

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DHS HEADQUARTERS REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following exchange of letters between the Committee on Homeland Security and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee regarding H.R. 3572.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, October 22, 2015.

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SHUSTER: Thank you for your interest in H.R. 3572, the "DHS Headquarters Reform and Improvement Act of 2015." I appreciate your cooperation in refraining from requesting a sequential referral on this bill in the interest of allowing it to move expeditiously under suspension of the House Rules on October 20, 2015. Because H.R. 3572 has now passed the House, the Parliamentarians can no longer render an official decision as to any jurisdictional claim the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee may have had.

I therefore acknowledge that the question of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's jurisdictional interest in a certain provision of H.R. 3572 has not been fully adjudicated and that no final decision as to that point was made. I further agree that the absence of a final decision will not prejudice any claim the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee may have with respect to this legislation in the future.

A copy of this letter will be entered into the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. McCAUL,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, October 22, 2015.

Hon. MICHAEL T. McCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security, Ford House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN McCAUL: I write concerning H.R. 3572, the "DHS Headquarters Reform and Improvement Act of 2015". This legislation includes matters that I believe fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

In order to expedite floor consideration of H.R. 3572, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure agreed to forgo action on this bill despite the fact that the Parliamentarians were unable to fully litigate the jurisdictional question. However, this was conditional on our mutual understanding that forgoing consideration of the bill would not prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation

that fall within the Committee's Rule X jurisdiction.

I request that you please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest into the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. PELLEGRINI'S RECEIPT OF ENRICO FERMI AWARD

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Claudio Pellegrini for his remarkable and groundbreaking work in the scientific community. On October 20, 2015, Dr. Pellegrini received the Enrico Fermi Award for his research on relativistic electron beams and free-electron lasers. This honor is among the most respected and prestigious awards for scientific achievement.

Throughout his lifetime, Dr. Pellegrini has held many prominent positions and earned numerous impressive awards. After studying at the University of Rome, he became Director of the laser division at the Frascati National Laboratories in the 1970s. He later served at the Brookhaven National Laboratory and at the Nordic Institute of Theoretical Physics. In recent years he has worked at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory. He is the distinguished recipient of a Fulbright fellowship and the FEL Prize. Still, these include only a fraction of Dr. Pellegrini's accomplishments.

I am especially pleased to recognize Dr. Pellegrini's position as a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Physics at the University of California Los Angeles. Widely considered an expert in electron and photon beams physics, his research contributed to the development of the first hard x-ray free-electron laser and helped advance high-energy physics more generally. The university and surrounding community has undoubtedly benefited from Dr. Pellegrini's presence.

I am confident that Dr. Pellegrini's work will continue to benefit the scientific community in the United States and throughout the world. Today, California's 33rd Congressional District is proud to congratulate Dr. Pellegrini as a Fermi Award recipient and as a tremendous scientist and individual.

LIFELONG ATHLETE: MARK SERTICH

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mark Sertich of Duluth, Minnesota,

who continues to celebrate victories on the ice at ninety-four years old.

Mark, who during World War II fought in General George Patton's Third Army liberating concentration camps, still puts on his ice skates several times a week to play a pick-up game of hockey. At fifty-nine years old he ran his first marathon and did not stop there. As of today, he has finished five marathons and eleven inline skating marathons.

Ice hockey remains his favorite sport, which is why Mark plays every week—no excuses. Forty-two years ago Mark began competing in the annual Snoopy's Senior World Tournament with the late cartoonist Charles Schulz. The two played on the same line together for many years and became good friends.

After taking a hard hit on the ice, resulting in two fractured ribs and a punctured lung, doctors said would keep him out of the game for at least six weeks. Mark was back on the ice in just three. His commitment makes him a role model for us all. When asked in a recent interview how he stays motivated to play every week, he responded, "I say the most important step is the first one out the door."

I congratulate Mark for not only continuing to play his favorite sport, but also for his victories on the ice, including winning paid skating fees for life in a bet with his teammates when he was eighty years old. Hopefully when I am ninety-four years old I can still lace up my skates and hold my own with players my grandchildren's age—and win a few games too.

HONORING MALCOLM "MAL" BURNSTEIN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional leader and activist, who fought for equality and civil rights for many decades, Malcolm "Mal" Burnstein.

Mal Burnstein was born in 1933 in Detroit, and faced heavy oppression and intolerance growing up as a Jewish man in the 1930's and 1940's. The difficulties Mal faced inspired him to be an advocate for civil rights. In the 1940's, Mal was very active in politics in his youth, and volunteered on quite a few campaigns. Some of the campaigns he volunteered for include Henry Wallace's campaign for president; Mennen Williams's campaign for governor; and Martha Griffith's campaign for Congress.

Mal graduated with his law degree from Boalt Law School at UC Berkeley in 1958, and after law school, he pursued a fellowship in Europe and studied international law at the Sorbonne in Paris. He then clerked for a year under California Supreme Court Justice Thomas White.

Mal's strong conviction to fight for civil rights and equality led him back to Europe for another fellowship, where he worked in Geneva,

• 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.

advocating for the cause of international human rights. In 1961, Mal began working for Robert Trehaut at the Trehaut firm, practicing labor law. The Trehaut firm soon disbanded, and Robert Trehaut joined Doris Walker's firm, hiring Mal as the only associate.

In 1962, Mal formed the Boatrackers Democratic Club, a group dedicated to representing civil rights demonstrators. The club is notable for defeating a recall proposed by conservative Berkeley citizens to recall the Berkeley School Board for racially integrating their Berkeley schools.

Mal worked with the Free Speech Movement, the student protest that took place at UC Berkeley in 1964, when the Movement organizers sought legal representation from the Walker firm. Mal provided legal counsel for the Movement, and advised the Movement student organizers during negotiations with the school. Mal's admiration for student leadership and commitment to the Free Speech Movement proved vital during the trials of the 800 arrested students.

