

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF DON EATON

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor former San Carlos Mayor Don Eaton who has been named 2012 San Carlos Citizen of the Year. It is only fitting that Don is recognized for his public service over 36 years.

His dedication to our community is described perfectly in his own words: "I believe that it is our duty to leave this community better than we found it." Don served on the city council for 15 years and has undoubtedly left San Carlos better than he found it. Just to begin the list of his contributions to San Carlos, residents can thank him for a traveling Vietnam Wall, the "Week of the Family," and the successful library bond measure.

Don was instrumental in the Holly Street grade separation project which was completed through the passage of Measure D. He also was a co-negotiator and chief spokesperson for the city in the Harbor Industrial Area annexation and he served as a representative to the Association of Bay Area Governments for San Mateo County cities.

Prior to joining the city council, Don was the chair of the San Carlos Planning Commission. During his council service, he did three additional jobs by also serving on the South County Fire District Commission, the South Bay Side Systems Authority and the San Carlos Redevelopment Agency Oversight Board. Of course, he also ran his own business as a banker and thus proved to be one of the most indefatigable persons in San Carlos during that era.

After leaving the council, Don retrieved part of his life for himself and his family, but, never one to avoid an opportunity to serve San Carlos or the region, he is currently on the board of directors of the Hiller Aviation Museum and the Bay Area Council Economic Institute. He also sits on my Financial Services Advisory Committee offering me, along with other distinguished members, his perspective on current economic trends in our region.

Don is a native Californian and earned his Bachelor of Arts and Masters in Business Administration from Brigham Young University. He is a Vietnam veteran.

Don and his wife Glenna live in San Carlos where they raised four children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Don Eaton upon recognition of the obvious: Don Eaton should be San Carlos Citizen of the Year and perhaps, should they ever create such a title, citizen of the past four decades. I am absolutely certain that Don Eaton will live up to his new title and continue contributing to his beloved community of San Carlos for many years to come.

CELEBRATING CHIEF LOUIS SANTOSUS' 50 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE MINEOLA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and former classmate, Chief Louis Santosus, on the occasion of the celebration of 50 years of service to the Mineola Volunteer Fire Department.

A life-long Mineola resident, Chief Santosus and I were classmates at Mineola Public Schools. After graduation, Chief Santosus joined the Mineola Junior Fire Department in 1963. In the 50 years since, he has remained an active firefighter committed to serving his neighbors with great selflessness and dedication.

Chief Santosus has served in many capacities including Vice President and President of Company No. 1 of the Mineola Volunteer Fire Department. Throughout his service, he rose through the ranks to serve as Captain, and then as Chief, of the Mineola Fire Department. He was an integral part of building up the Mineola Junior Fire Department into the Junior Fire Department, as it is known today throughout the region. He has been honored as Company No. 1 Firefighter of the Year, Town of North Hempstead Firefighter of the Year, and Firefighter of the Year of the Mineola Fire Department. These great distinctions are just some of the examples of the value Chief Louis Santosus brought to his community and his peers.

In addition to his commitment to the fire department, Chief Louis Santosus has held positions on the Village of Mineola Board for 17 years as Trustee and Deputy Mayor. Presently, he serves as a member of the Fire Council and the Nassau County Critical Incidence Stress Management Team.

Chief Santosus and his wife, Patricia, have four children—Patti, Bonnie, Gary, and Brian—and nine grandchildren. Both Brian and Gary currently are Lieutenants in the FDNY, and Brian is an Ex-Captain of Company No. 1.

Today I join the officers and members of Company No. 1 of the Mineola Volunteer Fire Department in celebrating and honoring my long-time friend Chief Louis Santosus' 50 years of dedication and service to the people and communities of Nassau County, Long Island.

RECOGNIZING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOB BONDURANT SCHOOL OF HIGH PERFORMANCE DRIVING

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving in Phoenix, Arizona on their forty-fifth anniversary.

After racing since a teenager, Bob Bondurant was in a tragic accident during a race flipping his car eight times, injuring his ribs, legs, feet, and back. Determined to help drivers of all levels avoid accidents like his own, Mr. Bondurant took his passion of racing and turned it into an opportunity to advise and instruct others. On February, 14, 1968, he opened the Bondurant Driving School with three cars and three students. From this small start, the Bondurant School grew and in 1990 opened their purpose-built driver training facility in Phoenix, Arizona—the Firebird Raceway.

The world-famous Bondurant School established a name for themselves by sticking to their core principle and driving motivation to offer professional and everyday drivers with the best track-intensive training in the world. Throughout their 45 years in operation, the Bondurant School has trained more than four-hundred thousand people to become safe and effective drivers both on and off the racetrack.

This milestone is a shining reminder of how core principles, hard-work, close friends, and a passion for your work produce lasting results. Today, I am pleased to call on my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Bondurant racing family on their impressive accomplishment and core ethos of driver safety.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MATTHEW CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 150th anniversary of St. Matthew Catholic Church in San Mateo, California. Since its founding in 1863 the buildings, parishioners and pastors have changed, but the church has always been a place for comfort, solace, community and friendship for everyone.

A century and a half ago, Archbishop Alemany sent Father Denis Dempsey to San Mateo to establish the first parish in the county. A small wooden-steeple church was built on the corner of Third Avenue and A Street—today Ellsworth Avenue—on a piece of land donated by Charles B. Polhemus, an investor in the San Francisco-San Jose Railroad. Father Dempsey was the pastor for 18 years and

• 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.

earned the admiration and love of his parishioners. It is said that his funeral mass was attended by local officials and dignitaries from throughout the state.

Sadly, the next pastor, Father William Bowman, only had a tenure of seven months before he passed away. He was followed by Father Peter Birmingham who presided for three years until he was transferred to San Francisco. Longevity was the signature of the fourth pastor, Father Timothy Callaghan. He served St. Matthew Church for 53 years. During his tenure, a parish cemetery was established and a new church was built. The congregation was growing and the threat of a fire destroying the old wooden church led to a fire resistant brick church on Ellsworth between Second and Third Avenues. The dedicating mass was held in September of 1900. Father Callaghan was elevated to Right Reverend and witnessed continual growth of the parish.

Father Henry J. Lyne became the fifth pastor and established a parish school in 1931. Seven Sisters of the Holy Cross taught 140 students in the first year. He is credited with starting Catholic formal education in the Archdiocese of San Francisco on the peninsula. In 1947, Pope Pius XII appointed him a Domestic Prelate with the title Monsignor.

Father Edward J. Meagher, the sixth pastor, saw unprecedented growth of the Catholic population after World War II. In 1952, total enrollment from Kindergarten to the 8th grade had grown to 861. Father Meagher raised funds to build an independent parish in Shoreview which was named St. Timothy as a tribute to Monsignor Timothy Callaghan. Soon after that, the Western portion of St. Matthew parish was detached, with the establishment of Bartholomew parish. Father Meagher's successor, Father Bernard C. Cronin, oversaw the building of a new St. Matthew Church and Rectory at Ninth Avenue and El Camino Real which opened in May 1966. The downtown church also remained open. Father Cronin was elevated to Right Reverend Monsignor in 1972.

In 1979, Father James Ward, a graduate of St. Matthew School, class of 1937, became its eighth pastor. Father James Ward was devoted to the school and the students. During his tenure, the downtown church was demolished after suffering seismic damage. He and the archdiocese fought hard, yet unsuccessfully, for the vacated property that was eventually leased to Walgreen Drug. Father Ward died from a leg infection in 1995. Monsignor James McKay succeeded him and oversaw fundamental renovations of the newer church at El Camino Real and Ninth Avenue that are still in place today.

In 2004, the tenth and current pastor replaced Monsignor McKay. Father Anthony McGuire now oversees the St. Matthew parish of 2,500 and is credited with growing the diverse parish and attracting an ever increasing number of Hispanic and Asian families.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor the rich history of St. Matthew Church in San Mateo which has been a place of spiritual and social growth for thousands of families for 150 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, February 25, 2013, I missed rollcall votes 46 and 47 for unavoidable reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: rollcall No. 46: "yea" (Approval of the Journal); rollcall No. 47: "yea" (On motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 667, to redesignate the Dryden Flight Research Center as the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center and the Western Aeronautical Test Range as the Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range.)

IN HONOR OF THE HONORABLE
MARETTA MITCHELL TAYLOR

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished public servant, devoted educator and dear friend to my wife, Vivian and me, The Honorable Maretta Mitchell Taylor. Sadly, Maretta passed away on February 17, 2013 at the age of 78. She leaves behind a legacy of service that will never be forgotten.

Maretta was born on January 25, 1935, to the union of the late Mr. and Mrs. Zedic Deaner James. She was a 1953 graduate of William H. Spencer High School, a 1957 graduate of Albany State College (now university) with a Bachelor of Science Degree and later graduated from Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana with a Master's of Science Degree.

Her life's work always centered on young people and helping them to reach their full potential. She truly understood the saying that, "Education is the passport to the future; it belongs to those who prepare for it today." She touched and enriched the lives of countless young people during her 30 years as a teacher and media specialist. She retired from William H. Spencer High School in 1987. She also served on the Muscogee County Board of Elections and Registration.

Maretta was never one to rest on her laurels and she decided to take up another calling as she succeeded me in the Georgia House of Representatives in 1991 following my election to the Georgia Senate. She used this position to continue to advocate for young people and their betterment. When advocating for them, her favorite saying was, "but it is for the children." All of the committees that she served on in the Georgia House were dedicated to the uplift and support of young people.

Maretta was more than an educator, she was more than a legislator, she was a servant to all humankind. She gave herself to so many causes and organizations that are too numerous for me to mention. Dr. Maya Angelou once said that, "I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back." Maretta threw a prodigious amount of love and service back to the Co-

lumbus, Georgia community that she loved so dearly.

Maretta married the love of her life, Jesse Taylor in 1974 and they built a life that was based on the love of God, the love of each other, the love of family and the love of people. They knew that the love of these could lead one to a great relationship with God because they are an embodiment of his greatest commandments: to love him with all your "heart, mind and soul" and to "love your neighbor as thyself."

Maretta was truly one of a kind who left an incredible legacy on the world through all that she touched. I am proud to have known this very special woman who dedicated her life to uplifting others and I am proud to honor her life and legacy with this statement. To God be the glory for blessing the world with a woman the caliber of Maretta Mitchell Taylor. We are all better because she traveled this way.

Vivian and I extend our deepest condolences to her loved ones during this time of bereavement. May they be consoled and comforted by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, due to inclement weather on the morning of Monday, February 25th, my flight was unable to leave for Washington, DC from Lafayette, Louisiana. Therefore, I was unable to return in time for votes on the day of February 25, 2013. Had I been present to vote, my voting record would reflect the following: Approval of the Journal—"yea", H.R. 667—"yea."

CELEBRATING I.M. TERRELL HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise during this month of February, also known as Black History Month, to celebrate a piece of African American history in my own hometown of Fort Worth, Texas. I want to acknowledge a legacy that began over 130 years ago, when the Fort Worth School System opened its first public school for Black students, now known as I.M. Terrell High School.

Officially, I.M. Terrell High School was established for the education of African American students in the City of Fort Worth, but the school was much more than that. In a time of formal segregation, the school became a safe haven, a place where the teachers knew all of their students and their parents. It was a community where people cared about and respected each other.

In 1882, a great man named Isaiah Milligan Terrell moved to Fort Worth to serve as Principal and superintendent of Black schools. In 1910, he was appointed principal of the North Side Colored High School and served in this position until 1915.

After his tenure at North Side, Mr. Terrell continued his role as an exceptional administrator. He went on to make significant contributions to Prairie View Normal College, now known as Prairie View A&M University. Mr. Terrell also helped to raise funds for the establishment of Houston Negro Hospital, later known as the Riverside General Hospital in Houston, Texas.

In 1921, North Side High school was renamed a final time, in the namesake of its great principal, I.M. Terrell High School.

I.M. Terrell High School was truly a second home for the students and faculty who met there from cities like Arlington, Bedford, Benbrook, Burleson, Roanoke and Weatherford. In all, the high school took in students from 16 cities where African Americans were not allowed to attend school.

Although its students, teachers, and faculty came from diverse backgrounds and environments they entered the halls of I.M. Terrell with one common goal: to achieve excellence. I.M. Terrell High School has become a symbol of pride and a beacon of hope for Fort Worth. When African Americans were struggling for human dignity and civil rights, the teachers and administrators at I.M. Terrell used education as a way to lead our youth on a path to righteousness. They knew that education was the great equalizer and when applied correctly, it would always lead to success. What I.M. Terrell High School has done for the North Texas community will never be forgotten. The mark left on all of our lives is too great to measure.

Mr. Speaker, it has been said that the most important subject we can study to preserve the progress of any culture, and any nation, is history. So today, during the month of February when we celebrate Black History Month in our country, I stand to honor a rich history that has instilled important values into the Fort Worth community, including education, knowledge, and perseverance. I.M. Terrell's legacy is profound: as a school that was founded less than 20 years after the civil war, in a community that knew the next great battlefield would be the classroom; a community that proudly fought for equal education, a right that for centuries had been withheld from African Americans; and an institution whose doors have been closed for almost 40 years, but whose legacy is still alive.

Today, I proclaim that education is the path we must take to achieve social, economic and cultural progress necessary for success in the 21st century and beyond. Let us use the lessons learned from this great institution as a guiding light for success, and follow the path pioneered by visionaries who began at I.M. Terrell High School.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the one hundredth birthday of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. It has a remarkable record of leadership during times

of enormous change within this self-described Industrial City.

One hundred years ago, South San Francisco had approximately 4,000 residents. Its founders were ranchers, meat packers, and stockyard owners, but the remaining population included laborers, lumber yard owners, dry good merchants, bar owners, and all of the other entrepreneurs of an early 20th century, developing community. It was from this rich mix of Americana that the Chamber of Commerce sprang, and it has been devoted to the success of the community ever since.

World War II brought enormous changes to the Industrial City. Steel mills sprang up and labor poured into South San Francisco to meet the demands of shipbuilding around San Francisco Bay. After the war, neighborhoods followed as the steel mills switched to non-war production and the middle class found new homes and new jobs. Food processors, warehousing and services related to nearby San Francisco airport, such as freight forwarding, flourished. Both during this period and since this time, the Chamber of Commerce represented business before the City Council, and many Chamber members served in positions of leadership throughout the city.

The transformation of South San Francisco began with the birth of the biotechnology industry in the 1980s. The dormant steel mills were torn down, and new offices and laboratories sprouted like daisies across the eastern side of the city. This renaissance was supported by an active business community led by the Chamber of Commerce. Before the council and before the citizens of South San Francisco, the Chamber made the case that the future of the city was in science and technology. The Chamber also urged renovations of Grand Avenue, the building of public improvements, and encouraged city leaders to rebuild South San Francisco as a cosmopolitan community.

As I can attest from personal experience, the schools of South San Francisco are central to the community. The South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce for many years has organized generous scholarships for graduating high school seniors and assisted in raising funds for special school events.

Today, the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce is a key point of contact in the economic life of the city. Developers, investors, and existing businesses appreciate Chamber support before the city council and state and federal officeholders. The importance of the Chamber can be seen by the longevity of some of its most prominent members, including the California Water Service Company, 67 years; Pacific Gas & Electric Company, 67 years; Poetsch & Peterson, 67 years; Galli's Sanitary Bakery, 67 years; South City Lumber & Supply, 67 years; Bronstein Music, 65 years; Kaiser Permanente, 64 years; Giffra Enterprises, 64 years; Giorgi Brothers, 64 years; Clearlite Trophies, 57 years; and Poletti Realty, 57 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives join with me today to celebrate one hundred years of leadership by the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. While there have been many physical changes to the city during this time, the Chamber is an example of the most enduring characteristic of South San Francisco—it is welcoming. We honor this tradition and hope for the Chamber's continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING FORMER 16TH HOUSE DISTRICT DELEGATE CLIFTON ALEXANDER "CHIP" WOODRUM III

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Representative BOB GOODLATTE, I am saddened to report the passing of a former colleague in the Virginia General Assembly and the grandson of a former Member of this body. On February 19, 2013, former 16th House District Delegate Clifton Alexander "Chip" Woodrum III passed away in Naples, FL. A man who was dedicated to serving the Commonwealth and the Roanoke Valley. Virginia has lost a great public servant.

Born on July 23, 1938, in Washington, DC, Chip graduated from Episcopal High School in Alexandria, Va., in 1957. He graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1961 before returning home to the Commonwealth to graduate from the University of Virginia Law School in 1964.

The grandson of former 6th District Congressman Clifton A. Woodrum, Chip was a longtime, loyal activist of the Democratic Party, which included serving as chairman of the 6th District Democratic Committee from 1972–1976 and as a delegate to the 1972 Democratic National Convention in Miami, Florida.

Chip was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1979 and served in Richmond until 2003. He represented the 16th House District, which included Roanoke City and Roanoke County. Among Chip's accomplishments in the House of Delegates, he was most proud of legislation he sponsored in 1985 to establish the Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Program, which covered medical bills and other expenses for children who suffer from neurological injuries at birth. He also was an advocate for openness and transparency in government by increasing access to government meetings and public records as the head of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council. Providing a voice for low income families, Chip also was a fierce opponent of any deregulation of Virginia's electric utilities.

Upon his retirement from the House of Delegates in 2003, he remained active in his community and state by serving on the boards of the Library of Virginia, the Virginia Historical Society, the Educational Foundation of Virginia Western Community College, and Home Town Bank. Chip also remained very active in the Democratic Party of Roanoke and regularly appeared at campaign events in the city.

Chip was a skilled, effective, and accomplished legislator. Beginning in 1994, I had the pleasure of serving with Chip in the Virginia House of Delegates and working with him on many important matters impacting our neighboring constituencies in the Roanoke Valley. While we served together on opposite sides of the aisle, I fondly remember Chip's sharp wit and our many spirited exchanges debating legislation in the House of Delegates. He is a good man and will be missed.

As Representative GOODLATTE said, Chip's contributions to the Virginia House of Delegates are storied and will not be forgotten.

The Roanoke Valley's many citizens and institutions are thankful that he chose public service as the avenue to better his community.

Representative GOODLATTE and I are honored to pay tribute to Chip's many contributions to our community, our region, and our nation. He was a courageous public servant. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife of almost 50 years, Emily; his children; grandchildren; friends; and loved ones. May God give them comfort during this difficult time.

HONORING THE FREDERICK HIGH SCHOOL BAND

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Frederick High School Band, an organization in my district celebrating its 100th Anniversary on April 27, 2013.

Since its founding at Frederick County's Boys High School in 1913, the Frederick High School Band has served as an organization where our community's young adults can grow personally and academically. The band's members have acted as role models for their peers, and they should be proud of their musical accomplishments.

I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues help me in honoring the significant occasion of the Frederick High School Band's 100th Anniversary. The band is a model organization and will remain an inspiration in our community for many generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 46—Approving the Journal and 47—H.R. 667, I missed these votes due to a flight delay.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

A TRIBUTE TO JAZZ MASTER DR. DONALD BYRD

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the passing on February 4, 2013 of National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master, Dr. Donald Byrd. Dr. Byrd was my dear friend, and a fellow Detroit. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, jazz patrons, and musicians around the world. They admired his creative musical genius, kind heart, and down to earth nature.

Dr. Byrd was a master trumpeter, composer, bandleader, recording artist, educator, and a highly innovative jazz musician. He was a creative force in music for over six decades, and left his mark on several modern jazz styles

and related genres including Hard Bop, Soul-Jazz, Fusion and Hip-Bop. Byrd, who was a cutting-edge academic, was also instrumental in establishing jazz as a viable course of study in several universities and colleges throughout the nation.

Dr. Byrd was born Donaldson Toussaint L'Ouverture Byrd II in Detroit, Michigan on December, 9, 1932. Mr. Byrd learned to play the trumpet while growing up in Detroit, a city which produced many other accomplished jazz artists including Barry Harris, Thad and Elvin Jones, Kenny Burrell, Yusef Lateef, Paul Chambers, Tommy Flanagan and Betty Carter.

Dr. Byrd attended Cass Technical High School, whose advanced musical curriculum produced a multitude of jazz stars, including renowned vocalists Geri Allen and Regina Carter. Influenced by jazz trumpet players Dizzy Gillespie and Clifford Brown, Byrd joined the Lionel Hampton Orchestra before completing his degree at Cass Tech. He went on to play in the United States Air Force Band, earn a bachelor's of music degree from Wayne State University, and earn a master's degree from The Manhattan School of Music.

While at the Manhattan School, Donald Byrd joined Art Blakey's "Jazz Messengers," replacing legendary jazz trumpeter Clifford Brown, and further establishing the great Messenger trumpet tradition that included Lee Morgan and Freddie Hubbard. In 1955, Donald Byrd recorded with fellow rising jazz musicians Jackie McLean and Mal Waldron. He left the Jazz Messengers in 1956, and then performed with many leading jazz musicians of the day, including John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins and Thelonious Monk. Donald Byrd also had an eye for new talent, hiring Herbie Hancock to play in his band. Byrd co-led a quintet with fellow Detroit and baritone saxophonist Pepper Adams, from 1958 to 1961. A prolific recording artist, Byrd recorded as a leader on the Verve, Columbia, Transition, and Prestige labels.

In 1959, Mr. Byrd signed with Blue Note Records, and released his first album for the Royal Flush label, where he recorded over twenty albums. These albums included "A New Perspective," "Free Form," "Fancy Free and Electric Byrd"—all of which highlighted Byrd's inspired and innovative forays into the soul-jazz period of the 1960s. In 1963, Byrd studied composition with the famed classical instructor Nadia Boulanger.

But it was in the late sixties and early seventies, when Miles Davis would help to launch the fusion era of Jazz, that Byrd enjoyed his most successful period as an artist. Byrd's 1973 album, "Black Byrd," married jazz improvisation to R&B styles, and became the highest grossing Blue Note album of all time. This successful album was followed by "Street Lady," "Places," and "Spaces," and "Caricatures." In the 1980s, Byrd recorded on the Elektra Records label, with a new ensemble called the 125th Street Orchestra.

Donald Byrd also made several contributions to higher education in his lifetime. He was the founding director of Howard University's Jazz Studies Program. Mr. Byrd also recruited several of his prize pupils to form the musical group The Blackbyrds, who enjoyed considerable success with their hits, "Walkin' in Rhythm," "Rock Creek Park," and "Happy Music." Byrd was also instrumental in establishing highly respected jazz studies programs

at a number of schools including North Carolina Central University, Rutgers University, Hampton University, Oberlin, New York University, Cornell University, Queens College, and Delaware State University. Byrd also served on the Board of the National Jazz Service Organization. He joined the distinguished ranks of NEA Jazz Masters in 2000, along with Dr. David Baker and Marian McPartland.

Unlike most jazz artists who ignored the developing rap and hip-hop music scenes, Donald Byrd was a major supporter of those forms. Many of his songs have been sampled by rappers. Byrd's collaboration with rapper Keith Elam on the 1993 album "Jazzmatazz" provided the template for jazz and hip-hop artists to work together. Byrd also participated in another high profile, jazz-rap collaboration, the 1994 compilation, "Stolen Moments: Red, Hot + Cool."

In addition to his master's degree from Manhattan School of Music, Byrd earned two master's degrees from Columbia University. He received a law degree in 1976, and a doctorate from Columbia University Teachers College in 1982. He was an avid collector of African-American art, and a licensed pilot. Dr. Byrd resided in Teaneck, New Jersey.

As we honor the life and career of this great artist and educator, one thing remains clear: that the pioneering work and artistry of Dr. Donald Byrd has provided a rich legacy of jazz music for our youth to build on and carry forth for future generations.

IN RECOGNITION OF LARRY BUCKMASTER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Larry Buckmaster who is retiring as the President and CEO of the Redwood City-San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce after 30 years of outstanding service to our community.

Larry is the type of person who creates a community through performing multiple acts of stewardship each and every day—he has done so for decades. Let me give you just a few examples.

When Larry Buckmaster took over the Redwood City-San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce it had a deficit and membership lagged. He almost immediately turned it around and led the board to boost both membership and participation by members in various chamber events.

Second, America needs leaders. It's tough to find them. Leadership means putting your neck on the line and exposing yourself to criticism. Larry Buckmaster knew that Redwood City and the San Francisco Peninsula needed a new generation of leadership. He founded the Leadership Redwood City/San Carlos/Belmont program so that business and government professionals would learn from each other and hear from current leaders about issues that are shaping the community. Most importantly, Larry Buckmaster wanted students to be inspired to step up and become community leaders in their own right. The proof of Larry's wisdom and his success is around us each day. Over 800 students have

heard from state legislators, members of Congress, city council members, as well as the staff of local and state governments. Many members of city councils, commissions, the Board of Supervisors and the State Legislature were first inspired to public service by the leadership class created by Larry Buckmaster.

Leadership by example is Larry Buckmaster's creed. Kainos is a non-profit dedicated to helping those with developmental disabilities, and Larry's leadership is exemplified by the \$750,000 raised over the years through a golfing tournament held annually to benefit Kainos. Larry, an avid golfer with a hole in one to his credit, brought his love of people and his skill as a golfer together to create this community benefit event.

The Progress Seminar is an annual event at which community leaders spend a weekend together thinking and talking about the major issues impacting our region. Larry Buckmaster has grown this seminar into a sold-out event for many years, and ideas that sprout from the seminar often become solutions via city council and other activities, both public and private.

Mr. Speaker and members, Larry Buckmaster has his quirks. He loves reading his emails and rarely responds. His filing system is a mess yet he can find everything. He is an avid reader who consumes one book per week, often military histories. Unfortunately, Larry roots for the Chicago Bears. We in the San Francisco Bay Area adore Larry so much that we will forgive his choice of football teams. It's only explicable when you realize that Larry was raised in Illinois and thus never really understood our wonderful 49er's until it was too late in life to surgically correct his unfortunate allegiance to a different team. Thankfully, Larry has shown great judgment in other matters, eschewing party politics, petty politics and self-aggrandizement. In fact, Larry Buckmaster always points to the accomplishments of his staff rather than to his own, demonstrating that he really is a great leader even if he is a poor judge of quality football teams.

Larry Buckmaster is a natural athlete and has coached over 500 children in softball and soccer. He is proud when one of the former players says that Larry saw something great in them as a child and that this turned around the life of the child. Larry and Joan, his wife of 48 years, have three children and six grandchildren. It is said that his grandchildren turn him to mush, not too surprising given his love of children.

Mr. Speaker and Members, I know that we often recognize Americans who have left their mark upon their communities and it is appropriate to do so. It is also appropriate to recognize that some persons provide decades of exemplary service to this nation not merely because they are paid to do their job but because they are in love with their work and receive payment many times over by watching the fruits of their efforts flower for future generations. Larry Buckmaster loves his job and has now chosen to retire. I find it hard to believe that we are going to let him leave. Let us honor a wonderful American, a great father and husband, and a civic treasure. Larry Buckmaster will be remembered for the lives that he improved, the leaders he inspired and the smiles that he brought to our faces. Let's wish him well on the golf course. He deserves a second hole in one.

RECOGNIZING DR. ANDREW FISCHER

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute a remarkable Hoosier, Dr. Andrew Fischer, whom turns 50 years old today. I wish to express my congratulations on this milestone. He is a true leader in his community and the Hoosier state.

Dr. Fischer earned his medical doctorate from the Sackler School of Medicine at Tel Aviv University in 1989. After graduation, he interned at the Michael Reese Hospital and Med Center in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Fischer completed his Residency in 1992 through the University of Illinois-Chicago at Michael Reese Hospital, and his Fellowship through Harvard Medical School at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

As a physician who specializes in critical care medicine, internal medicine, and pulmonology—Dr. Fischer is an asset to the Lafayette community and Franciscan St. Elizabeth Health Network. He is Board Certified in each discipline and licensed to practice in both Indiana and Illinois. As a Board Certified physician, Dr. Fischer is current on the latest techniques and skills for the procedures required in his discipline. Through his expertise, he has helped countless individuals recover from their various ailments.

Dr. Fischer is a family man and a good friend and confidant. I am honored to have known him over the years and proud to call him a friend. The Lafayette community and I look forward to many more years of extraordinary service and friendship.

This is Dr. Andrew Fischer. A man truly committed to God, his family, his country and his community. I value his friendship, counsel, and most of all, his good example. Happy 50th Birthday Dr. Fischer.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAREER OF NCIS DIRECTOR MARK D. CLOOKIE

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Special Agent Mark D. Clookie, Director of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, NCIS, who has announced his retirement from NCIS effective March 1, 2013, after nearly 31 years of highly distinguished service.

Mr. Clookie joined NCIS in 1982, and during his tenure he has served in a variety of organizational assignments and mission areas, both within the United States and overseas. As a Special Agent, Mr. Clookie served overseas in both the Kingdom of Bahrain and in Japan. Domestically he held leadership positions in Newport, RI, and at NCIS headquarters in Washington, DC. He also served in leadership positions in several overseas tours as NCIS Resident Agent in Charge in Bahrain, as NCIS Resident Agent in Charge in Okinawa, Japan, and as Special Agent in Charge

of the NCIS Middle East Field Office, located in Manama, Bahrain.

In August 2001, Special Agent Clookie reported to the Pentagon as the Chief, Joint Staff Support Branch, Joint Counterintelligence Center. Following the terror attacks of September 11, 2001, he assumed duties as the Special Agent in Charge of the NCIS Middle East Field Office in Manama, Bahrain. From there he directed all counterintelligence, counterterrorism, and criminal investigative operations throughout the Middle East, East Africa, and Southwest Asia. His primary focus was direct support to Navy and Marine Corps Forces Central Command and the Navy's Fifth Fleet.

After more than two years in the Middle East directing the NCIS Global War on Terrorism mission, SA Clookie returned to NCIS Headquarters, where he served as the Executive Assistant to the Deputy Director for Management and Human Resources. In this role, he led NCIS modernization initiatives and subsequently, was promoted to Assistant Director for Human Resources.

As Assistant Director for Human Resources, Mr. Clookie oversaw the creation and implementation of a leadership development program to identify and train future NCIS leaders.

In October 2007, Mr. Clookie was promoted to the Senior Executive Service and assumed responsibilities as the Executive Assistant Director for Middle East and Pacific Operations where he built systems that have integrated the work of 44 offices across the Western U.S., Asia, Pacific, and Middle East.

In April 2009, SA Clookie was reassigned as the Executive Assistant Director for Combating Terrorism. In this capacity, he developed and managed programs to protect U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps personnel, families, and property from global terrorist threats. He also significantly expanded NCIS engagement with foreign government counterparts.

On February 14, 2010, Mr. Clookie was appointed Director of NCIS and became the agency's fourth civilian director. From the onset, Mr. Clookie established capabilities and realigned resources to meet the evolving requirements of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, while at the same time, reducing overhead and creating efficiencies. During his tenure, 100 percent of NCIS' programs and field elements were evaluated annually for quality and effectiveness by the executives overseeing operations and by teams led by Headquarters-based senior NCIS leaders. He institutionalized a collaborative and disciplined method to identify efficiencies throughout the agency, facilitating the reprogramming of over \$10 million across NCIS to meet emerging mission requirements.

During his time as Director, Mr. Clookie restructured the Naval Criminal Investigative Service to align the headquarters with the missions of man, train, and equip the workforce while transitioning operational oversight to field level supervisors, empowering lower level managers and resulting in quicker responses to changing priorities and threats.

Under Director Clookie's leadership, NCIS has filled every validated Combatant Commander request for forces for Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Horn of Africa on a volunteer basis. NCIS personnel have also deployed to Kuwait, Djibouti, Guantanamo Bay, and other sites in support of contingency operations.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Clookie for his 31 years of

outstanding public service and to wish him fair winds and following seas as he begins the next chapter of his life.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 3, 2009, the day I took office, the national debt was \$10,627,961,295,930.67.

Today, it is \$16,610,557,777,904.98. We've added \$5,982,596,481,974.31 to our debt in 4 years. This is a \$5.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a Balanced Budget Amendment. We must stop this unconscionable accumulation of debt.

NEIL A. ARMSTRONG FLIGHT RESEARCH CENTER AND HUGH L. DRYDEN AERONAUTICAL TEST RANGE DESIGNATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues for their strong vote last night in support of H.R. 667, which would designate NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base as the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center. I thank the gentleman from California, Mr. McCARTHY, for allowing me to be an original cosponsor of this legislation.

Forty-four years ago this July, Commander Neil Armstrong and his Apollo 11 crewmates achieved something once thought impossible: successfully landing on the moon and returning safely to the earth. They succeeded despite the many dangers they faced and the countless things that could have gone wrong during their pioneering mission.

I am especially honored to represent Neil Armstrong's birthplace: Wapakoneta, Ohio, which takes great pride in being home to the Neil Armstrong Air and Space Museum. The museum has on display various artifacts from the Apollo 11 mission and other articles from Armstrong's long and storied career.

As a test pilot, Armstrong spent seven years at the facility that will soon bear his name. Then called the High-Speed Flight Station, it was a key site for the foundational work done by NASA's predecessor agency, the National Advisory Council on Aeronautics, NACA. Armstrong logged 2,400 hours of flight time there, piloting the X-15 rocket-powered plane and other cutting-edge prototypes. He was also part of the team that designed and tested early mockups of a lunar landing vehicle.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation also renames the Western Aeronautical Test Range at Edwards after Hugh L. Dryden, a good friend of Neil Armstrong who served as NACA director from 1947 to 1958. Upon the creation of NASA in 1958, Dryden was named deputy director. While he did not live to see Arm-

strong's moon landing, his many contributions in the field of aerodynamics helped make the Apollo missions possible. I am pleased that his career will continue to be celebrated through this legislation.

Neil Armstrong's many achievements in space exploration renewed America's sense of hope for the future. His work at the Dryden Center set the foundation for every NASA mission that followed. He sought no honors during his lifetime and was rich in giving credit to others, never failing to recognize the contributions of the engineers and technicians who helped make his moon landing possible. I was proud to join my colleagues last night in honoring this American hero and son of Ohio.

IN RECOGNITION OF SEPI
RICHARDSON

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sepi Richardson who is retiring after 15 years of service on the Brisbane City Council, including two terms as mayor. Sepi may be leaving the council, but her spirit and impact on our city and community will be felt for many years to come.

As mayor, Sepi was very involved in all aspects of planning and policy-level decisions while always looking after the financial health and welfare of the city. She oversaw the remodeling of the community center, the community park and playground, Brisbane's marina, the skate park, the teen center and the Mission Blue Performing Art Center. She also dedicated much of her time and energy to preserving open space and to creating recreational and public spaces that benefit everyone in the community, such as the community garden, the swimming pool, school fields, Bayshore bike lane, the community meeting room in City Hall and the farmer's market. Sepi has been a tireless advocate for seniors and children. Under her leadership, Brisbane built the Senior Sunrise Room and senior housing.

Sepi is a familiar face to most Brisbane residents having served on about 20 county boards and commissions. She was a board member on the Airport Community Roundtable and the Association of Governments (C/CAG) and a chair or vice chair on four committees within those associations. In those capacities she was a leader on issues such as revenue and taxation, employee compensation, benefit administration, transportation, energy efficiency, sustainability, emergency preparedness and education.

In addition to her county and region-wide accomplishments, Sepi has left her mark on the city of Brisbane. She served on the Finance/Labor Negotiations, Public Information/Technology, Planning, Parks and Recreation, Open Space and Ecology committees, was a liaison to the Chamber of Commerce and worked on education and arts funding and recognition.

To understand how one person can be involved and effective in so many aspects of public service, you must know Sepi. Her energy, enthusiasm and dedication are endless. She loves her community and never hesitates to serve others.

Sepi was born as the first of six siblings in Tehran, Iran. She came to the United States in 1972. From 1975 to 1979 she went to Germany where she earned her BA in Business Management from the University of Maryland on its Germany campus. She received her Master's Degree in Educational Counseling and Psychology from California State University San Bernardino.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor an outstanding public servant and friend. Sepi Richardson will be missed and appreciated for all the lasting contributions she has made to the residents of Brisbane and beyond.

AZERBAIJAN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I recently returned from a visit to the nation of Azerbaijan, the tiny democracy in Central Asia located between Russia and Iran. They are our friends, and they live in one of the world's most dangerous neighborhoods.

They celebrate a culture of diplomacy, which they credit with surviving as a nation since humans began walking the Earth. A population of mostly Muslims, Azeris have long welcomed other faiths. They have a large Christian community, and a proud Jewish community * * * as well as dozens of ethnic minorities.

Even before the United States gave women the right to vote, Azerbaijan gave women the right to vote. Women serve in their legislature. As the father of daughters, I wanted to see a Muslim country that was not the stereotype of how Americans often see a Muslim nation.

Azerbaijan really does offer a remarkably different look at how developing democracies in the republics of the former Soviet Union can welcome people of all faiths, and institute the organs of civil society. They are a model for other developing democracies.

In the famous "Old City," ancient walls surround the old city of the 12th Century. This walk through history, mind you, is in the midst of a modern capitol city—a bustling city where infrastructure is constantly improving.

Here's something Azeris have in common with Texans: they are a rich oil producing nation. As we do in Texas, Azeris have a long history with oil. Today, they supply the pipeline that moves Caspian oil to the west, via Turkey, without running the oil supply through Russia or Iran. That greatly increases the security of the pipeline.

Azeris have an interesting way of investing their oil profits in future generations, using the money they make from oil to build roads, bridges, tunnels, city parks, and public buildings. They also use it for overseas scholarships * * * and to build alternative energy sources in Azerbaijan. They know oil is a finite resource.

But their present day energy supply feeds a large part of the energy needed in Europe and Turkey, our NATO allies. Azerbaijan supplies close to half of the energy needs of Israel.

I encourage my colleagues in the House of Representatives to learn more about Azerbaijan and their evolving economy.

REMEMBERING TARRANT COUNTY
AFRICAN AMERICAN DOCTOR**HON. MARC A. VEASEY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a pillar in the Tarrant County African American community, Dr. Marion Brooks.

Dr. Brooks opened his doors during a time when racial tensions were high in America and in the state of Texas. His clinic located on Evans Avenue in Fort Worth was the first and only option for residents of the black community during the 1960s. His goal was not financial gain, but to care for those who could not otherwise obtain medical treatment any other way. There were many times that Dr. Brooks performed medical care for free, knowing his patients did not have the means.

In November 1971, Dr. Brooks went on to form the Sickie Cell Anemia Association of Texas. Sickie Cell Disease, an inherited blood disorder that affects red blood cells, is estimated to occur in 1 in 12 African Americans. This was a cause that was paramount to him, and as a testament to his determination, the organization is still going strong today.

Not only was Dr. Brooks a leader in the field of medicine in the state of Texas, he was also a formidable leader in the civil rights movement. As a member of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, or SNCC, he fought for the political and economic equality of African Americans. In 1963, while Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. marched on Washington and delivered his "I Have a Dream Speech," Dr. Brooks was leading a march of his own on the Texas governor's mansion in Austin to fight for desegregation, freedom, and equality. In addition Dr. Brooks was a leader in the community, working to provide protection for people in the African-American community from police brutality.

Although Dr. Brooks passed in 2003 at the age of 83, we continue to recognize his deeds to the community. As an acknowledgement to those accomplishments, the Lenora Rolla Heritage Center Museum has put on the display the many awards, plaques, and cherished mementos of Dr. Brooks. Mr. Speaker, once again I would like to honor a great doctor, a great leader, a great man, and a great American, Dr. Marion Brooks.

COMMEMORATING THE KHOJALY
MASSACRE**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 613 Azerbaijanis who died 21 years ago today in the massacre at Khojaly. This is a time for solemn reflection, and I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering those who lost their lives that day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 46–47. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted "yes" on both.

PASSPORT DAY IN THE USA

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, March 9, 2013, the nation will celebrate Passport Day in the USA. On this day, I would like to recognize the San Diego Passport Agency for two years of dedicated service to San Diego and Imperial County residents.

Since opening their doors in April 2011, the San Diego Passport Agency has continued to raise travel awareness for all San Diego and Imperial County communities. Thanks to their work, travelers who are days away from an international getaway with an expired passport can breathe a sigh of relief by getting same-day service. Their effort to serve all travelers, especially those with urgent travel plans, exemplifies careful and efficient public service.

The San Diego Passport Agency is happy to serve the public, and welcomes area residents to celebrate Passport Day by applying for or renewing their passports. Last year, the San Diego Passport Agency ranked number one in the region and second in the nation for applications accepted from the public. On Saturday, March 9, 2013, let's make the San Diego Passport Agency #1 in the region and nation for this year's Passport Day in the USA.

IN RECOGNITION OF BROWNSVILLE'S ANNUAL CHARRO DAYS
FIESTA**HON. FILEMON VELA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Charro Days Fiesta and commend the 2012 "Mr. Amigo," recently chosen by the Mr. Amigo Association of Brownsville, TX, and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, in Mexico. Yáñez is a Mexican television and film actor whose natural style and charisma have won the hearts and minds of audiences across the world.

The Mr. Amigo Award began in 1964 as an annual tribute to an outstanding Mexican citizen who has made a lasting contribution during the previous year to international solidarity and goodwill. "Mr. Amigo" acts as an ambassador between the United States and Mexico and presides over the annual Charro Days Fiesta.

Charro Days dates back to 1937, when the citizens of Brownsville organized the event in the midst of the Great Depression to celebrate the cultural heritage shared between Brownsville and its sister city, Matamoros,

Tamaulipas, across the border in Mexico. The first Charro Days celebration featured a parade with horse-drawn floats and participants dressed in traditional Mexican costumes reminiscent of charros, or Mexican cowboys.

From these humble beginnings, Charro Days has evolved into a multi-day event which includes dances, fiestas, a children's parade, and the Grand International Parade drawing an estimated 50,000 participants annually from Texas and Mexico.

This past Sunday, the 76th annual Charro Days celebration commenced with a grito, or celebratory yell. Later this week, the Mayor of Brownsville and the Mayor of Matamoros will meet at the Gateway International Bridge and extend their hands across the border to symbolize the friendship between the two cities.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to honor the Charro Days Fiesta and for joining me in recognizing the importance of this annual celebration which continues to strengthen the relationship between Brownsville and Matamoros, as well as the United States and Mexico.

ILLABOT CREEK

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill, along with Congressman LARSEN, to designate part of Illabot Creek as a wild and scenic river. Illabot Creek is a beautiful stretch of land spanning from the Glacier Park Wilderness to the upper Skagit River, falling 7,000 feet along the way, and is a critical habitat that deserves to be protected. Designating Illabot Creek as a Wild and Scenic River ensures the preservation of significant wild lands that are home to several threatened species. It also guarantees that people will continue to enjoy this area for hunting, fishing and other recreation for generations.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill which will ensure our natural resources and wildlife remain protected for future generations to enjoy, and I thank my colleagues for joining me in working on this important issue.

DANGEROUS IMPACT OF
SEQUESTRATION CUTS**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues two documents that outline both the dangerous impact of sequestration cuts and how we could replace them in a way that helps, not hurts, the American people.

The report, "Protecting Our Nation from Bad Federal Budget Choices," from the Coalition on Human Needs, includes these key facts about the sequester's impact:

600,000 children and mothers will lose nutritional aid under WIC (the Women, Infants, and Children program).

125,000 low-income families will lose rental housing vouchers.

70,000 children will be denied Head Start.

4 million fewer Meals on Wheels meals served to seniors.

373,000 adults and children with serious mental illness will lose treatment.

I would also like to draw my colleagues' attention to, "Faithful Alternatives to the Sequester," from the Interreligious Working Group on Domestic Human Needs. I would like to quote from their document:

"We are alarmed at the growing economic divergence between rich and poor, creating permanent inequalities that are neither just nor socially sustainable. Over the past thirty years, tax policy has too often been used to perpetuate rather than address these inequalities. It is our responsibility, both individually and collectively, to respond to those who are in need—people living in poverty have sacrificed more than enough on the altar of deficit reduction. We need a more progressive tax code, where all members of the community carry their fair share of the responsibility, not only to ensure that we can meet immediate need while simultaneously reducing our deficits, but also to begin to address the astronomical growth in disparity over the last thirty years. . . .

"There are core challenges facing our nation: rising income inequality, persistent unemployment, historically high rates of poverty and anemic economic growth. These challenges must be addressed with justice.

"Our approach to upcoming sequestration needs to be rooted in our values—a balanced approach that addresses the deficit crisis with justice and compassion. On the one hand, we need to be good stewards of the resources we already have, making judicious cuts to defense, earmarks, and other wasteful spending, while preserving that which is most important for the good of all. On the other hand, we must increase revenue, in order to ensure that this nation can meet our need to operate a fair and just economy, which serves all of our human community. The nation's deficit crisis cannot be solved through spending cuts alone—new revenues must be part of the solution. The need is great and the resources are abundant. The budget choices we make must reflect this reality."

I hope my colleagues will read these important studies and act to stop these harmful cuts. We should ask those who can afford it to contribute more, not jeopardize the well-being and futures of low-income and middle-class families.

DHN

Interreligious Working Group on Domestic Human Needs

FAITHFUL ALTERNATIVES TO SEQUESTRATION

From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.—Luke 12:48

Rabbi Abba said in the name of Rabbi Simeon ben Lakish: the person who lends money [to a poor person] is greater than the person who gives charity; and the one who throws money into a common purse [to form a partnership with the poor person] is greater than either.—B. Shabbat 63b

As people of faith, we believe that our economic arrangements with each other should serve to support God's creation and should help the human community to flourish. We therefore challenge the current economic reality that traps families in poverty for generations. The widening gap in income and wealth, as well as the persistence of poverty,

especially among children, are inconsistent with God's intention for this world.

Our community seeks to advance the values of cooperation, social justice, and equal opportunity, while restraining those of greed, speculation, and inherited privilege. At the root of our economic system must be fairness and justice. Without these values, our economy is, quite literally, demoralized.

Crushing poverty in a world of abundance is insufferable and our nation has allowed too much injustice and greed to govern our current economic structures. Instead, we seek to increase equity and equality in this nation. We are alarmed at the growing economic divergence between rich and poor, creating permanent inequalities that are neither just nor socially sustainable. Over the past thirty years, tax policy has too often been used to perpetuate rather than address these inequalities. It is our responsibility, both individually and collectively, to respond to those who are in need—people living in poverty have sacrificed more than enough on the altar of deficit reduction. We need a more progressive tax code, where all members of the community carry their fair share of the responsibility, not only to ensure that we can meet immediate need while simultaneously reducing our deficits, but also to begin to address the astronomical growth in disparity over the last thirty years. As one of our traditions so eloquently says, "from everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required."

It is from this place of concern for the common good, right relationship, and the just working of the economy, that we seek a balanced approach to deficit reduction. Sequestration was developed as a backstop—a last resort if Congress failed to act in a more thoughtful and balanced way. Whether Congress uses sequestration or some alternative as a means of achieving deficit reduction, Congress can and must act in a way that reflects our shared values. There are core challenges facing our nation: rising income inequality, persistent unemployment, historically high rates of poverty and anemic economic growth. These challenges must be addressed with justice.

Therefore, we refuse to accept additional spending cuts to programs that serve "the least of these," and we support extending the tax cuts for low and middle-income families. In particular, we support a strong, refundable Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit, as they are some of this nation's most effective tools for alleviating poverty.

Our approach to upcoming sequestration needs to be rooted in our values—a balanced approach that addresses the deficit crisis with justice and compassion. On the one hand, we need to be good stewards of the resources we already have, making judicious cuts to defense, earmarks, and other wasteful spending, while preserving that which is most important for the good of all. On the other hand, we must increase revenue, in order to ensure that this nation can meet our need to operate a fair and just economy, which serves all of our human community. The nation's deficit crisis cannot be solved through spending cuts alone—new revenues must be part of the solution. The need is great and the resources are abundant. The budget choices we make must reflect this reality.

Therefore, we urge members of Congress to enact a comprehensive, balanced, and bipartisan deficit reduction package that:

1. Continues the precedent established and maintained for the past three decades—including in the Budget Control Act—that deficit reduction should not increase poverty;
2. Protects from budget cuts discretionary and mandatory programs that make a real difference in the lives of poor and vulnerable

people, and preserves the bi-partisan agreement to exempt low-income mandatory programs from such cuts;

3. Maintains the integrity and structure of low-income mandatory programs, such as SNAP and Medicaid, so they can continue to serve as effective tools for reducing poverty and countering economic downturns;

4. Accounts for the fact that, since 2010, non-defense discretionary spending has already contributed hundreds of billions of dollars toward deficit reduction—these programs should not have to sacrifice anymore;

5. Raises new revenues in ways that will allow us to meet this nation's needs by:

a. Increasing the progressivity of the tax code;

b. Continuing current tax credits for low-income working households, proven effective at alleviating poverty and rewarding work, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit;

c. Generating new revenue with a simpler, more progressive tax code from a broader tax base (including capital gains, dividends, and estate taxes) and increasing rates, if necessary;

d. Not relying only on anticipated economic growth to generate new tax revenue;

e. Eliminating tax expenditures not proven to influence behavior, such as subsidies to established corporations that no longer need government support.

6. Reduces health care costs system-wide so as to:

a. Retain and implement the important improvements to access and cost containment strategies enacted in the Affordable Care Act;

b. Prevent cost-shifting to people who cannot afford it;

c. Refrain from putting further strain on states;

7. Includes significant cuts in military spending as recommended by several bipartisan commissions and non-governmental organizations, such as the Bowles-Simpson Commission, the Sustainable Defense Task Force, the Bipartisan Policy Center, and the Committee for a Responsible Budget.

8. Declines to shift defense cuts to non-defense discretionary and mandatory programs, which have carried the heaviest burden of spending reductions already enacted.

In a time of continuing, deep economic uncertainty, our faith gives us strength to face unemployment, poverty, and anxiety—not simply as individuals, but as a community with an ethical memory rooted in our shared sacred texts. Today's fiscal debates not only miss what should be the goal of the economy—the common good—but also, they fail to ensure that the functioning of the economy will, indeed, serve this purpose. As Congress considers replacing the sequester mechanism, it must pursue a balanced approach that ensures that our collective responsibility to each other can and will be met.

American Friends Service Committee
Bread for the World
Church World Service
Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism
Conference of Major Superiors of Men
Disciples Justice Action Network
Ecumenical Advocacy Days for Global Peace with Justice
The Faithful Budget Campaign
Faithful Reform in Health Care
Franciscan Action Network
Friends Committee on National Legislation
Leadership Conference of Women Religious
Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Washington Office
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd

National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA

National Council of Jewish Women
NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby
New Community Project
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Office of Public Witness

RESULTS Faith in Action
Sisters of Mercy Institute Justice Team
The Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries

The United Methodist Church—General Board of Church and Society

COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

PROTECTING OUR NATION FROM BAD FEDERAL BUDGET CHOICES

A new round of federal budget cuts is slated to start on March 1. If nothing is done, the cuts will deny food to young children, turn low-income families out of their homes, and reduce funds for education and training. These indiscriminate across-the-board cuts (called "sequestration") come on top of an average 7.6 percent cut in federal funds to states since 2010. The looming federal cuts would make things worse, hurting vulnerable people, shifting burdens to states and localities, and threatening economic growth.

This does not have to happen. Increased revenues from wealthy individuals and profitable corporations as well as savings from reducing waste in the Pentagon and elsewhere can prevent these cuts. In fact, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) and other senators outlined a plan on February 14 (the American Family Economic Protection Act) that would replace the 2013 cuts by setting a minimum tax rate for millionaires, closing other loopholes, gradually cutting the Pentagon and ending certain farm subsidies. It will be up for a vote during the week of February 25. House Democrats have also introduced a balanced alternative.

These cuts will hurt our nation. The indiscriminate cuts have the potential to stall the beginnings of economic recovery because lost jobs and reduced assistance mean people will have less to spend. The recovery still had not reached the 7.9 percent of the U.S. workforce unemployed in January 2013. We should be investing in rebuilding our communities and training for workers, not throwing 10,000 teachers and aides in low-income schools out of work, with about 700,000 jobs expected to be lost overall because of sequestration. And the real hardships caused by 600,000 young children and mothers losing WIC food assistance and between 110,000–125,000 families losing their housing vouchers nationwide do not just hold back our economy this year. They threaten the health and development of children and the stability of families in ways that will cost all of us far more to undo.

Revenues, Not Cuts. Closing loopholes for corporations and the wealthy can generate well over \$2 trillion in federal revenue over the next 10 years. In order to stop the deficit from growing as a share of the economy, economists estimate that another \$1.5 trillion is needed over the next decade, either from new revenues or cuts in spending. Millionaires, who have gained more than \$1 million each from the Bush tax cuts since 2004, can afford to pay more. A 5.6 percent surtax on income over \$1 million could raise more than \$450 billion over 10 years—enough to cancel most of the decade of domestic cuts slated to begin with this March's sequestration. Taxing the profits of corporations sheltered offshore at the same rate as profits made in the U.S. can raise as much as \$600 billion over 10 years.

Don't Touch SNAP and Medicaid. Congress should act now to stop the needless cuts in vital programs that will begin March 1, but should not replace them with cuts to essential services such as Medicaid or SNAP/food stamps. We have seen harsh proposals to cut these programs in the budget passed by the U.S. House for FY 2013 (but rejected by the Senate). The House budget would have slashed \$134 billion from SNAP over 10 years, and \$810 billion from Medicaid. If the SNAP cut were to be applied by reducing benefits equally across all households, a family of four would be expected to lose \$90 a month in FY 2016 dollars. (This year, the national average monthly SNAP benefit for a family of four is \$508.) Or, if the extreme cut were applied by making people ineligible, 8 million people nationwide would be denied all SNAP benefits. If the House budget's extreme Medicaid cut had been in place from 2001–2010, most states would have received at least 35 percent less in 2010 than they actually did, such a huge cut that millions of people nationwide would either be denied coverage altogether or would see their benefits slashed. Taking food and medical care from our state's poorest people is a wholly unacceptable alternative to the cuts about to be imposed.

The Pentagon Can Be Cut. The deficit reduction legislation now in place requires nearly \$1 trillion in cuts between now and FY 2021, half from defense and half from domestic and international programs. Many experts believe that the Pentagon can be cut \$500 billion or more over the next decade, and that such reductions will actually enhance our national security by ending wasteful expenditures and freeing up the funds for more productive uses or for deficit reduction. Even if \$500 billion were cut, the U.S. would still be spending more on the military than the next 14 nations combined, most of whom are our allies. Some examples of possible Pentagon savings with expert support: reducing the number of troops assigned to overseas bases by 25 percent (not counting troops in war zones) would save \$80 billion over the next ten years; reducing deployed nuclear warheads to 1,000–1,100 would save \$28 billion over the same period; buying a reliable, cheaper jet rather than the problem-plagued F-35C would save close to \$17 billion.

But Investments in Our Future—and Vulnerable People—Must Be Protected. More than 1 in 5 children in the U.S. were poor in 2011. 13.2 percent of people between 18–24 nationwide had not finished high school. For poor children and young adults to succeed, we need to invest in all levels of education. But the sequestration cuts would deny Head Start to 70,000 children this year, and cut Title I K–12 education funding for schools in low-income communities by nearly \$726 million, an amount equal to dropping services for 1.2 million low-income children. For our economy to grow, workers must be able to increase their skills, but federal job training funds will be cut by more than \$160 million nationwide if the sequester reductions occur this year, and more than 75,000 workers with disabilities will not be able to enroll in vocational rehabilitation services. In a time of rising inequality and more people falling out of the middle class into poverty, we need more routes out of poverty. But the impending cuts would deny Work-Study aid to 33,000 students. Struggling workers will be hit repeatedly: if they are among the long-term unemployed, cuts in federal emergency unemployment compensation will force an up to 9.4 percent cut in benefits, estimated at an average loss of \$400 for the rest of this year. If they are parents working or looking for work, they may lose child care assistance; the cuts are expected to end child care subsidies for 30,000 children across the country.

We cannot sustain and expand economic recovery while pushing our most vulnerable people into more desperate straits. The cuts about to take effect will take away rental assistance vouchers from between 110,000–125,000 families nationwide. These vouchers limit the families' rent payments to 30 percent of their income. If they were abruptly expected to pay market rents, large numbers of these families will be forced out of their apartments, with increasing homelessness a certainty. At the same time, sequestration will end housing assistance to approximately 100,000 formerly homeless people nationwide, including veterans. To add to poor families' struggles to afford housing, home energy assistance will be cut an estimated \$180 million. Even without this cut, rising heating costs mean that aid under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is expected to average only \$375 per household served in 2013, down from \$405 in 2012.

Even though there is ample evidence that adequate nutrition is vital for brain development in the first years of life, the impending indiscriminate cuts would deny WIC nutrition aid to 600,000 mothers, infants, and young children. The cuts will also jeopardize the health of seniors, with 4 million fewer meals delivered nationwide.

Cuts That Increase Joblessness and Disinvest in Our People Will Weaken the Nation. Congress should stop the mindless across-the-board sequestration cuts. Instead, it should enact a balanced package with enough revenues from the wealthy and corporations and sensible Pentagon and other savings to protect our children, our workers, and our seniors.

Those who oppose any new revenues or Pentagon savings should be asked why they think it is more important to preserve, for example, hundreds of billions in corporate tax incentives to shift jobs and profits offshore or to waste hundreds of billions in unneeded weapons and bases than to prevent cuts in education, housing, nutrition, environmental protection, public health, child care, rebuilding communities, and many other investments.

SEQUESTER DAMAGE

Children and mothers losing WIC nutrition aid: 600,000.

Low-income families losing rental housing vouchers: 125,000.

Formerly homeless people losing housing: 100,000.

Children denied Head Start: 70,000.

Funding cut from Head Start: \$406m.

Children denied affordable child care: 30,000.

\$ cuts deep enough to end services to these many low-income K–12 children: \$1.2b.

Fewer people with disabilities served by Vocational Rehab: 75,700.

Fewer meals on wheels served to seniors: 4m.

Adults and children with serious mental illness losing treatment: 373,000.

Unemployment benefits cut for long-term unemployed: 9.4%.

Jobs lost because of sequestration: 700,000.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RACIAL PROFILING PREVENTION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill, the Racial Profile Prevention Act, to reestablish a federal grant program for states that desire to develop racial profiling laws, collect and maintain data on traffic

stops, design programs to reduce racial profiling, and train law enforcement officers, which we were successful in getting included in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) in 2005. Although that grant program was just a small piece of the large SAFETEA-LU bill, nearly half of the states participated in the program for multiple years. This experience speaks to the usefulness of the program to states. Racial profiling is a form of racial discrimination that was thrust back into the forefront of national concern by the tragic killing of Trayvon Martin, who died one year ago today.

Racial profiling on roads built with federal funds is a violation of Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, because it amounts to a government subsidy of discrimination. However, while racial profiling remains more widespread in our country than most other forms of discrimination, there is little experience in developing legislation in this sensitive area to address racial profiling while allowing for appropriate law enforcement. My bill would help states to better develop their racial profiling laws and help train law enforcement to avoid these problems.

My bill imposes no mandates on states. Instead, it simply authorizes a grant program, but does not require states to participate. However, it provides resources that many states and localities clearly need if they are to curb racial profiling.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I want to state that on February 15, I missed several rollcall votes due to the Citizens Medal ceremony honoring the following constituents, Rachel Davino, Anne Marie Murphy, Lauren Rousseau, Victoria Soto, Mary Sherlach, and Dawn Hochsprung. These six extraordinarily talented and courageous teachers and administrators dedicated their lives to education and to the children of Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut. When unimaginable tragedy struck, they gave their lives protecting

those same children. As a community, Newtown will always feel their loss. As a country, we will always look to their courage. Had I been present I would have voted:

1. Nay—H. Con. Res. 15—Adjournment Resolution: I would have voted “nay” as the House should stay in session and work to find a reasonable alternative to the irrational, across-the-board spending cuts in the pending sequester.

2. Aye—Final Passage of H.R. 273: I would have voted “aye” to prevent a pay increase for Members of Congress in 2013 and am an original cosponsor of a bill to prevent a pay increase for Members of Congress for the entire 113th Congress. In these tough economic times and until the budget is balanced, it's not fair for Members of Congress to receive any form of pay increase when others are asked to cut their budgets.

3. Aye—Final Passage of H. Res. 65: Condemning the Government of North Korea for its flagrant and repeated violations of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions, for its repeated provocations that threaten international peace and stability, and for its February 12, 2013 test of a nuclear device.

NEIL A. ARMSTRONG FLIGHT RESEARCH CENTER AND HUGH L. DRYDEN AERONAUTICAL TEST RANGE DESIGNATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about H.R. 667, a bill to rename the Dryden Flight Center as the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center. I, along with millions around the world were terribly saddened to hear the news this past August of the passing of Neil Armstrong, a genuine American hero and an inspiration to countless people around the world. This bill was introduced as one way of paying tribute to a man who exemplified the true meaning of public service through a life of inspiring others through his bravery and self-sacrifice. It would rename the Dryden Flight Research Center at

Edwards Air Force Base as the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center, while still naming the Western Aeronautical Test Range within the center as the Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range. For those who may be unfamiliar with him, Dr. Dryden was a true aeronautics visionary, and an individual worthy of our recognition and esteem.

Last year, in my capacity as ranking member of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, I had the opportunity to participate in the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony honoring Mr. Neil Armstrong, along with John Glenn, who is also a former senator, Michael Collins and Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin, Jr. Each of these individuals is a genuine national hero and worthy of our gratitude. They and the astronauts that preceded and followed them were willing to put their lives at risk and sometimes make the ultimate sacrifice in order to push back the frontiers of knowledge and help our country achieve preeminence in space exploration.

Yet, it is clear from the way he carried himself and his public statements, that Mr. Armstrong did not seek public tributes such as the House is voting on today. Instead, he cared deeply about the future of our Nation's space program, and in his testimony to our Committee he stressed the importance of sustaining our commitment to a strong NASA. So it's worse than ironic that in the same week that we are voting to rename a NASA Center for him, we are going to allow a sequestration to proceed that will make devastating cuts to NASA's budget and set back the very human space exploration and aeronautics activities that Mr. Armstrong championed when he was alive. These cuts will also hurt the Flight Research Center we are proposing to rename, likely leading to layoffs and furloughs of dedicated individuals who work at the Center—individuals who in many cases were probably inspired by both Dr. Dryden and Mr. Armstrong's examples to work for NASA in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, we can and should do better than this. I would urge the Majority to bring a bill to avoid this sequester to the House floor this week so we can vote on it. We should not be cutting our critical investments in R&D and in NASA. That is no way to honor the legacy of either Neil Armstrong or Hugh Dryden.