

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

H.R. 2413, THE WEATHER FORECASTING IMPROVEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2413, the Weather Forecasting Improvement Act. This bill represents a bipartisan agreement by members of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee. I am pleased to join my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, the bill's sponsor, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, subcommittee Chair SCHWEIKERT, the former subcommittee Chair STEWART, and Chair SMITH, in support of this bill. I want to thank them, as well as Ranking Member JOHNSON, for their work on this important bill.

Members on both sides of the aisle can be assured that this bill represents a truly bipartisan effort, and is built on extensive discussions with, and advice from, the weather community.

After the devastating tornados in his district, Mr. BRIDENSTINE introduced a well-intended bill that went a long way toward improving the tools available to NOAA for evaluating emerging forecast technologies. His emphasis on tornado research was appropriate and helpful. At the Subcommittee markup, Mr. GRAYSON added a valuable amendment for a focused hurricane research program.

Mr. STEWART, then the Chairman of the Environment Subcommittee, worked with my staff and me on an Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to add to the tools and programs in the original bill.

We drew on expert advice from the weather enterprise and from extensive reports from the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Public Administration. Experts told us that to improve weather forecasting, the research at the Office of Oceans and Atmospheric Research (OAR) and the forecasting at the National Weather Service had to be better coordinated; this legislation contains provisions to improve that coordination.

This bill encourages NOAA to integrate research and operations in a way that models the successful innovation structure used by the Department of Defense.

The bill we are considering today also creates numerous opportunities for the broader weather community to provide insights to NOAA.

At every opportunity, we charge the agency to consult with the American weather industry and researchers as they develop research plans and undertake new initiatives. We also press NOAA to get serious about exploring private sector solutions to their data needs.

The bill makes clear that we expect the historical support for extramural research to continue. The engine of weather forecasting innovation has not always been found within

NOAA, but often is found in the external research community and labs that work with NOAA. That collaboration must and will continue under this legislation.

In addition, the bill includes an explicit focus on tapping the expertise of social scientists in how to best communicate risks and warnings to the public. Witnesses who came before the Science Committee emphasized the importance of this work.

The best forecasting skill and technology in the world won't be as effective unless the messages to the public result in the right safety-response.

The bill before us today is designed to improve public safety, enhance the American economy, and transform the innovation culture at NOAA. I am confident that its passage will improve weather forecasting and tangibly benefit our constituents.

I can assure all Members that weather research is strengthened in this bill, but not at the expense of other important work at NOAA.

During the committee process we heard from witness after witness who stressed that weather forecasting involves many different scientific disciplines, and this integrated, multidisciplinary approach reflects an understanding that we cannot choose to strengthen one area of research at OAR without endangering the progress in the other areas because they are all interconnected. Physical and chemical laws do not respect OAR's budgeting boundaries of climate, weather, and oceans and this bill does not step beyond addressing organizational issues in weather at NOAA.

I want to be clear about what this bill does and does not do, because there seems to be some confusion on the Hill and elsewhere. There is no question that the bill as introduced threatened NOAA's ability to make expert judgments about how to distribute research support among climate, weather, and oceans work. The original language of H.R. 2413 would have required that weather-related activities be the "top priority" across all NOAA offices. This clearly would have put weather at the front of the line in budget and planning efforts compared to oceans or climate.

That language raised significant concerns for Members on my side of the aisle, in part because there was no hearing record to support such a reordering of programs. On the contrary, the testimony we received reflected consensus that such direction would be counter-productive, and would not substantively improve weather forecasting.

In light of that record, and the real goal of the bill's original sponsors to have a bipartisan bill, Chairman STEWART and Mr. BRIDENSTINE agreed to accept a change in that language to simply direct NOAA to "prioritize" weather-related work. Instead of a value statement that puts weather in front of all other initiatives, we adopted a neutral process statement. This language was discussed with NOAA, and my staff and my Democratic colleagues on the committee were satisfied with their response. In other words, setting priorities is what the

agency does in its strategic plans, annual performance plans, and budgets.

The language in the bill before us today instructs NOAA to prioritize, a process that is already in place. The legislative record is clear on this subject. The Committee abandoned a value direction to the agency and instead adopted a simple process direction.

My willingness to support the Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute and the underlying bill, and to recommend that colleagues on my side of the aisle do the same, was based in part on conversations with NOAA reflecting their understanding that the shift away from "Top Priority" represented a significant improvement to the legislation. I would not support legislation that sought to make weather forecasting superior to other areas of work at OAR, and the weather community would not support that either. Witnesses from across that community were very articulate on the interconnected nature of work in these three budgeting areas at NOAA. Proof that the minority would not support language that placed weather research in front of climate or oceans research can easily be found in our unanimous opposition to the original version of this bill, which moved through the subcommittee on a partisan vote. Only after the prioritization issue was addressed were minority committee members willing to support the bill.

Although H.R. 2413 does not reprioritize funding from climate or oceans research to weather research, the bill does include some reprioritization across weather programs at NOAA. The most significant financial move is shifting the technology transfer program and account from the National Weather Service to NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.

There is reprioritization within OAR, it can all be found in how the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research lays out its own weather research effort. For example, the bill puts in place a clear process that ties the needs of forecasters at the National Weather Service to the research initiatives at OAR.

On the question of funding for weather research, I remind my colleagues that the total amount requested for weather and forecasting research at NOAA in the FY2015 budget is \$207 million. In addition to the \$84 million requested for OAR weather research, another \$123 million was requested for science and technology at the National Weather Service. This exceeds the amount requested for climate research by \$19 million.

As I have stated previously, expert witnesses testifying on this matter emphasized that improving weather forecasting accuracy requires prioritizing into oceans and climate. The physics and chemistry of these three areas makes them interconnected in a way that budgeting obscures.

Weather is defined as what happens in the atmosphere in any 14-day period. Droughts and tropical storm seasons are driven by longer-term processes, well beyond 14 days. The severe weather phenomena that have been ravaging our country in recent years are

• 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.

climatic events that are the result of processes that can be measured in seasons and even years.

Ocean and climate research undoubtedly support weather forecasting improvement. Similarly, understanding short-term phenomena—weather—has implications for oceans and climate. The bill as amended reflects this understanding.

Thank you, again, to Chair SMITH and Ranking Member JOHNSON for giving us the support to work out a compromise. And I want reiterate my thanks to Mr. BRIDENSTINE for his willingness to work with us and accept changes to the original bill.

Mr. Speaker, weather is not a partisan issue. The American public needs and deserves the best weather forecasting system we can provide.

This bill has broad support in the weather community among research institutions, established businesses, and emerging companies. Supporters include: The American Commercial Space Weather Association, University Consortium for Atmospheric Research, GeoOptics, Planet IQ, and The Weather Coalition.

I particularly want to thank Mr. STEWART, the former Chair of the Environment Subcommittee, whose attitude throughout the process was collaborative and constructive, allowing us to arrive at the bipartisan bill we have before us today. Chair SCHWEIKERT, who took on the Chairmanship of the Subcommittee when Mr. STEWART went to the Committee on Appropriations, has brought with him that same collaborative spirit. And finally, thank you to all of the very hardworking staff on both sides of the aisle.

In summary, this bill does not reallocate money from oceans or climate to weather research, I would not support a bill that did that. What the bill does do is to launch some new management processes designed to give taxpayers a better return on their investment while opening the door to exploring commercial opportunities that could reduce costs at NOAA. This bill can drive meaningful cultural change at NOAA, harvest the benefits of research tied to operational needs, and accomplish that without significant spending increases.

This legislation will make real and measurable improvements in weather research and weather forecasting. I urge my colleagues to support this effort, and to vote yes on this bill.

ROSS ARAGON TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Ross Aragon, a distinguished public servant from Pagosa Springs, CO. Mr. Aragon has served the town of Pagosa Springs for over 38 years, making him the longest serving town trustee and Mayor in the history of Colorado.

During his tenure as Mayor, Mr. Aragon was instrumental in improving the quality of police protection, expanding the town's boundaries by annexing the business corridor, expanding recreational programs and facilities, and establishing the parks and trail systems within the town. Additionally, under his leadership,

the town was included in the Pagosa Fire Protection District as well as the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District, resulting in domestic water being made available to town residents.

Not only has he tirelessly served the residents of Pagosa Springs, but he has served as a visionary seeking to expand geothermal energy by using the natural resources of his town. As a result, Mr. Aragon has played a key role in Pagosa Springs supporting and exploring geothermal energy for commercial use. One project that still engages his attention is the Pagosa Springs Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership. Through a unanimous vote of the Town Council led by Mr. Aragon, the town of Pagosa Springs is in partnership with various community residents in developing greenhouses for production of various agricultural products on permaculture principles. The geothermal greenhouse partnership will also serve as an avenue to educate the community on this viable green energy source and its many benefits.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize Mr. Aragon's tireless service to his community over these many years. I stand with the residents of the town of Pagosa Springs in saluting this remarkable man and congratulating him on a lifetime of service.

CELEBRATING THE ROCKFORD RESCUE MISSION'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today in celebration of the Rockford Rescue Mission, which is set to celebrate its 50th Anniversary this May.

Mr. Ray Stewart rented a building in 1964 in downtown Rockford in order to establish the Rockford Rescue Mission. There was a sign on the door that read, "All are welcome here. The alcoholic, the addict, the stranger, the sojourner, the pilgrim, the poor. There is hope for all who enter here." This important work continues fifty years later and I am proud of the service they have provided to many constituents in Illinois' Sixteenth Congressional District.

The Rockford Rescue Mission is open twenty-four hours a day, three hundred sixty-five days a year. They serve Rockford and the surrounding communities by providing prevention and recovery services for addiction, abuse, and destructive relations. They are also the primary provider for meals and shelter in northern Illinois and are able to provide these services with private donations from individuals, foundations, businesses, organizations, and churches. None of this would be possible without the tremendous help of the over 500 volunteers who contribute nearly 45,000 hours throughout the year.

During the Rockford Rescue Mission's 2013 fiscal year, they served over 160,000 meals, provided over 58,000 beds for lodging, distributed over 159,000 items, facilitated over 10,000 counseling sessions, and served over 2,500 clinic patients.

The City of Rockford and surrounding communities can take pride in the Rockford Res-

cue Mission which gives back to the community so willingly. I would like to congratulate all the volunteers who have helped this organization over the past fifty years and I encourage them to continue their important service.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Illinois' Sixteenth District of Illinois, I wish to express our appreciation for Rockford Rescue Mission's impressive service to the community and their diligent work.

RECOGNIZING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WISCONSIN 4-H PROGRAM

HON. REID J. RIBBLE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. RIBBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Wisconsin's 4-H Youth Development tradition. The very first meeting occurred on October 30th, 1914 in Walworth County in southeastern Wisconsin. 4-H stands for "Head, Heart, Hands and Health." There are 350,000 youth enrolled in my state's 4-H Youth Development program, and the 8th District is home to more than 13,000 of these exceptional young leaders.

4-H's slogan is "Learn by doing", and that is certainly true in Wisconsin. This partnership between the University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county government has a tremendous history of engaging youth to pursue excellence in the areas of leadership, citizenship and life-skills. The program offers youth experiences in large and small animal projects, dairy-related activities, tractor driving contests, different shooting sports and wildlife management. Wisconsin's 4-H Youth Development program has provided youth in rural and urban settings with a unique opportunity develop skills that will serve them well throughout their lifetimes.

As Congressman, I thank the many University of Wisconsin educators and volunteers that have contributed so much to this program over the last 100 years. As a proud Member of the House Agriculture Committee, I encourage residents in Northeast Wisconsin to celebrate this organization's rich history and tradition through the centennial events scheduled during the 2014 calendar year.

TRIBUTE TO BJORN BERG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Bjorn Berg of US Bank in Des Moines, Iowa for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction,

which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Bjorn in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Berg for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Bjorn on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
LIEUTENANT COLONEL DAVID
DARWIN SILBERBERG

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of First Lieutenant David Darwin Silberberg. Mr. Silberberg served as an accomplished attorney in Memphis and has been internationally recognized for his discovery during World War II of countless documents and priceless works of art that were hidden by the Nazis in Germany. Although not technically a member of the famed "Monuments Men" now receiving acclaim in Hollywood, his achievements were no less notable.

Lieutenant Silberberg was born in Niedenstein, Germany on March 20, 1921 to Lee and Rosa Silberberg. In 1936, as the Nazis were gaining power, he and his family moved to Memphis, TN. When World War II broke out, he joined the U.S. Army and went to fight against his native land. While with his unit in the Harz Mountains of Germany he came across a broken down truck in a ditch outside of Degenershausen with various papers scattered around. As a German speaker, he could read the papers and they appeared to be important, including one signed by German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop, so he investigated them further. This led him and his unit to the Chateau Degenershausen, where he and his group uncovered numerous files full of military command papers dating back to World War I. Some of the documents were even signed by Adolf Hitler, Kaiser Wilhelm II, and Otto von Bismarck.

Upon questioning of the Chateau's owners, he learned the locations of two other hiding places for similar documents, both of them located in the Harz Mountains. One of the locations was Castle Falkenstein, where the Lieutenant not only found archives dating as far back as the Franco-Prussian War, but also numerous crates holding paintings, sculptures and other artistic works, comprising the entire Library of the Berlin Academy of Arts. After discovering that officials in Berlin had ordered that the documents be burned Lieutenant Silberberg prevented their destruction, thereby saving countless historical artifacts, enough to fill fifty C-47 transport planes.

In the midst of these critical discoveries, it was learned that 250,000 German soldiers had made a major defensive stand outside

Berlin. Thus, Lieutenant Silberberg left the archives behind and joined the Allies' effort in one of the War's last big campaigns in Europe. The military career of Lieutenant Silberberg is truly one for the history books. His accomplishments earned him much honor and respect and were noted by the BBC, Memphis Commercial Appeal and the Ninth Infantry Division Association. He served overseas twice during World War II: first with the 9th Infantry from Normandy to VE Day and then with Military Intelligence and Counter Intelligence during the initial occupation of Germany. Because of his honorable federal active duty service, he held the rank of Major in the active Reserve and was assigned to Military Intelligence at the Memphis Army Reserve School. Finding importance in community involvement, Silberberg was also a member of the prestigious Leila Scott Lodge F. & A.M. and the American Legion Post 189.

Once he resettled in the United States after World War II, Silberberg attended Loyola College in Baltimore, Maryland and earned an L.L.B Degree from the University of Baltimore Law School in 1951. Soon after, he returned to Memphis to earn a B.S. Degree from Christian Brothers University (CBU) in 1956. Among his several awards, Silberberg was recognized for his contributions to society as a recipient of the CBU Distinguished Alumnus Award of 1974. He also served as the President of the National Alumni Board at CBU.

In addition to being a war hero, Lieutenant Silberberg was a successful attorney and civic activist in the city of Memphis, including within the Memphis Jewish community. A year following his death in 2007, Silberberg was one of a few notable lawyers and judges honored at the 2008 Memphis Bar Association Memorial Service during Law Week. The city of Memphis and the state of Tennessee lost a legend on July 14, 2007, and the difference he made each and every day will always be remembered. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in remembering Lieutenant David Darwin Silberberg. His was truly a life well-lived.

A MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO SIDNEY
F. TYLER

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Sidney F. Tyler, of Pasadena, California, a man of great integrity, a dedicated public servant, and an outstanding community leader, who passed away on Friday, March 28, 2014.

Sid was born in Abington, Pennsylvania on July 19, 1932. While in his teens, after his family moved to Colorado, he developed a great love of the outdoors, particularly for camping, skiing and hiking. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in American Government from Harvard in 1954, and then served in the Marine Corps for three years, stationed in Japan and Korea. Sid began working in the pharmaceutical marketing research field shortly after his honorable discharge in 1957. In 1969, Mr. Tyler moved his family to Pasadena and accepted a position with Tenet Healthcare the following year, where he remained until retiring as executive vice president in 1994.

After his retirement, Mr. Tyler was elected to the Pasadena City Council in 1997, where he served for twelve years. Known for his astute financial expertise, Sid effectively led the city through the effects of the power industry deregulation, chairing the city's Deregulation Committee. A supporter of the outdoors, particularly trees, he helped pass a tree protection ordinance in Pasadena, which protected oak trees and other species growing on public and private property, an accomplishment of which he was very proud.

Sid believed in active participation in his community, and to that end, his record of community service is impressive. He served on the boards of the Pasadena Community Foundation, Eastern Sierra Land Trust, Pacific Asia Museum and Descanso Gardens, was a trustee and board chair at Chandler School, was on the Vestry at All Saints Episcopal Church, and gave generously to open space and environmental causes.

Married for fifty-five years, Sid and his wife Betsey, have four children, Toby, David, Richard and Becky, and eight grandchildren.

Sid was an irreplaceable part of our community, and he will be sorely missed. He was a model public servant, admired by all as a man of impeccable character, a great gentleman, and a trusted friend. I ask all members to join me in remembering one of Pasadena's most admired citizens, Sid Tyler.

JACK COTTON TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to rise today in recognition of Dr. Jack "Doc" Cotton, who bravely fought in World War II in the Navy on a supply ship, a hospital ship, and eventually on a troop transport ship, the USS *Buckingham*.

In 1943, Dr. Cotton received a draft notice, but under naval medical requirements, he was three inches too tall. Unwavering in his determination to serve, he subtly hunched over during his evaluation so he would be eligible to serve. While many, if not most, would have tried to escape the draft, Dr. Cotton did whatever he could to serve.

