Recognize and embrace the importance of spiritual community in supporting and empowering our personal journey.

This parish has demonstrated the power and fortitude of community. They refused to allow the loss of a physical space to destroy the bonds that they share with each other. The congregation serves as a beautiful portrayal of the positive outcome produced by uniting in the face of adversity.

I ask my colleagues and our Nation to join me in this special Congressional Recognition of the United Palace Cathedral as they celebrate the 45th anniversary and 45 years of spiritual service and strength in the face of Adversity.

KATHLEEN CALLENDER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kathleen Callender and Heather Callender-Potters for their service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

Kathleen, founder of PharmaJet, and Heather, chairman of the board of directors, transformed the way vaccines and liquid medications are delivered by developing and marketing a unique, efficient, affordable and life-saving needle-free syringe. These devices can deliver half a milliliter fixed dose of a liquid medication into the muscle where many vaccines are delivered, or into the subcutaneous layer between the skin and the muscle.

PharmaJet continues to serve communities around the world by creating a safer workplace with less exposure to needle stick injuries and reducing the amount of hazardous sharp medical waste in a way to better control the spread of bloodborne HIV and hepatitis from needle reuse.

PharmaJet's mission is to serve individual patients in the community and promote public health in all areas of the world. Their partnership with UNICEF eliminates many of the risks of unsafe injections, along with the 1.3 million deaths per year.

Ms. Callender and Ms. Callender-Potters are champions in the community and throughout the globe. I am honored to congratulate them on receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure they will exhibit the same dedication and commitment in all their future endeavors.

HONORING GRIFFIN AUTO REPAIR SHOP

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable minority business, Griffin Auto Repair Shop, owned by Mr. Jerry Griffin. Throughout the years, Mr. Griffin has shown what can be done through hard work, setting goals, and aiming high.

Griffin Auto Repair Shop was sparked out of a need to survive. The owner, 51 year old Jerry Griffin, worked on a farm in Louise, Mississippi for nine years. He was promised a raise but his employer refused to honor that promise. At that point, Griffin asked that someone take him home, and he vowed to never to-return to that line of work again.

Mr. Griffin had held steadfast to the dream of owning his own business since he was a teenager. After leaving the job because of a failed promise for a raise, he found himself unemployed and married with two children. It was at this point he began to give his dream serious thought—an auto repair business. He was not exactly sure how to start or where to begin. Mr. Griffin said he was led by God to go to the bank and ask for a loan. Once there, he was informed that chances of him getting a loan were almost impossible since he was no longer employed nor did he have any kind of collateral. However, Mr. Griffin said the loan officer decided to ''give him a chance'' and grant him a loan for $17,000 because he ''looked like an honest man that would keep his word''. In 1998, Griffin obtained a small lot and built a building which would serve as his shop. He did not have any tools, so he began purchasing tools a few at a time.

Mr. Griffin relied on what he learned from books and what his grandfather taught him about working on cars. His first big job was the repair of an engine in which he earned $600.00. As time went on, he gained more customers, and was able to buy more tools than he could imagine, which lead him to be an established self taught mechanic.

After his business grew, he decided to go to the bank to apply for a second loan in order to purchase a tow truck. This time, using his mother's land as collateral, he obtained an $8,000 loan. He purchased a used tow truck for $6,000 from a dealership in Greenwood, Mississippi and used the remaining $2,000 to make necessary repairs to the truck. He was now an auto shop owner with his own tow service.

Now, fourteen years later, Griffin Auto Repair Shop is still a thriving business. Griffin credits the success and longevity of his business to it being ''built and ran on faith'' from its beginning to now. ''I kept my word and provided fair prices and that kept me with good customers from all around and they've been good customers for many years, said Griffin.''

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Griffin Auto Repair Shop for its dedication and passion for serving its customers.

DHS ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5913, the ''DHS Accountability Act of 2012,'' which establishes an independent advisory panel in the legislative branch to: (1) comprehensively assess the management structure and capabilities related to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and (2) make recommendations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of DHS management.

Moreover, the advisory panel is tasked with directing the panel to examine: (1) the efficiency and effectiveness of the management structure and capabilities (2) the extent to which unnecessary duplication exists in such management structure and capabilities and how any such duplication negatively affects the mission of protecting the United States; (3) the extent to which management of key homeland security missions is centralized under DHS; (4) options to reduce or eliminate harmful waste and duplication of effort in DHS; and (5) measures to evaluate DHS's progress in reducing and eliminating waste and duplication from its management structure and capabilities.

As the Ranking Member of Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation, I am familiar with the challenges facing the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as the various agencies within the Department work to ensure the safety of all Americans. Like most other agencies, DHS and the agencies within it are facing budget cuts amidst the rising cost of ever present threats.

I want to recognize the outstanding work and progress that this body, in cooperation with the United States Senate and the executive branch, has made in learning from the events of 9/11. Together, we have taken steps toward the implementation of policies that have made our nation more secure from terrorism, including the creation of the Department of Homeland Security in 2002.

With over 200,000 employees and encompassing numerous agencies and various other components, DHS is the 3rd largest cabinet level department.

There were certain flaws in our security apparatus that failed us on 9/11 which include the lack of information-sharing between agencies charged with determining who should and should not be permitted to enter our borders, as well as friction and difficulties that resulted from some of the overlapping responsibilities of those agencies.

DHS was created to resolve some of those difficulties, and although it has made great strides, more work remains to be done.

The advisory panel created by the H.R. 5913 will be instrumental in assisting Congress and the Department of Homeland Security in achieving missions vital to America while trimming waste and improving its efficiency and efficacy.

It is essential that this Congress work in tandem with the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that the nation is protected from threats to our homeland. Because it will help to facilitate this important process, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5913, the ''DHS Accountability Act of 2012.''

IN TRIBUTE TO VENTURA COUNTY'S LAW ENFORCEMENT

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to the dedicated and professional members of the law enforcement community with whom I have had the privilege to serve during my more than 30 years of public service.

It's impossible to name them all. When I was mayor of Simi Valley, California, I rode with patrol officers to see first-band the challenges our men and women in uniform face on a daily basis. Those on the front lines of public safety deserve our enduring thanks and respect.

But over the years, I have established partnerships with certain extraordinary people, including Ventura County District Attorneys Greg Totten and Mike Bradbury and Sheriffs Al Jalaty, John Gillespie, Larry Carpenter, and Bob Brooks.

Al Jalaty was Sheriff when I was first elected to the Simi Valley City Council. He set the standard for those to come after him, demanding compassion and common sense from those under his command. John Gillespie began the technological modernization of the department. Larry Carpenter helped lead the charge to change the California Constitution to ensure that the first function of government is to protect the public, and in passing a county ordinance to ensure proper funding. Bob Brooks continued to modernize the department, particularly after 9/11, and instituted Six Points of Honor that established the foundation for the department's core values.

I worked closely with each and every one of these distinguished lawmen to ensure they had support from the federal government to provide the tools and training necessary to keep Ventura County safe. But it was their dedication, service, and vision that has kept Ventura County ranked among the safest counties in the nation.

In addition to their role in prosecuting criminals, District Attorneys Mike Bradbury and Greg Totten are responsible for legislation I introduced that became federal law. Mike Bradbury was presented with a problem of prosecuting the makers of videos showing the killing of small onimals. Because of jurisdictional issues, it was hard to prove a crime on a local leveL I introduced a bill making the interstate distribution of such videos a federal crime. It sailed through the House and Senate and was signed by the President in December of 1999. Prior to it becoming law, about 3,000 different videos were sold over the Internet. The next day, virtually none were available.

Because of a 2004 law, DNA matches in cold cases skyrocketed, creating a huge backlog for prosecutors Greg Totten and I discussed the problem and I introduced a bill to provide federal grants to local prosecutors to help prosecute DNA cold cases. My bill was included in the Children's Safety Act of 2005 and signed into law the following year. Greg Totten not only tirelessly championed funding the grants, he also worked diligently to make the program a success. Consequently, murderers have paid for their crimes.

Mr. Speaker, public safety is the number one responsibility of government. I have been honored to know and work with dedicated law enforcement professionals who I believe are among the best in the nation. I am honored not only to call each of them District Attorney and Sheriff, but friend. I know my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Ventura County District Attorneys Greg Totten and Mike Bradbury and Sheriffs Al Jalaty, John Gillespie, Larry Carpenter, and Bob Brooks, and all those in law enforcement who make our communities safe.

DAN DWYER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dan Dwyer for

his service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

Dan, an avid cyclist, made exceptional achievements in improving the health, fitness, and community spirit of Golden residents. He was a pivotal member of the community in organizing the Foothills Running and Biking Club, participating in the bikeability task force, serving on the board of Leadership Golden, and working to make the Golden stage of the USA Pro Cycling Challenge.

Dan was one of the organizing committee's co-chairs responsible for the staging of the USA Pro Cycling Challenge in Golden. This was the second year the community enjoyed 135 of the world's best riders as they raced over 518 miles through the beautiful scenery of Golden and much of Colorado. Dan used the race to continually engage sponsors and the community in cycling year round.

Above all, Dan exemplifies what it means to live healthy through exercise, while enjoying the community and scenery of Golden.

Mr. Dwyer is a champion in the community and I am honored to congratulate him on the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure he will exhibit the same dedication and commitment in all his future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF WEST HARLEM'S BELOVED ADVOCATE PATRICIA ARLENE JONES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of West Harlem's beloved businesswoman, managing director, visionary, community resident and advocate Patricia Jones, who unexpectedly passed away on Friday, November 16, 2012. On Tuesday, November 27, friends, residents and community leaders gathered at Convent Avenue Baptist Church to reflect and celebrate the life of our beloved Pat Jones, who was a faithful and dedicated public servant to residents, nonprofits and businesses throughout West Harlem and the City of New York.

It is with great sorrow that my wife Alma and I joined members of the West Harlem Local Development Corporation, Community Planning Board 9, elected officials representing the New York State Legislature and the New York City Council in mourning the unforeseen death of our beloved Pat Jones who left an unforgettable and indelible mark in all of our political and community hearts and minds. We are truly thankful for her decades of service to our community, and for the many memories that I will personally cherish forever.

Great women like our beloved Pat Jones are precious gifts we temporarily have in this world, but their assistance, contributions and accomplishments are far remembered and everlasting. Pat was a dear friend and was known to many of us as a brilliant hardworking community leader who dedicated her life work to fighting for and expanding historic and landmark preservation, positive community, public safety, health care, environmental justice and education.

Patricia Arlene Jones was born on July 17, 1953 in Flushing, Queens, New York. She was the youngest of four children of Darline Clark Jones and Herman Lee Jones. Pat's family affectionately called her Trisha. Young Trisha was baptized by the late civil rights Preacher, Reverend Timothy P. Mitchell at the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church in Flushing, Queens. Trisha graduated from Flushing High School, where she was a member of the Arista Club, a student organization dedicated to educational excellence. She matriculated to Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan majoring in Mathematics. Pat graduated from Michigan State in 1975 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration.

Pat was recruited by Price Waterhouse Coopers where she worked as an audit manager for over five years. She moved on to JP-Morgan & Company where she managed over 100 finance employees and eventually rose to become the first African American woman to serve as a Managing Director. During her tenure, Pat also served as a manager of diversity, establishing mentoring programs for African American employees, and establishing a women's speaker series featuring powerful professional women, including former U.S. Senator, First Lady and current United States Secretary of State, the Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, and former National Security Advisor and United States Secretary of State, the Honorable Condoleezza Rice. Managing Director Jones retired from JP-Morgan after 17 years of service. Pat was also a Certified Public Accountant and played key leadership roles in organizations such as American Women for Economic Development and the American Institute of CPAs. Highly respected for her achievements in business, Pat was mentioned in the 1981 edition of Outstanding Young Women of America.

Pat, an accomplished businesswoman and retired Managing Director, volunteered and joined Manhattan Community Board 9 in 2001 to advocate and serve on behalf of the West Harlem community, where she owned her home and which she loved so much. Pat's dedication, professional skill and wit led her to be elected 2nd Vice Chair of the Board, serving 3 terms from 2004 to 2007. In 2008, Pat was elected Chair and served for two consecutive terms, from 2008 to 2010, receiving the admiration and support of her fellow board members. Pat concurrently co-chaired the Manhattanville Rezoning Task Force, as well as Chair of the 197–A Planning Committee. I am also proud to say that Pat Jones was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone, which is one of nine federal zones established by President William Jefferson Clinton, by legislation I authored and sponsored in the House of Representatives.

More significantly, history will remember Pat Jones as the co-author and chief navigator of the historic Community Benefits Agreement between Columbia University and the City of New York on behalf of West Harlem and Community Planning Board 9. After successfully negotiating the 197–A Plan for Community Board 9 through the New York City Planning Commission approval process, Pat Jones was elected to fill one of the Community Board seats on the West Harlem Local Development Corporation.

Pat took on the leadership role as Chair of the West Harlem Local Development Corporation (WHLDC) at a very difficult and contentious time during the negotiating process. Many long mornings, afternoons and evenings shepherding through the complex personalities and agendas was no easy task by any means, but somehow Pat was able to move the WHLDC above and beyond those personalities and agendas, which led to one of the most significant Community Benefits Agreements ever achieved in the City of New York and in the nation that will positively enhance and improve the quality of health, environment, education and affordable living for all the residents of Community Board 9, West Harlem and beyond.

The origin and purpose of the West Harlem Development Corporation are connected with the 25-year expansion project of Columbia University in the City of New York. This educational mixed-use complex that began in 2009 will eventually span 17 acres and will include academic, commercial, cultural, and community facility space as well as open space. It is bounded by West 125th Street to the south, West 133rd Street to the north, Broadway on the east, and Twelfth Avenue on the west. The integrated teaching and academic research campus would create 6.8 million gross square feet in 16 buildings at a projected cost of $6.28 billion.

A consequence of this expansion project is the Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) which is a legally enforceable document between a real estate developer and a community that binds the developer to provide agreed-upon benefits. The West Harlem Community Benefits Agreement Between the West Harlem Local Development Corporation and the Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York was signed on May 18, 2009, initiating phase one of the Columbia University's Manhattanville Expansion project.

In 2005, Community Board 9 of New York City voted to approve the creation of the local development corporation to engage in negotiations with Columbia University on behalf of the community of West Harlem. It was initially incorporated on March 16, 2006 as the D9 Local Development Corporation, a nonprofit New York State entity. Subsequently, an amendment was filed to change the name to West Harlem Local Development Corporation (WHLDC).

Through Pat's effective and determined leadership, and with the support of our elected body of public officials, the WHLDC was able to negotiate a total of $300 million in CBA benefits for housing, employment and economic development, education, environment, transportation, arts and culture, community facilities and historic preservation, which included $150 million from the City of New York to preserve affordable housing.

It also included $150 million from Columbia University, which included the creation of a $20 million Affordable Housing Fund; up to $4 million in related legal services; a $30 million commitment for a planned Demonstration Community K–8 Public School to be established in conjunction with Teachers College; $76 million in Columbia University's financial contributions to a benefits fund that will be paid out in installments over sixteen years, which allows the WHLDC to determine the programmatic uses of these funds; $20 million worth of access to Columbia University services and facilities to be apportioned over twenty-five years ("In-Kind contributions"); and a commitment from Columbia University to provide "Advice and Guidance" to the WHLDC on a range of issues and programs.

During Pat's amazing community career she served as Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Children's Arts Carnival, Treasurer of the Hamilton Heights-West Harlem Community Preservation Organization, Member of the Board of the Harlem Venture Group, Treasurer of the Hamilton Heights Homeowners Association (HHHA) and Chair of HHHA's Annual House and Garden Tour Committee.

Let me share with you a poem Patricia Jones authored in the 4th Grade, entitled I am Thankful. "I am thankful for many things. One is that I have a nice home and wonderful parents in them. Some children overseas don't have homes as we do, and some do not even have parents. I am thankful for the schools we have in New York because some children in other countries don't have schools and need the education badly. Many people in the United States are grateful for the world peace we have. In some countries people have to do what their leaders say to do, and they don't have the right to do what they want to, and to tell their feelings. I am very grateful for all the things that I have, and I hope that many people all over the world have the things that I have."

Mr. Speaker, Pat Jones was a strong black woman, who understood the true meaning of commitment, sacrifice, hard work and effort. She now takes her place alongside our other Freedom Sisters of extraordinary women who, while less prominent in the media, shaped much of the spirit and substance of civil rights, social and economic justice in America, just as our beloved Pat Jones, whose important historic contribution to the West Harlem community will surely be missed. I ask you and my colleagues to join me in this very special congressional salute to West Harlem Advocate, Patricia Arlene Jones.

HONORING THE DELTA BIG FOUR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an extraordinary gospel group, The Delta Big Four of Lambert, Mississippi. A group that believes in praising God in song.

The members of the Delta Big Four were nurtured in a Christian home and taught the word of God. Their parents, the late Willie, Sr. and Daisy Nobel McCray, had sixteen children and family time and music were important in the home. Most evenings the family composed and sang spiritual songs. The family used the old washboard for music.

In the 1950s, the group was called the Delta Big Four because the group originally began with four members: Ollie, Sr. and Melissa, James Lee, and Alberta. Although other members were added, the name remained. Rosie joined the group as one of the leads; she also could write and arrange. Because of her ability to write songs to fit the group, the group developed a uniqueness of their own.

At the ages of four and five, the original members travelled to various churches, towns, and states praising God. Years later, they were blessed to appear on the radio stations with the likes of Theo "Bless My Bones" Wade of WDIA in Memphis, Tennessee and Early Wright of WROX in Clarksdale, Mississippi, the first African-American Radio Personalities in the South and on WQMA with James Figgs and James Wilson. The exposure truly benefited this young and talented group of singers. They soon had their own radio programs on both WROX and WQMA. The group was featured regularly on Early Wright's Gospel Extravaganzas. Major recording artists touring the Delta and the Mid South sought them out as an opening act, including the Mighty Cloud of Joy, Staple Singers, Pilgrim Jubilee, Swam Silvertones, Dixie Hummingbirds, and the list goes on.

In the early 1960s, the Delta Big Four was one of the first local Quartet gospel groups to introduce musical instruments to their performances. They recruited a young but talented high school student, Larry Sims, as guitarist. Prior to that time, most local artists sang acappella. Although many churches were not accustomed to instruments other than pianos, it turned out to be one of the best decisions they would ever make. Very soon, groups from all over were following their lead. Larry trained Ollie and James Lee to play the lead and bass guitars, respectively, before leaving the group.

They got the attention of Oris May, a Memphis television personality that hosted a gospel singing show on WMC–TV Channel 5 and a producer for Peacock Records. In 1967, the group recorded its first record, "Story of the Blind Man." Later came "Lord, Guide Me"; "Lord Why I'm Traveling"; "Me and the Devil Had a Wrestle, But I Won"; "Standing on a Solid Rock"; and "Lord If I am Too High, Bring Me Down".

Other family members were added throughout the years: Ruthie Ann, Ollie, Jr. and Andrew, the sons of Ollie, Sr. and Melissa replaced Ollie, Sr. and James Lee on the guitars. The group decided to add James Edward because his voice and style fit most of the songs Rosie wrote. This also proved to be a wise move for the group. Ollie, Jr. soon thereafter entered the ministry and left the group. Fortunately for the group, James Edward was an accomplished guitarist. The group added another musician, Quincy Twilley on drums. Every member sang lead and chorus, the mix they were seeking, the catalog of songs and the personnel to meet the demand of the group. The group has spent more than fifty years performing traditional quartet gospel music. Today, most of their time is spent in the choir at Sykes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church and working with the next generation of the Delta Big Four, led by Tiffany Griffin and Larry Strickland, Jr., who are the great grandchildren of the original members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Delta Big Four as an inspirational gospel group.

MANDATORY OPERATIONAL CONTROL REPORTING AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to debate H.R. 6025, the "Mandatory Operational Control Reporting and Performance Measures Act of 2012," which provides for annual reports to Congress from the Secretary of Homeland Security on the status of operational control of the international land and maritime borders of the United States, as well as, unlawful entries through those borders.

As a Ranking Member of Homeland Security Committee Transportation Subcommittee, I recognize the essential role that the Committee and this Congress play in securing our borders from terrorism, drug trafficking, and illegal immigration. This goal involves the substantial efforts of federal, state, and local law enforcement, as well as Congressional creation of effective border policy. I recognize that this bill seeks to provide additional information to Congress that will be helpful to that process going forward.

Section 2 of the Secure Fence Act of 2006 requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to "take all actions the Secretary determines necessary and appropriate to achieve and maintain operational control over the entire international land and maritime border of the United States." The section defines operational control to mean "the prevention of all unlawful entries into the United States, including entries by terrorists, other unlawful aliens, instruments of terrorism, narcotics, and other contraband."

As the Representative for the 18th Congressional District in Houston, Texas, border security and integrity are of paramount importance to both me and my constituents. The Port of Houston is a 25-mile-long complex of public and private facilities located just a few hours' sailing time from the Gulf of Mexico. Its services link Houston with 1,053 ports in 203 countries.

The port is ranked first in the United States in foreign waterborne commerce, second in total tonnage, and sixth in the world. It generates about $11 billion annually and provides over 287,000 direct and indirect jobs in Texas. As the port plays such a large role in the US economy it is crucial that we maintain its integrity and security.

H.R. 6025 is designed to gauge the performance of the Department in achieving operational control, so that Congress may provide additional legislation, tools, and resources as necessary.

More specifically, this bill will provide for annual reports on (1) the number of miles of the international land and maritime border between the United States and Canada and the United States and Mexico that are under operational DHS control, cumulatively and by sector; and (2) the estimated number of individuals who unlawfully enter the United States annually, the estimated number of individuals unlawfully present in the United States as of the date of each such report, and the number of individuals unlawfully present in the United States who voluntarily exited the United States in the preceding year.

Border security and immigration enforcement are enormous tasks requiring extensive resources. The Federal Government aims to, and must, work with State and local authorities to share the responsibilities and the common goal of a safe and secure America.

Despite the many examples of successful initiative and cooperative efforts, there are plenty of legitimate concerns that must be taken into account when discussing the best

way to ensure that America's borders are secure. Significant improvements in technology and infrastructure have been made to the efforts the Federal Government is making to improve border security and immigration enforcement. Reports like the one proposed today are important to achieving our long term goals.

FAYE GRIFFIN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Faye Griffin for her outstanding service to our community.

Faye has served Jefferson County as Treasurer, Clerk and Recorder and was most recently reelected as County Commissioner for District 1.

Faye is extensively involved in multiple community initiatives. Currently, Faye serves on the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District Board, is a council member for the Head Start Policy Council and Rocky Flats Stewardship Council, as well as the E–911 Board and Noxious Weed Advisory Board. Faye is on the Boundary Control Commission, the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation, the Criminal Justice Strategic Planning Committee and the C–470 Corridor Coalition.

Among Faye's many accomplishments and board duties, she was the driving force behind the Child and Youth Leadership Commission and pioneered the statute to establish the commission. She is currently serving on the Child and Youth Leadership Commission board.

I extend my deepest congratulations to my friend Faye Griffin for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County and thank her for her many contributions to our community. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO ERIC MATZNER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a good friend of mine, Eric Matzner, of Palm Springs, California, who recently passed away. He loved his family, and his country. His story of escaping the Nazis, and then building a successful life in the U.S. is a wonderful story about America. The following was written by his daughter Jill:

It was Austria, 1938. Hitler had terrorized this country and will have killed over six million people before he is through. My father's family is one that has lost many. Just six of his family members ultimately survive. Those wishing to immigrate to the United States from Austria must do so by boat, and only with the vouching of an approved sponsor.

My father's memories as a six year old are vivid; memories of the German storm troopers marching down the street in their trademark ''Goosestep'' fashion. As they stopped, they would raise their right arm, hand straight out and yell ''Heil Hitler.'' Any civilian who did not address authority or Hitler in this way was either beaten or killed. Those who survive must wear yellow arm bands bearing the Star of David to separate the Jews from the rest of the population.

Eric's father owned a jewelry store. Before long, the store was taken from him, forcing his parents to make the biggest decision of their lives. Should they stay, not knowing what lay ahead? Or, should they sacrifice virtually everything they've ever known and flee for the freedom of America? They stayed hidden until they escaped Austria on November 9, 1938. As it turns out, history will remember this night as Kristallnacht, the ''Night of Broken Glass.'' The attack against Jews that evening was swift. Many were killed and thousands incarcerated in concentration camps. Eric vividly remembered the sound of broken glass and the smell of burning buildings. On that night they left Austria behind.

They found themselves on a boat, headed for the country of which they had only heard and dreamed of to start a new life. It was a treacherous trip. Steerage was cramped and miserable. Many people become violently ill throughout the trek across the ocean. They were allowed to take one bag each. Few valuables, possessions or family treasures survived the voyage.

After the long ocean journey, a large figure slowly appeared in the distance: the Statue of Liberty. It was a sight that Eric would remember forever.

As a young man, Eric excelled at baseball and football. He met Elaine Heritage (my mother) at Drexel University in 1951. They dated for a few years and later married. It was a challenge at first with my father being Jewish and my mother being Methodist, but they overcame these differences. Due to my father's childhood experiences, his four children were taught that differences in people are to be embraced, not condemned. It is a wonderful part of our heritage to have been raised with both religions and such diversity.

Eric was an early salesman for TV Guide, and held jobs in advertising in the 1960s. He was an original ''Mad Man!'' His creative selling was legendary, and influenced many young salespeople who are all successful today.

As I think about my father's journey, I believe he was alive because of the foresight of his parents to escape Austria, a strong will to live, modern medicine and the drugs that were available to him. If not for these, I do not believe my father would have lived to be 80 years old and to have been a warm, loving husband to my mother, Elaine, a father to his four children, a grandfather to his five grandchildren and a great grandfather to my son's son.

No one, not even my father, could imagine that he would see the year 2012. Although he was immobile in his final years, he never complained. He lost most of his short term memory, but retained most of his long term memories. With his ever present smile, we smiled with him, when on nearly every day he said, ''I'm telling you, this might be the best day of my life.''

IN CELEBRATION OF THE HARLEM ARTS ALLIANCE ADVOCACY WEEK 2012 ''HARLEM AT THE CROSSROADS: SUSTAINING OUR ARTS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES''

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Harlem Arts Alliance, Inc. as they celebrated their Sixth Annual Arts Advocacy Week 2012 at The City College of New York Aaron Davis Hall, The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The Manhattan Neighborhood Network's El Barrio Firehouse Community Center, The Studio Museum in Harlem, The ImageNation and The Dwyer Cultural Center. From Monday, October 1 through Sunday, October 7, the Harlem Arts Alliance (HAA) presented a seven day series of mostly free events, designed to elevate the platform for Harlem's illustrious arts and cultural scene and to renew enthusiasm and support for its great cultural institutions and artists. HAA recognizes the correlation between a community's vitality and economic health and its vibrant cultural life and is committed to fostering the development of Harlem's artists, arts institutions and cultural organizations for the benefit of artists, residents, local businesses and tourists alike.

The HARLEM Arts Alliance (HAA) is a not-for-profit arts service organization committed to nurturing the artistic growth, capacity, and development of artists and arts organizations based primarily in Harlem and the greater Harlem communities. With a membership of over 750 individual artists and arts organizations, HAA plays an essential role by helping to build the resources, network, and capacity of its richly diverse association. HAA also maintains strong partnerships with numerous arts organization and institutions throughout New York State, the region, and the nation to maintain vital collaborative efforts to promote the arts in communities.

This year's theme ''Harlem at the Crossroads: Sustaining Our Arts and Cultural Resources,'' highlights the need to maintain and preserve some of the city's most stellar arts organizations, artists, individuals and entities and to help them to secure and sustain the critical resources needed to continue their missions. HAA Chairman Voza Rivers and Executive Director Michael Unthink have billed this year's advocacy week as the Harlem Arts Summit. The undertaking involves the collaboration of key Harlem arts institutions, artists and arts leaders creating an exciting array of events showcasing the Uptown arts landscape.

On Monday, October 1, the Harlem Arts Summit honored three extraordinary cultural icons who have contributed greatly to African American Arts and Culture, the Village of Harlem and our great nation: activist and actor Danny Glover, legendary theatrical producer Vy Higginsen and pioneering arts producer and consultant Mikki Shepard.

Danny Lebern Glover was born in San Francisco, California, the son of Carrie (née Hunley) and James Glover. His parents, postal workers, were active in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

(NAACP), working to advance equal rights. Glover's mother, daughter of a midwife, was born in Louisville, Georgia and graduated from Paine College in Augusta, Georgia. Danny Glover grew up with a love for sports, like his father. As a teenager and a young adult, he suffered from epilepsy, but he claims to have ''developed a way of concentrating so that seizures wouldn't happen.'' Using this technique, which he describes as ''a type of self-hypnosis'', Glover says he has not suffered a seizure since age 34. Danny Lebern Glover is an American actor, film director and political activist. He is well known for his roles as Mr. Albert Johnson in The Color Purple, as Michael Harrigan in Predator 2, as corrupt cop James McFee in Witness, as Detective Roger Murtaugh in the Lethal Weapon film franchise (where he coined the catchphrase ''I'm too old for this shit''), as Detective David Tapp in Saw, and as George Knox in Angels in the Outfield. He has also appeared in many other movies, television shows, and theatrical productions. He is an active supporter of various humanitarian and political causes.

Danny began his activist career while attending San Francisco State University, as a member of the Black Students Union, which, along with the Third World Liberation Front and the American Federation of Teachers, collaborated in a five-month student-led strike to establish a Department of Black Studies. The strike was the longest student walkout in United States history and it helped to established not only the first Department of Black Studies, but also the first School of Ethnic Studies in the nation. Danny's long history of union activism includes support for the United Farm Workers, UNITE HERE, and numerous service unions across the nation. He challenged former President George W. Bush, when he was Governor of Texas for leading a penitentiary system that executed more people than any other state, people who were predominately African Americans and Hispanics. His activism continues today as an outspoken critic of the War in Iraq; and as a humanitarian for the arts, the Jazz Foundation of America and board member of the TransAfrica Forum. Danny Lebern Glover was the recipient of the Harlem Arts Summit/Harlem Arts Advocacy Week 2012 Humanitarian Award.

Vy Higginsen's accomplishments are vast and her impact on the media and culture in New York City is immense. This Harlem native, who was born and raised on 126th Street, is a noted author, playwright, radio, and TV personality. Vy has a remarkable reputation as a trailblazer. Her list of pioneering achievements include first African-American female radio personality in the prime time New York City market on WBLS; first woman to host a morning show on New York radio at WWRL; first woman in advertising sales at Ebony magazine; first African-American woman to produce a drama on Broadway with Joe Turner's Come and Gone by August Wilson; and first African-American female writer, producer, director of the longest-running, Off-Broadway musical in the history of American theatre with Mama, I Want to Sing, which had an unprecedented 2,200 performances over eight years from 1983 at Heckscher Theatre in East Harlem. It was also a national and international hit with performances across the United States, Japan and Europe, including a six-month run in London's fashionable West End.

Vy has won numerous honors for providing excellent products and services to African-American audiences. In addition to her success behind the microphone at several major New York stations, notably WBLS–FM, WWRL–AM and WRKS–FM, she's also excelled in publishing. Always the visionary, one of her first publications was a 1970s magazine providing opportunities for black photographers, graphic designers and media salespeople to hone their crafts. Unique NY Magazine, which she published and edited, was a lifestyles magazine designed for African-Americans and tourists. Another of her successful publishing ventures was ''This Is My Song: To pass the legacy of gospel music on,'' an illustrated book for children. In 1996, Vy Higginsen founded Mama Foundation for the Arts as a conduit for her philanthropic work. The nonprofit is dedicated to nurturing talented black singers, musicians, and arts administrators. As the Foundation's executive director, she's the primary force behind its programs including the acclaimed, Gospel for Teens. Product spokesperson, public relations professional, keynote speaker, and ordained Interfaith Minister, the list of Vy Higginsen's credits go on. Vy Higginsen was the recipient of the Harlem Arts Summit/Harlem Arts Advocacy Week 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Arts Producer and Consultant Mikki Shepard is the current Executive Producer for the world famous Apollo Theater. In this capacity, Mikki is part of the senior executive staff and creates institutional policies and oversees programming, marketing and development. Her past consultant work in the arts focused on organizational development, institutional program development and assessment, strategic planning and implementation. Mikki's clients included: The Ford Foundation, Heinz Endowments, Media Democracy Fund, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Jacob's Pillow, Opera America, Future of Music Coalition, and the National Black Arts Festival.

Mikki was the Director for the Arts and Humanities at the Rockefeller Foundation and Artistic Director/Executive Producer of 651ARTS. As Producer, Mikki Shepard presentations includes 100 Years of Jazz and Blues Festival, Women In Jazz, Lost Jazz Shrines and an international new works program, Africa Exchange. She also produced and created for the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) over 25 major performing arts events, such as DanceAfrica, Steps In Time, a Tap Dance Festival, DanceBlack America, a festival and PBS special celebrating 300 years of black dance in America. Mikki also currently serves as the Chair of the Boards of the Mertz Gilmore Foundation; and on the Boards of the Brooklyn Community Foundation, Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), the Creative Capital Fund and the Association of Performing Arts Presenters. Mikki Shepard was the recipient of the Harlem Arts Summit/Harlem Arts Advocacy Week 2012 Arts Leadership Award.

I would also like to congratulate and recognize Mr. Fred Powell, who was the recipient of the Harlem Arts Summit/Harlem Arts Advocacy Week 2012 Business Award. Fred was honored for his contributions and business collaboration with local arts groups over the years.

The Festivities continued into the evening with the Harlem Arts Summit 2012's opening reception kick off and panel discussion entitled ''A Conversation with Harlem Arts leaders: Today's Challenge, Tomorrow's Promise,'' introduced by accomplished actress, director, producer and Harlem resident, Tamara Tunie (Law and Order SVU) and moderated by multimedia journalist, Katti Gray at Aaron Davis Hall.

In a unified effort to continue building Harlem's legacy as a cultural Mecca, Harlem Arts Summit 2012 is presented by the HARLEM Arts Alliance in collaboration with key Harlem organizations including Columbia University, Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce, 125th Street Business Improvement District, Studio Museum in Harlem, Aaron Davis Hall/City College of New York, The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Harlem Business Alliance, Harlem Stage/The Gatehouse, Caribbean Cultural Center, Harlem Community Development Corporation, New Heritage Theatre Group, MIST Cinemas and Manhattan Neighborhood Network (MNN)—El Barrio Firehouse Community Media Center.

Major support for the Summit is provided by the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone Development Corporation, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts and The National Endowment for the Arts. Let me take this opportunity to thank all of our Harlem Arts Advocacy Week community sponsors, supporters and collaborators as we celebrated ''Harlem at the Crossroads: Sustaining Our Arts and Cultural Resources'' during the Sixth Annual Harlem Arts Advocacy Week 2012.

Mr. Speaker, the Harlem Arts Alliance under the great leadership of Chairman Voza Rivers and Executive Director Michael Unthink has contributed daily to the survival and enhancement of Harlem's beloved cultural artist and arts organizations. During these economically challenging times for our arts and cultural organizations, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the Harlem Arts Alliance as they continue their advocacy for the arts on behalf of the Village of Harlem and a very grateful nation.

RECOGNIZING MIKE BIDDLE, PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER OF MBA POLYMERS

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing and congratulating Mike Biddle, President and Founder of MBA Polymers, a plastics recycler, upon being awarded the 2012 Gothenburg Award for Sustainable Development.

In receiving this prestigious award, which is considered the equivalent of a Nobel Prize for the Environment, Mr. Biddle joins a distinguished list of past recipients, including UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, Vice President Al Gore, and the former Prime Minister of Norway and Director General of the World Health Organization, Gro Harlem Brundtland.

The United Nations estimates nearly 85 billion pounds of electronics waste is discarded around the world every year. Yet due to the difficulties involved in separating and sorting through the different types of plastics, only a small fraction of these plastics are recycled,

while the rest is tossed in landfills, burned, or shipped to third world countries for environmentally toxic and often dangerous extraction methods.

A self-described ''garbage man,'' Mike Biddle set up a lab in his garage in Pittsburg, California nearly twenty years ago to begin experimenting with ways to sort and recycle complex plastics in an attempt to turn these landfills into what he calls ''above ground mines.'' Since then, Mr. Biddle has developed and patented a 30-step plastics recycling system that includes magnetically extracting metals, shredding plastics, sorting them by polymer type, and producing graded pellets to be reused. What is truly remarkable is that this process uses less than ten percent of the energy required to make plastic from oil while carrying little of the risk to the environment.

Mr. Biddle should be commended; his story illustrates the sort of progress that can be made towards an economically and environmentally responsible solution to plastics waste around the world.

However, his story is also illustrative of a greater problem here in the United States. While MBA Polymers remains headquartered in Richmond, California, the company's main processing facilities operate in China, Austria, and the United Kingdom, where their respective governments have implemented forward thinking electronics-waste recycling regulations that ensure a steady stream of complex plastics and materials for MBA Polymers to utilize.

While the United States produces more electronics and plastics waste per capita than any other country in the world, rather than take advantage of this resource, U.S. brokers ship nearly ninety-five percent of the plastics waste that is collected here overseas. In short, we are literally shipping jobs overseas because of our failure to implement a competing plastics recycling program in the U.S.

As we are paying to ship plastics to third-world countries with little labor protection and no environmental controls, many countries in Europe and Asia are reaping the benefits of reusing and recycling their waste products. Furthermore, in doing so, we are adding to our dependency on foreign oil by needlessly consuming petrochemicals to make plastics, while simultaneously adding to the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere at a time when all nations should be focused on reducing their carbon footprint.

The United States cannot afford to continue to watch from the sidelines while foreign countries become more energy efficient, more economically competitive, and enhance their energy and natural resource security—all while creating good, sustainable jobs. A national policy of plastics and waste recycling in the U.S. is desperately needed. In doing so, we could create tens of thousands of new skilled green jobs, we could save a materials manufacturing base and millions of barrels of oil per year, and we could do it while better protecting our environment.

It is our responsibility to ensure that more entrepreneurs like Mike Biddle aren't forced to take their business to international competitors. Rather, it's time to bring these good, green jobs back to the U.S. with a broad policy to encourage recycling and green product development here at home.

Again, I applaud Mr. Biddle and his team at MBA Polymers for winning this important award, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress to help create an environment in which Mr. Biddle's successes can be realized here at home.

DR. MELINDA O'ROURKE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dr. Melinda O'Rourke for her outstanding service to our community.

Dr. O'Rourke is a community-minded business owner who has leveraged her success to reinvest in the community. She sits on the Red Rocks Community College Foundation Board of Directors and Northwest Eye and Essence Laser & Wellness which support 25 local charities.

Melinda gives her time and talent to provide the underserved in our communities the eye care they need. She has volunteered for numerous eye surgeries in Latin America with the Vision Health International (VHI) group whose mission is to provide vision care services and sight-restoring services free of charge. Also, Melinda donates her time to the Stout Street Clinic by performing pro bono ophthalmic and optometric care to the homeless.

I extend my deepest congratulations to my friend Dr. Melinda O'Rourke for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on November 15–16, 2012, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for Rollcall Nos. 605–608. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 605: NO—On Ordering the Previous Question

Rollcall No. 607: NO—On Agreeing to the Resolution

Rollcall No. 608: YES—Mark Twain Commemorative Coin Act

Rollcall No. 609: NO—Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal Act of 2012

A TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL MORTON SALK

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with sorrow today following the passing of Lieutenant Colonel Morton Salk of Wilmington, North Carolina. Mr. Salk served as a bombardier in World War II and was also a beloved member of our community, a devoted family man, and a dear friend to many. Mr. Salk passed away on November 10, 2012, at the age of 93, and he will be dearly missed.

Mr. Salk grew up in Providence, Rhode Island, and dedicated a majority of his life to the service of his country. He served as a member of the 243rd Coastal Artillery, Narragansett Bay Harbor Defenses beginning on January 17, 1941. He trained as a gun commander of the 12″ disappearing cannon and then was transferred to the Aviation Cadet Program and subsequently earned flight wings as a bombardier. He was soon advanced to a triple-rated bombardier, navigator, and radar operator.

On August 24, 1943, Mr. Salk volunteered to become part of a crew for a mission to bomb an airfield in Hankow, China. His plane was leading the mission's formation as these American airmen came under direct attack. A 20 mm shell crashed through the windshield of Mr. Salk's plane, fatally wounding the pilot and incapacitating the co-pilot. Although he was not a pilot, Mr. Salk pulled the pilot from his seat and proceeded to fly the plane for 15 minutes, saving at least eight U.S. Airmen.

Mr. Salk earned a number of honors for his heroic actions, including the Purple Heart, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Defense Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the Distinguished Flying Cross presented by General Chennault of the Flying Tigers for completing 57 missions. After the war, Mr. Salk continued his service as a flying officer with the United States Air Force for 25 years before retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He then spent the next 26 years of his life working for the Defense Intelligence Agency, who sought out Mr. Salk for his extraordinary knowledge of aircraft intelligence.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Morton Salk was a fine patriot and I have the utmost respect for his bravery. Though a humble man, his efforts garnered him praise from the press, fellow citizens, and elected officials. His courage will continue to serve as an inspiration to us all. May God bless his family, and may we always remember the life of Lieutenant Colonel Morton Salk.

MICHAEL LEMOV'S PEOPLE'S WARRIOR: THE LEGACY OF JOHN MOSS

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, December 5 will mark the fifteenth anniversary of the death of John Moss of California, one of the most important members to serve in this body in the last century. Moss's life and landmark achievements have recently been recounted in People's Warrior by Michael Lemov, who served as his chief counsel for eight years, and I want to direct colleagues' attention to this important book.

Moss's landmark achievements have endured, warranting the insightful accounts Lemov has given of their sometimes tortuous paths to passage: the Freedom of Information Act, legislation establishing the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and the Magnuson-Moss Act which rejuvenated the Federal Trade Commission.

John Moss was first elected to the House in 1952 and was appointed to what was then called the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee four years later. In the 1960s, as the Senate Commerce Committee under Sen. Warren Magnuson undertook major consumer protection initiatives, Moss fought to overcome resistance to such measures on the House Committee and then, as Chairman of the Commerce and Finance Subcommittee, to make the House a full partner in their development.

Moss, alongside his close friend JOHN DINGELL, was also a key figure in House reform. The two of them fought for years to give Commerce subcommittees more autonomy and resources as a means of opening the Committee to member initiatives and making it more hospitable to progressive legislation. In the mid-1970s, as reform came to both the Committee and the House, Moss gained election as Chairman of the Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. He took full advantage of loosened full committee control and enhanced resources to greatly step up subcommittee activity. By the time Moss retired in 1979, Ward Sinclair of the Washington Post described him as ''the man who perfected oversight.''

As a young political scientist studying Congress, and the Commerce Committees in particular, in the 1970s, I recognized the significance of Moss's role. Mike Lemov's insights were indispensable as I sought to understand the movement toward decentralization and reform on the Committee and then the impact of reform on the performance of oversight. Mike talked with me for hours and opened many doors. In a chapter I contributed to Legislative Reform (edited by Leroy Rieselbach, 1978), I concluded that, while reform had provided the conditions for an invigorated, more independent oversight role for the Commerce Committee, the most important factor by far was the selection of a chairman with the energy, determination, and vision to seize the opportunities the situation offered: John Moss. And one of Moss's greatest assets was the entrepreneurial Chief Counsel who came with him from the Commerce and Finance Subcommittee, Michael Lemov.

As a North Carolinian, I was particularly struck by Lemov's appreciative treatment of Jim Broyhill, a Republican member from our state who served as ranking member of the Commerce and Finance Subcommittee during Moss's chairmanship. Broyhill's role serves as a reminder of an era when partisan disagreements were no less strongly felt, but members nonetheless often found a way to work through them to constructive outcomes.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, and on behalf of colleagues, I want to thank Mike Lemov for his own effective public service, which he has extended with this inspiring and instructive account of one of the giants in our institution's history.

TRACY EVANKO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ms. Tracy Evanko, for her service to the community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

Tracy was a founding member of the Golden Resource for Education, Arts, and Theater (GREAT). This organization was responsible for the very successful nights of movies and music in the park of Golden, Colorado. GREAT's mission to enhance, promote, and enrich the culture of the community of Golden has lead to great expansions in the cinematic and performing arts.

Along with GREAT, Tracy was essential in paving the way for the city of Golden in purchasing the 14-acre Bachman parcel at West 4th Avenue and Heritage Road to be used for open space in December of 2010. Her commitment to the environment and culture of Golden offers as a model for others in the community.

I am honored to congratulate Tracy Evanko on receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure she will exhibit the same dedication and commitment in all her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOB McCULLOUGH, SR. RECIPIENT OF THE 2012 MARCELLA R. BROWN FOUNDATION AWARD

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, recognize, and celebrate Mr. Bob McCullough SR., recipient of the Marcella R. Brown Foundation's Founders Award.

My good friend Bob McCullough Sr., is the Founder & Co-Founder of several community organizations such as the Rucker Pro Tournament Summer Professional Basketball League, Harlem Professional Inc., National Association of Each One Teach One Inc., John Hunter Camp Fund, Rucker Professionals Hall of Fame, Bob Douglass Hall of Fame, 133rd & 134th streets Alumni Association and the Pelham Fritz Basketball League.

I am glad that the Marcella R. Brown Foundation has chosen to recognize Bob for all his service and devotion. The Marcella R. Brown Foundation Inc. is a well regarded organization that seeks to provide assistance to youth who want to pursue a higher education. They give financial support in the form of scholarships, and provide opportunities for youth to get valuable work experience with non-profit organizations and select governmental agencies.

Bob McCullough is a legendary Benedict College athlete who holds a spot in the upper echelon of all-time great basketball players in the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. A heralded New York schoolboy athlete, he was recruited by Coach John E. Brown and scored 2,135 points for a 28.4 points per game career average during his three years with the Benedict College Tigers.

McCullough displayed textbook-pure shooting and was quicker than everybody guarding him. He made studder-steps dribbling down the court then, faded back for odd-angle 10 to 17–foot jumpers that invariably went in the basket. In 1964–65, he was the second leading scorer in the nation averaging 36.4 points per game. He netted over 45 points on four occasions, 49 points twice and a single career high of 51 points against South Carolina State Bulldogs.

As a freshman in 1961–62, Bob canned 54, 56, and 64 points in exhibition games. In 1963–64, he was the star of Benedict's national scoring championship basketball team that averaged 101.2 points per game. McCullough was the first black athlete to be selected for the All-Southern Textile Basketball All-Star Team in Greenville, SC.

He was named to All-American Honorable Mention teams by sportswriters for United Press International and Converse Magazine in 1965, Bob was offered a contract by the Harlem Globetrotters, and was drafted by the Cincinnati Royals of the National Basketball Association. He was dropped from the Royals when All-Star guard Oscar Robinson renewed his contract. In 1967, Bob played with the New Jersey Asbury Park Boardwalkers in the Eastern Professional Basketball League, now known as the CBA. He averaged 22 points and five assists per game and was selected to the All-Rookie Team, and played in the Eastern Professional League East/West All-Star Game with NBA Stars Walter Dukes and K. C. Jones.

McCullough earned a Master of Science degree from Lehman College and studied additionally at New York University, Cornell University and Hunter College. He is a New York Department of Education licensed school teacher, former counselor for Hunter College, and a published researcher who has lectured at conferences on mentoring in the US and abroad. Bob presented in Vancouver, Canada, New Castle on the Thyme, England, and for the National Association of Black Social Workers in New Orleans as well as Los Angeles, California.

In 1976–80, Bob became the Assistant Director and Counselor of the Fordham University Upward-Bound Program, on the Rose-Hill campus. Bronx, New York. Bob is founding member of the East Harlem Abyssinian Triangle Inc. that brought Pathmark to Harlem.

Throughout the years Bob McCullough has received numerous honors and awards as the commissioner of the internationally-known Rucker Summer Professional Basketball League and as co-founder of the National Association of Each One Teach One, a youth developmental mentoring program in Harlem.

Bob McCullough Sr., is the Founder & Co-Founder of several community organizations; Rucker Pro Tournament Summer Professional Basketball League, Harlem Professional Inc., National Association of Each One Teach One Inc., John Hunter Camp Fund, Rucker Professionals Hall of Fame, Bob Douglass Hall of Fame, 133rd & 134th streets Alumni Association and the Pelham Fritz Basketball League.

Bob has played a pivotal role in my Congressional District by providing programs and activities that help foster and develop minds and talents of the community youth. Because of his selfless devotion and unwavering dedication, many of your young people will go on to reach their ambitions. It is in that spirit that I ask all my colleagues and our Nation to join me in this special Congressional Recognition of the Mr. Bob McCullough Sr. recipient of the 2012 Marcella R. Brown Foundation's Founders Award.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF SSG RAYVON BATTLE, JR.

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I rise today to honor the life of Staff Sergeant Rayvon Battle, Jr. of the United States Army. Staff Sergeant Battle lost his life in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan on November 13, 2012, while trying to stop an explosion.

Staff Sergeant Battle was a native of Rocky Mount, North Carolina, which is in my Congressional District. In 2005, he graduated from Northern Nash High School and went on to enlist in the Army where he became a squad leader in the 38th Engineer Company, 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2'' Infantry Division.

Staff Sergeant Battle was a source of great pride in his hometown because he epitomized what it meant to serve with honor and distinction. This was demonstrated in the various awards and decorations Staff Sergeant Battle received during his career in the Army. Among them include the Bronze Star Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, two Army Achievement Medals, two Army Good Conduct Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, the Iraq Campaign Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the NATO Medal. In only 25 short years, Staff Sergeant Battle accomplished more than most people do in a full lifetime.

Unfortunately, Staff Sergeant Battle perished while serving his country—prematurely ending a promising life and career. He is survived by his wife, Dorris Battle; his father, Rayvon Battle, Sr.; and his grandmother, Dora Harris.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering heartfelt condolences to Staff Sergeant Battle's family, and sincere appreciation for his selfless efforts in defense of our great nation. I pray that his life remains a source of inspiration to the Rocky Mount community and Americans nationwide. We are forever indebted to his family for the ultimate sacrifice he paid on our behalf.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPHINE MARTIN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Josephine Blocker Martin on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday. Born December 6, 1912 in Montgomery, South Carolina, Mrs. Martin has lived for over eighty years in Columbia, where she has made such positive impacts on so many that she is known to most—relatives and non-relatives alike—as ''Mother Martin.''

She and Mr. Willie Martin were united in Holy Matrimony on October 24, 1928, and they remained married until his death in 1981. Together they had ten children, Florence, James, Thomas, Charles, Curtis, Amanda, Will Jr., Willie Mae, Gail, and Lorraine. Mrs. Martin is now the proud grandmother of 34, great-grandmother of 70, and great-great-grandmother of 16. In the words of her family, ''To know mom is to know true love.''

Mrs. Martin is a dedicated member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Columbia, where she has worshipped faithfully each week for more than fifty years. Her favorite scripture is the first verse of Psalm 91, ''He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.'' Her favorite hymn is ''We've Come This Far By Faith.'' As she completes a century on Earth, it is apparent that she is the living embodiment of both.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in congratulating Mrs. Martin on achieving this milestone and wishing her Godspeed and many more to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF IBEW LOCAL 269

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate IBEW Local 269 as its members gather to celebrate its 100th Anniversary. The spirit and strength of the IBEW's founders continues today in Local 269 and its history and service is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

The founders of the IBEW fought for the benefit of the workers. The founders strived to create workers' rights, safety measures and apprenticeship training. Today, the IBEW continues the legacy of its founders to make a better life for all, and these principles are evident in Local 269.

IBEW Local 269 ensures that central New Jersey and Bucks County, Pennsylvania receive highly skilled and qualified electrical workers. IBEW Local 269 is committed to upholding its expectation of quality craftsmanship and on-budget projects with a 5-year apprenticeship training program. The specialized members work as wiremen, outside linemen, residential wiremen, and telecommunications technicians to help develop and maintain communities. They are experienced in working in a wide range of areas, including airports, educational institutions, military installations, historical sites and monuments, and many others. Since 1912, the members of IBEW Local 269 have provided proficient service to the community.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in honoring IBEW Local 269 and its 100th Anniversary.

