

Mr. Hastings has been highly regarded for having a strong network of personal, business, and religious relationships. His dedication and work ethic have earned him numerous awards for his contributions to business and educational development including the Laredo Chamber of Commerce Small Businessman of the Year (1989), Junior Achievement Hall of Fame (2001), Alumni Achievement Award from Texas State University (2010) and the U.S. Department of Commerce Border Champion Award (2012). As a founding member of the Laredo Community College Education Foundation and endowment fund Mr. Hastings' mission will continue to touch the lives of many.

Mr. Hastings is survived by his wife of 36 years, Mrs. Gloria V. Montemayor Hasting; their loving children, Daniel B. Hastings III (Lucina), V. Nicole Hastings and David B. Hastings; and grandchildren Daniel B. Hastings IV and Dillon B. Hastings. A noble friend to the people of my district and hometown; there is no doubt that Mr. Hastings will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the opportunity to recognize the late Daniel B. Hastings, Jr. His hard work and generosity have truly impacted many lives and our community.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLOSE UP FOUNDATION'S PROGRAM FOR NEW AMERICANS

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the nation's preeminent civic education organizations, the Close Up Foundation, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of their Program for New Americans.

Close Up is a nonprofit nonpartisan organization that informs, inspires, and empowers young people to exercise the rights and accept the responsibilities of citizens in a democracy. Over the past forty years, Close Up has brought hundreds of thousands of students and teachers to Washington for week-long civic learning experiences. Close Up believes that a strong democracy requires active and informed participation by all citizens and seeks to reach participants of every race, creed, geographical community, socio-economic level, and academic standing. The Close Up Foundation partners with educators, schools, and youth organizations throughout the country to help young people develop the skills and attitudes to become informed and engaged citizens.

Today we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Close Up Program for New Americans. This unique civic learning program has helped more than 20,000 recently immigrated and migrant high school and middle school students understand American democracy, government, and U.S. political traditions. Using experiential education methodologies, the Program for New Americans helps young people understand both the rights and responsibilities of democratic citizenship.

The program is comprised of three parts: service learning in preparation for the pro-

gram; a week in Washington in which students use the city as a classroom to learn about the government and develop an action plan to address a community need; and implementation of the action plan at home. The goal of the Program for New Americans is to help these young people adjust to and become an active participant in the communities in which they live.

The Washington portion of the program focuses students on the founding documents of our nation—the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution—to provide them with an understanding of our nation's democratic principles and traditions. Through study, workshops, and visits to the memorials and monuments of the nation's capital, students examine the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in our society.

As Congress begins consideration of immigration legislation we should keep in mind the importance of innovative programs such as the Close Up Program for New Americans in providing young people with opportunities to engage with their government, its institutions and representatives and learn to apply those civic skills in their communities. It is essential that our nation's youth acquire the knowledge and the critical skills and attitudes necessary for active citizenship in our democracy.

I applaud the work of the Close Up Foundation and the outreach that they have done in the immigrant and migrant communities for a quarter century. I hope that Congress will continue to support these programs that build informed and active citizens and strengthen our communities.

HONORING WALTER SEGALOFF, FOUNDER OF AN ACHIEVABLE DREAM ACADEMY AND 2013'S VIRGINIAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of a local community leader, businessman, and humanitarian from Newport News, Virginia—Walter Segaloff.

I have known Walter throughout my career in public service representing the citizens of Newport News. He has dedicated his life to improving the lives of his fellow citizens. When he owned Virginia Specialty Stores, he would often interview young people seeking jobs but noticed many lacked the needed skills, despite having graduated from high school. Walter knew these young people had great potential that was going to waste and he wanted to do everything he could to make sure they had access to the right opportunities.

Walter took matters into his own hands. He joined forces with other local business leaders, citizens, Newport News Public Schools, and the City of Newport News to help improve the lives and educational outcomes of our City's most at-risk young children. Out of this effort, An Achievable Dream was born in the summer of 1992 as a summer education and tennis program.

Due in large part to Walter's dedication and tenacity, An Achievable Dream quickly expanded since that first summer. In 1994, it be-

came a full-time, extended day school serving 400 children in grades three through five. A year later, An Achievable Dream expanded the extended day program to students at Dunbar-Erwin Middle School. By 2000, An Achievable Dream Academy was founded as a year-round full time elementary school and by 2007 a separate full time middle and high school opened under the An Achievable Dream name.

An Achievable Dream provides a social, academic, and moral educational framework for its students and every day starts with a motivation rally where each student shakes the hand of an adult. The Achievable Dream program is structured to give young people the skills needed to succeed in life. Those skills are taught at An Achievable Dream on the tennis court, in the classroom, on field trips, and in sharing experiences with successful and caring adults in our community. Today, An Achievable Dream is educating more than 1,200 at-risk students in Newport News and is putting these students on the path to success.

Often, young people don't think too much about the future, and don't realize that choices made today may limit those in the future. Walter has worked to ensure that the students at An Achievable Dream have every opportunity to be successful in life.

As a public-private partnership with Newport News Public Schools, the City of Newport News, the Newport News Police Department, the Newport News Sheriff's Department, the U.S. Army, the Rotary Club, Riverside Health System and the College of William and Mary, An Achievable Dream has received national recognition as one of the most effective urban school programs in the country and has provided a model for integrating support from the business community to support quality educational opportunities for at-risk students.

On April 19th, the Virginia Press Association will honor Walter as its Virginian of the Year for 2013. Walter was nominated by our hometown newspaper, The Daily Press, in recognition of his decades of dedication to improving the educational opportunities of thousands of at-risk young people living in Newport News and the Association was unanimous in selecting Walter as this year's recipient.

Walter recently stepped down as CEO of An Achievable Dream, but he leaves behind a strong legacy. His vision is expected to expand to other localities in Hampton Roads, helping improve the lives of thousands of more at-risk young people in our community.

I commend Walter for being recognized as this year's Virginian of the Year and I thank him for his years of dedicated service to improving the lives of so many young people in Newport News.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, for centuries America has been blessed by God. Americans today and in previous generations looked to God for guidance on both private and national designated days of prayer and fasting.

At this time of national mourning, as we search for comfort in the aftermath of this loss of innocent life, we would be wise to consider afresh II Chronicles 7:14: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

I join together with other Americans who have called for September 11, 2013 to be set aside as a day for personal prayer, reflection and fasting, for ourselves and for our Nation.

As we humble ourselves and pray and seek God's grace, we can take assurance from the Holy Scripture that God has promised to hear from heaven and will heal our land.

CONGRATULATING ANN BOCHLER OF ASHLAND, WISCONSIN, ON BEING NAMED THE 2013 PERSON OF THE YEAR BY THE ASHLAND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the community accomplishments of Ann Bochler of Ashland, Wisconsin, who has been named the 2013 Person of the Year, by the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce.

Ann sits on the Ashland Youth Hockey Association Board of Directors, and is a past board member of several community organizations including the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Top Chautauqua, Depot Restoration Committee, the Ashland Waterfront Commission and the Ashland Parks and Recreation Committee. Ann was the 2011 Recipient of the Badger of the Year Award presented by the UW-Madison Alumni Club of the Chequamegon Bay Area. She has also been instrumental in helping coordinate and plan events for the Ashland Chamber and for the Ashland and Bayfield County Relay for Life, for which she serves as Chairperson.

Ann is a true community leader, and through her own creativity comes up with great ideas. Her positive demeanor and strong, outgoing personality has allowed her to connect with the community to develop a great support network of volunteers who help her attain her goals for community fundraising and other events.

Thanks to the community contributions of outstanding citizens like Ann Bochler, Ashland is rightfully known by many as "Lake Superior's hometown." I ask that my colleagues join me today to express our appreciation for Ann's community spirit and our congratulations to her on receiving this well-deserved award.

HONORING THE GAY AND LESBIAN ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE OF WASHINGTON, DC (GLAA)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, every spring since 1991, when I became a member of Con-

gress, I remind the House of Representatives I have the honor and pleasure of representing the oldest continually functioning lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) organization in the United States, the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington, DC (GLAA). I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating GLAA's 42nd anniversary and wishing it well as it continues in the struggle for equal rights for the LGBT community.