Mal was also a member of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), and was one of its volunteer lawyers. He participated in CORE organized eat-ins, sit-ins, shops-ins, and picket protests. Such actions were instrumental in paving the way for diversification in workplaces around the East Bay.

On a personal note, Mal has been a confidant, my lawyer, a mentor, and most importantly, a wonderful friend. I value his wise counsel and am always energized by his soaring spirit.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I extend my sincerest congratulations to Malcolm "Mal" Burnstein.

**HONORING ANDERSON'S GROCERY,
RECIPIENT OF THE 2015 EXCELLENCE
IN OPERATIONS AWARD
FROM THE WASHINGTON FOOD
INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION**

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Anderson's Grocery in Republic, Washington for receiving the 2015 Excellence in Operations Award from the Washington Food Industry Association. I want to recognize the owners Ms. Kari Beedle, Ms. Julie Padilla, and Ms. Judee Young for their tireless effort, serving people in Republic and across Eastern Washington.

The Excellence in Operations Award recognizes those who excel in daily store operations, product merchandising, and employee relations of community-focused grocers in Washington State. As a family-owned grocery store, Anderson's Grocery has continuously served Republic, Washington for one hundred and fifteen years. It is this type of devotion and commitment that makes Anderson's Grocery truly deserving of this distinguished award.

Anderson's Grocery and its owners care deeply about their customers and employees and operate with the philosophy that their employees are the key to their success. Under this philosophy, the owners have implemented

many worker-friendly programs. Additionally, to better meet the needs of Ferry County and the surrounding areas, through the years, Anderson's Grocery added capacity in their frozen food, deli, produce and meat departments, and added a bakery department, further exemplifying their commitment to providing enhanced goods and services in order to better the lives of all within our community.

Outside of the store, Kari Beedle, Julie Padilla, and Judee Young established the Mary French Foundation. This foundation, named after an Anderson's Grocery employee who passed away of breast cancer, works to raise funds to support scholarship efforts for Republic High School seniors. This commitment illustrates what involved and devoted community members look like and Anderson's Grocery continually goes above and beyond to provide exemplary service and to give back to all of those in Republic, Washington and in Ferry County.

So today I recognize these accomplishments and congratulate Anderson's Grocery and its owners on being leaders in our community, on their dedicated service to Republic and Ferry County, and on receiving the distinct 2015 Excellence in Operations Award from the Washington Food Industry Association. Thank you for all of your efforts to serve and better Eastern Washington.

TRIBUTE TO VAN G. MILLER

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a dear friend and a true innovator, Mr. Van G. Miller. I was saddened to learn of his death earlier this week. Van was a pillar of the community of Waterloo—founding VGM and Associates in 1986 as a provider of home medical equipment, believing that community-based providers produced the best results. Under his direction, the company quickly expanded to include more than 20 business units and employing 850 people. He was recognized as a Champion of Home Care by the American Association for Home Care and was named one of the HME Industry's Top Ten most Influential Individuals by HME News.

Despite his success, he remained humble and quick to credit his success to his employees. He called each of his employees on their birthdays and work anniversaries and supported numerous local charities throughout the First District. In addition, he shared the success of VGM with them as he sold 100 percent of the company to its employees through an Employee Stock Option Plan.

His family and friends, the state of Iowa and the City of Waterloo will greatly miss Van—a true visionary in his field.

I express my condolences to his immediate family, as well as his extended family at VGM, and for all of those who had the privilege of knowing him.

2015 WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEER CHAMPION: TAMMY TISLAND

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tammy Tisland, from Hines, Minnesota for being named the 2015 Women's International Auctioneer Champion. Tammy won the title at the National Auctioneers Association Conference and Show in July.

In addition to her work as an auctioneer, Tammy dedicates much of her spare time to helping veterans and their families in her community. As a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, American Legion Riders, and Patriot Guard Riders she has found helping veterans and their families greatly rewarding.

Tammy has been in the auction industry fourteen years and enjoys "helping folks move from one chapter in life to another." During the competition she was judged on everything from her professional presentation to effective selling skills, to her bid call. Tammy attributes her success to a culmination of evolving as a competitor, following the advice of her mentors, and growing not only her involvement with the National Auctioneers Association but also learning to be a giver within the NAA. As 2015 IAC champion she hopes to motivate young auctioneers to give back to the industry and the people it serves as they pursue their goals.

Thank you, Tammy Tisland, for your dedication and service to our community.

**APPLAUDING MATT WEINSTEIN
FOR HIS SERVICE TO ALA-
BAMA'S FIRST CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT**

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share my appreciation to Matt Weinstein for his nine years of service to Alabama's First Congressional District. Matt's last day serving the people of Southwest Alabama will be Friday, October 30.

Matt started his service to Alabama's First Congressional District in 2010 as a legislative assistant to Congressman Jo Bonner (R-AL). Prior to working for the First District, Matt worked in the office of Alabama Congressman MIKE ROGERS (R-AL) starting in January 2007.

Upon my election to Congress in December 2013, I was proud to name Matt Weinstein my legislative director. In my office, Matt has been a dedicated advisor on all policy matters and served as a liaison with small businesses and elected officials in Southwest Alabama.

Matt has been instrumental in my office's efforts to push forward with construction of a new I-10 bridge over the Mobile River. Matt has done an impressive job of working with the Alabama Department of Transportation and the federal Department of Transportation to remove bureaucratic hurdles. With Matt's help, we have been able to make real, tangible process over the last two years.

When the BP/Deepwater Horizon oil spill hit Alabama's Gulf Coast, Matt helped Congressman Bonner advocate for our coastal communities. Matt played an important role in crafting the RESTORE Act, which was intended to keep oil spill settlement money under control of the coastal counties.

I am especially grateful for Matt's service to our nation's service members and veterans. Matt did tremendous work supporting our nation's Navy and the thousands of Alabamians who work at the Austal USA shipyard in Mobile, Alabama. Matt has also assisted countless veterans with various issues related to the Department of Veterans Affairs and has supported my efforts to give veterans greater access to private care.

Mr. Speaker, I asked former Congressman Jo Bonner to share his gratitude with Matt as well. Congressman Bonner said, "Matt is one of the most talented and dedicated young men I know. He thinks strategically, always looking for ways to build consensus and get the job done. He was invaluable to the people of South Alabama during the aerial refueling tanker war, but he was equally helpful in getting those early contracts for Austal and during those difficult months following the BP/Deepwater Horizon explosion. I can't say enough good things about Matt Weinstein; he is truly one in a million."

A native of Mobile, Alabama, Matt has served his hometown with dedication, passion, and steady leadership. I wish him and his wife, Paige, all the best in their future endeavors. Alabama's First Congressional District will be forever grateful for his service.

HONORING HO FENG-SHAN

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bravery and heroism of Ho Feng-Shan, the Chinese Consul-General stationed in Vienna during World War II.

At great risk to his personal safety, Mr. Ho issued Chinese visas to thousands of Austrian Jews, allowing them to flee the country and escape the atrocities of Nazi concentration camps. Despite strict orders from his superiors to stop issuing visas on such a large scale, he refused to abide by these instructions and undoubtedly saved thousands of lives.

On August 7, 2000, Mr. Ho was recognized by Yad Vashem with the title, "Righteous among the Nations" for his selfless and courageous actions.

Please join me in honoring Ho Feng-Shan for his sacrifice and brave display of noble humanitarianism.

IN HONOR OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF MEDICAL RESEARCH IN
GEORGIA

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss a disease that is impor-

tant to my family, breast cancer. This devastating disease strikes 1 in 8 women, affecting our mothers, wives, daughters, sisters, and loved ones. In Georgia, breast cancer is a particularly serious problem as it is the most common type of cancer and the second most deadly type of cancer among women in the state. According to the nonprofit Sisters by Choice, 6000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and 1000 will die from breast cancer in Georgia each year. This epidemic is made worse by the fact that 19 percent of Georgians do not have health insurance, 33 percent of Georgia counties do not have mammography machines, and 75 percent of Georgia counties are medically underserved. Due to slow detection caused by these facts, 30 percent of breast cancers will have metastasized and be present in other places throughout the body by the time they are found.

Despite the disheartening statistics about cancer, I know that there is still hope. Detection and treatment advances found in the past few years will help to both lessen the risk of cancer and win the fight to eradicate cancer. I am pleased that Georgia is a hub for medical innovation in the fight against cancer, utilizing public and private partnerships to research the disease. Moreover, the CDC and the internationally regarded cancer centers at Emory University, Georgia Regents University, the University of Georgia, Northside Hospital, and other centers throughout the state have pioneered effective, yet minimally invasive ways to treat this disease.

Additionally, the CDC has contributed to this effort through public outreach programs aimed at improving surveillance so that cancers can be caught early. In addition, the internationally-renowned Winship Cancer Institute at Emory University has tested 75 percent of FDA-approved new cancer treatments in the past seven years. At another renowned institution, researchers at the University of Georgia have discovered a vaccine that attacks a previously unassailable protein. This vaccine is vitally important because this protein is found in the majority of killing cancers and in the "triple-negative" tumors common in a particularly dangerous variant of breast cancer.

In addition to the work done by the professional research institutions in Georgia, I am proud that the Georgia community has come together to support those who are suffering from not just breast cancer, but cancers of all types. For instance, Sisters by Choice, a nonprofit organization centered around helping underinsured and underserved women to find and treat breast cancer, is working on creating a mobile clinic that will provide screenings, diagnostic services, access to clinical trials, and other resources to these disadvantaged populations. In addition, wonderful nonprofit organizations working with cancer centers, such as the Cancer Support Community Atlanta and the Treehouse Gang, an organization based around supporting children with a parent suffering from cancer, provide vital assistance and hope to cancer sufferers and their families. Finally, the Atlanta 2-Day Walk has raised \$11 million in just 13 years to help find new ways to treat and prevent breast cancer. Through these initiatives, and the hard work of the cancer centers in Georgia, I know that definite progress has been and will continue to be made to treat and eradicate this deadly disease.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATRICIA
MILJANICH

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Patricia Miljanich, a departing member of the Board of Trustees of the San Mateo County Community College District. Ms. Miljanich has served the public in her position since 1995, and she has been part of a board of trustees that has created over 20 years an outstanding college system for residents.

When Trustee Miljanich began her service, the district had decades-old buildings, stagnant enrollment, and curriculum that needed upgrading. She and her fellow trustees went to work hiring new staff, passing several bonds, and overseeing the resurrection of a community gem. In addition to her role as a trustee, Patricia Miljanich has served on the board of the nonprofit corporation overseeing an innovative housing project on the campuses of the community colleges. She has also served as a board member of the foundation supporting the community colleges.

As a result of her leadership and that of her board colleagues, the San Mateo County Community Colleges now have stunning state-of-the-art campuses, classes that offer a broad path to a four year institution, and several shorter programs that prepare students to be job ready through two year degrees and certificates. As a pathway to lifelong learning and prosperity, the college district reflects the vision of Trustee Miljanich that every young person, and many who are in mid-career or retirement, should view the community colleges as their ongoing ticket to a rigorous education.

Ms. Miljanich has another side to her public service beyond her years as a trustee. At one point she served as a field representative for a member of the state assembly, and as a legal advocate for low income children while Director of Legal Services for Children in San Francisco.

Most of all, Ms. Miljanich has distinguished herself as a remarkable leader of the nonprofit Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), an organization that pairs caring adults with children who are in the protection of the courts when their parents cannot care for them. There is no question that Patricia Miljanich, in this role, has saved the lives of many children. CASA is an extraordinary organization which brings out the best of caring volunteers and matches it with the most basic need of a child: to have a friend and advocate during times of tremendous insecurity and trauma.

Patricia is a graduate of the University of Virginia and the University of San Francisco School of Law. Her greatest achievements, no doubt, are her four children, Nicolene Mefford, Martine Miljanich, Peter Miljanich, and Sophia Miljanich, and her four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker and members, Patricia Miljanich is retiring from the Board of Trustees of the San Mateo County Community College District, but she will remain very active in our community. She put in countless hours during her 20 years of service to the district, and offered decades of additional help to children and our most vulnerable residents. As she leaves, the wind at her back is the force of

those praying for her to succeed in her next adventure. As she will experience shortly, this wind will likely be a gale force event, so beloved is Patricia Miljanich in San Mateo County.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMPLETION OF THE GATEWAY GEYSER

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th Anniversary of the completion of the Gateway Geyser. It is a proud and distinct achievement that the tallest fountain in the United States, and the second tallest in the world, is located in the Metro East region of Southern Illinois.

The vision and drive of Malcom Martin made it possible to undertake this incredible project. In addition to its famous geyser, the park's facilities offer visitors impressive and memorable views of the Arch and City of St. Louis. It is very much a part of the overall Jefferson National Expansion Memorial.

As I toured the park recently, I developed an understanding for the desires that the Metro East Park and Recreation District and the Gateway Center have to make this amazing park a part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. Doing so would be a fitting tribute to Malcom Martin and all of the City of East St. Louis officials who have helped make this anniversary possible.

HONORING DEPUTY CHIEF DAVID E. DOWNING

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary career of Deputy Chief David Downing of the Oakland Police Department.

Deputy Chief Downing began his career in law enforcement with the Oakland Police Department (OPD) in 1988. During his career, he has served in a wide variety of assignments, including Police Academy Director, Internal Affairs Commander, and Special Operations Commander. In 2012, he was promoted to Deputy Chief of Police and is currently the commander of the Bureau of Field Operations for West Oakland. Deputy Chief Downing also served concurrently with OPD's Special Weapons and Tactics team from 1992 to 2011 as an operator, team leader, and tactical commander.

In addition to serving the citizens of Oakland, Deputy Chief Downing served the United States of America as an Air Force Reservist from 1984 to 2014. He retired as a Chief Master Sergeant with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations as the Senior Enlisted Leader for the 4th Field Investigative Region, at Randolph Air Force Base in Texas. In 2001, he was mobilized into active duty and served in Operation Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom until his return to civilian law enforcement in 2003.

Deputy Chief Downing received his Bachelor's Degree in Administration of Justice from San Jose State University in 1989, and went on to graduate from Indiana State University in 2008 with a Master's Degree in Criminology. He is also the graduate of several senior management programs, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy, the Police Executive Research Forum's Senior Management Institute for Police, and the California Peace Officer Standards and Training Executive Development Course.

Throughout his career, Deputy Chief Downing has maintained a special interest in and relationship with Oakland's Chinatown. He serves the Oakland and Chinatown communities as a member of the Board of Directors of the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, the President of the Oakland Police Foundation, President of the Oakland Police Managers Association, Chairman of the Asian Advisory Committee on Crime, Chairman of the Asian Youth Services Committee (AYSC), Chairperson of the AYSC Scholarship Dinner, and has raised funds and manpower to send low-income youth to various camps and seminars across the nation.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Deputy Chief David E. Downing, I salute him. I thank him for a lifetime of service and congratulate him on his achievements. I wish him and his loved ones the very best as he enjoys his well-deserved retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR HISPANICS

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the 25th anniversary of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. The initiative, established in 1990, has sought to address the educational disparities faced by the Hispanic community. This year, the White House launched the Bright Spots catalog to commemorate the initiative's success. This newly created resource honors organizations around the country significantly furthering the educational attainment of the Hispanic community.

While there are 230 programs included in the catalog, I would like to honor three organizations in California's 51 District: Barrio Logan College Institute, Reality Changers, and the San Ysidro Vanguard Education Foundation.

Barrio Logan College Institute, established in 2007, is a nonprofit working to provide disadvantaged students with the opportunity to attend college. The organization begins working with students in third grade and continues providing support and guidance throughout high school. Since its creation, 100 percent of its graduates have gone on to college.

Reality Changers was founded in 2001 in an attempt to better prepare disadvantaged Hispanic youth for college. By establishing various support systems and college readiness programs, the organization has seen 97 percent of its students become first generation college students.

San Ysidro Vanguard Education Foundation was created in 2012 to address the racial and ethnic disparities within the San Ysidro School District. The organization focuses on early learning, college access, Latino teacher recruitment, and STEM education.

Again, I would like to extend my admiration and sincere appreciation for all the work that these groups continue to do for our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF RONN OWENS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a broadcast legend who is celebrating his 40th anniversary at KGO Newstalk 810 today and who will be inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame in November. Ronn Owens is a household name in the Bay Area and beyond, a master in his field, and a remarkably talented, opinionated and intellectually curious man whom I am proud to call a good friend. I have spent many hours on the air with Ronn and he is always tough, thoughtful, informed and unpredictable.

He has honed his skills in thousands of interviews with guests in the hot seat, including President Barack Obama, Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI, actor Steve Martin, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, 49er quarterback Joe Montana, singer Tony Bennett and a long list of Secretaries of State, CIA Directors, mayors and community leaders.