CONGRATULATING THE SCHOOL FOR THE TALENTED AND GIFTED AND THE SCHOOL FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AT YVONNE A. EWELL TOWNVIEW CENTER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the School for the Talented and Gifted and the School for Science and Engineering at Yvonne A. Ewell Townview Center for receiving the distinct honor of being recognized as an ''Intel School of Distinction.''

Intel Schools of Distinction honors U.S. schools that have demonstrated excellence in math and science education. I am pleased that Intel recognized Townview Magnet School for Engineering and Science School as an institution that provides an innovative learning environment and programs that meet or exceed national math and science benchmarks.

By this recognition, Intel is emphasizing investments in science and math. In order for our country to compete in the 21st century, we as a country need to make sustained robust investments to encourage our children to embrace science and math. These are the jobs and careers of the future.

Located in my district, Townview Magnet is one of the most diverse schools in Texas, with minorities representing over half of the student population. Townview is home to some of the Nation's best and brightest students. Newsweek Magazine has consistently rated Townview's Science and Engineering Magnet as one of the top high schools in the Nation. Townview serves as a model for other institutions of learning across the country and offer insight into the ways we can improve education.

This latest honor exemplifies the values of a good educational environment, as many of the students attending Townview will have opportunities to be the future leaders of this country. This honor will also serve as an inspiration to the faculty, staff and students of Townview Magnet School to maintain a high level of work. I commend the faculty and students for achieving this honor, and lend my support to the future success of Townview.

Mr. Speaker, the students, teachers, principals and parents of Townview Science and Engineering Magnet should all be very proud for achieving this great honor.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERTO MARMO

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Roberto Marmo for his years of success both politically and professionally in the United States and Italy. For much of his life, Roberto Marmo has enjoyed great success both in politics and his entrepreneurial endeavors.

Mr. Marmo's career in politics spans several decades beginning with his time as a provincial councilor of Canelli in the 1980's. In the following decade, Mr. Marmo served the comune of Canelli as Mayor. From 1999 until 2008, he held the position of President of the Province of Asti. Currently, Mr. Marmo is a member of the Chamber of Deputies serving the people of Italy as a member of the Commission on Budget and Treasury.

In addition to his political successes, Mr. Marmo is an accomplished entrepreneur in the Piedmont region of Italy. He holds the roles of President and Chief Executive Officer of the Cantina Sociale di Canelli-Cooperative as well as the President of the Cellars of Canelli

Winetrading Ltd. After taking over at the Cantina Sociale di Canelli in 2004, a company on the verge of bankruptcy, Mr. Marino has guided the business to a position of financial stability. In recent years, the wine cellar has enjoyed annual profits in excess of €20 million and produced over 14 million bottles.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring Roberto Marmo and thanking him for his years of service in the Republic of Italy and influence in the United States.

2012 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the work of the 269 schools that have been selected by the U.S. Department of Education as 2012 National Blue Ribbon Schools. This prestigious honor recognizes the schools' accomplishments in improving student academic achievement and in attaining overall academic excellence. I am proud to report that ten of these schools are in Maryland, having previously been selected as Maryland Blue Ribbon Schools on the basis of sustained high performance or significant improvement in reading and mathematics as measured by Maryland State Assessments. I am particularly proud of the accomplishments of the four National Blue Ribbon Schools—Crofton Meadows Elementary School, Woodholme Elementary School, St. Augustine School, and Saint Peter's School—that are currently or will soon be located in Maryland's 3rd District.

The passage of No Child Left Behind in 2002 charged schools with additional responsibilities to measure and report academic progress. These new requirements set a high bar, requiring schools to demonstrate gains in student proficiency and improvements in closing the achievement gap. The National Blue Ribbon Schools exemplify the goals of No Child Left Behind, and serve as exemplars of how best to help children reach their highest potential. As we work toward a long-overdue reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary School Act (ESEA), we must carefully review the successes of the National Blue Ribbon Schools to identify strategies and best practices that can be shared, and which other schools may benefit from examining and adopting. I look forward to continuing to support the work of the National Blue Ribbon awardees and all schools in Maryland, to ensure that they have the tools and resources they need to continue helping students excel.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. TODD HARRISON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Todd Harrison, the former Chief Oversight Counsel to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Mr. Harrison was hired by my colleague Mr. UPTON upon attaining chairmanship on the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. Formerly a state and federal prosecutor, Mr. Harrison's single-minded commitment to oversight contributed immensely to the atmosphere of accountability fostered by committee staff.

As a husband and father commuting to Washington from New York City on a weekly basis, Mr. Harrison sacrificed greatly to maintain a top-notch oversight staff. His complete dedication to the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation was exemplified in the work he did with me.

I'm sure that I speak on behalf of every member of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation in saying that Mr. Harrison was a treasured asset and will be missed dearly.

HONORING LYDIA MARIE ELLIOTT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mrs. Lydia Marie Elliott. A dedicated educator, homemaker and active community member, Mrs. Elliott and her husband of 65 years, the late Henry Elliott, were stalwart members of the Bay Area community for five decades. A devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and friend, Mrs. Lydia Marie Elliott will be forever remembered for her warmth and compassion. With her passing on November 15, 2012, we are reminded of her life's journey and the joyful legacy she inspired.

Lydia Marie Pitts Elliott was born on November 12, 1923, and was the fifth of Jesse and Bell Beatrice Pitts' eight children. After attending Mark Hanna High School in Tullahassee and meeting the love of her life, Henry Wilford Elliott who taught Math and Science there, Lydia and Henry were married on January 11, 1943. While her husband served overseas, Mrs. Elliott earned her bachelor's degree at Oklahoma's Langston University, joining Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and beginning a lifetime commitment to the organization and her fellow sorority sisters.

After being reunited with her husband in Japan, Mrs. Elliott enjoyed traveling the globe as an army spouse, visiting many of the world's major cities and countries and giving birth to the couple's two sons during that time. Upon Mr. Elliott's retirement from the army, the family moved to the Bay Area, where Henry became the first African American middle and high school principal in Vallejo, CA. Over the course of 25 years, Mrs. Elliott served the Richmond Unified School District, teaching arts and crafts and advancing to the position of head teacher. She continued her studies in education while actively participating with local community organizations like the Order of the Eastern Star, Beta Pi Sigma Sorority, Inc., the National Council of Negro Women and the NAACP. She was also a lifetime member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. reaching the title of "Golden Soror" in 1997 for her outstanding 50-year membership and acting as a charter member of a local Kappa Beta Omega chapter in Vallejo, CA. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott were also church members and avid volunteers, dedicating their time to organizations like the Omega Boys Club and The Adkins Project.

A woman of many talents, Mrs. Elliott was known for her fine sense of fashion, her penchant for collecting and her excellent cooking. Above all, she was incredibly committed to the wellbeing of her family, always making ample time for loved ones and friends.

On a personal note, I have known Lydia longer than anyone in my life except for my immediate family. My mother, Mildred, met Lydia in 1948 and they became the best of friends. She was my sister Beverly's Godmother and she was part of our extended family. My mother, two sisters, Beverly and Mildred, and I loved her; and we have many wonderful memories of Lydia, her beloved late husband, Hank, and her sons Henry Jr. and Terence. We will miss her tremendously, but we thank God for her friendship—and for the many joyous times we spent with Lydia and her family.

Today, California's 9th Congressional District salutes and honors a wonderful human being, Mrs. Lydia Marie Elliott. The contributions she made to others throughout her life are countless and precious. Our community is indebted to her many civic contributions over the decades and her legacy of love and compassion will continue in the years to come. My thoughts are with Lydia's family and her extended group of loved ones as we celebrate her incredible life. May her soul rest in peace.

IN TRIBUTE TO U.S. ARMY COL. JOHN MORIARITY (RET.)

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to U.S. Army Col. John Moriarity (Ret.), who chaired my U.S. Military Academy Nominating Board for 26 years.

A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Col. Moriarity and the rest of the board, who represented different branches of the armed services, year after year selected the best and the brightest from my district for our military academies. In my 26 years in Congress, they chose more than 250 exceptional young men and women for nomination to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point the U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, and U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

The cadets were challenged and tested for four years. In the end, they became U.S. military leaders charged with defending America and the ideals we cherish. We bid them Godspeed.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in paying tribute to my personal friend Col. John Moriarity (Ret.), both for his service to our country as a U.S. Army officer and for helping to select the next generation of our finest military officers.

PALESTINIAN UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF STATEHOOD

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, the Palestinian leadership's decision to seek status as a nonmember observer state in the United Nations General Assembly is a reckless and dangerous move. The General Assembly's vote to approve this gambit is a new low point for the institution.

I commend President Obama for his unwavering stance opposing the Palestinian motion and the tireless efforts by this Administration to try and avert today's outcome.

No country has done more than the United States to advance the true cause of Palestinian statehood. No one has done more to undermine that goal than the Palestinians themselves.

