

Distinguished Service Award from the University of North Carolina in 2005, for his commitment to making preventive health care a top priority. Dr. Purcell's dedication to the health of the children of North Carolina continued after his retirement as a pediatrician, making its way into the halls of the General Assembly where he served as a member of the Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Chairman of the Legislative Task Force on Childhood Obesity. To honor this commitment, ABC News Correspondent George Stephanopoulos presented him with the Nathan Davis Award, the American Medical Association's highest award for a public office. Most recently, in 2008, his fellow senators and local news correspondents voted him one of the most effective members of the North Carolina Senate.

Senator Purcell and I have been friends for quite some time now, and this has allowed me to experience first-hand his generosity and his commitment to the well-being of the people of our state. As a former educator, I understand the importance of pediatric health and wellness, and their impact on a student's ability to succeed. I sincerely thank Dr. Purcell for his tireless devotion to making our community a better place.

Mr. Speaker, it is with admiration and appreciation that I rise today to speak of the ceaseless and tireless efforts of Senator Purcell to represent the people of Anson, Richmond, Scotland, and Stanly counties, and our state as a whole. Today, I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Senator Purcell for his outstanding leadership and achievements, and for a life of selfless devotion to those around him.

HONORING REAR ADMIRAL JAMES
W. LISANBY (USN RETIRED)

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to recognize (Ret.) Rear Admiral James W. Lisanby, who passed away on November 14, 2012.

Rear Admiral Lisanby, a native of Caldwell County, Kentucky, served his country and community with great integrity and honor. He rose through the ranks of the United States Navy during his 37 years to become a rear admiral and a chief engineer. He was instrumental in the development of the modern era of shipbuilding at the Ingalls shipyard in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

After spending many years of service abroad and at sea, Rear Admiral Lisanby became the Commander of Naval Ships Engineering Center, his first Flag officer assignment, where he was responsible for the design and engineering of all ships and weapons developed for the U.S. Navy. He finished his stellar Navy career as the Deputy Commander for Acquisition and Logistics in the U.S. Navy's Sea Systems Command in Washington, DC.

Following retirement from the Navy, Rear Admiral Lisanby started his own consulting firm, Naval Services International, Inc., and became the first American elected President of the International Professional Engineering and Naval Architects Society, IPEN. He also

served on numerous boards, including those of the United Services Life Insurance Company and the Sioux Manufacturing Company of Devil's Lake, ND, and he also served as the Chairman of the Board of Technology Financing, Inc., part of the BMT Group of International Companies.

Not only was he successful in serving his country, and in business, but he had a very impressive academic record. A U.S. Naval Academy graduate, he earned a Professional Engineers Degree (PE) from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and an advanced Management Degree from the Harvard Business School (PMD).

Rear Admiral Lisanby and his wife of 61 years, Gladys, retired to Arlington, Virginia and Pascagoula, Mississippi until Hurricane Katrina destroyed their beachfront home. At that time, the Lisanbys returned to Kentucky, and Caldwell County.

After returning to Kentucky, the Lisanbys became very active in the community, particularly in their support of the arts. They became members of the Endowment Circle of the Princeton Art Guild, where its Lisanby Courtyard honors Lisanby's mother, a lifelong artist and arts supporter.

Rear Admiral Lisanby was also an active member of Ogden Memorial United Methodist Church in Princeton, a Rotarian and a Paul Harris Fellow.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his brother, Charles, two daughters, Elizabeth Ann Lisanby and Dr. Sarah Hollingsworth Lisanby, and their families.

The people of Caldwell County, the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and this great Nation were greatly served by Rear Admiral Lisanby, and he will be truly missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 17, 2012, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall No. 627, "yea."
On rollcall No. 628, "yea."

HONORING THE LIFE OF VICTORIA
LEIGH SOTO

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with the heaviest of hearts that I rise today to join the Stratford and Sandy Hook communities as they remember Victoria Leigh Soto who was so tragically taken from us last Friday. Only 27 years old, Victoria was a first-grade teacher at Sandy Hook Elementary School where she lost her life protecting her students. Room 10 lost its teacher and we lost an exceptional young woman.

A lifelong resident of Stratford, Connecticut, Victoria graduated from Stratford High School in 2003 and earned a degree with high honors

in Education and History from Eastern Connecticut State University. She was currently working to complete her Master's Degree at Southern Connecticut State University. She was a student teacher at Brewster Elementary School in Durham, Connecticut and in her fifth year as a first-grade teacher at Sandy Hook Elementary School, Victoria was fulfilling the dream she had had since she was just three years old. Teaching was her passion and it showed. Her students adored her—the many pictures inscribed with "I Love Miss Soto" that adorned her desk a testament to the impact she had on the children she was charged to care for and educate each day.

Victoria was equally as passionate about her family. In one of her Facebook postings she wrote of her life, "In my spare time, I love spending time with my black lab, Roxie. I love spending time with my brothers, my sisters, and cousins." Family and friends have described her as a role model—not only to them but to everyone she met.

As the event at Sandy Hook Elementary School unfolded, Victoria quickly hid her young students in closets and cabinets. When the gunman came into her classroom Victoria told him that her students were not in the class but in the gym. He turned the gun on her and she was lost to us. Her students would later be found by first responders, huddled together in the closets and cabinets. She saved each of their lives while sacrificing her own. Victoria was a hero in every sense of the word.

The tragic event that occurred at Sandy Hook Elementary School and all of those we lost that day will never be erased from our minds. Though there are no words that can ease her families suffering, I hope that they can take some small comfort in the knowledge that Victoria will always be remembered as a hero. My thoughts and prayers are with her parents, Carlos and Donna, as well as her siblings, Jillian, Carlee, and Carlos Matthew, and extended family as they say goodbye to their angel. Victoria Leigh Soto was an extraordinary young woman and will long serve as an inspiration to us all.

IN HONOR OF CORPORAL MICHAEL
P. NICHOLSON'S SERVICE TO HIS
COUNTRY

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of Florida's brightest sons, Corporal Michael, P. Nicholson of The United States Marine Corps, Echo Company. On July 6, 2011 in an IED blast Corporal Nicholson was almost mortally wounded when he lost his legs and part of his left arm and numerous other injuries. His personal decorations include The Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon and numerous other service awards. Michael was 2nd Platoon Mortar Chief and Assistant Patrol Leader. This strong young man from Tampa has been through hell and back and with much more to overcome he has been a shining example to all, and makes you proud to say you're an American. The Tampa Bay community honors his service to our great country. What Michael "Stands For," is magnificent, and few of us will ever reach the

heights to which he has already scaled in his short lifetime and will into the future. A Marine's Marine, our thoughts and prayers go out to him and his family. I submit this poem penned in his honor by Albert Caswell.

STAND FOR SOMETHING

Stand!
Stand for something,
or live for nothing at all!
Die for something,
or the rest of your life so crawl!
Stand!
Better to give up your strong arm and legs,
then look back at all of that emptiness that
you so gave this world, you saw!
And so realize,
that your life really meant nothing at all!
Stand for something!
So noble and so very tall!
Better,
to make a difference with it all!
And so answer that most heroic of all calls!
That call to arms!
That call to war!
That call to death,
for all of our freedoms to so insure!
Because,
moments are all that we so have!
To stand tall!
To change the world!
To go off with our flags unfurled!
To stand for something!
All in that blood that binds you,
but to so answer that most noble cause!
To stand for something,
to where only such hearts of honor are so
called!
Yea Stand!
Stand for something,
or live for nothing at all!
To shine,
to make a difference with it all!
But,
To wear those magnificent shades of green!
And be but only one of "The Few",
But to be only one of The very Bold!
To have and to hold!
Our Nation's most precious of all Gold!
A United States Marine!
One of the best damn things,
that this country has ever seen!
As already Michael,
in your short life as you have so convened!
All in that fight,
with all your might!
As you were so magnificently seen!
As it was on that fateful day,
when your fine life almost went away!
As a IED explosion,
halfway to Heaven on that day!
When,
something so deep down inside of you would
not give way!
Because you were born to lead,
even in your darkest days!
As the tears ran down your most heroic face!
Because Nicholson,
your fine life that still had so much more to
say!
For you had miles to go,
and mountains to so climb on your most he-
roic way!
And so many hearts to so heal,
and to so inspire,
lifting them all so ever higher!
While, all of the Angels for you so prayed!
As you Michael,
still have such life of happiness that which
before you so awaits!
As you Michael may have lost your two
strong legs and arm!
But they'll not touch your great heart of
amazing grace,
that which so inside of you so beats and
burns so very warm this very day!
The one that which you were so born with,

that which so says Marine get up and move
on . . . the course to stay!
And Pity is not a town where you will ever
stay!
As you so teach us!
As you so reach us!
As you so beseech all in every way!
With the kind of lessons about life that only
a kid like you could say!
As you rain mortars of hope down upon us
all,
all in what your fine heart has so to con-
vey. . .
Because, already in your short life Mi-
chael. . .
you've traveled higher and farther than any
of us ever will or may!
Because, you so Stood For Something!
And as you Still Do, To This Very Day!
For Something, So Noble and So Brilliant,
and So Bright!
Someone To So look Up To,
whose most courageous heart brings such
light!
These rays!
Marine, I could climb the highest mountain,
and yet never would I reach where you stand
this day!
For only a few in heaven will so stand, as
they!
And if ever I had a son Michael,
I wish he could but be half the man you are
in every way!
Who Stands for Something so very brilliant,
that which most of us never may!
All in you in what I saw,
as our hearts to you Michael so run!
Because in The Game of Life,
you are a Champion in every way!
Oh how I wish I could stand as tall as you
this very day!
What have you stood for, out on life's way?
Stand!

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDGE
CARMEN RIVERA-WORLEY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge Carmen Rivera-Worley. Judge Rivera-Worley has served as District Judge for the 16th District Court in Denton County, Texas for the past nine years.

Judge Rivera-Worley received a Bachelor's Degree from Texas A&M University in 1977. She also received a Master's Degree from Texas Tech University in 1978. In addition to those degrees, Judge Rivera-Worley proved her commitment to higher-education by earning her Jurisprudence Doctorate from the University of Texas School of Law in 1982. These numerous degrees have allowed Judge Rivera-Worley to extend her knowledge and continually serve the citizens of Denton and Val Verde counties.

Judge Rivera-Worley has extensive experience in practicing law. Before her current position as District Judge, the Honorable Rivera-Worley held several positions as an attorney in Denton County and Val Verde County. She previously served in Denton County's Criminal District Attorney's Office as the Assistant Criminal District Attorney/Chief of Civil Division from 1992–2003. Also, she served as Val Verde County Attorney from 1987–1992. Prior to that position, she was Val Verde County Assistant Attorney from 1985 to 1987.

Judge Rivera-Worley also played an active role in numerous professional associations.

These include the Denton County Bar Association and The Texas State Bar Association, particularly in the following sections: Construction Law Section, Government Lawyer Section, and Labor and Employment Section. In addition, she held many positions in the Texas District and County Attorney's Association. In the Texas District and County Attorney's Association, she was a member of the Board of Directors, the Long Range Planning Committee for Publications, the Editorial Board, and the Legislative Committee. Also, she served as the Chair of the Civil Committee of the Association, and was also a member of the Governor's Prosecution Advisory Committee on Punishment Standards Commission, and was a speaker at conferences on local government and purchasing for the Texas Association of Counties and Texas Purchasing Association.

Beyond her professional experience, Judge Rivera-Worley has proven her commitment to the community by working with civic organizations and charities in the region. She is currently an associate of the Denton Independent School District's Bond Progress Committee and of the Denton Christian Preschool Board of Directors and Nominations Committee. Judge Rivera-Worley has also devoted her time to the Trinity United Methodist Church by being a member of the Board of Trustees and of the Council on Ministries. She was also the Chair of the Youth Ministries Committee for the church.

Even with her already outstanding track record of leading her community, Judge Rivera-Worley found the time to serve as a member of the Minority Access Committee at Ann's Haven Hospice. She also played a significant role in the Denton Chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens, and was also named Trustee of the Sarah E. Worley Educational Foundation Trust.

Judge Rivera-Worley is a very active member in her community and has a true passion for helping others. As she retires, she will leave a legacy of excellence in the 16th District Court of Denton County and will not be forgotten. I am pleased to recognize Judge Rivera-Worley and am privileged to represent Denton County in the U.S. House of Representatives.

IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUING
EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT
COMPENSATION BENEFITS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, although our economy is gradually improving after one of the worst economic crises in our Nation's history, the economic crisis remains a daily reality for 12 million unemployed workers and for the millions of Americans experiencing record levels of food insecurity, poverty, and foreclosure.

Unemployment benefits are a critical lifeline for our citizens and our economy, keeping 2.3 million Americans (including over 600,000 children) from falling into poverty in 2011, reducing the poverty rate for families by 40 percent in 2011, and generating \$1.52 in economic activity for every \$1 in economic compensation. The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office