The *Buckingham*, on which Dr. Cotton served, transported troops throughout the South Pacific, and in fact carried the final transport of forces to Nagasaki, Japan, a crucial factor in our victory in the Second World War.

Though it was an obstacle to his naval service, his height would become an invaluable asset during his college basketball career. So valuable, in fact, that Dr. Cotton became an NBA player with the Denver Nuggets from 1948 to 1950. Always dedicated to service, he went on to serve as a coach, professor, and athletic director at Adams State University.

Mr. Speaker, it is a distinct privilege to recognize Dr. Jack "Doc" Cotton for his service to our country and his communities. I congratulate him on a long and successful career and thank him for the many sacrifices he made to preserve our freedom.

COMMANDER WARREN E. CUPPS
CHANGE OF COMMAND

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Commander Warren E. Cupps, Captain of the USS *Fort Worth*. The sixteenth of April two thousand fourteen marks a historic day for the United States Navy and the City of Fort Worth. Commander Warren E. Cupps will complete his successful tour as the Commanding Officer of USS *Fort Worth* LCS 3, Crew 103 Rough Riders.

Commander Cupps successfully commanded his ship and her Sailors through sixteen months of arduous sea duty. Taking Command on the seventh of December two thousand twelve, he commanded over 80 Sailors as crewmembers, mission package detachment crews and aviation detachment personnel. He has been instrumental in guiding the various mission packages including Surface Warfare Mission Package Detachment One, HSM-35 Detachment ONE and Mine Countermeasures Mission Package Detachment Three.

His leadership as the commanding officer is evident when the Commander of Naval Surface Forces in the U.S. Pacific Fleet awarded USS *Fort Worth* the 2013 Battle Effectiveness award. The Battle "E" is one of the highest awards presented to a ship. An annual award, it recognizes ships and crews who have demonstrated their combat readiness with superior performances in six categories in which they have maintained excellence and high standards.

Commander Cupps has led his crew through many milestones and achievements throughout the early life of USS *Fort Worth*. During his tenure, the ship completed Final Contract Trials, the Cybersecurity Inspection, the Technical Evaluation and Initial Operational Testing and Evaluation Period.

Final Contract Trials is a major ship inspection by the Board of Inspection and Survey, a congressionally mandated inspection. In the life of a newly constructed ship, it is the final inspection where the ship's material condition and operations are thoroughly tested. This is one of the last milestones in a ship's first year of life. Commander Cupps led his crew through the first-ever trial period for the newest class of ships, the Littoral Combat Ship.

In addition, USS *Fort Worth* is completing their Technical Evaluation and Initial Operational Testing and Evaluation Period. These events are crucial for the Littoral Combat Ship program in final testing of the seaframe, Surface Warfare Mission Package including 30mm cannons, 11m fast boats with maritime security teams and an MH-60R helicopter. In addition, during the crew's Cybersecurity Inspection, the crew set a new Fleet Record of excellence.

USS *Fort Worth* is one of the newest littoral combat ships to join our naval fleet. The Littoral Combat Ship, is a fast, agile and focused-mission platform designed for operation in near-shore environments and open-ocean operation, with war fighting capabilities to defeat asymmetric threats such as mines, submarines and fast surface craft. USS *Fort Worth* was christened in 2010 and commis-

sioned in 2012 celebrating the first time our great city has been named as a Naval vessel to honor our city. The citizens of Fort Worth have embraced the Sailors of USS *Fort Worth* with true Texas hospitality. Our city maintains a proud military heritage and is home to the Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base.

The charge of command is an immense responsibility. It is the very soul of our Navy since 1775. It represents the finest level of leadership. Commander Cupps upheld the highest degree of naval standards and Navy traditions when commanding his Sailors. Through relentless hard work and determination, Commander Cupps exemplified Fort Worth's "Grit and Tenacity". The planks of USS *Fort Worth* are engraved with his leadership in professionalism, honor and virtue.

Finally, I will say the lasting impression within the bulwarks of USS *Fort Worth* will be the true loyalty and trust in which he instilled in his Sailors. At all times, Commander Cupps put his ship and her crew above himself. Warren, as a dear friend, I will say Bravo Zulu on your Command at Sea. Thank you for taking care of our men and women in uniform and keeping our ship combat ready. You are a great American and a Naval Officer of high honor and virtue. Fair Winds and Following Seas!

TRIBUTE TO JOE BENESH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Joe Benesh of RDG Planning in Des Moines, Iowa for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Joe in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Benesh for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Joe on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

HONORING PAUL NICHOLSON'S
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Paul Nicholson, Streator City Manager, and to recognize his many years of service to the citizens of the City of Streator, LaSalle County, and the State of Illinois.

Paul has served for more than 40 years in city management for the City of Streator and other municipalities. He has been a reliable steward of city resources in Streator and helped save the city time and funds due to his professionalism and expertise.

Paul will be retiring from the position of City Manager after a new manager is selected. I would like to thank him for all he has done for the residents of Streator and LaSalle County. He has been a leader and advocate for many important issues throughout his years of service, and has become a well-respected member of the community.

While he is leaving his post and heading into retirement, I know that Paul will always be there to lend a helping hand or offer advice to those in need. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 16th District of Illinois, I wish to express our deepest thanks to Paul Nicholson for his commendable years of service and dedication.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. EDWIN C.
KRUPP

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Edwin C. Krupp as he celebrates 40 years as Director of Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles. During these past four decades, Dr. Krupp has become an expert on ancient, prehistoric, and traditional astronomy, authored extensive publications on astronomical and science education to promote the field to the general public, and established Griffith Observatory as one of Los Angeles' iconic destinations.

Prior to directing the most-visited public observatory in the world, Dr. Krupp graduated with a B.A. in physics and astronomy from Pomona College in 1966; he followed with M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of California, Los Angeles. Dr. Krupp joined Griffith Observatory in 1970 as a part-time Planetarium Lecturer, was appointed full-time Curator in 1972 after receiving his Ph.D. in astronomy, and was named Observatory Director in 1974. Soon thereafter, Dr. Krupp co-founded Friends Of The Observatory (FOTO) in 1978 as the Observatory's indispensable non-profit partner. From concept to completion, Dr. Krupp led the \$93 million, award-winning renovation and expansion of the Observatory from 2002-2006, which restored and renewed the historic landmark, transformed its exhibits and programming capabilities, and more than doubled the size of its public space. Attendance has increased every year since reopening, and now exceeds 1 million visitors annually.

In pursuit of groundbreaking research, Dr. Krupp has visited, examined, photographed, and measured over 1,900 ancient and pre-historic sites throughout the world, and has led 38 field study tours for UCLA Extension and other organizations to exotic locations of both astronomical and archaeological interest.

Dr. Krupp has also published noteworthy texts on astronomy throughout his career, such as "In Search of Ancient Astronomies" (1978) and "Skywatchers, Shamans & Kings—Astronomy and the Archeology of Power" (1997), both of which demonstrate his specialist contributions to the field of archaeoastronomy. Additionally, he has written several astronomy books for children, and hosted the astronomy education series "Project Universe" on the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), in the late 1970s. These books and broadcasts, as well as his lectures, programs, and publications at the Observatory, have inspired countless new astronomers and archaeoastronomers, not to mention tens of millions of visitors.

It is with profound appreciation and respect that I congratulate Dr. Edwin C. Krupp on 40 years of leadership and innovation at Griffith Observatory. As an employee of the City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks, Dr. Krupp embodies the best attributes of a public servant. His dedication, energy, and enthusiasm is extraordinary, and people the world over have benefited from his service and scientific contributions. I now proudly ask you all to join me in commending Dr. Edwin C. Krupp for going "to infinity and beyond" to share the wonder of the cosmos.

RECOGNIZING FAIR HOUSING MONTH AND HONORING OPEN COMMUNITIES FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO FAIR HOUSING FOR ALL

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise during Fair Housing Month to recognize the 46th anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act and to honor Open Communities, a non-profit organization in the suburban Chicago district I represent that is working to defend and protect fair, just housing for all.

In 1968, in the heart of the Civil Rights Movement, the Fair Housing Act was enacted, guaranteeing freedom from racial, ethnic, gender, religious, disability, sexual and marital discrimination in housing.

Today, Open Communities honors this legacy and protects these rights throughout the communities I represent. Founded in 1972, this organization educates individuals, officials, real-estate professionals and many others on fair housing standards.

Open Communities also conducts critical advocacy and offers assistance with claims and attorney referrals—all free of charge to the community.

Open Communities works to create a welcoming, inclusive community where all can come together, build their lives and raise their families. Born out of the Civil Rights Movement, Open Communities is carrying on the work that began in the 1960s and even further back.

The dedicated staff at Open Communities demonstrates a true, unwavering commitment to protecting fair housing rights and furthering the development of welcoming communities.

Mr. Speaker, our communities are best and strongest when they are fair and just and open. Open Communities honors the legacy of the Fair Housing Act, furthers the themes of Fair Housing Month, realizes a vision for more welcoming communities and brings the Tenth District closer together.

I am incredibly grateful for Open Communities' dedicated service, and I am proud to mark the 46th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act.

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL BEYER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Daniel Beyer of Kabel Business Services in West Des Moines, Iowa for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Daniel in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Beyer for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Daniel on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

HONORING DR. I. JUSTIN KLEAVELAND

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. I. Justin Kleaveland on his 90th birthday, which he celebrates on April 11, 2014. A resident of North Muskegon for over 60 years, Dr. Kleaveland has been an integral part of our community.

In 1951, Dr. Kleaveland joined the Army in the Doctor's Draft of the Korean War, serving for two years in Stuttgart, Germany. Upon returning to the United States, Dr. Kleaveland and his wife, Rosemary, settled in Muskegon, Michigan.

Upon returning from Germany, Dr. Kleaveland served as an internist at Hackley

Hospital and Mercy Hospital until retiring in 2003, at the age of 79. Dr. Kleaveland has been an active contributor to local and state politics, with special interest in both health care and education reform.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Second District of Michigan, I congratulate Dr. Kleaveland on his milestone 90th birthday and thank him for his service to Western Michigan and to our nation.

DAVID DILLMAN TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. David Dillman, a dedicated business and marketing teacher at Durango High School. After leaving a highly successful career in sales and marketing in the private sector, Mr. Dillman began his teaching career in 1997, where he has inspired hundreds of students to learn more about business.

Throughout his teaching career, Mr. Dillman took it upon himself to mentor his students and provide them with real-world business experience and insights to help them succeed. Beyond the classroom, Mr. Dillman has diligently worked with local businesses to help students obtain employment. Once they have a job, he continues to advise them on best practices to tackle problems in the workplace and encourages them to build a strong work ethic that will serve them throughout their professional lives.

In his limited personal time, Mr. Dillman continues in his service by initiating and leading a new Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) program in his high school. DECA programs and competitions provide emerging business leaders training and hands-on experience in the areas of hospitality, marketing, management, finance and entrepreneurship. He also works to ensure that his students are able to participate in the Annual Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) Stock Market Game Capitol Hill Challenge every year. In addition to all of this, Mr. Dillman develops numerous partnerships with businesses for Durango High School. His enthusiasm for his craft and caring for his students is something deserving of recognition.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize Mr. Dillman today for his passion for education and his unyielding dedication to his students. I congratulate him on his numerous achievements, thank him for his service, and look forward to seeing how he will continue to inspire future generations in his classroom and beyond.

HONORING ADELE ROSEN

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate and honor Adele Rosen as the recipient of the Jewish Federation of Greater Santa Barbara's 2014 Woman of Valor Award

and for her years of leadership in our community.

Ms. Rosen has been an active member of the Santa Barbara community for 50 years. She has long been a dedicated and active member of the Jewish Federation, which has been a strong force for good in the Santa Barbara community for many years. During her years of service, she has served as President of the Jewish Federation's Women's Division and currently serves on its Women's Planning Commission. In addition to her work with the Jewish Federation, Ms. Rosen is the director of the non-profit Beyond Tolerance Education Center in Santa Barbara. This center has been a wonderful contribution to our community, working to teach thousands of school children about the causes, instruments, and dangers of discrimination and violence.

Ms. Rosen has also served as a board member of CALM, which strives to prevent, assess and treat child abuse in Santa Barbara County, a sustaining member of the Women's Board of the Santa Barbara Art Museum, a life member of Hadassah and Congregation B'nai Brith Sisterhood, Friend of Ensemble Theater, and the Santa Barbara Symphony.

Ms. Rosen's commitment to helping others and strengthening our community is truly an inspiration. May we all find the perseverance and passion that has inspired Ms. Rosen to leave her indelible mark upon our community.

PENBROOK LEO CLUB

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Penbrook Leo Club which is celebrating five years of service to the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania community.

Penbrook Leo Club was chartered in 2009 as a way for teenagers in Harrisburg to serve their community through volunteerism. Since that time, the members of this organization have engaged in many projects to improve the local area. They have helped beautify Harrisburg by adopting a mile of the Capital Area Greenbelt, participating in park and street cleaning, and maintaining a Memorial Garden at the community park. Members actively engage with local residents by visiting nursing homes, assisting with holiday parades and dinners, and participating in events such as National Night Out. The club has also raised money for organizations such as Diabetes Education and Research, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Lions Clubs International Foundation, and the Northeast Pennsylvania Lions Eye. Today, the 20 current members of this club continue to find ways to improve lives for the residents of South Central Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, for the last five years, the Penbrook Leo Club has served as an invaluable asset to the Harrisburg community. Therefore, I commend all the members of this organization that have devoted their time and energy to bettering their community.

TRIBUTE TO BRETT ADAMS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Brett Adams of Trilix in Johnston, Iowa for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Brett in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Adams for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Brett on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO THE VERDUGO HILLS FAMILY YMCA

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA of Tujunga, CA upon its 25th anniversary.

The Verdugo Hills Family YMCA has had a strong presence in the Sunland-Tujunga area for many decades. Originally started in the early 1950s, the YMCA became a centralized gathering place for community activity. As a result of increasing popularity and financial support throughout the 1980s, the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA sought to expand in order to better meet the needs of the community, and so 25 years ago, the YMCA moved into its 6840 Foothill Boulevard facility in Tujunga. Since then, the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA has played a vital role in strengthening the community by providing quality programs for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, not just for young people, but for people of all ages.

The Verdugo Hills Family YMCA offers Sunland-Tujunga area residents many opportunities for involvement with a wide variety of programs and services, including camp, adult fitness, chaplain services, photography, preschool, an art and literature club, and many community events and lectures. One particular focus is the YMCA's effort to promote youth

fitness. The Verdugo Hills Family YMCA is dedicated to combating childhood obesity and has developed an outreach program with elementary schools in the Sunland-Tujunga area to teach physical education classes. In addition, the YMCA's swimming training programs helps encourage young people from an early age to maintain safe and healthy lifestyles, and they provide students from the local elementary school with free swimming lessons.

In recognition of its 25th anniversary, the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA will honor its many volunteers, who have donated more than 4,000 hours of their time, with the President's Call to Service Award.

I ask all members to join me in congratulating the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA for its 25 years of service in the Sunland-Tujunga area.

HONORING MR. DON COATES AND HIS 40 YEARS OF MUSIC AT ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize Mr. Don Coates for his leadership of the music department at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, ABAC. It is appropriate at this milestone to reflect on and celebrate his achievements.

For a small agricultural college of just 3,665 students, ABAC has a rich musical history. Each year the university sponsors a major jazz festival that attracts participation from well-known jazz performing artists as well as top high school jazz bands from across the state. This festival has seen performances from jazz greats including Maynard Ferguson, Nat Adderly, Jamie Abersold, Ron Diehl, and Bobby Shew.

Also included in this annual festival is the accomplished ABAC Jazz Ensemble. The ensemble has entertained audiences throughout the southeastern United States, Mexico, and even Europe. Additionally, they performed on the world stage on three occasions: in 1996, as part of the Olympic Games opening ceremony in Atlanta, GA, in 1982 and 1984, when they played at the Knoxville, TN, and New Orleans, LA, world's fairs, respectively.

Forty years ago, none of this would have been imagined possible, for no such music program existed at ABAC. Mr. Don Coates started the music program at ABAC upon joining the staff after he received his masters in musical education from Florida State University in 1974. A colleague lauded, "For many years, he was the entire program—directing concert band, jazz band, and choir, in addition to teaching most of the music classes." His dedication has brought music to Georgia and to the world. For that, his 40 years as a musical educator should be celebrated.

Mr. Speaker, please join me, on behalf of the great people of Georgia's Eighth Congressional District, in recognizing Mr. Coates for his service to our community and our state.

THE OCCASION OF AFFIRMATIONS TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE TO THE LGBT COMMUNITY OF GREATER DETROIT

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the staff and supporters of Affirmations on reaching a great milestone in their organization's history—twenty-five years of service to the Greater Detroit LGBT community.

Created in 1989, Affirmations began as the LGBT community's answer for a need to have a safe haven, with a mission to provide a welcoming space where individuals of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, and cultures would be able to find support and acceptance. Operated entirely by volunteers during its first 2 years, Affirmations' first service was a toll-free phone line, where community members could call for information and assistance. Under the leadership of Affirmations' first executive director, Jan Stevenson, programs quickly expanded to include several support groups, where community members could find reassurance and acceptance among their peers.

From its humble beginnings, Affirmations quickly grew to address the evolving needs of Greater Detroit's LGBT community. At the center of its operating philosophy is the goal of empowering and educating volunteers to effect positive change in their own lives and in the broader community. Early on in its existence tragedy struck. In 1992 as Susan Pittmann and Christine Puckett, two of Affirmations founding members and leaders in Michigan's LGBT community, were murdered. Affirmations worked with other LGBT advocacy organizations in Michigan to rally the community and engage the public in a discussion on the need to protect all individuals from hate crimes.

The mission of advocacy has not waned in the years that have followed as Affirmations has held countless community forums and created many programs to assist its community members. Among these programs are health services geared toward practices that are sensitive to an individual's sexual orientation and gender identity. In a state and a country where it is still unfortunately legal for companies to fire someone based on their perceived orientation or gender identity, Affirmations provides LGBT youth with an internship program where they can gain valuable workplace skills in a supportive environment, and works with other local organizations to assist community members that have been the victims of discrimination in the workplace.

Over my many years in public service, as a proud ally of the LGBT community in Michigan, it has been a pleasure to support Affirmations' endeavors. Whether it is marriage equality, health services funding, or protecting LGBT people in the workplace and at school, Affirmations has been at the forefront of advocating for a more just, informed, and tolerant discussion of these important issues. Just two weekends ago, I was gratified to see that Affirmations rallied the community following Judge Friedman's historical ruling on marriage equality in Michigan to ensure that so many loving

LGBT couples were able to finally have all of the same protections under the law that other loving couples enjoy. I was proud to work with my fellow Democratic members of Michigan's Congressional delegation to successfully push for Federal recognition of those marriages.

Mr. Speaker, as a long time friend, supporter and ally of Affirmations and Michigan's LGBT community, I am proud to recognize the profound impact this organization has made in Michigan over the last 25 years. The staff, supporters and volunteers of Affirmations have touched so many lives through their years of dedication and advocacy—fostering a dialogue and taking actions that have seen great steps forward in the ongoing endeavor to obtain full equality for the LGBT community. In its first 25 years, Affirmations has worked hard to fulfill its mission and I look forward to continuing to partner with its staff, supporters and volunteers as we make more progress to ensure that our entire state is safe and supportive for Michigan's LGBT residents.

TRIBUTE TO PHILIP BLUMBERG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Philip Blumberg of Des Moines University for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Philip in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Blumberg for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Philip on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MALAYSIA AIRLINES FLIGHT 370

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend my sympathies to the families and loved ones of the 239 passengers and crew members of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, which departed Kuala Lumpur enroute to Beijing on March 8, 2014, but disappeared some-

where over the Indian Ocean and has yet to be found.

In an age where powerful technology is capable of interconnecting the expanses of our world and able to provide real-time information globally, the haunting question must be asked: How can a sophisticated commercial airliner carrying 12 highly trained crew members and 227 passengers disappear without a trace?

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to families of those who appear to have perished on Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 to find answers and to take all necessary measures and make all necessary improvements to ensure that a tragedy like this never happens again.

Modern aircraft are technological marvels, capable of unrivaled aeronautical feats. The advances in aircraft technology have helped make possible many of the smart devices we use daily. But a disaster involving the disappearance of Malaysia Flight 370 has revealed glaring weaknesses in aviation technology areas of flight safety, information monitoring, and recovery.

The modern commercial airliner is among the safest machines ever built. Fail-safes, system redundancies, automated controls, and sophisticated radar systems ensure that almost any crisis can be prevented if the best practices of flight are observed. However, if the technology was perfected, disasters like that of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 could be eliminated.

In the case of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, the transponders—devices important to tracking the aircraft via radar—were disabled, effectively eliminating most modern methods for tracking the aircraft. Whether the tracking technology was powered down or disabled as a result of a catastrophic failure is irrelevant to the question of safety. The fact that tracking technology important to the recovery of an aircraft can be manually disabled in the air is a technological flaw that must be corrected.

Design processes that do not adequately exploit engineering technology or that prevent life-saving recovery efforts and lower safety standards need to be fixed immediately. In addition to critical safety measures, advanced methods of aircraft systems information monitoring need to be employed. Radar and tracking systems are as important to aircraft in the air as they are to monitoring systems on the ground.

During the search for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, experts were required to rely on unreliable "pings" from satellites that were only able to provide poor insight as to the location of the aircraft.

Mr. Speaker, monitoring information regarding the status of aircraft systems is vital in understanding whether operator error or system failure is responsible for aircraft disasters. Unfortunately, the majority of this monitoring information is stored internal to the aircraft, in flight data recorders.

In the case of a disappearance like that of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, system status information is essentially lost with the loss of the aircraft, or depends entirely on the recoverability of the aircraft.

Advanced technology can be employed to send real-time information on airborne aircraft to monitoring stations on the ground. If ground operators were able to monitor the system information normally contained in the flight data recorder, recovery operations would be streamlined and yield much more information,

greatly improving future tracking and recovery efforts.

The importance of aircraft recovery is impossible to overstate. Beyond the technological aspect is the human factor. Hundreds of concerned and anxious persons were left in the dark concerning the fate of their friends, family, and loved ones aboard Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, with little hope offered under the current safety, monitoring, and recovery standards.

Additionally, the majority of flight status information, telling to an aircraft's fate, is directly linked to the ability to recover an aircraft. Recovery hinges on a tight timeline—the longer it takes to establish information concerning the route and aircraft system configuration, the longer it will take to recover the aircraft.

The family and loved ones of airline passengers are entitled to receive frequent and reliable status updates just as soon as the information is available.

The availability of that information today is unduly dependent on technology that is in turn dependent upon the recovery of the aircraft but at the same time makes recovery efforts more difficult.

Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the House Homeland Security Committee, and a former Chair of its Transportation Security Subcommittee, I will continue to work with my colleagues, the Administration, and responsible officials in the aviation industry to ensure that technological weaknesses are corrected and to do all I can to ensure a terrible tragedy like that of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 never happens again. We owe the families and loved ones of the missing passengers and crew members at least that much.

UNION FIRE COMPANY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Union Fire Company which is celebrating 225 years of service to the Borough of Carlisle, Pennsylvania and the surrounding areas.

The Union Fire Company was founded in October 1788 after a fire destroyed several local homes. The company formally organized on April 6, 1789 and received their first engine soon after. Since that time, they have been an important force against many historic fires in the region and have been instrumental in keeping the residents of Carlisle safe. In 1931, the company entered into rural service, a move which earned them the title of the busiest firehouse in Cumberland County. Over the past 225 years, Union Fire Company has taken on an integral function within the community, extending their role to include hosting festivals and participating in parades.

Throughout history, many of the brave men working for Union Fire Company have pursued the call to serve and protect beyond the local level. Members of the organization served and sometimes sacrificed their lives in the Civil War and World War I and II. Today, members of the fire house continue to put their own safety at risk to assure that the people of Cumberland County are protected from destructive fires and other disasters.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 225 years, the Union Fire Company has served as an impor-

tant asset to the citizens of Carlisle and the surrounding areas. Therefore, I commend the personnel who have faithfully worked to protect and defend our community at this fire house.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE HOCKADAY SCHOOL

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, this week-end will mark the culmination of the centennial school year for The Hockaday School in Dallas, Texas. The Hockaday School is a college preparatory day and boarding school for girls and young women in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade. It is an exceptionally well-regarded and large institution with 1,000 students from eleven different countries around the world.

The Hockaday School today stands on the same Four Cornerstones upon which it was founded—Character, Courtesy, Scholarship, and Athletics. Though it has grown over the course of this century, it has grown to continually fulfill the vision of its founder, Miss Ela Hockaday, who believed that education, combined with a sense of ethics, was essential to the advancement of women in society. Miss Hockaday, born in 1875 and raised in Ladonia, Texas, was a lifelong educator. She received her bachelor's degree from what is today the University of North Texas and worked in several institutions as both a teacher and a principal in Texas and Oklahoma. She also attended the University of Chicago and Columbia University. Miss Hockaday's interests were especially strong in the sciences and, after receiving many accolades, she was made head of the biology department at Durrant State Normal School in Oklahoma in 1910.

In the summer of 1913, while working her small farm in South Texas and on a break from teaching at the Oklahoma College for women, she received a telegram from Menter B. Terrill, who had previously founded the Terrill School for Boys (now St. Mark's School of Texas) in Dallas. At his suggestion she met with several Dallas businessmen who wanted her to establish a girls' preparatory school so that their daughters might have educational opportunities. Shortly thereafter, in September of 1913, Miss Hockaday's School for Girls opened in a house on North Haskell Avenue in Dallas, with an initial enrollment of ten students.

Miss Hockaday's School grew quickly, moving to its second site on Greenville Avenue in 1919. By the 1920s, its academic reputation has been well established and the school grew. A Lower School and Boarding Department were added in those years. In 1931 a Junior College was added and, seven years later, the Music Institute was opened. Miss Hockaday continued to serve as headmistress until 1946 and remained involved until her passing a decade later. All the while she ensured the permanence of the Four Cornerstones and the rigor of the classical education at the school.

In 1961, The Hockaday School moved to its third and present location at Welch Road in North Dallas. The effort had begun in 1956

under J. Erik Jonsson (who later became mayor of Dallas) and was made possible by a donation of 100 acres by Karl Hobbitzelle. The Dallas Times Herald called it "eye-catching" and "the most unusual, the most attractive, the most advanced learning facility in Dallas."

Today the Hockaday School continues to thrive. Thanks to the Hockaday Tomorrow Capital Campaign in 2004, it is home to a state-of-the-art Academic Research Center, a Lower School Addition, and a Wellness Center. Now, ten years later, the Centennial Campaign aims to provide the school with even more facilities and initiatives in the years ahead. The Hockaday School continues to serve as an important part of Dallas' educational landscape, educating girls and young women to assume positions of leadership in an ever-changing world.

Throughout this centennial school year, the school has hosted various festivities to commemorate its rich history and celebrate its bright future. After kicking-off the events in September, the school has put on an ongoing Centennial Exhibit, the Hockaday Day of Service, and the Centennial Speaker Series. It all culminates in a Centennial Week of commemorative events with a luncheon on April 11 and "The Party of the Century" finale on April 12, complete with musical performances and fireworks. This magnificent moment in the history of a venerable institution of women's education will be shared by students, alumnae, faculty, and many friends and family who share in the Hockaday legacy.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in marking and celebrating the centennial of The Hockaday School.

CONGRATULATING BOSMA INDUSTRIES AND THE ABILITYONE PROGRAM

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the outstanding work of Bosma Industries and the AbilityOne Program. AbilityOne is an outstanding program committed to providing "employment opportunities for people who are blind or have significant disabilities in the manufacture and delivery of products and services to the Federal Government." Unfortunately, over 70 percent of those who are blind and visually impaired are unemployed. Thanks to the efforts of AbilityOne, over 50,000 people who are blind or have significant disabilities have found gainful employment. Since 1915, Indiana's very own Bosma Enterprises has been a partner of the program by providing job training, employment services, rehabilitation and outreach programs for people who are blind or visually impaired. In fact, Bosma is Indiana's largest employer of people with vision loss. Last year alone, Bosma helped 179 blind people find gainful employment and assisted over 700 people in acclimating to their vision loss.

This is about more than numbers though. It is about the people they are assisting. Take the example of Robert. In the sixth grade, he was diagnosed with a learning disability and

he also has impaired hearing and a speech impediment. Despite these obstacles, Robert was able to graduate high school. He then went on to earn a certification in welding from the Upper Valley Joint Vocational School in Ohio. Unfortunately, Robert's vision then began to decline. While Robert's vision declined, he was able to work at Walmart for 15 years. Then, in 2010, he lost his vision entirely to glaucoma and was no longer able to work. A year after he was declared legally blind, Robert found Bosma Industries and a whole new purpose in life. He went through the rehabilitation program and later began utilizing Bosma's employment services. First, Robert was taught how to acclimate himself to the outside world. He was hesitant to leave the comfort of his community but with Bosma's orientation to mobility training he began to come out of his shell. Robert learned how to build a computer, write a check, repair a broken door and other life skills. He even learned sculpting and pottery at Bosma. Bosma got Robert ready to take on the world through counseling, workshops on resume writing and how to find different ways of performing everyday tasks. Robert currently enjoys his time volunteering at Goodwill Industries, and hopes it will lead to a paid position soon. Bosma Industries empowers people to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to extend my support to the AbilityOne Program. I also want to thank Lou Moneymaker, the President and CEO of Bosma Industries and their staff for their dedication and support to changing the lives of Hoosiers struggling with blindness or vision loss. They have forever transformed these lives and have had a positive impact on all of our communities.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER
CHITTENDEN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Jennifer Chittenden of the Des Moines Downtown Chamber of Commerce for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Jennifer in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Ms. Chittenden for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Jennifer on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business

Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF THELDA DOBBINS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th birthday of Mrs. Thelda Dobbins.

Thelda Kirschner Dobbins was born on April 26, 1914 in Lisbon Falls, Maine. She graduated from Lisbon Falls High School in 1930 at the age of 16 and went on to receive a teaching degree from Farmington State Normal School, now known as the University of Maine at Farmington, as a member of the Class of 1932. Thelda went on to teach grade school in Durham, Maine for three years, making \$12 a week during the Great Depression.

Thelda continued to teach until she married Lester Dobbins in 1938, and the couple gave birth to their only child, Herb, in 1941. After the onset of World War II, Thelda returned to teaching in Sabattus and then at Pettingill School in Lewiston until her retirement in 1971.

Thelda and Lester enjoyed over 60 years of marriage until Lester passed away in 2000. Thelda continues to be an active member of the Auburn community as a resident of The Chapman House.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in celebrating the 100th birthday of Mrs. Thelda Dobbins, who has led an extraordinary life dedicated to her family and the education of Maine's children.

IN HONOR OF THE 10TH
ANNIVERSARY OF LA PLAZA

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor La Plaza, whose tireless work over the past ten years has blessed thousands in my hometown of Indianapolis.

La Plaza exists to serve, empower, and integrate the Latino community of Central Indiana. The organization was founded in 2004 through the merger of Hispanic Education Center, Fiesta Indianapolis and El Centro Hispano. By bringing together the separate resources and services under one organizational umbrella, La Plaza committed to provide strong programming under a more efficient model. Today, La Plaza continues to fulfill this charge through its mission of strengthening Central Indiana by advocating and preparing Latino students for educational success and by connecting Latino families to health and social services.

La Plaza is Central Indiana's largest provider of culturally and linguistically appropriate services to Latino families. The organization's work is increasingly important as the Latino population in Indianapolis continues to grow. Data from the 2010 Census shows a 154 per-

cent increase in the number of Hispanics in Marion County, increasing from 33,000 to more than 84,000 in the last 10 years.

Serving as a trusted liaison between Central Indiana Latinos and the community at large, La Plaza connects over 5,000 individuals each year to over 20 community partners to deliver high-quality health and social services. The range of services spans from providing a pediatric and dentistry clinic to case management and basic needs assistance. La Plaza's educational initiatives additionally serve over 2,000 elementary to college-aged students. These programs help encourage and support Latino youth to excel in school and to pursue a post-secondary education. La Plaza also provides many of these first-generation college students with scholarships to ease the financial burden of college.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring La Plaza for its efforts to strengthen and integrate the growing Latino community in Central Indiana by providing them with vital educational and social services.

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS'
RIGHTS WEEK

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Crime Victims' Rights Week. This is an important reminder that there is much work still to be done to promote the rights and needs of victims of crime in our communities.

As a State senator, I was the author of the first anti-stalking law in the country—before this legislation, there was very little legal protection available for stalking victims. I also worked to establish rights for crime victims in California's state constitution as author and campaign co-chair of Proposition 115. Proposition 115 gives victims the rights to a speedy trial, reduces the number of times crime victims must testify, increases sentences and punishment, and requires reciprocal discovery of evidence.

When I arrived in Congress, I made it a priority to address stalking at the federal level. In 1996, I introduced the Interstate Stalking Punishment and Prevention Act, which was signed into law, making it a felony to cross state lines to stalk someone. I am also a cosponsor of a Victims' Rights Amendment, which gives victims of crime the same protections as their offenders. Crime victims deserve equal consideration in the criminal justice process. In addition, I am a cosponsor of Justice for Crime Victims Act of 2014, legislation to legislatively further some of the same goals of the Amendment.

There is also much work to be done to serve victims of human trafficking—a growing issue in Southern California. That's why I've cosponsored the Strengthening the Child Welfare Response to Human Trafficking Act. This legislation helps ensure that child welfare agencies have the necessary tools to understand the unique needs of child trafficking victims and the resources to appropriately serve them.

I encourage you to visit <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/incvrv/> to learn more about Crime Victims' Rights Week and what we can be doing in our

local communities to raise awareness about the rights, needs, and concerns of victims and survivors of crime.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, from January 6, 2014 through January 17, 2014, I was in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, reporting for mandatory annual National Guard training. I missed rollcall votes Nos. 1–23. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 1: "Present"—On Quorum Call of the House.

Rollcall No. 2: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 724.

Rollcall No. 3: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3527.

Rollcall No. 4: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3628.

Rollcall No. 5: "no"—Ordering the Previous Question.

Rollcall No. 6: "no"—On Agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 455.

Rollcall No. 7: "yes"—Agreeing to the Sinema Amendment.

Rollcall No. 8: "yes"—Agreeing to the Tonko Amendment.

