

My heartfelt condolences to Dr. Montgomery's wife, Martel, his sons Claude and Edward, his five grandchildren, his brother Daniel and sister Virginia.

Dr. Montgomery led the kind of full and committed life to which all of us should aspire. He will be missed by all who were lucky enough to know him.

CONGRATULATING THE CHINESE AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL FOR CELEBRATING ITS 7TH YEAR

**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Chinese American Film Festival, which was held in Los Angeles and San Francisco, California, for celebrating its 7th successful year.

This year, the opening ceremonies were held on October 27, 2011 at the Directors Guild of America in Los Angeles, and on October 30, 2011 at the Marina Theatre in San Francisco. With over 10 workshops and seminars, and over 200 officially selected films that were screened in Hollywood, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, the Festival has once again demonstrated how effectively the Chinese and American cultures can join together through the medium of film to create unique and outstanding work.

Many of those in the Chinese industry have been recognized by the American film industry, but for many others this was the first time these films had ever been screened in North America. The films chosen for the Festival were audiences' favorites in the Chinese and American film markets.

With the support of the Consulate General of China in Los Angeles, and the Motion Picture Association of America, the Chinese American Film Festival has become a grand annual event of cultural exchange and communication between the two film industries.

As one of the major annual cultural events in Hollywood, this festival demonstrates that creativity has no boundaries of race, color, language, or traditions. Through the window of film, people see each other, hear each other and understand each other. As described by James Su, Founder and current Chairman of the Festival, "The Chinese American Film Festival continues to showcase the dynamic power of creations it produces when East meets with West and when hands are joined together."

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Su and the Chinese American Film Festival for another successful year and for showing tremendous dedication to cultural exchange while opening communication between the Chinese and American film industries. Welcome to California, and welcome to the United States.

2010 CAFF Golden Angel Award Films: The Seal of Love; My Kingdom; Color Me Love; 72 Heroes; Detective D; Always Be With You; An Eternal Lamb; Love You You; A Simple Life; Snow Flower and the Secret Fan.

Best Documentary Film: The Day of Noah 2: Apocalypse.

Best Independent Film: Dali.

Best Asian American Film: Wedding Palace.

Best Short Film: A Petal Onto the Sea.

Best Children's Feature Film: Close to Me.

Charity Film: My Girlhood.

Outstanding Chinese Culture Promoter: Dedication.

Outstanding Chinese Film Promoter: Macau Film Association.

Chinese Film Promoter Mayor Award: Xin Hua City Mayor.

Outstanding Newcomer Actor: Joshua Hannum—Leading Actor of "Once Upon a Time in Tibet."

Outstanding Newcomer Actress: Zhou Yang—Leading Actress of "Love You You."

Outstanding Newcomer Director: Chen Miao—Director of "Son of the Stars."

Outstanding Newcomer Producer: Wang Bin, Yang Yue—The Producers of "Time Flies Soundlessly."

Best Actor of the Year: Wang Qianyuan—Leading Actor of "The Piano in a Factory."

Best Actress of the Year: Ni Ping—Leading Actress of "The Sun."

Best Director of the Year: Yang Yazhou—The Director of "The Sun."

Outstanding Achievement Award: Tang Guo Qiang.

CHIEF GERALD WHITMAN TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Chief Gerald Whitman of the Denver Police Department. Chief Whitman has served capably and honorably in this position for over eleven years.

Chief Whitman's distinguished career with the Department began in 1982. After excelling as a Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Sergeant, and Lieutenant, he was promoted to the rank of Captain in 1995. During this time he was responsible for the protection of the newly-formed District 6, including Capitol Hill and Downtown Denver. Three years later, he was again promoted to Division Chief of Patrol, where he oversaw uniformed patrol operations.

Mayor Wellington Webb named Gerald Whitman as Denver's 68th Chief of Police in 2000. Under his leadership, major crime rates have dropped despite an economic recession and fewer officers per capita on patrol. The Department has gained a reputation for innovative ideas, the effective use of technology, and an emphasis on community and victim outreach. Its forensics lab and cold case unit have received wide acclaim, and serve as a model for departments nationwide.

Gerry Whitman holds a Bachelors Degree in Law Enforcement Administration and a Masters in Criminal Justice from the University of Colorado at Denver. Despite having a longer tenure than any of his predecessors, he intends to return to the rank of Captain after stepping down as Chief of Police.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Chief Gerald Whitman. I rise today to thank him for his continuing devotion to the City of Denver and its citizens.

H.R. 1254

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1254, the Synthetic Drug Control Act of 2011 because it will do little, if anything, to curb abuse of synthetic marijuana. It will, however, unnecessarily burden the criminal justice system and inhibit important scientific research on synthetic substances. It will also impose further unnecessary costs onto taxpayers as the federal criminal code is expanded.

Evidence suggests that criminalizing substances, as this bill envisions, does not change demand or prevent health harms that stem from their use. The deaths and injuries that result from abuse of any substance and the destruction that drug abuse inflicts on our families and communities is heartbreaking. I support comprehensive drug education programs which promote clear information for children and adults about how to recognize drug abuse and the risk factors that promote it. It is important to recognize that drug abuse proliferates differently depending on the socio-economic conditions that exist in a given community, which makes it all the more important for the federal government to assist state and local governments in addressing this public health problem. This bill does nothing to boost real public health and education awareness campaigns which must be a part of addressing substance abuse.

Instead, H.R. 1254 would place a number of synthetic substances under Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. As Schedule I is the most restrictive, placing substances on it makes research on these substances vastly more difficult. Scientific researchers have warned Congress that this legislation will impede research on treatments for a range of diseases and disorders, including Parkinson's disease. In addition, the Drug Enforcement Agency already has the power to place substances on the Schedule I list.

Finally, criminalization of another group of drugs will engender an expansion of the criminal justice regime. Our present system of criminal justice already places a far too large and disproportionate burden onto poor and minority communities. Marijuana arrests in the United States cost on average \$10,000 per individual from arrest to adjudication, according to public policy researcher John B. Gettman at the George Mason University School of Public Policy. The prosecution and prison terms that will necessarily arise from enforcement of this bill will impose enormous costs on taxpayers at a time when resources are scant. I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this legislation.

MASON PUNCHERS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Mason Punchers football