

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ADOPTIVE FAMILY RELIEF ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation and appreciate Chairman GOODLATTE's work to bring it to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, all of us have had constituents who have adopted children internationally. These families go through a long, complex and very emotional process as they wait on legal decisions and government reviews.

Along with the emotional stress can come financial stress too. In a number of cases, as wait times lengthen and lengthen, an adoptive child's American visa will expire before they are able to leave their home country. This means the American parents adopting this child have to reapply and repay hefty fees.

But under this legislation, that reapplication fee can be waived if a family is faced with extraordinary circumstances outside their control.

This is common sense.

Mr. Speaker, passage of this bill—and the President's signature—means immediate help for hundreds of American families seeking to adopt children from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Foreign Affairs Committee has been particularly focused on this tragic and frustrating situation.

These American families have been unable to bring their legally adopted children home from the DRC because of a bureaucratic chokehold by the Congolese government. In some cases, some children who had a loving home ready and waiting in the United States died in Congo's orphanages. Yes, died.

Nearly every congressional district has a family impacted by this tragic policy of the Congolese government.

I have met with a number of families from Southern California, who have adopted children from the DRC that they now cannot take home. Some of these families have paid over \$1,000 in fees to the U.S. government—and will continue to pay more—to keep their adoptive child's visa active, while they wait in limbo for the Congolese government to do the right thing.

Mr. Speaker, last month marked the two-year anniversary of the DRC suspending international adoptions. For two years these families have been hurting. The Congolese system is failing these children, for sure. But today, the American system will respond to give these families some relief during this time of distress. We are doing all we can to see that these legally adopted children are allowed into loving American homes, but for now, we can all feel good about relieving this financial burden.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN ON DOUBLE TEN DAY

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, as the people of Taiwan celebrate their national day, Double Ten Day, on October 10th, I would like to extend my congratulations and best wishes to them.

The United States and Taiwan enjoy a long-standing relationship that stems from our shared values: democracy, the rule of law, and free enterprise. Not only an important security partner, Taiwan is also a strong economic partner—in fact, our 10th—largest trading partner now almost two years running. In 2014, Colorado's exports to Taiwan reached \$191.5 million, a 32.6% increase from 2012. Taiwan is Colorado's 7th largest export market in Asia, and 14th largest export market in the world. Colorado companies have substantial opportunities to expand their business and cooperation with Taiwan. These accomplishments have been greatly aided by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office and I am proud that it now calls Denver home. Equally important are the Taiwanese-Americans living in Colorado and the wealth of knowledge and entrepreneurial energy they bring to Colorado. The Taiwanese-American community has thrived in the Centennial State and has served as an economic engine for the 6th Congressional District. Furthermore, our students represent a bright future and it has been my honor to work closely with the Colorado Chinese Language School, which is organized by the Taiwanese community, by presenting certificates to excellent students at their "Year-End" celebration.

Given the increasing importance of Taiwan's trade with the rest of the world, it is in our best interest to see Taiwan and its 23 million people enjoy a balanced trade partnership that is fully integrated in global and regional trading regimes. Taiwan should be allowed to join the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), as it is a close ally and an important economic engine of Asia-Pacific. Additionally, I support a Bilateral Investment Agreement between the United States and Taiwan to provide greater protections for investors, while fostering confidence and encouraging movement in other items on the trade agenda.

I believe the United States should continue to enhance our friendship with Taiwan and we in Congress must do everything in our power to enrich this valuable relationship.

HONORING THE LIFE OF COACH ANTHONY "TONY" NAPOLET

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a dear friend and mentor. A devoted family man, a respected teacher and coach, Anthony "Tony" Napolet, passed away Saturday, Sept. 26, 2015, at the age of 77, surrounded by his loving family. Tony was born July 4, 1938, in Warren, the son of Harold and Lucy (DiPaolo) Napolet.

Tony was a 1956 graduate of St. Mary's High School. Tony also received his Bachelor's Degree in Education from Marquette University in Milwaukee, where he played and lettered in football. Following graduation, Tony coached the freshman squad at Marquette while attending Marquette University's School of Law. Tony returned to the Warren area, where he would begin an illustrious coaching career that would span five decades.

Tony coached football for more than 50 years with over 35 years as a head coach. He took pride in all his teams and his kids. His overall record was 214–104–3. Tony won many championships, to include two state run-ups, three regional championships, five state semi-finals, and a 1991 state championship.

Coach Napolet was recognized with many honors from countless organizations which included Coach of the Year in 1991, the 1995 John F. Kennedy Golden Eagle Award, the 2004 Mahoning Valley Italian-American Sports Hall of Fame Man-of-the-Year, the 2006 Associated Press Coach of the Year, the 2011 Kennedy Sports Hall of Fame, Warren Sports Hall of Fame, and the 2013 Ohio High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He was a past member of the Ohio High School Football Coaches Association and Trumbull County Coaches Association.

Although Coach Tony Napolet's football career is impressive, his greatest success is the impact he has made on his family, friends, players, fellow coaches, and community. You will never find a more compassionate, generous, and loving person than Tony Napolet, a proud Italian American, a loving father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend. Tony always lived by his lifelong mantra, God, family, Catholic education, and football.

Tony was a man of strong faith. He was an active member of St. Mary's Church in Warren.

Tony will be deeply missed by his two sons, Harold J. and Mario R. (Paula) Napolet of Pickerington; and his loving daughter, Natalie A. (Greg) Hoson; his beloved grandchildren, Aarika and Anthony Napolet, Mario, Olivia, and Ella Napolet, and Ambrose, Ava and Gennaro Hoson.

Tony is also survived by his two sisters, Norma Napolet and Marie Guanciale; his brother-in-law, Manlio Guanciale; and his

● 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.

nephew and niece, Christopher and Joanna Guanciale. He is also survived by his former wife and dear friend, Mary Jo Napolet.

Tony was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Lucy (DiPaolo) Napolet.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MARK
ISAACS

HON. JOHN C. CARNEY, JR.

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Mark Isaacs and his work on behalf of Delaware farmers. This weekend, Mr. Isaacs' work was acknowledged by the Sussex County Farm Bureau with the Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award. Mr. Isaacs is a lifelong resident of Delaware—born and raised in Sussex County. He received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Clemson University, and a Doctorate from Virginia Tech.

In 1986, Mr. Isaacs began his career at the University of Delaware. Since then, he has contributed to UD, and Delaware's agriculture community, in innumerable ways. Mr. Isaacs now serves as the Director of the Elbert N. & Ann V. Carvel Research and Education Center. He oversees, directs, and supports research in addition to teaching students in several subject areas.

Mr. Isaacs not only plays an active role at UD, he also has given back to our community in many other ways. He has worked with high school students on special projects and with local high schools to improve their agriculture and environmental programs. He has also served on boards of education, agriculture task forces, and policy and scholarship committees.

I want to thank Mr. Isaacs for his dedicated service to the Delaware farm community, and commend him on his well-deserved Distinguished Service Award.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF JOSE M. TORRES

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the late Jose M. Torres. Jose Torres was a son of Guam and a member of our greatest generation who suffered the occupation of Guam during World War II. Jose passed away on September 28, 2015 at the age of 88. He was also an author, radio show host and medical researcher who shared his deep love for Guam and our people.