Rollcall No. 9: "yes"—On Motion to Recommend with Instructions.

Rollcall No. 10: "no"—On Passage of H.R. 2279.

Rollcall No. 11: "yes"—Final Passage of H.R. 3811.

Rollcall No. 12: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1513.

Rollcall No. 13: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass S. 230.

Rollcall No. 14: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 2274.

Rollcall No. 15: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 801.

Rollcall No. 16: "yes"—On Approving the Journal.

Rollcall No. 17: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 2860.

Rollcall No. 18: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 1233.

Rollcall No. 19: "no"—On Ordering the Previous Question.

Rollcall No. 20: "no"—On Agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 458.

Rollcall No. 21: "yes"—Concurring in the Senate Amendments with an Amendment on H.R. 3547.

Rollcall No. 22: "yes"—On Motion to Recommend with Instructions.

Rollcall No. 23: "no"—On Passage of H.R. 3362.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE BANASIAK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Mike Banasiak of

Legacy Financial Group for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Mike in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Banasiak for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Mike on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,555,437,713,940.26. We've added \$6,928,560,665,027.18 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO DIRECT THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO CONDUCT A RESOURCES STUDY TO DETERMINE THE SUITABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF ENTERING INTO PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO OPERATE FEDERALLY OWNED GOLF COURSES IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a resources study to determine the suitability and feasibility of entering into public-private partnerships to operate federally owned golf courses in the District of Columbia. The three golf courses—Langston Golf Course, Rock Creek Golf Course and East Potomac Golf Course—are owned by the National Park Service (NPS). The courses have long been in desperate need of capital invest-

ment to reverse decades of deterioration and to maintain and preserve their historic features. From the time Congress created the first of the courses in the 1920s, they have been underfunded. The major reason is that NPS has continued to operate the courses under concession contracts even though concession contracts do not allow for the significant annual capital improvements necessary for golf courses. The concessions approach to operating golf courses has led to an inevitable declining state of repair.

East Potomac Golf Course was built in 1920 and included three courses that accommodated all levels of play, with an 18-hole course and two 9-hole courses. East Potomac was initially segregated, with African Americans permitted to play only on Mondays. The course was desegregated in 1941 by the then-Secretary of the Interior, Harold Ickes, following pressure from an African-American women's golf club, the Wake Robin Golf Club. However, Langston Golf Course opened in 1939 as a segregated course for African-Americans, and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Langston was the home course for the Royal Golf Club and the Wake Robin Golf Club, the Nation's first clubs for African American men and women golfers, respectively. Langston, named for John Mercer Langston, the first African-American elected to Congress from Virginia in 1888, was originally a 9-hole course. Langston's expansion to an 18-hole course began in 1955, but was not completed until the mid-1980s. Rock Creek Golf Course opened in 1923 as a 9-hole course and an additional nine holes were added to it in 1926. None of the courses have been modernized, all three have fallen into disrepair, and all lack the amenities necessary to serve the public today.

My bill would direct the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of NPS, to conduct a special resources study to determine the suitability and feasibility of entering into public-private partnerships with a non-Federal entity or entities to operate the courses. The study would assume that one of the three golf courses will be a world-class, tournament-quality public course, with playing fees commensurate with such courses. The other two courses would be public courses of substantially similar quality to top-ranked courses owned by cities, towns, counties and states. The playing fees for these other two courses would remain the same as they are on the date of enactment of the bill, indexed annually to the Consumer Price Index. The study would also determine which course would be best suitable as the world-class, tournament-quality public course.

The three courses together constitute a magnificent but underutilized public asset that could be renovated and modernized, facilitating affordable recreation, attracting significantly more golfers and generating revenue to maintain the courses. Unlike other NPS facilities, golf courses require significant, continuing capital investment for maintenance. The current fees collected from patrons at the courses, which are established in the concessions contracts, must remain affordable and therefore do not generate sufficient revenue for NPS or the concessioners to properly maintain the courses.

Because the public golf courses in the Nation's capital are in such poor condition and are in need of a different and better means of

operating and funding, I urge support of this bill.

IN HONOR OF EDWIN JEFFREY
"LANCE" WENTZEL

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor fireman Edwin Jeffrey "Lance" Wentzel, who tragically lost his life in the line of duty serving the residents of Youngwood Borough and Southwestern Pennsylvania on Saturday, March 22, 2014.

Lance Wentzel was part a large group of volunteers searching North Versailles for a senior citizen who had been lost for days. Tragically, Lance lost his life during the search. A dedicated public servant, Mr. Wentzel sacrificed many hours away from his family, without pay, to help those in need.

Lance Wentzel was a distinguished thirty-five year member of the Youngwood Volunteer Fire Department. Ready and willing to serve his fellow citizens in need, Mr. Wentzel volunteered at Ground Zero in New York City following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. In 2012, he was named the department's "Firefighter of the Year."

Born on October 16, 1956, in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, Lance was active in the 14th Quartermaster family support group, attended St. Mark Lutheran Church in New Stanton, and was an accomplished marathon runner.

We offer our prayers and thanks to his family: wife, Judith; two sons, Jeffrey Jeremiah Wentzel, and Christopher William Wentzel; two stepsons, Justin Martin Vestrand, and Jason Mac Vestrand; three grandchildren, Oscar Thomas, Nevaeh and Urijah Wentzel; a brother, Philip A. Wentzel; four sisters, Judith C. Wagner, Connie L. Watson, Bonnie Kucenic, and Doris Santone.

Mr. Wentzel's sacrifice and service to the Youngwood Volunteer Fire Department, the community, and the country will not soon be forgotten. Tonight, as we say our evening prayers, let us thank God for men like Lance who without a second thought to their own well-being, are willing to do whatever is necessary to protect our families and communities.

OBSERVING THE 4TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SMOLENSK DISASTER

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solemn observation of the 4th anniversary of the Smolensk Disaster.

On the morning of April 10th, 2010 Polish Air Force One crashed at Smolenski North Military Airfield in western Russia, killing all 96 passengers onboard—including Poland's president and first lady, political and military elites, as well as religious leaders and civilian families.

The stunning catastrophe happened as those Poles flew to commemorate the 70th

anniversary of the Katyn Forest Mass Murders perpetrated under the direction of Joseph Stalin and the Soviet Union against Polish prisoners of war.

Years later, both tragedies still bring pain and suffering to the Polish people—both abroad and in my home district of Bucks and Montgomery counties.

In recognition of the fourth anniversary of the Smolensk Disaster, members of the Polish community in my region will gather at the American Czeszochowa in Doylestown to pay tribute to those who lost their lives and commemorate this somber anniversary. I join them in marking this important date with reflection and prayer, as well as thanking the organizing committee for preparing this important event.

Poland and America remain strong allies with mutual interests in advancing the causes of freedom and liberty. I support a strong relationship between the two nations, and encourage all Americans to remember the Smolensk Disaster and those lost.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, April 4, 2014, I was unavoidably detained while questioning the Attorney General in the Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Subcommittee and so I was not present for rollcall vote No. 159.

Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 159 amendment offered by my good friend Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.

CONGRATULATING THE NAIA DIVISION II MEN'S BASKETBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONS, THE INDIANA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY WILDCATS

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate the Indiana Wesleyan University Men's Basketball team for winning the NAIA Division II national championship. I am proud that the IWU Wildcats hail from Marion, Indiana, in my District. The Wildcats not only crushed the Midland University Warriors on March 18, 2014 and earned their first national championship, but they also ended the season as the No. 1 team in the NAIA poll, the third time the team has held this honor.

The Wildcats had an incredible season, becoming the first team to win all five tournament games by double digits and finishing the season with an outstanding 31-6 record, this season's highest Division II men's basketball win total. Coach Greg Tonagel led the team to victory and was named the NABC/NAIA Division II Coach of the Year. However, Coach Tonagel's award was one of many for the Wildcats this year, as senior Jordan Weidner was the 2014 Championship Most

Outstanding Player, Lane Mahurin won the Championship Hustle Award, and the IWU Wildcats won the Dr. James Naismith/Emil Liston Team Sportsmanship Award. The sportsmanship award speaks to the integrity and hard work exemplified by each and every IWU player throughout this phenomenal season. They set a wonderful example for the entire Marion community and most especially their young fans.

My home state of Indiana has such a rich basketball heritage, and I am joined by Hoosiers across the state in celebrating Indiana's only 2014 Men's Basketball Championship. The Wildcats' unique approach to the game is exemplified by the team's motto of "I Am Third"—God first, your teammates second, and yourself third. This inspiring motto is prominently displayed in the locker room and on the team warm-up shirts which are emblazoned with "Team 3".

Once again, congratulations Indiana Wesleyan University, we are very proud of you and look forward to cheering you on through another great season next year. Go Wildcats!

