

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICERS AND THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITH 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HOUSE AND RECIPIENTS OF THE HOUSE EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD

### HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, Ranking Member ROBERT BRADY and I rise today to congratulate and recognize the outstanding employees of the Officers (Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, and Chief Administrative Officer) and the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives who have reached the milestone of 25 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as the recipients of the House Employee Excellence Award.

The House's most important asset is its dedicated and exceptional employees, whose work, which is often behind the scenes, is vital in keeping the operations and services of the House running smoothly and efficiently. The employees we recognize today are acknowledged and commended for their hard work, dedication, professionalism, support of House Members and their staffs and constituents, and for their contributions day-in and day-out to the overall operations of the House. These employees have a wide range of responsibilities and skills that support the legislative process, ensure the security of the institution, maintain our technology and service infrastructure, and contribute to a more effective and efficiently operating House support structure. They have accomplished many great things in a wide range of activities, and the House of Representatives and its Members, staff, and the American public is better served because of them.

We recognize and honor the individuals named below for 25 years of dedicated service to the House. Collectively, this group has provided 325 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives:

David E. Bailey, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Cephas L. Carter, Office of the Clerk;

Antoinette P. Freeman, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Anthony T. Howard, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Carlos Leon-Campos, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Michael P. Mallon, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

William B. Plaster, Office of the Clerk;

Vincent H. Plowden, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Wallace A. Simpson, Office of the Sergeant at Arms;

Susan E. Sneden, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Jerome B. Williams, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Waverly Y. Williams, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Diane E. Wilson, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

We also recognize and congratulate four House employees for receiving the Employee Excellence Award. This is a merit-based award, given to one employee from each House Officer organization, and the Office of Inspector General. Selected employees exhibited outstanding overall job performance and displayed a willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty for their organization throughout the last year. We honor the individuals named below for receiving this prestigious award.

Russell H. Gore, Office of the Clerk;

Joyce L. Hamlett, Office of the Sergeant at Arms;

Christopher Jordan, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Susan E. Simpson, Office of Inspector General.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend our congratulations and once again recognize and thank these employees for their professionalism and commitment to the U.S. House of Representatives as a whole, and in particular to their respective House Officers and the Inspector General. Their long hours and hard work are invaluable, and their years of unwavering service, dedication, and commitment to the House set an example for their colleagues and other employees who will follow in their footsteps. I celebrate our honorees, and I am proud to stand before you and the nation on their behalf to recognize the importance of their public service.

CONGRATULATING DANSBY SWANSON, 2014 COLLEGE WORLD SERIES' MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER

### HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Marietta native, Marietta High School Alumnus, and Vanderbilt second baseman, Dansby Swanson, on his accomplishments in the 2014 NCAA College World Series.

Swanson was awarded the College World Series' Most Outstanding Player Award and was an incredible asset in helping Vanderbilt clinch its first College World Series Championship.

Throughout the 2014 season, Swanson became one of the key players on Vanderbilt's tremendously talented roster and was key in Vandy's 3-2 victory over the University of Virginia in the final to cap off a landmark 50 win season.

Just a sophomore, Swanson batted .323 with five runs scored and two RBI in Omaha—

the most impressive performance of any player in the tournament.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Georgia's 11th Congressional District, I applaud Dansby for his achievement and look forward to his future successes. I extend my enthusiastic congratulations to him on achieving the highest level of recognition possible in the NCAA College World Series.

CONGRATULATING ETHICON ON 50-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

### HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ethicon, a member of the Johnson & Johnson family, in San Angelo, Texas on their 50th anniversary. Throughout the years, Ethicon has been an essential part of the community and has grown side-by-side with San Angelo.

Ethicon opened its doors in West Texas in 1964. During this time, Ethicon was a surgical suture manufacturing site that was critical to the Vietnam War effort. Over the past five decades, the company has expanded and modernized their production to meet the needs of today's world.

Ethicon has been a global leader in providing medical supplies for critical and life-saving procedures. Their standard of excellence is not only evident in the lives they have saved, but the families they have impacted across this nation.

The Ethicon family gathered last week to celebrate this tremendous 50-year milestone together. The smiles on the faces of their 450 employees, their families, and friends said it all. They have provided opportunities and inspiration for their people. This company is so much more than a job or a shift to its employees or this community; it is a source of pride. And I am proud to have Ethicon located in the 11th District and honored to be part of their joyous occasion.