His longevity and style on the air have earned him many prestigious awards: The Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame, the National Association of Broadcaster's Marconi Award twice, Talkers Magazine's Top 25 Greatest Radio Talk Show Host of All Time, and now the National Radio Hall of Fame where he will be joining the likes of Edward R. Murrow, Bob Hope and Terry Gross.

Ronn was born Ronald Lowenstein on October 17, 1945 in New York City. He graduated from Temple University in Philadelphia in 1968 and launched his broadcast career hosting radio programs in Atlanta, Miami, Cleveland and Philadelphia. In 1975 he moved to San Francisco and began his four decade run at KGO radio. Today, he remains the only weekday talk radio host on the station and has a regular audience of half a million listeners.

While Ronn is very vocal about his opinions—he also wrote a book titled *Voice of Reason: Why the Left and Right Are Wrong*—he is the first to admit when he is wrong. Facts matter and he is dedicated to seeking the truth. Last year, Ronn revealed a challenging personal truth to his listeners. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease over a decade ago. He decided to go public after the tragic death of Robin Williams who was diagnosed with Parkinson's. Ronn hasn't let his symptoms get in the way of doing his job.

Recently he joked before surgery, "If I come out and say, 'you know, that Sarah Palin would make a heckuva president,' we'll know something went wrong." He meets the challenges of his disease with great courage and humor.

Ronn started his radio career when analog reel-to-reel tape recorders, cartridges and

turntables were modern, but he has stayed with the times, in fact he is an early adopter and loves technology. I remember when at a visit to his studio I pulled out my Blackberry to take a photo, and he burst out laughing making fun of my "antique" phone, I promptly bought an iPhone.

The love for radio and story-telling has shaped Ronn's professional and personal life. He is married to former KGO and KCBS anchor Jan Black and they have two truly accomplished daughters, Sarah and Laura.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Ronn Owens, an icon in radio news and commentary, for his extraordinary career. He has kept me and countless public officials on our political toes and will continue to do so for a long time.

IN TRIBUTE TO DR. IRVING J. SELIKOFF, A PIONEER IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Irving J. Selikoff (1915–1992), whose ground breaking work created the field of environmental and occupational medicine. Dr. Selikoff established the first hospital division of occupational and environmental medicine in the nation at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City, developing clinical programs that have cared for thousands of workers impacted by occupational diseases. This month, Mount Sinai cut the ribbon on the Selikoff Centers for Occupational Health, named in his honor.

Revered as the father of occupational health, Dr. Selikoff's research and tireless advocacy has saved millions of lives. In 1952, working with Dr. Edward H. Robitzek, he demonstrated that isoniazid was an effective treatment for tuberculosis. He subsequently opened a clinic for lung patients in Paterson, N.J., where he saw 17 workers from an asbestos plant with similar symptoms. Within a few years, 15 were dead, 14 of them from lung cancer, asbestosis or mesothelioma. This led him to begin investigating the cause of their illnesses. His research expanded and he began studying the health of other insulation workers, often collaborating with labor unions. Despite heavy resistance from the industry, he ultimately recruited 17,800 workers for a survey that documented widespread illness among those who had worked with asbestos. Even people who had been exposed for less than a week had lung scarring 30 years later.

Dr. Selikoff's research on asbestos disease and his expert testimony shaped public policy and improved working conditions for America's working men and women. Thanks to his careful research, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration imposed safeguards for workers starting in the 1970s. His work also prompted the Environmental Protection Administration to implement regulations regarding asbestos products; however, the United States remains one of the few developed nations that do not ban asbestos.

Dr. Selikoff's tireless advocacy led to a fundamental understanding in this country that

workers have the right to safe working conditions. Over the span of his 50-year career until his death in 1992, he taught two generations of physicians, published over 380 scientific works, and publicized the health risks associated with toxins found in everyday work environments. He wrote more than 350 scientific articles and two books, edited 11 books and founded two journals. In 1982 Dr. Selikoff, Cesare Maltoni and other eminent scientists founded the Collegium Ramazzini. Comprised of 180 internationally renowned experts in occupational and environmental health, the Collegium Ramazzini helps social and political leaders understand how scientific discoveries impact public health.

Researchers at Mount Sinai and around the world continue his work and are leaders in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of workplace injuries and illnesses. After 9/11, when people who had worked at Ground Zero began to experience disproportionate levels of illness, Mount Sinai began to do research on the cause. Their work helped document the need for a program to provide care for people who had been made sick by the toxins released on 9/11. Mount Sinai was naturally selected as one of the Centers of Excellence to treat their illnesses under the direction of Dr. Philip J. Landrigan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the extraordinary work and legacy of Dr. Irving J. Selikoff. His focus on the health impacts of workplace conditions has benefitted millions of American workers.

HONORING DAN JENSEN

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of myself and Congressman MCCLINTOCK to acknowledge and honor Dan Jensen who announced his retirement as President of Delaware North at Yosemite. In that position, he is responsible for overseeing lodging, food service, retail, transportation and guest recreation in Yosemite National Park provided under contract to the National Park Service.

Born and raised in Visalia, a central California community, located in a rich agricultural region, Dan attended college at UC Riverside and graduated in 1971 with a Bachelors of Arts in Economics. In addition he holds an MBA from University of California, Los Angeles. Immediately after graduating, he joined the Los Angeles office of Price Waterhouse, the world's largest professional services firm, where he worked in the audit services division.

In 1993, Dan began his career in the theme park industry as the executive vice president and general manager of Universal Studios in Florida. He was instrumental in the expansion of the major resort destination which included a second theme park, three themed hotels and a nighttime entertainment complex known as City Walk. In 2001, Dan's theme park career went overseas, where he became the executive vice president and chief operating officer of the newly opened park Universal Studios in Japan. During Dan's time with Universal Studios Japan, it had the most successful first year of operations in the history of theme parks.