RECOGNIZING LOUIS SPADACCINO

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, duty, honor, country and responsibility are the core values said to be shared by our "Greatest Generation." Louis Spadaccino of Holland, Bucks County, PA was no exception. Sadly, Lou passed away April 3 at the age of 90.

Lou, along with his six brothers served our country in World War II. In his senior year of high school he took his final exams early and left to join the U.S. Navy. Lou was a gunner's mate on LCI 489 and together with his fellow naval crew mates was active in bringing in the first wave of troops to Normandy at the Battle of Omaha Beach. Lou spent the next three years in the Navy and was honorably discharged in 1946.

About two years ago I had the opportunity to accompany Lou with Honor Flight to visit the National World War II Memorial in Washington D.C. It was a privilege to share this experience with such an extraordinary gentleman, an American hero.

Lou led a full life as a business leader, community servant and loving family man. He will be missed but his remarkable achievements will live on in the hearts and minds of those he touched over the course of his lifetime.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF OMEGA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 150th anniversary of Omega Christian Church, in White River Township, Hamilton County, Indiana. It is a pleasure to congratulate the church in celebration of this special occasion.

Omega Christian Church was founded during some of our nation's darkest days, in 1863 during the midst of the Civil War. At the time of the church's founding, the surrounding neighborhood was known as Bethany but later came to be called Omega. Exemplifying the best of the hardworking and enterprising Hoosier spirit, the residents built the church themselves using local timber. Joseph Lacy oversaw the construction, and Dr. Silas Blount gave the dedicatory sermon in November of 1863. Knowles Shaw (1834–1878), an early minister of the church, became a prominent evangelist and composer of religious music and is best known for the hymn "Bringing in the Sheaves".

In the years following the war, the community around the church began to grow and prosper. After construction was finished on the church, a sawmill, general store, doctor's office, blacksmith shop, and post office were also established. In 1926, the church was moved and enlarged to make room for the growing congregation. The framework and sanctuary of the church are original and are still in use today, making the Omega Christian Church the oldest building in White River Township.

The church continued to grow and expand throughout the following years. While the physical building has changed, the mission of the Omega Christian Church remains unchanged from its founding in 1863: to serve God and His people, and to be a light in the community where stability, comfort, strength, and family can be found, all in the name of Jesus Christ. Today the Church reaches out to serve in other ministries far beyond the dreams of its pioneer founders, including supporting the Damou Christian Mission near Jacmel on the southern coast of Haiti. The Mission maintains a school for more than a thousand students, an assisted living facility for the elderly, and two orphanages established following the tragic earthquake of 2010.

Today, I am proud to recognize "the small country church that cares" and thank them for their contributions to the spiritual well-being of their community and the world. May the next 150 years be equally blessed.

RECOGNIZING THE NEW HOPE-
LAMBERTVILLE BRIDGE

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the New Hope-Lambertville Bridge is a historic, two-lane, steel truss bridge that has linked the two picturesque communities along the Delaware River for 200 years. The two-lane, toll-free span has weathered well, surviving floods and ice and two centuries of traffic from horses to motor vehicles. It remains a busy bridge with an estimated daily traffic count of 14,000. The New Hope-Lambertville Bridge opened as a wooden-covered bridge on Sept. 12, 1814, followed in 1904 with construction of the current steel truss bridge. Local historians created a documentary containing rare film footage that chronicles the 200-year history of the span, other landmarks and the rich artistic tradition of the area. The film premiered at a special celebration held at the New Hope Playhouse

on April 10, 2014 to commemorate the 200-year anniversary. Congratulations to all involved in this tribute, including the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission, the interstate agency responsible for the care and maintenance of the trusted connection between Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 8, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 9

9:15 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-124

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Airland

To hold hearings to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine an assessment on how to keep our railways safe for passengers and communities.

SD-138

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Defense

To hold hearings to examine defense health programs.

SD-106

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of Labor.

SD-192

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Personnel

To hold hearings to examine the Active, Guard, Reserve, and civilian personnel

programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-222

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Science and Space

To hold hearings to examine from here to Mars.

SR-253

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging

To hold hearings to examine addressing primary care access and workforce challenges, focusing on voices from the field.

SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Comcast-Time Warner Cable merger and the impact on consumers.

SH-216

Committee on Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine election administration, focusing on making voter rolls more complete and more accurate.

SR-301

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Ukraine, focusing on confronting internal challenges and external threats, including Russia's seizure of Crimea.

SD-215

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Rules and Administration

Business meeting to consider S. 1728, to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to improve ballot accessibility to uniformed services voters and overseas voters, S. 1937, to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to develop contingency plans to address unexpected emergencies or natural disasters that may threaten to disrupt the administration of an election for Federal office, S. 1947, to rename the Government Printing Office the Government Publishing Office, S. 2197, to repeal certain requirements regarding newspaper advertising of Senate stationery contracts, and the nominations of Thomas Hicks, of Virginia, and Myrna Perez, of Texas, both to be a Member of the Election Assistance Commission.

SR-301

11 a.m.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2015 for the Small Business Administration.

SR-428A

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of Energy.

SD-192

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of the Navy and the Department of the Air Force.

SD-124

Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
 To hold hearings to examine National Nuclear Security Administration management of its National Security Laboratories and the status of the Nuclear Security Enterprise in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program
 SR-222

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Business meeting to consider S. 429, to enable concrete masonry products manufacturers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research, education, and promotion to improve, maintain, and develop markets for concrete masonry products, S. 1014, to reduce sports-related concussions in youth, S. 1406, to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, S. 1275, to direct the Secretary of Commerce to issue a fishing capacity reduction loan to refinance the existing loan funding the Pacific Coast groundfish fishing capacity reduction program, S. 1379, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to consolidate the reporting obligations of the Federal Communications Commission in order to improve congressional oversight and reduce reporting burdens, S. 1468, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Network for Manufacturing Innovation, S. 1793, to encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, S. 1925, to limit the retrieval of data from vehicle event data recorders, S. 2022, to establish scientific standards and protocols across forensic disciplines, S. 2028, to amend the law relating to sport fish restoration and recreational boating safety, S. 2030, to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, S. 2076, to amend the provisions of title 46, United States Code, related to the Board of Visitors to the United States Merchant Marine Academy, S. 2086, to address current emergency shortages of propane and other home heating fuels and to provide greater flexibility and information for Governors to address such emergencies in the future, S. 2140, to improve the transition between experimental permits and commercial licenses for commercial reusable launch vehicles, H.R. 2052, to direct the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, to conduct an interagency review of and report to Congress on ways to increase the global competitiveness of the United States in attracting foreign direct investment, the nomination of David J. Arroyo, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and nominations for promotion in the United States Coast Guard.
 SR-253

Committee on Indian Affairs
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian education, focusing on Indian students in public schools, and cultivating the next generation.
 SD-628

Joint Economic Committee
 To hold hearings to examine the economic impact of increased natural gas production.
 SH-216

APRIL 10

9:30 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.
 SD-106

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine United States electric grid reliability and security, focusing on if enough is being done.
 SD-366

Committee on Foreign Relations
 To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2015 for international development priorities.
 SD-419

10 a.m.
 Committee on Appropriations
 Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
 To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of Commerce.
 SD-192

Committee on Finance
 To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2015.
 SD-215

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
 To hold hearings to examine expanding access to quality early learning, focusing on the "Strong Start for America's Children Act".
 SD-430

10:30 a.m.
 Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
 Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine small agencies.
 SD-342

2 p.m.
 Committee on Foreign Relations
 Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
 S-116

2:30 p.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on SeaPower
 To hold hearings to examine Navy shipbuilding programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.
 SR-222

Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
 To hold hearings to examine strategic forces programs of the National Nuclear Security Administration and the Office of Environmental Management of the Department of Energy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.
 SR-222

Select Committee on Intelligence
 To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.
 SH-219

3 p.m.
 Committee on Foreign Relations
 Subcommittee on European Affairs
 To hold hearings to examine transatlantic security challenges, focusing on Central and Eastern Europe.
 SD-419

APRIL 30

10 a.m.
 Committee on Finance
 To hold hearings to examine the President's 2014 Trade Policy Agenda.
 SD-215

MAY 20

9:30 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Airland
 Business meeting to mark up those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.
 SD-G50

11 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on SeaPower
 Closed business meeting to mark up those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.
 SR-222

2 p.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
 Closed business meeting to mark up those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.
 SR-222

3:30 p.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support
 Business meeting to mark up those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.
 SD-G50

5 p.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities
 Business meeting to mark up those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.
 SD-G50

MAY 21

10 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Personnel
 Business meeting to mark up those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.
 SD-G50

2:30 p.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Closed business meeting to mark up the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.
 SR-222

MAY 22

MAY 23

9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Committee on Armed Services

Closed business meeting to continue to mark up the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.

SR-222

Closed business meeting to continue to mark up the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.

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