Again, I congratulate Ethicon on reaching such a distinguished marker in their company history. I wish them many more in the great town of San Angelo, Texas.

IN HONOR OF JOHN PISTO

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of a remarkable American who has spent the last half century helping to turn food into public art. John Pisto is one of the original celebrity chefs. He is part of the cutting edge group of restaurant professionals who have brought the creativity,

• 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.

artisanship, art, and excitement of America's best professional kitchens to the attention of the general public. And in doing so he has helped make his hometown of Monterey, California, one of the world's finest culinary treasures.

Chef Pisto was born in Syracuse New York, on October 16, 1941. His Italian immigrant parents, Santo and Santa Pisto, soon moved to Monterey, CA where Santo worked as a tailor for the Naval Postgraduate School. After graduating from Monterey High School, Pisto began work as a line cook at a fish house on Fisherman's Wharf, adjacent to Monterey harbor. Within a couple years he had learned, saved, and bought the place. The fish house began to acquire a large local following and soon celebrities such as Clint Eastwood and Doug McClure began flocking to what was one of the few wharf restaurants that actually served fresh fish harvested from the Monterey Bay.

After years of working as a top line chef, Pisto found his calling in developing new restaurants. Pisto first established Domenico's on the Wharf in the late 80's, then followed up with the Abalonetti Seafood Trattoria, followed by Paradiso Trattoria, and finally the Whaling Station. Located in the heart of Monterey's famous Cannery Row, Pisto's Whaling Station has earned an international reputation for some of the world's best steaks and freshest seafood. Each of these creations have both boosted the Monterey Peninsula's dynamic tourism industry and added to Monterey's hometown charm for its own residents.

However, Pisto is best known as the host of "Monterey's Cookin' Pisto Style". His unique style of cooking brings simplicity to recipes thought difficult to prepare, always with a touch of humor and informality. Pisto will often take viewers on adventures to culinary exploits around the world, then return to kitchen to prepare a recipe related to the excursion. The show has been filmed in China, Tunisia, Italy, France, Thailand, Portugal, Spain, Costa Rica, and Croatia, as well as dozens of U.S. locales. Celebrity guests have also been brought onto to the show, such as the legendary Julia Child, renowned chef Charlie Trotter, musicians Michael Bolton, Johnny Rivers, Sammy Hagar, racing legend Mario Andretti, and the past Secretary of Defense and personal friend, Leon Panetta.

As Pisto slows down his schedule after years of dynamic work, it is appropriate to reflect on how much he has enriched our lives. And while he may let his business involvement cool down to a low simmer, I know that Pisto will continue to enrich the community that has benefited so much from his efforts over the past 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in offering John Pisto, his wife Cheryl, son Dana, and daughters Kim and Gia our gratitude and best wishes. Buon appetito!

CELEBRATING DR. LOWELL  
DILLER

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Dr. Lowell Diller on the occa-

sion of his retirement from Green Diamond Resource Co. Dr. Diller's commitment and pioneering approach to scientific research and monitoring of fisheries and wildlife has been of tremendous benefit to California's North Coast and the United States.

Dr. Diller earned bachelors and masters degrees in zoology from Oregon State University before serving in the U.S. Army from 1970 to 1971, with a tour in Vietnam. He then attended the University of Idaho, where he earned a Ph.D. in zoology with a focus on herpetology.

In 1990, Dr. Diller was hired by Simpson Timber Co., now Green Diamond Resource Co. Dr. Diller developed a Habitat Conservation Plan for northern spotted owls for the company, the first for the species. The company now has the largest demographic data set within the range of the northern spotted owl. Dr. Diller was integral in developing Green Diamond's Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan which covers the company's 457,000 acres in California.

Dr. Diller brought a passion for teaching to Humboldt State University's Department of Wildlife Management, where he is an adjunct professor since 2001. He has contributed to at least 37 peer-reviewed publications and major reports. Dr. Diller is a member of the California Board of Forestry Research and Science Committee and a member of the Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Team.

Dr. Diller's career in research and conservation will leave its mark for generations to come. Please join me in expressing deep appreciation to Dr. