

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN TRIBUTE TO LARRY AND  
RALPH CIMMARUSTI

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to my good friends, entrepreneurs, patriots, and philanthropists Larry and Ralph Cimmarusti.

With the backing and support of their parents, Los Angeles natives Pat and Ann Cimmarusti, brothers Larry and Ralph opened their first eatery 40 years ago. They were fresh out of junior college.

The first restaurant was actually an open-fronted Hollywood, California, vegetable market purchased for \$5,000 that was converted into an Italian deli. Frequented by the stars that lived in the Hollywood Hills, the deli thrived and provided their start into the restaurant world.

From this humble beginning, the Cimmarusti brothers launched Cimmarusti Holdings, LLC. Their first major success was to build one of the largest Burger King franchisees in the United States, with operations boasting annual sales near \$250 million.

Building on their success, the brothers branched out into casual dining to become one of the largest franchisees of Tony Roma's Restaurants in Southern California. Last but not least, the company purchased the Original Roadhouse Grill chain, another casual dining eatery.

The skills learned in building new restaurants provided a logical entry into real estate development. Cimmarusti Holdings owns approximately 15 properties in the western United States, including office buildings and retail strip centers, and has a construction company active in restaurant/retail center development.

Despite their size and success, Larry and Ralph still look at Cimmarusti Holdings as a mom and pop operation. They also believe in the importance of community and giving back.

Larry and Ralph were key contributors to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and the names Lawrence and Ralph Cimmarusti are engraved in one of the more prominent locations at the library. At its opening, the Cimmarusti brothers helped cater the event and served meals to the five U.S. presidents in attendance.

The brothers actively aid law enforcement and have donated approximately a half-million dollars to families of police officers killed in the line of duty. They also support the Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation and the Gil Garcetti's Rescue Youth Program.

Education is another major cause where they have given their time and resources, including donating \$1 million to Glendale Community College for the construction of a new Science Center on campus.

Other noteworthy causes include the Glendale Memorial Hospital and Catholic parishes in the Southern California area.

Mr. Speaker, my wife, Janice, and I have enjoyed the friendship of the Cimmarusti family for many years, including Larry and Ralph's sister Loretta and her family. I had the pleasure of having Larry's son Patrick intern in my Washington, D.C., office while he attended law school. I know my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the Cimmarusti family for their entrepreneurship, their patriotism, and their philanthropy, and wish them continued great success.

GETTING A DEAL DONE ON FISCAL  
CLIFF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on the importance of getting a deal done on the fiscal cliff in few hours we have remaining. A potential Alternative Minimum Tax patch would protect 30 million taxpayers overall and 222,513 Texans from paying the AMT by raising the exemption amount.

Way back on January 20, 2001, when President George W. Bush took over from President Bill Clinton, the CBO estimated the total budget surplus for 2002–2011 would be \$5.6 trillion.

And the campaign to spend the surplus began in earnest, despite warnings. Leading up to the 2001 tax cuts, the Administration and the Republican Congress were well aware of the looming AMT problem. Negotiators took advantage of this situation in order to keep down the costs of the 2001 tax cuts.

In June of 2000, one Treasury economist studied the AMT and warned that AMT taxpayers were due to grow at a rate of 30 percent each year between 2000 and 2010. Nonetheless, President Bush proposed a \$1.6 trillion tax cut without an increase in the exemption level to protect taxpayers from the AMT.

Since 2001, Congress has had to extend an AMT "patch" almost annually so that the Bush tax cuts are not taken back by the AMT. The true cost of what was to be a \$1.6 trillion tax cut has been estimated to be \$2.2 trillion because of the AMT patches, exploding expiration dates, and debt-financing when the surplus disappeared. This budgetary sleight of hand is largely why we are here—literally at the eleventh hour—seeking to stop tax hikes on the middle class and avoid a brutal sequester.

This body should also not forget that we passed the Bush Tax Cuts under Reconciliation, which again is part of the background story, and the reason they are set to expire again.

Mr. Speaker, we need to get a deal done on the fiscal cliff this evening.

TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDER J.  
BECKLES

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Alexander J. Beckles, a great Bahamian-American and friend, who was on my staff for sixteen years and was my Legislative Director for eight years. Known to us as Alex, I have also heard my dear friend Chairman JOHN DINGELL call him "Little Shaft."

I first met Alex back in 1985 when he would come by my office on the 7th floor of the Longworth Building to visit the late Ms. Brenda E. Pillors, his friend and my former Chief of Staff of twenty-five years. Brenda was my first hire as a member of this institution back in January 1983.

One day back in 1986, Alex approached me saying, "Can I speak with you, Congressman TOWNS. I need your advice," and I told him to come on into my office. Alex explained that he was now working for my friend Congressman Gus Savage, but Congressman Clyde Holloway, R–Forest Hill, Louisiana, had offered him a job for his upcoming re-election campaign. After all, Alex had been the field coordinator for the Faye E. Williams, D–Alexandria, LA 8th Congressional District race two years earlier. During that period, Alex and Congressman Clyde Holloway had become friends, and the Congressman wanted Alex to work for him because of his relationship with the Black community in the 8th Congressional District of Louisiana. My response to Alex was, "If Clyde Holloway is willing to give you a better paying job, take it and don't look back." I'm happy to say, Alex took my advice and the rest is history.

Alex later worked on Congressman Holloway's Congressional staff from 1987 to 1992 as a Legislative Assistant and on a number of projects, such as a feasibility study for the Red River during and after large scale flooding in Central and Northwest Louisiana. Alex was most proud of his leadership in the Gulf States Counter-Narcotic Initiative, a unique multi-state counter-narcotics operation in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, funded by the Department of Defense.

Alex's first job on Capitol Hill was with Congressman Tom Delay, R–Houston, Texas, where Alex had attended Texas Southern University and resided for some 14 years before coming to Washington, DC. Alex also worked for the following members of Congress: Congressman George Brown, D–California, Congressman Mervyn M. Dymally, D–California, and Congressman Gus Savage, D–Illinois, where he was able to work on a bill which set the national standard for minority set-asides within the Federal Government, particularly in the Department of Defense.

Alex later came to work for me in 1993, after Congressman Holloway lost to Congressman Richard Baker in the November election

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

of 1992. He was an indispensable resource to the constituents of the 10th Congressional District of Brooklyn, New York from 1993 to 2008, as Legislative Assistant and later as my Legislative Director. Nobody had more zeal for the job, and more loyalty to the office and the constituents of the District.

An example of his service to the people of Brooklyn was demonstrated in 1994 when we received a phone call into the District office, just before President Bill Clinton was forced to send American troops to Haiti. The matter concerned a 7 year old Haitian-American girl that was living with her grandmother in Port-au-Prince, and the last commercial Air France flight had departed Haiti a few days earlier. The mother, who lived in Brooklyn, was frightened and deeply concerned for her daughter's safety. Her child, it seemed, was stranded in what was soon to be a war zone with no way out.

Alex spoke with the mother of the child and told her to give him a few days and she will have her baby home safe with her in Brooklyn. On that Thursday, my Chief of Staff, Brenda Pillors, informed me that I would need to be at Kennedy International Airport the next day to meet the mother of a 7 year old Haitian girl, who lives here in Brooklyn and had not seen her daughter in over a year. She further informed me that Alex had arranged to fly the child out of Haiti earlier that day on Mission Flights out of Fort Lauderdale. I do not know, nor did I ask, how Alex was able to get this child out of Haiti just before the war started. But he did it. This is an example of why the staff always called Alex "Mr. Fix-it" and joked that no one could ever figure it out but he was able to get it done.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to say thank you to Alexander J. Beckles for all his many years of service on my Congressional staff, to this institution, and to the American people.

U.S. REP. MIKE PENCE FAREWELL  
SPEECH

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, it's an honor to rise for what will be my last time speaking as a Member of the United States House of Representatives. The people of Indiana have given me a new assignment.

But I rise tonight to pay a debt of gratitude to all of those who gave me the privilege to serve in this place. As a boy, I dreamed of someday representing my hometown in our Nation's capital. Twelve years ago, the people of the Sixth Congressional District made that dream a reality. And so I begin tonight by simply saying 'thank you' to all of them for letting me live that dream in these past 12 years, to come to this place again and again, and to be some small part of the story of this institution and America's story.