Time and again the Palestinian leadership has chosen empty slogans over substantive achievements. These attempted short cuts have shortchanged the Palestinian people who aspire to achieve genuine statehood with the political, economic and social infrastructure to support a stable, functioning democracy.

Today's vote undermines the key principle of mutual recognition that has been the foundation of a generation of diplomacy and successive Security Council resolutions concerning the peace process. It threatens to further derail a U.N. system already struggling under the weight of an unrelenting Palestinian agenda to attack Israel in the U.N. Human Rights Council and the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. We now must consider the irreversible damage that could be wrought by irresponsible action in the World Health Organization, the International Court of Justice or the International Criminal Court.

This maneuver will also make it more difficult for the United States to constructively engage the Palestinian leadership and chart a productive path ahead.

At this uncertain time, the one thing that is abundantly clear is that the United States is committed to standing with Israel. We will continue to do all we can to maintain stability and security as we navigate the way forward.

HONORING JANET ORCHARD

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, to acknowledge and honor Janet Orchard's record of public service upon her retirement from the Cotati City Council.

Ms. Orchard was first elected to the Council in 2002, re-elected in 2004 and 2008 and served as Mayor in 2002, 2006, and 2011.

During her tenure, the Council adopted the city's mobile home rent stabilization ordinance and formula-based fast food ordinances, and approved Cotati's first medical marijuana dispensary. She was also instrumental in helping shape the downtown area through her advocacy for the city's Downtown Specific Plan, the Cotati Arts Project and the establishment of the Cotati Historical Society Museum.

Ms. Orchard conducted all of the research needed to secure the adoption of a living wage ordinance, ensuring that all city employees would receive adequate pay, and was instrumental in the adoption of a policy allowing Cotati to recognize the Mexican Matricula as a form of identification.

Her most enduring legacy is the creation of Falleti Park in downtown Cotati. Slated for high density housing development, Ms. Orchard worked with the property owners and the County Open Space District to save the parcel as a reminder of the city's rural heritage.

Along with these accomplishments, Ms. Orchard represented the city on the Sonoma County Mayors and Councilmembers Association Legislative Committee, chaired the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, served as a Director of the North Bay Watershed Association and as liaison to the Association of Housing, Community and Economic Development Policy Committee.

Mr. Speaker, although Ms. Orchard is retiring from the Cotati City Council, we are confident that she will continue to be an active participant in civil life in her community. Accordingly, it is both fitting and proper that we acknowledge her today.

TRIBUTE TO GIANLUCA ARCANGIOLI

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gianluca Arcangioli for his years of dedicated service in defending civil liberty, both domestically and abroad. Mr. Arcangioli has consistently demonstrated both bravery and intelligence in the face of crisis.

Born in Naples, Italy, Gianluca received officer training in 1993 and served as an Italian police officer until transferring to Kosovo where he would be awarded a medal for peace keeping. Following his completion in Kosovo, Gianluca Arcangioli moved to the U.S. and served as a police officer at the Consulate General of Italy in the cities of Philadelphia and New York City.

Gianluca Arcangioli has displayed his commendable abilities on several occasions, including his effort in handling the Hudson River tragedy in New York on August 8, 2009. Officer Arcangioli was praised for his effort and high standards on a professional and human level as well as his exceptional support given to diplomats, friends, and family of the victims. Most recently, Mr. Arcangioli exhibited his aptitude by diligently dealing with the Hurricane Irene crisis in New York.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Gianluca Arcangioli for his dedication to protecting the lives of many.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR RONALD O. LOVERIDGE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to California and the City of Riverside are exceptional. Riverside has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Mayor Ronald 0. Loveridge is one of these individuals. At a celebration on December 4, 2012, Mayor Loveridge will be honored as he retires after 33 years of service to the Riverside community.

Mayor Loveridge was born and raised in the Bay Area of Northern California. He received his Bachelor's degree from the University of the Pacific and his Master's degree and doctorate in political science from Stanford University. Mayor Loveridge has served in his current office since 1994, and prior to that served on the City Council for 15 years. Not only is he an outstanding public servant, he has taught courses in American Politics, Mass Media, Public Opinion, and Local Leadership in California at the University of California, Riverside since 1965. He is committed to the young people in the Riverside community, introducing them to government through internship projects and field work.

During his 16 years as Mayor, he has played a pivotal role in the political landscape of our community, region and state. He has served and chaired many boards at the community, regional, state, and national levels. The Mayor is currently a member of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, Inland Empire Scholarship Fund Board of Directors, Habitat for Humanity Riverside Board of Directors, La Sierra University Foundation Board of Directors, and Community Foundation Advisory Council. He represents the Inland region as a member of South Coast Air Quality Management District Board, the Southern California Association of Governments Regional Council, March Joint Powers Authority, the Inland Empire Economic Partnership Board of Directors, and the Southern California Goodwill Board of Directors. Statewide, the Mayor serves on the California Forward Local Government Task Force, California Mayor's Education Roundtable, the League of California Cities Board of Directors, and was a President and member of the California Air Resources Board as well as the past Chair and member of the California Assembly Fellow Program. He currently serves as the second Vice President of the National League of Cities.

The Mayor has received many honors throughout his career in public service. These include: National Association of Regional Councils, Tom Bradley Award for his outstanding leadership and commitment to improving transportation and maintaining the region's preferred quality of life; Boy Scouts of America, California Inland Empire Council, Mt. Rubidoux Division Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award; California Baptist University Spirit of Citizenship Award; American Lung Association in recognition of his efforts to improve the

quality of air in the Inland Empire through passage of a clean vehicle fleet procurement policy; Robert Presley Community Service Award—Friends of California School for the Deaf, Riverside in recognition for Outstanding and Invaluable Service to the Community; Inland Congregations United for Change Award for his efforts on behalf of youth and his help in organizing a youth task force resulting in a variety of effective youth programs; Toastmasters International Communication and Leadership Award for his contributions to the Business, Professional, and Local Community; Keep Riverside Clean and Beautiful for his contribution towards accomplishing the organization's 1996–1997 goals; Neighbors United for Unwavering Commitment in Making Our Neighborhood a Safe and Pleasant Place to Live; California Preservation Foundation in recognition of Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Historic Preservation; and United Way for service and dedication to United Way of the Inland Valleys, among many others.

I have come to know Mayor Loveridge well through many years working together on a variety of public projects in Riverside, and it has been an honor to work with him on behalf of the people of Riverside, California. I can personally attest to the Mayor's incredible work-ethic, professionalism, and positive attitude. He and his wife Marsha have raised two daughters. The Mayor is an avid reader and hiking enthusiast; his favorite hike is up Mount Rubidoux.

In light of all Mayor Loveridge has done for Riverside, it is only fitting that he be honored as he retires from public service. Mayor Loveridge's tireless passion for public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our region and the state and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he retires and moves onto the next phase of his life.

IN TRIBUTE TO EDWARD G. ATSINGER III

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to my personal friend, Edward G. Atsinger III, who, with his brother-in-law Stuart Epperson, started with ownership in Christian radio stations in California and North Carolina and grew Salem Communications Corporation into a national Christian media powerhouse.

Based in Camarillo, California, Salem Communications purchased radio properties in key markets across the United States and converted them to flourishing Christian talk stations. In the 1990s, Salem expanded beyond Christian Teaching Talk, successfully rolling out formats featuring Contemporary Christian Music, News Talk, Spanish-language Christian and most recently, business programming.

In addition, Salem Radio Network is one of the leading full-service networks in the U.S., syndicating talk, news, and music programming to approximately 2,000 Christian-formatted and general market radio stations throughout the country.

In 1999, Salem purchased CCM Magazine—an industry standard in the contemporary Christian music community. Salem Publishing now circulates additional Christian and conservative magazines.

Salem Web Network began in 1999 with a single website—OnePlace.com. Today, SWN consists of the most well-known brands in the faith marketplace such as Crosswalk.com, CrossCards.com, and GodTube.com.

Additionally, Salem purchased Townhall.com® in 2006 and conservative political blog HotAir.com in 2010, providing conservative commentary, news, and blogging to an ever-expanding audience. In 2011, Salem launched its Church Products division with the acquisition of Worship House Media, an ecommerce retailer of videos and other multimedia to churches.

Throughout it all, Ed Atsinger has been at the helm. He has been Chief Executive Officer, a director of the Company and a director of each of the Company's subsidiaries since their inception. He was President of Salem from its inception through June 2007. He has been engaged in the ownership and operation of radio stations since 1969.

Ed Atsinger has been a member of the board of directors of the National Religious Broadcasters for a number of years; he was re-elected to a three-year term on the board in February 2010. He has also been a member of the National Association of Broadcasters Radio Board since 2008. He has been a member of the board of directors of Oaks Christian School in Westlake Village, California since 1999.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Edward G. Atsinger III for fulfilling his vision of spreading Christian values throughout the U.S.