Participating in a cultural exchange program in Russia in 1998, gave Dan the opportunity to visit various national parks throughout Russia. The purpose was to gain valuable insight into business and social issues that would contribute to improved funding for Russia's national park system. This made him an ideal candidate for his extensive role as President of Delaware North located near one of California's most established National Parks.

Having worked for the previous concessioner from 1979 to 1992 in various financial and operational roles, Dan returned to Yosemite in 2006 as President of Delaware North at Yosemite. The global leading company's operations in Yosemite includes 1,350 hotel rooms, 21 food service operations and 16 retail locations as well as a variety of recreational activities.

Despite Dan's extensive work load, he finds the time to be an active participant in the community of Yosemite. He was on the board of trustees and the council of the Yosemite Conservancy, chairman of the Yosemite/Mariposa Tourism Bureau and a member of the University of California at Merced Board of trustees. Dan is an active supporter of NatureBridge, an educational nonprofit organization that provides outdoor environmental education in Yosemite as well as other national parks.

Dan and his wife Susan, parents of two now adult children, reside in the Yosemite Valley.

Mr. Speaker, please join Congressman MCCLINTOCK and I in honoring and commending the outstanding contributions made to Yosemite by the President of Delaware North, Dan Jensen. We wish him continued success in his retirement.

HONORING MS. FRANCES CHOW

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary member of the East Bay community, Ms. Frances Chow upon her retirement.

Ms. Chow was born and raised in Stockton, California. She spent countless hours of her personal time volunteering in soup kitchens and senior centers, as a summer camp counselor for physically challenged youths, and in local community organizations including the United Way.

Later, Ms. Chow went on to graduate from the University of San Diego with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration and minor in Mathematics. She is also trained and certified in Clinical Psychology, Project Management, and Bank Compliance.

Upon graduating, Ms. Chow was recruited to work with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), which is an independent federal agency created by Congress to maintain stability and confidence in the nation's financial system. During her 20-year career at the FDIC, Ms. Chow received numerous performance awards, including "Employee of the Year."

Currently, Ms. Chow is Senior Vice President and Regional Operations Manager of Gateway Bank, FSB, located in Oakland Chinatown.

Throughout the years, Ms. Chow has made innumerable contributions to the Chinatown

and East Bay community, through her service as a Sunday school teacher, youth and science camp counselor, and her work with various local organizations. Ms. Chow has served as the Asian Advisory Committee on Crime's Annual Banquet Chairperson, former President of the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, and the former President of the Oakland Chinatown Lions Club.

Ms. Chow currently serves as the Vice President of the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, Vice President of the Asian Advisory Committee on Crime, Treasurer of the Oakland Police Foundation, the Health Fair Chairperson for the Chinatown Lions Club, and volunteers at the Oakland Children's Hospital Children's Network.

Ms. Chow has also received numerous awards for her community work. She was recognized as the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce's "Volunteer of the Year" in 1998, received the Lions Club's Melvin Jones Award in 2011, and in 2012, was recognized as the Asian Advisory Committee on Crime's "Citizen of the Year" Award and recognized as "Citizen/Member of the Year" by Gateway Bank.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Ms. Frances Chow, I salute her. I thank her for a lifetime of service and congratulate her on her many achievements. I wish her and her loved ones the very best as she enjoys her well-deserved retirement.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 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 \$18,152,650,688,229.10. We've added \$7,525,773,639,316.02 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.

HONORING JOAN MILLMAN

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I extend a heartfelt appreciation of Joan Millman for her tireless work for the residents of the 52nd Assembly District over the last two decades.

"Brownstone Joan" has represented us in Albany as a reformer to challenge the establishment. She has lent her voice to those who too often are neglected or ignored in the political process.

Joan has been a trailblazer like our beloved Eileen Dugan before her, and today our new Assemblywoman Jo Anne Simon continues that tradition.

Joan Millman has been a steadfast and dedicated champion of seniors, children and the most vulnerable among us.

Among her many achievements, she has been critical to making the dream of Brooklyn Bridge Park a reality.

She has advocated for affordable housing, street safety and access to quality education and parental engagement.

My friends, Joan has a long public service record that speaks for itself. She is a leader with great integrity who has led our assembly district with distinction and honor.

Not only is Joan a fine public servant, she is also a very good friend.

Joan Millman's tireless efforts over the last 17 years on behalf of all Brooklyn residents are an inspiration to all of us in public service and I salute her.

IN RECOGNITION OF 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE METROPOLITAN CLUB

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 100th anniversary of a landmark in San Francisco that is beloved as an important gathering place for women and as a historic building. The Metropolitan Club at 640 Sutter Street today serves over 1,000 members and countless non-profits that use the beautiful building for meetings and events.

The Metropolitan Club started in 1912–1914 as a vision of a group of Bay Area women who were determined to build an athletic club for women similar in size, grandeur and services to those available to men. These ladies were active in civic and charitable organizations and the preparations for the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exposition.

On October 25, 1915 their vision became a reality and the Women's Athletic Club of San Francisco was incorporated as the first women's athletic club west of Chicago. For a century now, the club has been a special place for women of all ages to pursue physical and intellectual fitness.

The historic building was designed by Bliss & Faville, a prominent architectural firm that is responsible for landmarks such as the Bank of California, the Geary Theater, the Masonic Temple, Southern Pacific headquarters, China Basin, the Marines' Memorial Club and the University Club. After a major addition to the clubhouse was finished in 1923, the San Francisco Chronicle lauded the club as "unlike anything in the United States maintained for and by women."

The unique character of the Metropolitan Club has made it a desirable place for historic events. It became the unofficial headquarters for visiting women journalists who covered the signing of the United Nations Charter in San Francisco in 1945. In 1948, it was the only local club represented at the first Western meeting of UNESCO.

In 2004, the Metropolitan Club received one of the most prestigious honors from the U.S. Department of the Interior; it was nominated to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places which is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. The Metropolitan Club was described as a "place where the women who formed a club and generations of San Francisco women after them

have met their friends, exercised, dined, played cards, celebrated holidays, attended lectures, entertained others and engaged in all the activities of the club." The same year, the 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation was created as a 502(c)3 with the mission to preserve the club's historic building and important heritage.

Major seismic and life-saving renovations were completed in 2009 to prepare the club for its second century as the "House that Women Built."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives join me in saying happy 100th birthday to the Metropolitan Club which has touched the lives of countless San Francisco families and helped shape the history of our beautiful city by the bay.

CONGRATULATING OAK TRACE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Oak Trace Elementary School in Westfield, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the United States Department of Education, is awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students, and parents who have worked so hard to ensure Indiana's children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that Oak Trace Elementary School is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgement of the school's commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While hundreds of schools nationwide were nominated, only 335 schools were designated as 2015 National Blue Ribbon Schools, making this recognition all the more impressive.

Serving developmental preschool children through fourth grade, Oak Trace Elementary School provides its students with a safe and exciting learning environment. Oak Trace is a C.L.A.S.S. (Connecting Learning Assures Successful Students) school that implements a non-cognitive curriculum focused on doing the right thing and treating people right. They offer a unique learning atmosphere that focuses on building life skills, measures performance by individual student growth, and offers plenty of opportunities to give back to the community. Through differentiated instruction, students achieve well above the national average and consistently place in the top 5 percent of all students in Indiana. I applaud its administrators and teachers for their focus on individual growth and commitment to ensuring its students engage with the Hoosier community.

As an advocate for education and youth, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation's future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at Oak Trace Elementary School give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators, and parents across the nation. Once again, congratulations to Oak Trace Elementary School. I am very proud of you.

HONORING LINDA B. SWADEL,
CHIEF ASSESSOR FROM WEST-
BOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Linda B. Swadel, Chief Assessor from Westborough, Massachusetts.

Linda is retiring this November after having served as an Assessor in several communities—including Leicester, Northbridge and Westborough—over the last 30 years as well as serving on various committees for the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers. She is currently serving as the MAAO Legislative Committee Co-Chair.

Like assessors throughout Massachusetts, Linda has helped to provide our cities and towns with the critical financial services essential to supporting strong budgets for our communities' schools, public safety, recreation, and so many other services our families count on every day.

She is currently the Chairman of the Board of Assessors and Chief Assessor in Westborough and she serves on the Massachusetts Farmland Valuation Advisory Subcommittee as well as the Legislative Task Force for the Council on Aging.

She has served on various other MAAO Committees in her tenure, such as the Education Committee and the Telecom Committee. She is a recipient of the MAAO's Wilson Award as well as the MAAO's Past President's Award. Both of which are given to members for their service and dedication to the profession and the Association.

Linda is also a two-time Past President of the Worcester County Assessors Association and I am so grateful for the difference she has made in our community.

Throughout her career, she has shared her passion for her profession by speaking at conferences, inspiring and helping her peers to grow in their own careers.

For all of Linda's hard work and dedication, I am proud to recognize her as she retires from a career dedicated to helping others and keeping our communities strong.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTHA
BRUCKNER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Mar-

tha Bruckner of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for her selection as Iowa's 2015–16 School Superintendent of the Year. Under Dr. Bruckner's leadership the Council Bluffs Community School District has seen great successes, including improved graduation rates and increased academic achievement.

This award is presented by the School Administrators of Iowa, based on standards that include a shared vision of learning, a presence of school culture, a safe and effective learning environment, engagement with the community, integrity and fairness, and a dedication to addressing the issues facing public education. Dr. Bruckner embodies these criteria with her passion for education and her leadership within the Council Bluffs School District. She has shown that a commitment to improving the learning environment within a school district can and will yield positive results for students.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Dr. Bruckner for her dedicated service to the Council Bluffs Community School District, and more importantly, to each and every student she oversees. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Dr. Bruckner for receiving this outstanding award and in wishing her and her students nothing but continued success.

CONGRATULATING THE 2016 VIR-
GINIA TEACHER OF THE YEAR,
MRS. NATALIE DIFUSCO-FUNK

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to congratulate the 2016 Virginia Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Natalie DiFusco-Funk. She is a fifth-grade teacher at West Salem Elementary School in Salem, Virginia, where my two sons attend school.

According to press reports, DiFusco-Funk earned her Bachelor of Arts in Education and her Master of Education at Boston College, and in 2013, earned her National Board Certification in Literacy. She is a 12-year veteran of the classroom who has been teaching in Salem City Schools for five years. Previously, she taught in Botetourt County as a reading specialist and also taught in schools in Massachusetts.

"Natalie is an exceptional teacher and a consummate professional who positively changes the lives of young people and facilitates the growth and development of her colleagues," said Salem Superintendent H. Alan Seibert.

DiFusco-Funk, who has said she felt called to teach since she was in fifth grade, is the first Salem City Schools teacher to have earned this recognition. She will now compete to be the National Teacher of the Year.

She said, "I told my students—like Spider-Man says, 'With great power comes great responsibility,' and so it is my responsibility to represent the field of education well and to speak on behalf of all the teachers of Virginia, and take it to the White House."

On behalf of many in the district, I thank Mrs. Natalie DiFusco-Funk for all she has done for our area, and congratulate her for this hard-earned recognition and praise. Best wishes for many more years of success.