Since its founding in April 1971, GLAA has been a respected and tireless advocate for full and equal rights for the LGBT community in the District of Columbia, and has been at the forefront of efforts to strengthen enforcement of the landmark D.C. Human Rights Act of 1977. One of GLAA's most significant achievements, on which it worked with coalition partners, D.C. elected officials, and District residents, was enactment of the Religious Freedom and Civil Marriage Equality Amendment Act of 2009, which permits same-sex couples to marry in the District.

In addition to its leadership on LGBT rights in the District, GLAA has always provided leadership on a wide range of civil rights issues, such as family rights, police accountability, and access to condoms in prisons and D.C. public schools. GLAA also emphasizes effective public health strategies and accountability in the fight against HIV/AIDS in the District.

At GLAA's 42nd anniversary reception on April 25, 2013, the recipients of its 2013 Distinguished Service Awards will be recognized, including:

Diana Bruce is Director of Health and Wellness for the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), and leads DCPS's school health office, developing policies, programs, systems and partnerships that enable local schools to provide school health services and supports for students. In this capacity, Diana initiated the development of DCPS's efforts to make its schools welcoming and inclusive of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning students, staff and families. She also leads the community engagement process to develop DCPS's framework and approach to preventing, identifying and responding to bullying.

Clarence J. Fluker is the editor of Substanceandstyle.com, an art, culture, entertainment and lifestyle blog. Clarence's articles have been featured in SWERV and The Life magazines, and he has served as the Next Generation editor for Arise. He served as Program Manager of the D.C. Office of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Affairs from 2008 to 2012, and previously served on its Advisory Committee. In 2002, he was elected the youngest member of the Board of Directors of Black Lesbian & Gay Pride Day, Inc., and served as its board president in 2006.

Brent Minor is executive director of Team DC, established in 2003 to educate the LGBT community on the benefits of individual and team sports. Brent chaired the Metropolitan Washington Gaymes bid committee for the 2014 Gay Games. He is a member of the Alexandria Commission on HIV/AIDS. He served on the President's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS under Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. He also served as Director of Public Policy at the Whitman-Walker Clinic of Northern Virginia and as Director of Community Relations at Food & Friends.

Peter Rosenstein has been a tireless activist in politics, government affairs, and the arts for more than 30 years. He is president of the Campaign for All DC Families. He is founder and president of Arts in Action, and was Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia. He served on Whitman-Walker Clinic's Health Development Committee, and chaired the host committee for the Food & Friends annual dinner for 9 years. He writes regularly for many publications, including the Washington Blade.

Jason A. Terry is a conflict resolution and human rights advocate dedicated to educating others about how to build a more peaceful world, locally and globally. He is training manager at the National Council for International Visitors, with responsibilities for regional and national meetings, webinars, and curriculum design. He is also an anti-violence organizer with the DC Trans Coalition, coordinating advocacy and educational campaigns to reduce anti-transgender violence, and serves as treasurer on the board of the Association for Gender Research, Education, Academia and Action.

I ask the House to join me in honoring the recipients of GLAA's 2013 Distinguished Service Award and in celebrating GLAA's 42nd anniversary of contributions to the LGBT community in the District of Columbia.

HONORING THE HEROISM AND EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE OF THE DOOLITTLE TOKYO RAIDERS ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR SEVENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders for their heroism and extraordinary service and sacrifice that lifted our Nation and helped propel the Allies to victory over Japan in World War Two.

On April 18, 1942, as a response to Japan's surprise attack on our Nation, eighty brave Americans from the 17th Bombardment Group (Medium) set out to execute a first-of-its-kind mission to bring the fight Japan started to their homeland. Led by then Lieutenant Colonel Jimmy Doolittle, these heroic men all volunteered for what they were told to be an extremely hazardous mission and were still willing to put their lives in harm's way to help defend our great Nation.

The mission, thought by many to be near impossible, required innovations and extensive training to include secret preparations conducted in March 1942 at Eglin Field in the First Congressional District of Florida. These intensive preparations included training for accomplishing short takeoffs and landings and techniques for fuel efficient flying. Eglin Field helped serve as the proving ground for the military's innovations and techniques required to ensure these brave American's were ready for their mission.

After months of Japanese military successes in the Pacific, these brave airmen set out on a mission that changed the tide of the Second World War and lifted the morale and spirits of a grateful Nation. On that day, they