In February of 2015, Jose's memoir of his World War II experiences was published by the University of Guam Micronesia Area Research Center. His book, "Massacre at Atâte", tells the story of a brave battle he fought in against the Japanese during the Japanese occupation of Guam.

Jose wrote the story and had it published to preserve a very important part of Guam's history and have it shared with future genera-

tions. He had joined a group of men from the village of Merizo who lost their families when Japanese soldiers massacred them in nearby caves. Jose was the youngest of the group and joined the men in helping the U.S. Navy by providing intelligence on the Japanese occupiers and giving updates on the situation facing the Chamorros. The battle demonstrated the strength and perseverance of the Chamorro people, especially during such a difficult time and with barely any weapons.

Jose also served the island as a medical researcher with the National Institutes of Health. Jose's team studied the high rates of Parkinson's disease, Dementia, and Lou Gehrig's disease on Guam. Additionally, Jose will be remembered fondly for his love of classical music which he demonstrated through hosting the two-hour radio program "Classical Concert" on Guam's public radio.

I am deeply saddened by the passing of Jose M. Torres, and I join the people of Guam in celebrating his life and recognizing his dedicated service to Guam. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, loved ones and friends. He will be missed, and his memory will live on in the hearts of the people of Guam.

IN RECOGNITION OF HOYIN YUEN,
MIDDLE SCHOOL ART EDUCATOR
OF THE YEAR

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of HoYin Yuen, who was named the Middle School Art Educator of the Year for 2016 by the Massachusetts Art Education Association.

Every year, the Massachusetts Art Education Association recognizes outstanding educators, like Yuen, who set an example in providing quality art education to students while also contributing to their profession. Yuen became an art teacher because he knew it would always be a fulfilling vocation. A native of Cape Cod, Yuen pursued an undergraduate degree at Emmanuel College and a Master's in Art Education from the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, but he always wanted to return to his community to teach and impact young minds. He takes particular interest in teaching middle school students, where he finds the age group both challenging yet rewarding.

Yuen employs a variety of creative mediums to teach a broad curriculum over the course of the school year. His enthusiasm for art and passion for teaching has not gone unnoticed by his colleagues. Many have admired his ability to adapt his assignments to address the needs of all his students and his teaching style leaves his students, parents and other teachers alike at ease.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring HoYin Yuen for receiving this prestigious recognition. I know all my colleagues in the House join me in wishing him nothing but success in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE YMCA OF CENTRAL FLORIDA AND THE ROPER FAMILY YMCA COMMUNITY IMPACT

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the YMCA of Central Florida and the good work they do in our community.

With its focus on Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility, YMCA of Central Florida is helping us change our approach to community health and chronic disease prevention. Today, I bring to your attention how this is happening on a local level through public private partnerships.

In West Orange County as part of Metropolitan Orlando, the Roper YMCA Family Center is expanding to become the community's destination for healthy living, made possible in partnership with its local healthcare system and healthcare district. Leveraging each organization's strengths and resources, the Roper Y will be making health education more accessible to thousands more residents, offering more Y Diabetes Prevention programs, and helping residents of all ages and incomes start and stick to healthier lifestyles.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I wish to thank and congratulate the Roper YMCA Family Center and its partners, the West Orange Healthcare District and Health Central Hospital—Orlando Health, for their commitment to improving the health of Central Florida.

REMEMBERING LEON FRANKEL

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a remarkable hero of the United States and Israel, Leon Frankel. I would like to recognize his heroic efforts and remarkable sacrifice in defending both countries during World War II and Israel's War of Independence.

Leon was born in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1923 and, at a young age, he was fascinated with the thought of flying. After he graduated high school, he pursued his dream and was accepted into the V-5 Naval Aviation Program. After completing the program, Leon joined Air Group 9, and as a pilot in Torpedo Squadron 9 he flew 25 missions while aboard the USS *Lexington* and the USS *Yorktown*. In February of 1945, Leon took part in the first Navy raid on Tokyo.

After the War, Leon returned to his native Minnesota and served in the Navy Reserves. In May of 1948, he was recruited by the newly-founded State of Israel to become a member of their first Fighter Squadron, the 101. He fought bravely for the nascent nation against almost impossible odds, flying 25 missions during Israel's War of Independence.

After returning to the United States, Leon rejoined his Navy Reserve Squadron, and served until 1959 when he was honorably discharged. As a testament to his exemplary

service to the United States, Frankel was awarded many decorations including the Navy Cross, two Distinguished Flying Crosses, three Air Medals and two Presidential Citations.

It is with a heavy heart that I must announce Leon Frankel passed away this week. However, he will never be forgotten and his life will be remembered as one of exceptional service and commitment to both the United States and Israel. Leon Frankel is a true hero.

HONORING BARRY CICERO

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Barry Cicero of Western Springs who passed away on October 2, 2015. Barry was known for his remarkable dedication to his family, church, community, and fellow veterans.

Mr. Cicero was a veteran of the United States Army and served as a nuclear weapons storage specialist in Alaska during the Vietnam War era. He was a graduate and active alum of both St. Mel's High School and DePaul University. For many years he worked as Director of Auditing at UFCW Union and Pension Funds.

Barry honorably served the American Legion in Illinois for many years. He held multiple leadership roles including Post Commander at the Robert E. Coulter, Jr. Post, Fifth District Commander, and First Division Commander. Mr. Cicero continued to work as a community relations contact with American Legion even after his term as commander ended. He was consistently engaged in programs to help his fellow veterans and everyone in the community.

Mr. Cicero will best be remembered for his compassion, integrity, and warm spirit. He was active at St. John of the Cross Catholic Church and was a loving family man. Those of us who knew him will miss his thoughtfulness and enthusiastic kindness.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Barry Cicero, a truly admirable man. His leadership and dedication to his community were extraordinary and will not be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING TAIWAN'S 104TH NATIONAL DAY

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise, along with the other co-chairs of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus—Representative MARIO DIAZ-BALART, Representative GERALD E. CONNOLLY, and Representative GREGG HARPER—to commemorate the upcoming 104th National Day of the Republic of China (ROC) on October 10th. Marking this special occasion underscores the critical importance of the United States and Taiwan relationship throughout history.

The pillars of United States cross-Strait policy are the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act and the 1982 Six Assurances. The United States sup-

ports peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and the democratic institutions of Taiwan. Any future evolution in cross-Strait relations can only be achieved through the non-use of force and by respecting the will of the people of Taiwan. Further, we hope to continue to work with our colleagues in Congress on providing Taiwan access to meaningful participation in international organizations, such as in the World Health Organization (WHO) and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

Mr. Speaker, as we observe the ROC's 104th National Day, we should use this occasion to rededicate ourselves to the tenets of our longstanding and close partnership with Taiwan. The commitment of the United States to provide Taiwan with a sufficient defensive capability under the Taiwan Relations Act is critical to both peace in the Taiwan Strait and regional stability. It also serves U.S. national interests as we continue to re-balance attention and resources to the Asia-Pacific. Our commercial relationship with Taiwan, our tenth largest trading partner, will also be well-served by a framework of peace and stability in the region.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Taiwan are noble, peaceful, and hard-working. We invite our colleagues in the House of Representatives to learn more about our friendship with Taiwan and join the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, the largest nation-based caucus in the House of Representatives. Again, we are honored to rise today to celebrate the 104th birthday to our great friend, Taiwan.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOE P. OLIVEIRA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Mr. DAVID VALADAO to pay tribute to the life of our good friend, Joe P. Oliveira Sr. of Lemoore, California who recently passed away at the age of 89. He leaves behind his loving family including his daughters, Marlene Jeung and husband Don, Patty Silva and husband Denny, Debbie Etchebehere and husband Jean, Cheryl Silva and husband Russ; daughter in law, Pam Oliveira, Son-in-law Darryl Ray, Brothers Jon, Frank, Westley, Leonard, Manuel, Edward, Louie and sister Mary, along with 16 grandchildren; and 29 great grandchildren.