CONGRATULATING OUR LADY OF
MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC
SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON
SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School in Carmel, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the United States Department of Education, is awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students, and parents who have worked so hard to ensure Indiana's children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgement of the school's commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While hundreds of schools nationwide were nominated, only 335 schools were designated as 2015 National Blue Ribbon Schools. Of the 335 schools, Our Lady of Mount Carmel was 1 of 50 private schools to receive recognition, making this recognition all the more impressive.

Serving children from kindergarten through eighth grade, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School provides its students with an outstanding education in both academics and the Catholic faith. It is a Four Star School, awarded by the state of Indiana. The school achieved this designation by placing in the top 25th percentile of schools in three ISTEP-based categories. Our Lady consistently provides excellence in education by facilitating a Christ-centered educational community that creates a vibrant learning community, provides opportunities to serve others, and prepares students for lifelong learning. As a mother whose children attended Catholic school, I applaud Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School for its work to ensure its students engage in significant acts of community service and remain dedicated to carrying out the mission of Jesus Christ.

As an advocate for education and youth, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation's future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators, and parents across the nation. Once again, congratulations to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School. I am very proud of you.

CQUENCE HEALTH GROUP: BEST PLACE TO WORK IN HEALTH CARE

HON. BRAD ASHFORD

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 26, 2015

Mr. ASHFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like to recognize CQuence Health Group, named number one on the list of "Best Places to Work in Healthcare" by Modern Healthcare. Ranked on their commitment to wellness, balance, and workplace fitness, Modern Healthcare definitively found CQuence was on top this year.

This type of recognition is not unusual for CQuence, who were also named "Employee Voice Award" this year as well. In 2014 they were ranked Top 10 "Best Places to Work" and given the "Golden Well Workplace Award". The list of awards and accomplishments spans back all the way to 2009, demonstrating CQuence's real commitment to a better work place. Not only am I proud that CQuence's 31 employees work in my district, I'm also proud to represent this innovative leadership. CEO Mike Cassling clearly understands that the way we work has dramatically changed, so must we change the way we deal with stress and quality of life.

Studies have shown workplace stress is costing our economy money: from health care costs, low productivity, to job turnover, stress negatively impacts businesses everywhere. CQuence's approach to work life balance and employee wellness will certainly change their employees' lives, which in turn will change the lives of their families and friends. Soon, this employee wellness first approach will permeate into the Omaha community, the greater state of Nebraska, and our country.

I hope to see more businesses follow this example. If anyone is seeking a new job, I encourage them to see what Nebraska has to offer. Our low unemployment to our high employee satisfaction, Nebraska leads the way. I applaud Mike and CQuence for their award winning wellness programs and I am excited to see how they continue to enrich their lives next year.

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, October 27, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 28

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the United States role and strategy in the Middle East.
SD-419

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine unmanned aircraft systems and the steps being taken to successfully integrate this technology into our National Airspace System.
SD-192

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection
To hold hearings to examine the state of rural banking, focusing on challenges and consequences.
SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Jessica Rosenworcel, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of five years from July 1, 2015.
SR-253

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
To hold hearings to examine realizing the potential of the Department of Energy national laboratories.
SD-138

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security
To hold hearings to examine retirement plan options for small businesses.
SH-216

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the state of our nation's biodefense.
SD-342

Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine Department of Veterans Affairs mental health, focusing on ensuring access to care.
SR-418

3:30 p.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter William Bodde, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to Libya, Marc Jonathan Sievers, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman, Elisabeth I. Millard, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Tajikistan, and Kenneth Damian Ward, of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as United States Representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, all of the Department of State, and John Morton, of Massachusetts, to be Executive Vice President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.
SD-419

OCTOBER 29

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine alternative approaches to defense strategy and force structure.
SD-G50

10 a.m.
Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine welfare and poverty in America.
SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Thomas A. Shannon, Jr., of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs).
SD-419

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine mental health and substance use disorders in America, focusing on priorities, challenges, and opportunities.
SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
SD-226

2:15 p.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine protocol Amending the Convention between the United States of America and the Swiss Confederation for the Avoidance of Double Taxation with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed at Washington on October 2, 1996, signed on September 23, 2009, at Washington, as corrected by an exchange of notes effected November 16, 2010 and a related agreement effected by an exchange of notes on September 23, 2009 (Treaty Doc. 112-01), protocol Amending the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed on May 20, 2009, at Luxembourg (the "proposed Protocol") and a related agreement effected by the exchange of notes also signed on May 20, 2009 (Treaty Doc. 111-08), convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Hungary for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed on February 4, 2010, at Budapest (the "proposed Convention") and a related agreement effected by an exchange of notes on February 4, 2010 (Treaty Doc. 111-07), the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Chile for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed in Washington on February 4, 2010, with a Protocol signed the same day, as corrected by exchanges of notes effected February 25, 2011, and February 10 and 21, 2012, and a related agreement effected by exchange of notes (the "related Agreement") on February 4, 2010 (Treaty Doc. 112-08), the Protocol Amending the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters, done at Paris on May 27, 2010 (the "proposed Protocol"), which was signed by the United States on May 27, 2010 (Treaty Doc. 112-05), the Protocol Amending the Convention between the United

States of America and the Kingdom of Spain for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and its Protocol, signed at Madrid on February 22, 1990 (Treaty Doc. 113-04), the Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Poland for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed on February 13, 2013, at Warsaw (Treaty Doc. 113-05), and the Protocol Amending the Convention between the Government of the United

States of America and the Government of Japan for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and a related agreement entered into by an exchange of notes (together the "proposed Protocol"), both signed on January 24, 2013, at Washington, together with correcting notes exchanged March 9 and March 29, 2013 (Treaty Doc. 114-01).

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

NOVEMBER 4

10 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the value of education choices for low-income families, focusing on reauthorizing the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program.

SD-342