

Account manager for the General Electric Company to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from May 2003 to June 2004. During his time in the combat zone, he was responsible for training Iraqi Security Forces and providing security to convoys throughout Southern Iraq. After returning from his tour in Iraq, John choose to go onto active duty as an Army Reserve Officer and move to Lubbock, Texas where he served in the 413th Civil Affairs Battalion from 2006 to 2008. In 2008, John moved to Columbus, Ohio to take command of the 342nd Military Police Company. As its commander, Major Shipe deployed to Iraq for a second time in 2008. This time John served in Tikrit and was partnered with the Iraqi Security Forces for more twelve months. Upon completion of his second combat tour, John was selected for the prestigious Army Congressional Fellowship Program. During his fellowship he was chosen to serve on my staff where he utilized his extensive military experience to provide expert advice on military and veterans' issues. In May 2011, he arrived in the House Army Liaison Division where he assumed his role as a Legislative Liaison and continued to honorably serve as a conduit between the Army and Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work closely with Major Shipe over the last few years of his decorated career. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Major Shipe for dedicating his life in service to his country. For all he and his family, have given and continue to give to our country; we are in their debt. We wish him, his wife Kelli, and their three children Jacob, John and Kinsley all the best as they continue their journey to his next assignment in the United States Army.

---

#### HONORING THE HARD TIMES CAFÉ

### HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2012*

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Hard Times Cafe on the occasion of their 20th anniversary to recognize its contribution to the culture and economy of the great state of Minnesota.

Founded in 1992 as a 24-hour restaurant, the Hard Times Cafe has become a staple of the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood of Minneapolis. The Cafe was started by eight employees out of the vestiges of a failing restaurant in the same location, The Urban Peasant. They came together to form a new cooperatively owned business that has become known for its gritty ambiance, affordable prices, and large selection of vegan and vegetarian food. The Cafe is open 22 hours a day, only closing between the hours of 4 am and 6 am.

After closing in August 2007 for required maintenance that was meant to last a few weeks, the Hard Times Cafe was forced to remain closed for a matter of months. With some assistance from a fellow Minneapolis worker cooperative, the Seward Community Café, they were able to reopen their doors at midnight on December 16, 2007 with many new improvements. The resilience of the workers at the Hard Times Café is a testament to the vitality of the American entrepreneurial

spirit and the ingenuity of Minnesotans. I applaud them for taking the initiative and creating an atmosphere that is truly unique to Minneapolis.

The Hard Times Café also contributes to the civic engagement of the city of Minneapolis; Cam Gordon, the Minneapolis Second Ward City Council Member, holds his open office hours in the Café on the first Tuesday morning of each month.

I truly appreciate everything that the Hard Times Café has contributed to Minneapolis, and I thank them for their contributions.

---

#### HONORING BARBARA KOIRTYOHANN

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Barbara Koirtyhann upon her retirement and to reflect on her years of service to her community.

Barbara has served as the longtime Director of Public Affairs at Hallmark Cards, Ltd. Her influential leadership has extended beyond Hallmark as well, lending her talents as co-chair of the Postal Affairs Committee with the Greeting Card Association and as a member of the Board of Directors for the Public Affairs Council. Beyond her profession, Barbara has also contributed to her community through many civic and charitable organizations in Kansas City. She has served on the Board of Directors for the Truman Heartland Community Foundation, supporting the efforts of the Truman Medical System; as an Advisory Board member for the Hope House, a domestic violence shelter in Lee's Summit; and as a member of the Missouri Mansion Preservation Board, working to preserve and maintain the Missouri Governor's mansion in Jefferson City.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me, her daughter Cindy and grandson Lucas, and all her friends and family in commending Barbara Koirtyhann for her accomplishments and her leadership professionally and her dedication to her community.

---

#### THE AMERICAN ENERGY MANUFACTURING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2012*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6582, the American Energy Manufacturing Technical Corrections Act as it provides technical corrections and regulatory certainty to a number of domestic manufacturers. The legislation, which I am proud to cosponsor, has bi-partisan and bi-cameral support, not to mention the support of manufacturers and the NGO community. More specifically I would like to thank Chairman Whitfield and Mr. ADERHOLT for including H.R. 482, the Water Heater Rating Improvement Act of 2011, or Section 3 of the underlying bill, that will fix a regulatory problem related to the test method-

ology that the Department of Energy uses to calculate the efficiency levels of water heaters, which the Department has acknowledged is broken. The legislation will also level the playing field for domestic water heater manufacturers vs. foreign manufacturers and provide the necessary regulatory and business certainty that domestic water heater manufacturers have been calling for over four years. This will also lead to significant energy saved by highly efficient U.S. produced water heaters, many of which were designed in my home state of Wisconsin. In addition, Mr. Speaker, the legislation has the potential of adding up to 1,000 jobs in domestic water heater factories, one of which is in Wisconsin, and thousands of more indirect jobs associated with the manufacturers supply chain.

Finally Mr. Speaker, I'd again like to thank Chairman WHITFIELD and Mr. WAXMAN for their hard work on the bill and steering an accommodative process, and Mr. ADERHOLT and Mr. CARNAHAN for their leadership on the legislation.

---

#### A TRIBUTE TO DINA MANFREDINI

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2012*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Iowan and supercentenarian Dina Manfredini on being named the most senior person in the world by the Gerontology Research Group. Dina is 115 years, 244 days young and resides in Johnston, Iowa.

Dina was born in April of 1897 in Italy before moving to the United States at age 23 where she would go on to marry and have four children. Ms. Manfredini has worked in Iowa to support her family since the 1940's when her husband was injured in Des Moines' coal mine, even cleaning houses for additional income well into her tenth decade of life.

Our world has changed a great deal during the course of Dina's 115 years. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Dina has lived in three separate centuries through twenty U.S. Presidents and twenty-six Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled and, as of today, none can claim to be older than Dina.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to honor Dina's amazing life. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Dina on reaching this incredible milestone, and wishing her even more health and happiness in the years to come.

---

#### IN HONOR OF THE CONNECTICUT VETERANS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2012*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, on November 28th twelve new members were inducted