Joe P. Oliveira Sr. was born in Hanford, CA on January 28, 1926 to John P. and Eliza Leal Oliveira he was the fourth born of 12 children. Joe P., as he liked to be called, was a man who dedicated himself to his family and the dairy industry in the San Joaquin Valley and California. He returned to the family dairy after his honorable discharge from the U.S. Army-Air Force in 1947. He bought his own dairy in 1953 and throughout his working years he dedicated his time and efforts to his love of dairy.

He served on the Kings County Creamery Association Board for over 20 years and Challenge Cream and Butter Association Board for fifteen years. This experience and his involvement with the Western Dairyman's Association prompted then Governor Reagan to appoint Joe P. to the Milk Pooling Formulation Com-

mittee which resulted in a program that helped all dairymen.

After selling his dairy, he worked full time for Western Dairyman's from 1973 to 1987 and upon his retirement he was presented with a Resolution from the California State Legislature recognizing his contributions to the dairy industry.

Joe P. married the love of his life Adeline Paulo; they were blessed with one son, and five daughters. He was actively involved in the Lemoore Trinity Association for over 50 years. He led the efforts of many, placing calves on dairy farms where his many friends raised them. They were then sold with the donations going towards building a new hall at Lemoore Trinity Association. He also served on the Kings County Grand Jury.

It goes without saying that Joe P. Oliveira Sr. was an honorable man with a commitment to his family and friends and the agricultural community in the San Joaquin Valley that will forever live in the lives of the people he so graciously touched. His passion for family, education, and his community will be remembered by all who knew him. He was my friend and I will miss him a great deal. He conducted his life with reverence for humanity. It is with great pride that I honor him for all he did on behalf of the San Joaquin Valley and for California.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that Mr. VALADAO and I ask our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in honoring the life of Joe P. Oliveira Sr., a remarkable Californian. We are honored and humbled to join his family in celebrating the life of this amazing man who will never be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF PETER J. ADONIZIO, RECIPIENT OF 2015 ITALIAN-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Peter J. Adonizio who will be awarded the Italian-American Association's Lifetime Achievement Award on Sunday, October 11, 2015. A native of Pittston, Pennsylvania, Peter has a long history of service to his local community and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Peter attended Scranton Preparatory School and is a graduate of St. Leo University in Florida. In 1983, Peter studied at the Simmons Institute of Funeral Service, earning a diploma in Mortuary Science. Upon completing his internship and completing the requirements of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Peter became a licensed funeral director in 1984.

After completing his education, Peter worked for his family's asphalt company until 1991. He then worked as a probation officer for Luzerne County, PA. In 1993, Peter was appointed by Luzerne County as a deputy coroner. Four years later, he was appointed Deputy Court Administrator, also earning his district magistrate certification. In 2000, after a Pennsylvania Supreme Court order and the formation of the Unified Judicial Court System, Peter became a Deputy Court Administrator

for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. During that time, Peter received a special commendation from the Pennsylvania Supreme Court for his service to the judicial system as a member of the Judicial Council's Committee on Judicial Security and Emergency Preparedness. He retired in 2013, after twenty years of service.

In addition to his career in government, Peter also worked as a funeral director. Peter established the Peter J. Adonizio Funeral Home in 2001 in West Pittston. As a result of flooding caused by Tropical Storm Lee in 2011, Peter relocated his funeral home to William Street in Pittston. Adonizio is a member of the Luzerne County Funeral Directors Association, Pennsylvania Funeral Directors Association, and the National Funeral Directors Association.

It is an honor to recognize Peter for all of his community and state accomplishments, and I extend my congratulations on his award. I wish him the best in all future endeavors and thank him for the contributions he has made serving his fellow Pennsylvanians.

CONGRATULATING THOMAS
QUIGLEY ON HOMETOWN HERO
AWARD

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate Thomas Clayton Quigley of Bedford, Texas, on his receipt of the City of Bedford's Hometown Hero Award for his service to our nation and outstanding citizenship in his community.

Thomas chose to enlist in the United States Army in 1942, in the midst of World War II. He graduated Officer Candidate School and became a First Lieutenant who served in Company E, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment in the 2nd Infantry Division. After training in Scotland and England, Thomas and his unit landed on Omaha Beach on June 7, 1944, shortly after the first D-Day landings to liberate Europe from Nazi Germany. He was wounded twice in France but ultimately continued to fight, participating in the Battle of the Bulge. He recounts that, in the middle of war, he and his men were often too busy to be afraid, reflecting that, "it was our job, the one we signed up for."

After Germany surrendered, Thomas was stationed at Fort Swift in Texas, awaiting deployment to the Pacific, which was preempted by the Japanese surrender in August, 1945. While at Fort Swift, he met his wife, Barbara, when he and some friends decided to talk to some young women on a porch in Austin. He offered to help her when she brought out some water and she says "He has been helping me ever since." Together they have been married almost seventy years and have three children—Barbette, Kay, and Keith—and three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He says that surviving the war is "one of [his] greatest accomplishments" but that it is his "wonderful family that has made [him] truly blessed."

Thomas took advantage of the G.I. bill and went to study at Michigan State University, bringing his new wife with him. They returned

to Texas for the weather (Thomas says, "I survived the Bulge weather but couldn't stand the cold Michigan weather"), and he graduated from Texas Tech with a degree in agronomy. At first, like many returning veterans, finding a job in civilian life was difficult and he was a guard at the gate of a food plant. He eventually became a dispatcher for Central Freight Lines for 28 years, retiring in 1984. Even after retirement, Thomas was engaged and industrious, becoming the owner of a local 9-hole golf course and driving range.

In his later years, Thomas has also become involved in keeping the recorded memories of World War II available for the public and future generations. With two Purple Hearts and two Bronze Stars, he went with Barbara to the 40th anniversary ceremonies at Normandy in 1984. Since that experience, he has written a memoir book, *World War II, My War*, logged his oral accounts in the National World War II museum in New Orleans, Louisiana, received the French Legion of Honor medal, and been featured recounting the Battle of the Bulge on the History Channel in 2008.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Thomas Quigley on the Hometown Hero Award, honoring his valor and strong citizenship, and thanking him for his selfless sacrifice for our nation and freedom in the Second World War.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 519 through 520 due to congressional travel.

Had I been present, I would have voted yes on Number 519 and yes on Number 520.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 535, due to an in-district event announcing new funding for displaced coal miners and their families to pay for job retraining and educational opportunities, I was unable to cast my vote on this bill. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF GREATER
BEALLWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH'S
139TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of Greater Beallwood Baptist Church in Columbus, Geor-

gia as they celebrate a remarkable 139 years. An anniversary celebration will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. at the church in Columbus. The event will also be an opportunity to welcome Reverend Adrian J. Chester as the church's new pastor.

Greater Beallwood Baptist Church traces its roots back to the post-Civil War era in 1876, when Beallwood Baptist Church was first organized under the leadership of Reverend Boston Miles and Deacon Albert Harper.

Over the years, the church would see many outstanding leaders but perhaps the most noteworthy were Reverend I.S.H. Allen, who served sixteen fruitful years from 1920 until his passing in 1936, and Reverend James Carter Cook, who served for four decades as the church grew and flourished tremendously.

In addition to the achievements of pastors, many laymen have also made significant contributions to the life of the church. In 1905, Deacon Eddie Borders became chairman of the Board of Deacons and served for over fifty years. The church would see many more dedicated citizen leaders, men and women, called to serve all the way into the 21st century.

In 1956, Beallwood Baptist Church became incorporated and the name was changed to Greater Beallwood Baptist Church, Inc. A growing church membership at Greater Beallwood meant pastors had a larger flock to shepherd. In 1975, Greater Beallwood began meeting in worship every Sunday morning, rather than two Sundays out of the month. The church then called upon its first assistant pastor, Reverend Billy J. Carter, to assist in growing pastoral duties.

In January 1987, the church was blessed when the Lord placed Reverend Willie L. Hill over this flock. Much was accomplished during Rev. Hill's twenty-eight years as pastor, including increased participation in the learning programs of the church, especially Sunday School and Bible Study. In 2010, Rev. Hill instituted Children's Church for children ages 5 through 12. Not only did Rev. Hill's leadership grow the congregation in number and in spirit, but it also was instrumental in the building of a new sanctuary that would accommodate the numerous church services and meetings.

In 2014, God had strategically placed Reverend Adrian J. Chester as the church's first youth pastor. After Rev. Hill's retirement in 2015, Rev. Chester became the seventeenth pastor of Greater Beallwood Baptist Church.

Today, Greater Beallwood is blessed to have numerous ministries and fellowship opportunities. Fellowship at Greater Beallwood is characterized by unconditional love, rich in relationship with God, family, and friends. The members of Greater Beallwood reflect this idea of fellowship throughout the community by serving those in need.

The story of the Greater Beallwood Baptist Church, which began as a small group of people worshipping 139 years ago and has grown into an expansive and successful church, is truly an inspiring one of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful congregation of people who put all their love and trust in the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the membership of the Greater Beallwood Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia for their long history of coming together through good and difficult times to praise and worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

104TH COMMEMORATION OF
TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, as Taiwan approaches the 104th commemoration of the National Day of the Republic of China next October 10th, it is important that we remember a few key points. First, the Republic of China, Taiwan is an extraordinary friend and ally of the United States. This year we commemorate the 70th anniversary of the allied victory in World War II. We must not forget the critical contribution of the Republic of China to freedom's victory over the forces of fascist tyranny. Second, Mr. Speaker, Taiwan deserves to be commended for having consolidated its representative democracy in an extremely challenging regional environment. Finally, people of Taiwan are hard-working and admirable.

The current framework of U.S.-Taiwan relations has developed successfully in large part to the passage of the Taiwan Relations Act in 1979. The United States has sold defensive arms to Taiwan, allowing it to remain a respected force in the region. It is extremely important that the transfer of sophisticated defensive weapons such as Perry Class Naval vessels and other weaponry supported in the National Defense Authorization Act, take place soon.

The government of Taiwan has set forth a noteworthy peace-seeking agenda in recent years, and it has accomplished a remarkable reduction in cross-strait tensions. History will certainly note President Ma Ying-jeou's East China Sea Peace Initiative and South China Sea Peace Initiative with deep admiration for these wise and responsible proposed solutions to critically important regional challenges.

PROVISO EAST CLASS OF 1975—
40TH YEAR REUNION**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to commend and congratulate the Proviso East Class of 1975 on their 40th year reunion. As all of us know, we can take great engagement to make use of the lessons learned and skills developed while students at Proviso East.

The Class of 1975 can be proud of the heritage, accomplishments and proud of what being a Pirate has meant. The Class of 1975 can have pride in the accomplishments of the Proviso East graduates who left a great school well prepared to confront the challenges of everyday life. The families have been and continue to be role models of excellence and community engagement.

Best wishes and good luck to the Proviso East Class of 1975.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF THE
FRESNO EOC**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission as they celebrate 50 years of dedicated service to Fresno County. Fresno EOC has spent five decades investing in people and assisting them in becoming self-sufficient. Further this agency administers numerous human services and economic development programs. These programs include pre-school education, vocational training, juvenile and drug abuse counseling, treatment for serious juvenile offenders, youth recreation, and senior citizen hot meal services to name a few.

As one of the largest and most effective poverty fighting organizations in the country, Fresno EOC has touched the lives of more than 145,000 residents of Fresno County. Through programs that make real measurable differences, Fresno EOC continues to give families the immediate help they need and the long-term support that allows them to build better lives.

When Congress passed the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, the goal was to obtain equality of opportunity in education, employment, health and living conditions for every American in our Country and Fresno EOC has done an exemplary job of accomplishing these goals. Over the past 5 decades, Fresno EOC has made countless contributions to our city and the entire San Joaquin Valley. From programs ranging from Head Start, to the Local Conservation Corps, and Fresno CDFI, Fresno EOC has done so much to make our community a better place.

The results of these programs have allowed local organizations like Fresno EOC to leverage nearly \$2.20 in private capital from every dollar that the federal government invests in Community Service Block Grant (CSBG). 90 percent of CSBG funds go directly to local communities to provide critical services such as child care, job training, housing, and financial education that improve self-sufficiency.

Fresno EOC employs over 1,300 full and part time staff members committed to transforming lives. With over 30 programs to serve the community, they bridge the gaps with almost every aspect of the underserved population. There are more than 1,100 Community Action Agencies across the nation offering services every year in 99 percent of U.S. counties. These agencies serve 16 million low-income individuals, primarily members of working families and seniors, and in Fresno we are lucky to have one of the largest Community Action Agencies in the nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me as we celebrate Fresno EOC's 50th year of improving economic opportunities and empowering individuals in the San Joaquin Valley. This agency is making a

difference and creating better opportunities for our future generations.

CELEBRATING TAIWAN'S 104TH
NATIONAL DAY**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, Taiwan's 104th National Day will be celebrated, marking the anniversary of the Republic of China's founding. For many years, Taiwan has been a strong ally of the United States, one which shares our interests and values, including an enduring commitment to democracy and the freedom of expression. Approximately one hundred miles from communist China, Taiwan is a beacon of freedom in the Pacific, serving as an inspiration for the world's oppressed and as a model for future democratic transitions.

As we celebrate Taiwan's 104th National Day, we must also think about how we can strengthen the U.S.-Taiwan alliance. Taiwan is increasingly under pressure from an aggressive China that is attempting to assert its dominance in the Pacific and it is crucial that the United States provides the kind of assistance—politically, militarily, and economically—that will allow Taiwan to resist any type of Chinese coercion. China's military buildup, construction of artificial islands, and territorial claims, has greatly escalated tensions in the Asia-Pacific and the risk of conflict with Taiwan. Taiwan's recent successful efforts to reduce tensions in the Asia-Pacific can be used as a model to find further peaceful solutions in maritime Asia.

In order to assist Taiwan, the United States should ensure its meaningful participation in international organizations and entities that it has expressed an interest in participating, including at the United Nations. The United States should also help Taiwan upgrade its air force and its navy, including assisting in the procurement of diesel-electric submarines, so that Taiwan has the capacity to deter Chinese aggression and act as a force for peace and stability in the region. The United States should also be economically assisting Taiwan, our 10th largest trading partner, in order to help it resist China's economic pressure. By strengthening U.S.-Taiwan trade ties, we can give Taiwan the economic and political flexibility it needs to diversify, reduce its reliance on China, and resist Chinese intimidation.

Taiwan is a vibrant democratic partner and ally that the United States cannot afford to neglect. We must remember that not only is the Taiwan Relations Act the law of the land in the United States but, together with President Reagan's Six Assurances, forms the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations. As Taiwanese all around the world celebrate Taiwan's National Day, we here in the United States stand with our ally, ready to ensure we are supporting her and its people to the best of our ability. Happy Double Tenth Day.

IN RECOGNITION OF CATHERINE R. O'DONNELL, ESQ., RECIPIENT OF THE WILKES-BARRE LAW & LIBRARY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Catherine R. O'Donnell, Esq., who was selected for the President's Award by the Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association. The President's Award honors attorneys who display exemplary professionalism, integrity, and ethics throughout his or her legal career. It is the highest award that the Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association bestows.

Cathy has been practicing law for over 25 years. She graduated cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh with a joint degree in business and economics and a minor in history. In 1987, Cathy received her Juris Doctor and Master of Business degrees from the University of Pittsburgh. She is a member of the Pennsylvania and District of Columbia Bar. In addition, Cathy is a member of The American Association for Justice and the Pennsylvania Association for Justice.

In October of 2000, Governor Thomas Ridge appointed Cathy as a District Justice. Unanimously confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate, Cathy honorably served our state until January 2002. Today, Cathy practices estate planning and administration at the O'Donnell Law Offices. Her skill and knowledge as a lawyer has earned her recognition as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer, ALM Top-Rated Trusts and Estates Lawyer, Martindale-Hubbell's Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers and Martindale-Hubbell's AV Preeminent Rating from 2002–2015. In 2015, she was named one of Rue Rating's Best Attorneys of America.

Cathy remains an active member of her local community. Cathy is a past president of the Parent's Associates of Wyoming Valley Montessori School and the Lower and Upper Schools of Wyoming Seminary. She is also a past president of the pastoral council of the former St. Therese's Church in Wilkes-Barre. She is a current member of the Orphans' Court Practice Committee and current Chair of the Religious Outreach Committee of the Wilkes-Barre Law Library Association. Cathy is a board member of Junior Leadership of Wilkes-Barre, a member of the United Way Cabinet, and a board member for Dress for Success of Luzerne County.

It is an honor to recognize Cathy O'Donnell for her many accomplishments, and I extend Cathy my congratulations for being awarded the Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association President's Award. I commend Cathy for her service to our community.

HONORING MR. TERRANCE KELLY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Terrance Kelly for his extraordinary con-

tributions to the music industry and to the faith community. Mr. Kelly is currently the Artistic Director of the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, where he leads over 100 rehearsals and 50 performances annually.

Mr. Kelly graduated from the Texas Southern University with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management. He went on to study at Holy Names University with a focus on Vocal Performance. Mr. Kelly began his career working with Jazz Camp West as Choir Director and Voice Teacher.

During his time with Jazz Camp West, Mr. Kelly led the popular All Camp Gospel Choir, helping select the songs, instruct the band, and lead performances. His dedication to music also led Mr. Kelly to begin working with Imani Community Church, where he is currently Minister of Magnification. Mr. Kelly coordinates all musical presentations for the church, as well as leading many different choirs. He also facilitates the Imani Ya Watume liturgical dancers.

Additionally, Mr. Kelly serves as Artistic Director of the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir. He has composed and arranged music for the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, the Oakland Interfaith Youth Choir, and the Oakland Interfaith Community Choir. The incredible works of music he has worked on have inspired and moved audiences throughout the Bay Area, California, and the world.

In his long career in music and faith, Mr. Kelly received many honors. Most recently, Mr. Kelly taught workshops about gospel music at the International Gospel Music Academy of Denmark. His musical talent has been recognized by many influential people, such as Tramaine Hawkins, MC Hammer, John Lee Hooker, and Former President Jimmy Carter. He has received an Emmy Award for his choral arrangement of PSA for KGO-TV, as well as 2 Gospel Academy Awards for Outstanding Director of the Year and Excellence in Choral Music. The San Francisco Opera had the opportunity to work with Mr. Kelly in their rendition of Moby Dick in 2012.

Mr. Kelly has also mentored students of music, many of whom have gone on to attend schools such as the Berklee School of Music, Howard University, and Walt Disney's California Institute of the Arts. Throughout his prolific career, Mr. Kelly has impacted the lives of musicians and fans alike, throughout the Bay Area and the world.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Mr. Terrance Kelly, I salute him. I thank him for a lifetime of service and congratulate him on his many achievements. I wish him success as he continues to serve the residents of the East Bay.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for a series of votes on June 2, 2015, July 10, 2015 and September 10, 2015.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call Vote Number 268 on June 2nd, Agreeing to Rule for THUD and CJS Appropriations, I would have voted aye.

Roll Call Vote Number 269 on June 2nd, Approving the Journal, I would have voted aye.

Roll Call Vote Number 431 on July 10th, Agreeing to Brat Amendment to H.R. 6, 21st Century Cures Act, I would have voted aye.

Roll Call Vote Number 432 on July 10th, Agreeing to Lee Amendment to H.R. 6, 21st Century Cures Act, I would have voted nay.

Roll Call Vote Number 491 on September 10th, Providing for consideration of H. Res. 411, I would have voted aye.

CONGRATULATING ORATORY PREPARATORY FOR BEING NAMED A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Oratory Prep School of Summit, New Jersey for being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools award honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are being made in students' levels of achievement. Oratory Prep was cited as an "Exemplary High Performing" school, as measured by state assessments and national tests. This recognition is a testament to the outstanding work and dedication of the faculty and staff, as well as the efforts and successes of the students in creating a safe and welcoming school where students master challenging content.

The curriculum at Oratory Prep has prepared students to attend some of the finest universities in the Nation and the extra-curricular activities, electives, leadership training and guest speakers offer students a wide array of academic experiences. Oratory Prep's athletic program continues to grow as well, both in scope and success.

This is a prestigious award to receive and Oratory Prep is a proud example of academic excellence and worthy of this national distinction.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 534, due to an in-district event announcing new funding for displaced coal miners and their families to pay for job retraining and educational opportunities, I was unable to cast my vote on this bill. Had I been present, I would have voted aye.

RECOGNIZING ARMY SGT.
WILLIAM "WILD BILL" GUARNERE

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Sgt. William "Wild Bill" Guarneri, who served in the 101st Airborne division of the United States Army during World War II.

Sgt. Guarneri was a Philadelphia native who enlisted in the Army in 1942. His bravery earned him the nickname "Wild Bill" for his passion and perseverance in battle. Sgt. Guarneri's first combat jump was Operation Overlord, in the early hours of the morning of June 6, 1944, hours before the first allied landing craft hit the beaches of Normandy on D-Day. A member of the famed "Band of Brothers" of the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment's "Easy Company", Guarneri served in some of the most significant engagements of the European theater, including Operation Market Garden. Ultimately, Sgt. Guarneri's combat service ended when he lost a leg in the Battle of the Bulge. He was eventually awarded a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, and two Purple Hearts for his bravery in the face of the enemy.

On Saturday, September 19, the Delaware County Veterans' Memorial Park will unveil a statue of "Wild Bill" Guarneri to commemorate his service and sacrifice. It's a fitting tribute to a true American hero from Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, Sgt. Guarneri's admirable service displayed an extraordinary devotion to his country and his fellow soldiers. I am honored to recognize him today as one of the true heroes of our Greatest Generation.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

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 \$18,150,568,904,537.03. We've added \$7,523,691,855,623.95 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

LEADING A HALL OF FAME
BUSINESS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Alfred Froberg, Jr. of Alvin, Texas for receiving the 2015 Junior Achievement Hall of Fame award.

Mr. Froberg received this award thanks to his positive impact on the Alvin and Brazoria

County business community. He is deeply dedicated to growing and promoting businesses all across his hometown. As a member of the Junior Achievement Hall of Fame, Mr. Froberg's efforts serve as a model for other local businesses, helping them grow and succeed. Brazoria County is proud to have such an inspiring business leader.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Alfred for being part of the Junior Achievement Hall of Fame.

HEROES MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA
FLOODING

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the past few days have been an extraordinary catastrophe, correctly identified by Governor Nikki Haley of South Carolina as a "thousand year rain" causing flooding and damage across South Carolina. Fortunately, Hurricane Joaquin bypassed the state after causing destruction in the Bahamas but, it created a weather anomaly of record rainfall of over 20 inches and flooding. I am grateful to the National Weather Service and senior forecaster John Quagliariello, for monitoring the situation and providing early warnings for our citizens.

Six generations of my family have lived on Wilton Road in Springdale, which was washed away during the storm for the first time ever since construction in 1890. I am grateful that our home was spared major damage, though thousands were not so fortunate.

Our state officials were true leaders and handled the catastrophe impressively. When visiting the State Emergency Response Center in Pine Ridge, I thanked Governor Nikki Haley, Adjutant General Bob Livingston, and Attorney General Alan Wilson for leading the recovery, as well as South Carolina Emergency Management Division Kim Stinson. I am further grateful for the National Guard's role in aiding the relief efforts—three of my sons, Alan, Julian, and Hunter, were activated for National Guard disaster service.

I visited the world-class Lexington County Emergency Response Center, led by Director Bo Davenport, with Sheriff Jay Koon and County Administrator Joe Mergo where I thanked the dedicated personnel who saved many lives.

In between stops, I appreciated thanking Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin for his leadership and I thanked Homeland Secretary Jeh Johnson for coming to tour the impacted areas this Friday with Congressman JIM CLYBURN and myself. Mayor Mike Miller of Wagener assured me his Aiken County community was secure.

Lexington Mayor Steve MacDougall and Town of Lexington Police Chief Terrence Green gave me a first-hand tour of multiple pond dam breaks, including the Mill Pond blocking U.S. Highway 1 of Main Street in Lexington.

I visited the Lake Katherine neighborhood with State Representative Kirkman Finlay of Columbia, where I met homeowners and vol-

unteers already planning the reconstruction of their homes. Sheriff Leon Lott had experienced deputies at critical roadways.

At the Red Cross shelter at A.C. Flora High School, I thanked the A.C. Flora Key Club and other volunteers who distributed bottled water, food, diapers, and clothes to those who had lost everything. I am grateful to Richland School District One Board Member Beatrice King and State Senator Joel Lourie for coordinating such a positive outpouring of donations from the community.

Visiting the Richland County Emergency Center, led by Columbia Deputy Fire Chief Tisdale, there were dedicated personnel thoughtfully handling calls of distress.

At the Seven Oaks Recreation Center shelter, sponsored by the Irmo-Chapin Recreation Commission, I thanked the organizers: Director Elizabeth Taylor and Park Director John Cantey. I saw first-hand how those who had to flee their homes found people who cared and supported them.

A lesson learned is that in the watersheds of multiple downstream dams, as exist in Richland and Lexington counties, there should be a coordination of lowering water levels to anticipate extraordinary rainfall to reduce the potential for sequential dam failures resulting in catastrophic loss of life and property damages.

Late yesterday, I returned to my Congressional office in West Columbia, where I found that a leak in the roof had caused the ceiling and light fixture above my desk to collapse.

Though the destruction of the 1000-year event was catastrophic, it was a testament to the people of South Carolina working together for the common good.

IN RECOGNITION OF WEHADKEE
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH'S
141ST ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of Wehadkee Missionary Baptist Church in Roanoke, Alabama as they celebrate a remarkable 141 years. An anniversary celebration will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2015.

The Wehadkee Missionary Baptist Church is one of the oldest African-American churches in Randolph County, Alabama. Throughout its 141-year history, the church has been a bridge over troubled waters for the African-American community of Wehadkee-High Shoals-Springfield.

Under the name "Perhaps," the church was established in 1874, just eleven years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. The church held its first services in a very small log cabin one mile south of its current location, which is 1216 County Road 310 in Roanoke, Alabama.

Reverend Spy Flag was the founding Pastor of the church, serving from 1874 until approximately 1884. Between 1884 and 1918, ten ministers led the church: Reverend Ben Goss, Reverend Symon Vickers, Reverend Aaron Strong, Reverend Tom Almond, Reverend Charlie Steward, Reverend Spencer Beasley, Reverend A.E. Stitt, Reverend John T. Hines,

Reverend A.J. Turner, and Reverend A.J. Green.

From 1918 to 1972, the six pastors who led the church included Reverend S.A. Adamson, Reverend C.C. Terry, Reverend G.W. Sims, Reverend J.P. Madison, Reverend B.O. Phillips, and Reverend R.L. Thompson.

In March 1973, Reverend Elijah Jackson, Jr. was called to lead the flock and in April 1974, the Wehadkee Missionary Baptist Church was incorporated. In October of that same year, Reverend Jackson presided over the church's first centennial celebration.

For the past 42 years, Reverend Jackson has led the congregation with distinction as the longest serving Pastor of the church. His spouse, First Lady Farris Jackson, plays an important role in his ministry.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly join President Obama in celebrating the 141st anniversary of the Wehadkee Missionary Baptist Church.

I am pleased to join in celebrating your 141st anniversary.