My only ambition in Congress was to look out for my family and to keep my word to the people who sent me here. To let my 'yes' be 'yes' and my 'no' be 'no.' And it is my hope that as people view the totality of my record and my life, they'll see that we've done just that.

There are those to thank tonight that made that possible, and that's what brings me to this

task this evening. First, permit me to give thanks to God, whose grace and mercy has sustained us every day that we have served the people of Indiana in this place.

Next, and on this Earth most of all, I rise to honor and thank my beloved wife, Karen Pence, whose love, whose support, whose sacrifice, patience, and kindness, have made all that I have done in the service to the people of Indiana in this place, possible. Thanks for believing in me. I love you and I'll see you home. To our children: Michael, Charlotte, and Audrey. They were 6, 7, and 8 when I first arrived in this place and stood on this floor with my right hand raised, 12 years ago. They are now 18, 19, and 21. Thank you for your love. But thank you for the sacrifices that you have made so that we could live our dreams. Now go make your dreams come true. I know every one of you can.

To my colleagues with whom I've stood at this place, shoulder to shoulder, doing freedom's work, standing each and every day, cheerfully on behalf of the founding principles of this Nation: standing for a strong national defense; for limited government; for economic freedom; and for the moral foundations of this Nation. You know who you are. And we will take you from this place in our hearts always. You know there's a saying back home, when you see a turtle on a fence post, one thing you know for sure is that he didn't get there on his own.

So lastly what I want to do tonight, Mr. Speaker, is really to pay a debt of gratitude to the best congressional staff in American history. The men and women who have served our efforts in this city, and at home in Indiana for the past 12 years. I leave this body truly humbled when I look back at the caliber of the staff that we've been able to call to this mission, servant leaders all. They are men and women who approached each and every day with a servant leader's heart and made sacrifices over the years in order to serve the people of Indiana with integrity and energy. Names like Bill Smith and Lani Czarniecki; Jennifer Pavlik and Josh Pitcock; Matt Lloyd and Paul Teller; Marc Short and Sheila Cole, Russ Vought and Mary Vought; Ryan Fisher, LeAnne Holdman Gibbs and Chris Kiefer; Brian Neale and Ryan Jarmula, just to name a few. You know, I don't really have time tonight to name all of the men and women who served us in various capacities over these last 12 years. I submit each and every one of their names to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD this night.

Some people look on in Washington, D.C., and they are rightly frustrated. Some people can come to this Nation's capital and lose their idealism. I'm not such a person. When I walk out of this Capitol for the last time, I will leave here with my idealism intact. I will continue to believe as our Founders did, that we are one nation under God, rich with a purpose yet to be fulfilled. That no matter how dark the day may seem that we can be confident when we stand for freedom and we do freedom's work, because freedom is not just our story, it's His story. And when we stand for freedom, however imperfectly, we make His work on this Earth our own.

In the words of the poet I depart this place saying,

The woods are lovely, dark, and deep.  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,

And miles to go before I sleep.

I say to my colleagues and friends and neighbors in Indiana, my duties take me elsewhere, but wherever providence leads this Nation, let us ever remember that we have promises to keep for future generations of Americans in preserving, protecting, and defending the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity. And I know we'll keep that promise because we're Americans.

Thank you for the honor of addressing you tonight. And to the people of the Sixth Congressional District: know that I'll always be grateful for the privilege that you have given me to serve in this place. And I will always cherish my days in the People's House.

May God bless the United States House of Representatives, and all who serve her now, and ever on this floor. And may God bless the United States of America.

MIKE PENCE STAFF ROSTER: 2001–2012

Acornley, Mark—Part-Time Admin Assistant: October 6, 2011–2012

Adams, Susan—Staff Assistant: October 6, 2003–February 29, 2004

Ahearn, Mark—Legislative Director: January 22, 2002–April 2, 2003

Alexander, Jerry—Constituent Services Representative & Director of Community Outreach: July 9, 2001–May 15, 2007

Arnold, Ron—Director of Administration & Deputy Chief of Staff: January 3, 2001–October 31, 2009

Atterholt, Kathleen—Caseworker: January 3, 2001–January 2, 2010

Bauer, Zachary—Staff Assistant & Legislative Correspondent: January 4, 2010–2012

Bennett, Kim—Deputy District Director: January 3, 2001–2012

Berry, Debra—District Representative: August 6, 2001–2012

Breeding, Mary—Paid Intern & Staff Assistant: April 1, 2001–January 18, 2002

Brinkman, Muffet—Staff Assistant: January 8, 2001–March 31, 2001

Brown, Skip—Communications Assistant: January 2, 2004–November 16, 2005

Brown, Will—Staff Assistant & Legislative Correspondent: January 3, 2009–January 2, 2011

Castor, Amy—Staff Assistant: May 16, 2004–March 12, 2006

Collins, Larry Ken—Communications Director: January 3, 2001–March 31, 2001

Craig, Lindsey—Legislative Assistant: January 2, 2009–April 2012

Crouch, Daniel—Legislative Assistant & Senior Legislative Assistant: January 16, 2007–August 7, 2009

Czarniecki, Cary (Lani)—District Director: January 3, 2001–2012

Dilly, Jonathan—Paid Intern: May 21, 2001–August 8, 2001

Evans, Ben—Constituent Services Representative: January 4, 2010–2012

Fisher, Ryan—Legislative Assistant & Legislative Director: January 3, 2001–January 2, 2007

Fortin, Kristin—Paid Intern: May 7, 2001–July 13, 2001

Gaskill, Kily Smith—Executive Assistant: January 13, 2009–2012

Gibbs, LeAnne Holdman—Staff Assistant, Legislative Assistant, Senior Legislative Assistant & Legislative Director: February 24, 2004–October 21, 2008

Hawkins, Nicole—Community Development Assistant: January 23, 2006–April 6, 2007

Howe, Jeff—Field Representative: January 3, 2003–February 28, 2010

Hughes, Kaitlynn—Press Assistant, Press Secretary: January 2, 2011–2012

Jarmula, Ryan—Staff Assistant, Legislative Assistant and Senior Legislative Assistant: January 22, 2008–2012

Karchner, Derek—Staff Assistant & Press Assistant: January 22, 2002–March 6, 2003

Keller, Aaron—Paid Intern: June 12, 2001–July 31, 2001

Kennedy, Elizabeth—Staff Assistant: February 23, 2004–April 30, 2005

Kiefer, Chris—Legislative Assistant & Senior Legislative Assistant: January 3, 2001–April 30, 2005

Kincaid, Andrew—Legislative Assistant: January 3, 2001–December 31, 2001

Lahr, Matt—Press Assistant: February 1, 2006–January 2, 2007; Press Secretary: May 10, 2010–January 9, 2011

Lavoie, Matt—Staff Assistant: March 13, 2006–April 15, 2007

Likens, Darlene—Caseworker: January 3, 2001–May 31, 2002

Lloyd, Matthew—Communications Director: January 29, 2003–December 31, 2008; Communications Director for GOP Conference: January 1, 2009–December 31, 2010; Communications Director: January 1, 2011–2012

McCarthy, Greg—Staff Director of Foreign Affairs, Middle East and South Asia Subcommittee while Rep. Pence served as Ranking Member: January 1, 2007–January 2, 2009

Meeker, Autumn—Staff Assistant: June 1, 2010–2012

Milazzo, Nathaniel—Legislative Correspondent, Legislative Assistant & Legislative Director: April 25, 2005–January 2, 2011

Miller, Craig—Legislative Assistant: January 3, 2004–June 4, 2005

Miller, Molly Jarmu—Communications Assistant & Legislative Assistant: January 1, 2002–July 28, 2003

Miner, Ryan—Paid Intern: June 1, 2007–July 11, 2007

Myers, Janille—Executive Assistant: January 12, 2009–2012

Neale, Brian—Legislative Assistant & Legislative Director: June 17, 2009–2012

Pardieck, Karrie—Casework Director: January 3, 2001–2012

Pavlik, Jennifer Marsh—Executive Assistant & Staff Director: January 6, 2001–2012

Perdew, Abby—Administrative Assistant & Administrative Director: January 27, 2009–October 31, 2011

Phipps, Andrew—Director of Community Relations: January 3, 2001–October 31, 2001

Pieppgrass, Stephen—Communications Director: April 23, 2001–August 15, 2002

Pitcock, Joshua—Legislative Assistant, Deputy Chief of Staff and General Counsel: May 11, 2005–Dec. 31, 2008; Deputy Chief of Staff and General Counsel for GOP Conference: January 1, 2009–June 30, 2011; Deputy Chief of Staff and General Counsel: January 1, 2011–July 31, 2012; Chief of Staff—August 1, 2012–2012

Radtke, Schrade (Trip)—Legislative Director: March 22, 2003–December 30, 2003

Reger, Ryan—Field Representative: January 3, 2001–December 31, 2007

Shettle, John—Part-Time Caseworker: January 3, 2001–2012

Siktberg, Alan—Staff Assistant/Field Representative: February 1, 2005–February 14, 2008

Slatter, Ian—Legislative Assistant & Communications Director: January 1, 2002–January 31, 2003

Smith, William A.—Chief of Staff: January 3, 2001–July 31, 2012; Senior Advisor: August 1, 2012–2012

Son, Daniel—Communications Assistant & Press Secretary: January 26, 2008–May 31, 2010

Sulc, Kevin—Constituent Services Representative: July 9, 2001–2012

Tronovitch, Ryan—Staff Assistant: April 27, 2007–December 31, 2007

Wilson, Mikah—Constituent Services Representative/Caseworker/Administrator: January 3, 2003–October 31, 2009

Wilson, Duncan—February 23, 2005–February 28, 2005

Wilson, William Patrick—Legislative Director: January 2, 2001–December 31, 2001

CHAIRMAN MIKE PENCE, REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE STAFF ROSTER: 2005–2006

Executive Director—Sheila Cole

Deputy Director—Paul Teller

Policy Director—Russ Vought

Senior Policy Analyst—Derek Baker

Policy Analyst—Joelle Cannon

Research Assistant—Marcus Kelley

Communications Director—Matt Lloyd

CHAIRMAN MIKE PENCE, HOUSE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE STAFF ROSTER: 2009–2010

Name	Title	Tenure
Marc Short	Chief of Staff	Jan. 2009–Dec. 2010
Josh Pitcock	Deputy Chief of Staff	Jan. 2009–Feb. 2010
	Deputy Chief of Staff/General Counsel	Mar. 2010–Dec. 2010
Emily Seidel	Director of Operations/Assistant to the Chief of Staff	Jan. 2009–Dec. 2010
Katie Strand	Director of Member Services and Events	Jan. 2009–Dec. 2010
Melanie Looney	Coalitions Director/General Counsel	Jan. 2009–Feb. 2010
Russ Vought	Policy Director	Jan. 2009–Aug. 2010
Daris Meeks	Policy Advisor and Legislative Counsel	June 2009–Aug. 2010
	Policy Director	Aug. 2010–Dec. 2010
Adam Hepburn	Policy Advisor	Jan. 2009–Dec. 2010
Chris Jacobs	Policy Advisor	Jan. 2009–Jan. 2010
Andy Koenig	Policy Advisor	Jan. 2009–Dec. 2010
Jonathan Hiller	Policy Advisor	July 2010–Dec. 2010
John Gray	Policy Advisor	Apr. 2010–Dec. 2010
Sarah Makin	Policy Advisor/Coalitions Liaison	Jan. 2009–Mar. 2010
	Policy Advisor/Coalitions Liaison	Apr. 2010–Dec. 2010
Lisa Tanner	Policy Advisor	June 2009–Aug. 2009
Matt Lloyd	Communications Director	Jan. 2009–Dec. 2010
Mary Vought	Press Secretary	Feb. 2009–Dec. 2010
Andeliz Castillo	Deputy Press Secretary and Director of Specialty Media	Feb. 2009–Dec. 2010
Courtney Kolb	Media Coordinator	Jan. 2009–July 2010
	Deputy Press Secretary	July 2010–Dec. 2010
Rachel Semmel	Press Assistant	Jan. 2009–July 2010
	Radio/TV Bookers	July 2010–Dec. 2010
Brian Newell	Deputy Press Secretary/ Speechwriter	Jan. 2009–Mar. 2010
Doug Sachtleben	Deputy Press Secretary/ Speechwriter	Apr. 2010–Dec. 2010
Katie Hughes	Press Assistant	June 2010–Dec. 2010
Emily Pickett	Press Assistant	June 2010–Dec. 2010
Ben Howard	Staff Assistant	Feb. 2009–Dec. 2010
Scott Neale	Staff Assistant	Jan. 2009–May 2010
Ja Ron Smith	Staff Assistant	Jan. 2009–Dec. 2010
Ryan Howell	Visual Media	Jan. 2009–Dec. 2010
Bryant Avondoglio	Visual Media	Jan. 2009–Dec. 2010
David Holley	Visual Media	Jan. 2009–Dec. 2010
Rebecca Propp	Visual Media	Jan. 2009–Dec. 2010
Erica Anderson	Visual Media (blogger)	Mar. 2009–Dec. 2010

#### CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR GOLDEN EAGLE DISTRIBUTORS INC.

#### HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Golden Eagle Distributors Inc., based in Tucson, Arizona, for its commitment to converting its delivery fleet from diesel to environmentally friendly compressed natural gas (CNG).

Golden Eagle recently was honored by Natural Gas Vehicles for America with its CNG Fleet & Station Program Award, presented at the Natural Gas Vehicle Conference and Summit in Schaumburg, Illinois.

All 27 of the heavy-duty trucks operated by Golden Eagle at its facilities in Tucson and Casa Grande, Arizona have been or soon will be converted to operate on compressed natural gas. The company also has a natural gas fueling station that is open to the public and is preparing to open a second public CNG fueling station. These efforts provide a strong in-

centive to members of the general public to operate a vehicle powered by compressed natural gas.

Natural gas vehicles are good for the American economy because they operate on a domestically produced fuel instead of relying on oil that frequently comes from overseas. The United States imports about half of the oil it uses, but 98 percent of the natural gas used in the United States is produced in North America.

In addition, exhaust emissions from natural gas powered vehicles are much lower than those from vehicles powered by gasoline or diesel. CNG vehicles produce 95 percent fewer particulates, 80 percent less nitrogen oxide and provide a reduction of 23 percent in greenhouse gas emissions compared with diesel engines.

Christopher Clements, CEO of Golden Eagle, made the commitment to switch from diesel to compressed natural gas to reduce the company's carbon footprint. The result is cleaner and healthier air in Southern Arizona.

Golden Eagle also was named Arizona's Greenest Workplace in 2010 by Mrs. Green's World, a website that promotes global sustainability. The company was recognized for its recycling and energy efficiency initiatives, employee carpooling and for its green transportation program.

I am proud to recognize Golden Eagle Distributors Inc. for its continued commitment to operating as a model of environmental stewardship.

IN HONOR OF MS. ALICE DAVIS

#### HON. LARRY KISSELL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Alice Davis of Albemarle, NC, and her service to our community.

Ms. Alice has been at the forefront of the effort to increase voter registration in our district, and has worked tirelessly to do so. In addition to this, she is very involved in the community with her work with our veterans and the disabled.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring Ms. Alice, a great American, and resident of North Carolina, the state which I am proud to represent.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASHLEY HONEYCUTT

#### HON. LARRY KISSELL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District. Each District Staff member has shown

great dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They go above and beyond to ensure that each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Ashley Honeycutt has served as Staff Assistant in Concord during her time in the office. Ashley has always been a very active member of the community, and even established a charity in honor of her mother, who recently passed away.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Ashley for her hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF ALEXANDER  
GINIS

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. My Washington, D.C. office was also in charge of all aspects of the legislative process, quite a daunting task. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Alexander Ginis has served as both Legislative Correspondent and Legislative Assistant during his time with us. Alexander has made our office one of the best in the entire Congress for responding quickly to constituents. He has kept our average turnaround on constituent correspondence to less than 4 days. Alexander is a great writer and has a deep understanding of legislation, and how it impacts folks back home that is beyond his years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Alexander for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF ALLISON  
AUMAN

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

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greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District. Each District Staff member has shown great dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They go above and beyond to ensure that each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Allison Auman has served in many roles during her time in the office. I first met Allison at the Candor Peach Festival. She then interned in our Washington office before she was hired as Staff Assistant, and her current position as Director of Special Projects in our Concord office. She was in charge of many projects not least of which were Military Academy appointments, our Youth Council, and the 8th District Federal Contracting Symposium, which she did an excellent job of organizing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Allison for her hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF ZACH  
PFISTER

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

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My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Zach Pfister, while not still with our office, continues to be a great supporter and advocate of North Carolina's 8th District. During his time in our office, Zach served as Legislative Correspondent, Legislative Assistant, and finally our Legislative Director. While serving as Legislative Director, Zach was in charge of managing and guiding the legislative agenda of the office. He exceeded all expectations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Zach for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THOMAS  
THACKER

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District. Each District Staff member has shown great dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They go above and beyond to ensure that each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Thomas Thacker has been with me since before I took office. As Deputy Chief of Staff and District Director, his leadership and communication skills have served not only me, but the entire 8th District well. As a former newspaper editor, Thomas has taken the lead in helping guide our communications staff, and served as an invaluable counselor to me both on constituent matters and legislation. Thomas has an uncanny ability to see legislation through the eye of someone born and raised in North Carolina's 8th District, and he has served the office well as the voice of the people of the district.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Thomas for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF TONY  
SPAULDING

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District. Each District Staff member has shown great dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They go above and beyond to ensure that each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Tony Spaulding is a Caseworker in the office, and has been a great liaison with Federal agencies and other organizations. Very impressively, Tony was named the NAACP Man of the Year in two consecutive years, due to his hard work on behalf of the organization. Having been raised in North Carolina's 8th District, he possesses the great ability of being able to relate to the issues of our district, allowing him to best serve the people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Tony for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF SEAN DUGAN

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. My Washington, D.C. office was also in charge of all aspects of the legislative process, quite a daunting task. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Sean Dugan has served as my Legislative Assistant for the past year. During this time, Sean has handled a portfolio of issues including health and taxes. Sean is very passionate about his work, and with that comes a great level of enthusiasm. Hailing from the state of Nebraska, he understands the challenges of a rural district, and that was evident in his work.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Sean for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF PAUL IRVING

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District. Each District Staff member has shown great dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They go above and beyond to ensure that each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Paul Irving has served the people of our district as a Caseworker, and ultimately a Senior Caseworker. In his capacity within our office, Paul manages constituent casework pertaining to the Home Affordable Modification Program and the Home Affordable Refinance Program. He has helped more than 1,000 folks keep their homes. Paul is tenacious on behalf of the people of the 8th District of North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Paul for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF LEANNE POWELL

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. My Washington, D.C. office was also in charge of all aspects of the legislative process, quite a daunting task. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Leanne Powell has been a part of my team since before I took office, and has served as my Chief of Staff for the duration of my Congressional tenure. Tasked with managing the personnel of my Washington and District Offices, Leanne has assembled an extraordinary staff. Under her leadership, that staff has worked tirelessly on behalf of the people of our district, and our great nation. Leanne is an incredible leader who has helped guide, encourage, and advise me during my time in office. Having lived in the district most of her life, and having worked for former Congressman Bill Hefner before joining our team, she brought an unparalleled knowledge of North Carolina and its 8th District to our Congressional office. Leanne represents the best in public service. Her commitment to the people of our district, to this office, and to me personally, is truly invaluable.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Leanne for her hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF KEVIN TANN

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. My Washington, D.C. office was also in charge of all aspects of the legislative process, quite a daunting task. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Kevin Tann has served as our office's Defense Legislative Fellow for the past year. In this capacity, Kevin serves as a liaison to the United States military. In addition to this, Kevin is an active duty Army Major. It is an honor to have a service member as a part of my staff. Kevin was vital in so many facets of the office, including the organization of this year's 8th District Federal Contracting Symposium, which was a huge success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Kevin for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, his service to the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF JOSHUA LOGELIN

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District. Each District Staff member has shown great dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They go above and beyond to ensure that each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Joshua Logelin has filled many roles during his time in our office. Starting as an intern in the office, and being hired as a Press Assistant, Staff Assistant, and finally a Caseworker, Joshua has never been afraid of a challenge. Having been raised in North Carolina's 8th District, he possesses the great ability of being

able to relate to the issues of our district, allowing him to best serve the people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Joshua for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF JARROD HALL

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District. Each District Staff member has shown great dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They go above and beyond to ensure that each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Jarrold Hall has served as my Director of Outreach during his time in the office. In this capacity, he has brought our office to the communities of the 8th District. Jarrold has made sure that our office knows what is going on in each corner of the district. He is an exceptional young man who has been invaluable to keeping lines of communication open, and our office always accessible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Jarrold for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF GEORGIA LOZIER

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District. Each District Staff member has shown great dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They go above and beyond to ensure that each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constitu-

ents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Georgia Lozier has served as Deputy District Director for Administration during her time in the office. She is tenacious, and has gone above and beyond to help get millions of dollars in retroactive benefits for our constituents. She is devoted to her job and has helped lead our team to serve the people of our area well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Georgia for her hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF EMMA LAMBETH

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District. Each District Staff member has shown great dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They go above and beyond to ensure that each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Emma Lambeth has served as Deputy District Director for Oversight and Compliance during her time in the office. She has been a liaison with Federal agencies and other organizations. Having been raised in North Carolina's 8th District, she possesses the ability of being able to relate to the issues of our district, allowing her to help my team serve the people of our area well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Emma for her hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF ELENA DITRAGLIA

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. My Washington, D.C. office was also in charge of all aspects of the legislative process, quite a daunting task. I

could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Elena DiTraglia has been with me since before I took office. As our Director of Operations she was the person who made sure that all functions of the office, my schedule, and too many other things to list went smoothly. Elena, who is originally from Texas, has made the people of the 8th District of North Carolina her priority, and she has served them so well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Elena for her hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF ELIZABETH BONNER

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. My Washington, D.C. office was also in charge of all aspects of the legislative process, quite a daunting task. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Elizabeth Bonner has served as my Press Assistant during her time in our office. Hailing from the great state of North Carolina, Elizabeth has been an excellent addition to the team. Assisting in all mediums of communication with our district, she has been instrumental in communicating with our constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Elizabeth for her hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF CHRISTOPHER SCHULER

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and

my team did just that. My Washington, D.C. office was also in charge of all aspects of the legislative process, quite a daunting task. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Christopher Schuler has held many positions in our office, and provides invaluable counsel. As Communications Director he helped make sure our constituents were always informed, and that their concerns were always put foremost. In addition to being an excellent writer, he is also very knowledgeable about legislation and has also served as Legislative Assistant, and with his help we have been able to lead the "Buy American" effort.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Christopher for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID DEESE

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District. Each District Staff member has shown great dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They go above and beyond to ensure that each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constitu-

ents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

David Deese has served as my Outreach Assistant during his time in the office. In our office, David has brought help to those who may not be able to get to our office, through satellite office hours, community meetings, and chamber meetings. This has proved to be very useful for the folks of our district, and has helped to bring our office to the communities. His many years as a newspaper publisher and editor have made him an excellent liaison to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking David for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF CHAZ  
OFFENBURG

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District. Each District Staff member has shown great dedication to meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They go above and beyond to ensure that each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Chaz Offenburger has served as a Caseworker in our office for more than two and a half years. In that time, Chaz has helped the constituents of our district, and served as a li-

aison to Federal agencies. Chaz is the epitome of a team player, and was a great member of our office.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Chaz for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

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IN RECOGNITION OF CHRIS  
KELLEY

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 30, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past four years. As a Member of Congress, my greatest responsibility was to provide exceptional constituent services to our district, and my team did just that. My Washington, D.C. office was also in charge of all aspects of the legislative process, quite a daunting task. I could not ask for a more talented and dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituents. I greatly appreciate the support and friendship they have shown me during my years of service in Congress.

Chris Kelley has served as my Legislative Director for the past year. In his time with the office, Chris has helped to guide and implement the legislative agenda of the office. During his time in the office, Chris has covered issues including agriculture and environment. Chris cares deeply about the agriculture issues facing our nation. Having worked in the House for many years, Chris' commitment to the good of our nation is very evident.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Chris for his hard work on behalf of North Carolina's 8th District, and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.