Throughout our Nation's history, places of worship have brought us together in the spirit of faith and love. Offering space for celebration in times of joy and comfort in times of uncertainty, they help foster a strong sense of community and call on us to meet life's most sacred responsibility—to give of ourselves in service to others.

As you mark this special milestone, I hope you take pride in your community's commitment to faith. May the years ahead be filled with continued blessings.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *August 28, 2015.*

OCTAVIA GEE—BEST IN THE
WORLD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate nine year old Octavia Gee from Sugar Land, Texas for setting a world shot put record.

Octavia, a student at Settler Way Elementary, recently competed at the Texas Vs. The World All Comers Meet with the goal of setting a world record in the nine-year-old division with an 8.8-pound shot put. If Octavia was nervous, she didn't show it, blasting the old record with a throw of 7.28 meters. Even better—she broke the world record on her mom's birthday. Octavia made her family, friends, and community proud. We look forward to seeing her set more records. We'll definitely see Octavia in future Olympic games.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Octavia for setting a world shot put record.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, for 50 years the National Collegiate Honors Council has been

enriching the lives and education of honors program students around the country. I rise today to congratulate them on this historic accomplishment. Serving over 325,000 honors students at 800 colleges and universities, the NCHC is dedicated to excellence in education in diverse subject and curriculum areas.

I would like to further honor the University of California, Riverside, in my home district. Since 1988 the University of California, Riverside has provided a world-class honors education to its students.

Founded on the principle of strengthening the involvement of faculty in undergraduate teaching and, through doing so, improve the quality of undergraduate education, the University of California, Riverside's honors program has produced significant results.

With their four-year honors program, the University has a program that provides intellectual growth, personal development, and social responsibility, at its core. The four-year honors program provides guidance and preparation to students, and allows entry portals to select students who demonstrated academic excellence, interest in research, or creative activities, that led to a senior thesis project.

The robust honors program at The University of California, Riverside has proven to be at the pinnacle of education creating the global citizens of today and tomorrow.

TRIBUTE TO CLEMENCIA SPIZIRRI

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Clemencia Spizirri for being named Iowa's Teacher of the Year by the Iowa Department of Education.

Established in 1958, the Iowa Teacher of the Year Award recognizes one teacher each year who displays the ability to motivate, challenge and inspire their students. They must be someone who is respected by their peers and students. The Teacher of the Year must be able to think outside the box and have a positive influence on their students, not only inside the classroom but also outside the classroom.

Clemencia is a shining example of all the qualities this award represents. She has dedicated her career to bettering the lives of her students through effective teaching techniques and a determination to provide high quality education for each and every one of her students. It is clear that Clemencia is uniquely qualified and deserving of this prestigious award.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Clemencia for receiving this award and for her role in molding the leaders of our future generations. Her hard work and dedication truly embodies our Iowa values, and I am proud to represent her in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Clemencia and in wishing her nothing but the best moving forward.

RECOGNIZING FLORIDA'S 16TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FIRE AND RESCUE AND EMS PERSONNEL

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize fire and rescue and EMS personnel who have provided distinguished service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

As first responders, fire departments and emergency medical service teams are summoned on short notice to serve their respective communities. Oftentimes, they arrive at scenes of great adversity and trauma, to which they reliably bring strength and composure. These brave men and women spend hundreds of hours in training so that they are prepared when they get "the call."

In 2012, I established the 16th District Congressional Fire and Rescue and EMS Awards to honor officers, departments, and units for outstanding achievement.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, it is my privilege to congratulate the following winners, who were selected this year by an independent committee comprised of a cross section of current and retired fire and rescue personnel living in the district.

Firefighter/EMT Michael Dunn of the Cedar Hammock Fire Rescue was chosen to receive the Preservation of Life Award.

Lt. Don Rossow of the Englewood Area Fire Control District was chosen to receive the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

District Chief/Paramedic Robin Thayer of the Manatee County Emergency Medical Services was chosen to receive the Career Service Award.

Lt. Jason Wilkins, Lt. Jamie Mann, Firefighter/EMT Nicholas Jones, Firefighter/Paramedic Sean Sponable and Firefighter/EMT Clayton Huber were chosen to receive the Unit Citation Award.

Deputy Chief Brett Pollock of the West Manatee Fire and Rescue was chosen to receive the Career Service Award.

Fire Investigator/Inspector Larry Betts of the Southern Manatee Fire and Rescue District was chosen to receive the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

IN MEMORY OF GREGORY THOMAS
ALIA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, tragically Forest Acres, South Carolina, Police Officer Gregory Thomas Alia was killed Wednesday, September 30th at Richland Fashion Mall in the line of duty protecting the people of his community. There was an outpouring of love and appreciation for his services. The following obituary is from The State on October 2nd.

Columbia—A Mass of Christian burial for Officer Gregory Thomas Alia, 32, will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, October 3, 2015, at St.

Joseph Catholic Church. Final Commendation and Farewell Prayers will be in St. Peter's Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 6 until 8.00 p.m. Friday, October 2, 2015, at Dunbar Funeral home, Devine Street Chapel.

Officer Alia died in the line of duty Wednesday, September 30, 2015. Born in Columbia, he was the son of Dr. Richard Thomas Alia and Mary Alexis Wade Alia. He was a graduate of Richland Northeast High School and the University of South Carolina with degrees in Criminal Justice and Media Arts. He was a founding father of Phi Sigma Kappa Gamma Triton Chapter. Officer Alia was with the Forest Acres Police Department for seven years. He was an Eagle Scout and a member of the St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Surviving are his wife, Cassandra Kugler "Kassy" Alia; son Salvatore David Alia; and his parents; sisters, Christine A. Corbly (Brett) of Indian Land, Rebecca Mesnil (Pierre) of Columbia; a niece, Madeleine; father-in-law and mother-in-law, David and Carol Ann Kugler; sisters-in-laws, Kristina Persinger (Brian), Knatalia Kugler, Kara Kugler; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Greg Alia Memorial Fund at www.gofundme.com/rw5b9wbc. Please sign the online guestbook at www.dunbarfunerals.com.

The State further published a thoughtful front page article by Avery G. Wilkes on October 4th reflecting the love and affection for the Alia family as headlined Officer was 'strong and brave, selfless'.

Hundreds gathered Saturday at St. Joseph Catholic Church and Elmwood Cemetery to mourn the death and celebrate the life of Forest Acres police officer Greg Alia.

Alia, 32, a seven-year veteran of the Forest Acres Police Department, was shot and killed Wednesday morning by a suspect in Richland Mall. His funeral Mass and burial services were crowded with police officers and law enforcement officials, including Forest Acres Police Chief Gene Sealy, Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott and S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson.

Some mourners who packed into the downtown Columbia church, including police from departments across South Carolina, wore blue ribbons in support of police.

Alia on Saturday was recalled as a gentle patient protector who sought to serve others before himself.

Christine Corbly, one of Alia's sisters who spoke at the funeral Mass, said Alia's overwhelming love and happiness were evident in the way he treated his family, friends and those he protected as a police officer.

"This is not the first time my brother rushed into danger, and if things had been different it wouldn't have been the last," Corbly said.

"This is not what made my brother a hero. What made my brother a hero was that every day he got up, put on his uniform, loved his family, loved his son, loved his wife, was full of commitment and happiness and contentment that he poured into everything he did.

"He gave it his all."

Corbly, who is older than Alia, said she used to read to him stories about heroes, warriors and adventure when they were kids. She said Alia wasn't usually drawn to the main character, preferring the sidekicks instead for their loyalty, selflessness and sacrifice.

"It seems that is the man he tried to become—strong and brave, selfless," Corbly said.

"Never the star, never the center, but rather the one who sacrificed himself so the hero could escape and save the day."

Monsignor Richard Harris, who delivered the homily at the funeral Mass, said Alia always looked for the good in others and that even when there wasn't much good to find, he was still patient and understanding.

"We will miss Gregory Alia—his voice, a touch, a smile, and a presence that will be longed for in the weeks, months and years to come," Harris said. "And there is the wish to say just one more, 'I love you.'"

Corbly thanked those in attendance for the outpouring of support the family has received over the past few days, most of all the memories of her brother that friends shared with them.

A GoFundMe set up by Alia's Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity brothers at the University of South Carolina had raised nearly 3500 donations, amounting to nearly \$175,000, as of Saturday afternoon.

That support also was visible on the way to Alia's burial service, said Chris Scott, who grew up with Alia in Forest Acres and went to USC and then California with him before he came back to South Carolina to become a police officer.

Officers and others lined the streets throughout Columbia, the officers saluting the funeral procession as it drove from St. Joseph's on Devine Street to the cemetery on Elmwood Avenue.

"It blew me away," Scott said.

"There were officers at every corner. They saluted every time.

"Outside of every shop on the way, there were people standing there."

Scott said the driver of the hearse he rode said that in the more than 1,800 funerals he had worked, he had never seen anything like that.

"To see this tidal wave of support and people that Greg knew and touched—he was the most magnetic, charming guy," Scott said. "I think his greatest super-power was he could not just make friends, but he could bring people together and form groups of friends and then bring them together."

"I know hundreds of people here, all through Greg, and every single one of them has an amazing incredible story."

A PERSONAL APPRECIATION OF GREG

The Wilson family has a personal appreciation of Greg as in 1999, I joined my third son Julian Wilson accompanying Greg on a trek to the Philmont Scout Ranch at Cimmaron, New Mexico, with Greg's Scout leaders being John Graham, Jim Flynn, Vincent VanBrunt, and Dave Cartledge, Scoutmaster of Troop 100 at St. Joseph Catholic Church of Columbia, South Carolina. Our oldest son Alan Wilson was grateful for Greg's volunteering to put up campaign signs in Alan's successful campaign for State Attorney General. And a dear family friend Adam Piper was fortunate to be a Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity brother at the University of South Carolina.

LOCAL ARTIST WINS BIG

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lauren Luna for winning Best in Show at the Pearland Arts League Show.

Lauren's winning painting is called Late Nights (Burgundy St.) and is based on a picture she took last year in New Orleans. Ms. Luna is active in our local art community and shares her passion for art as an art teacher at Mark Twain Elementary in Alvin, Texas. She is a true inspiration to her students by not only teaching them about the importance of art, but also showing them that they can follow their dreams. Ms. Luna's students share her success and also encourage her to never give up. The Alvin community is proud of Lauren's talents both as an artist and teacher.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Lauren Luna for winning Best in Show. Your beautiful art is truly inspiring.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE JAMES PROUD

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Judge James Proud, who is completing his service on the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas.

Judge Proud began his service to our country in 1968 when he entered the United States Army. Judge Proud soon entered the U.S. Army Engineer Officer Candidate School where he completed the program as a Distinguished Military Graduate, finishing first in his class among 55 other candidates.

Following his military service, Judge Proud received his law degree from Villanova University and continued to serve southeastern Pennsylvania when he was appointed as a Judge of the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas in 1996 by Governor Ridge. He served with honor and integrity, earning respect among his colleagues and others in the law enforcement and legal communities. Judge Proud also gave back to his community through his support for the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce, the Community Development Committee, and the Delaware County Emergency Food and Shelter Program.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Proud has dedicated his life to serving his community and his country, and he leaves the bench with the continuing gratitude of his friends and neighbors. I thank him for his service and wish him the best in retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, last week I missed several roll call votes due to weather. I wish to state how I would have voted had I been present:

Roll Call No. 534—Yes

Roll Call No. 535—Yes

RECOGNIZING PARK GEUN-HYE,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF KOREA

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Park Geun-hye, president of the Republic of Korea, on the occasion of her second visit to Washington, D.C.

This year marks the 65th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War. As Korea has transformed itself in six decades from a war torn economy into the thirteenth largest economy in the world, as well as an indispensable ally and linchpin of regional peace and stability in Northeast Asia, it stands as one of America's greatest foreign policy success stories of the post-World War II era.

Today Korea is the sixth largest trading partner of the United States, the fifth largest market for agricultural goods, and the third largest destination for U.S. foreign direct investment in the Asia-Pacific region. Bilateral trade between our two nations reached \$101.3 billion in 2013 alone, cemented by the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement. Overall, American exports to Korea reached a record level of \$44.5 billion last year. Trade with Korea injects billions of dollars into the U.S. economy, supporting thousands of American jobs.

Next week, Korean President Park Geun-hye will be making her second visit to Washington, D.C. While I regret not being here to welcome her in person, I want to express my heartfelt welcome and convey my best wishes for her every success.

I know that President Park's agenda for her visit will be important and robust. There are many challenges that confront us in the region, as shown by the recent incident along the Demilitarized Zone in which two South Korean soldiers were maimed by land mines laid by the North. Yet we shall remain resolute in countering North Korean provocations, and our iron-clad alliance will only be strengthened by President Park's visit.

In addition, I look forward to hearing about expanded U.S.-Korea cooperation in other areas including energy, space, health and cybersecurity.

Again, I offer my best wishes to President Park on a productive and successful visit and I ask my colleagues to join me with their own expressions of friendship and support.

**SWIMMING, BIKING AND RUNNING
TO 375**

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jeff Gill for successfully completing his 375th career triathlon last month.

Triathlons have allowed Jeff to travel the world. Of all the places he's traveled to compete, it was great to see Jeff complete his milestone triathlon in his hometown of Katy, Texas in a race he hasn't missed in over 20 years. Jeff has already completed nine triathlons just this year and hopes to complete nine more. He is well on his way to number 475.

We all look forward to cheering him along throughout his triathlon career. On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Jeff for completing his 375th triathlon.

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 Thursday, October 8, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 20

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Cherry Ann Murray, of Kansas, to be Director of the Office of Science, and Victoria Marie Baecher Wassmer, of Illinois, to be Under Secretary, both of the Department of Energy, and Mary L. Kendall, of Minnesota, to be Inspector General, Suzette M. Kimball, of West Virginia, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey, and Kristen Joan Sarri, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of the Interior.

SD-366

OCTOBER 21

10 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine agriculture biotechnology, focusing on Federal regulation and stakeholder perspectives.

SD-106

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Government Accountability Office report on Indian energy development.

SD-628

OCTOBER 22

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine Puerto Rico, focusing on the economy, debt, and options for Congress.

SD-366

OCTOBER 27

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation, and Enforcement's proposed Stream Protection Rule.

SD-366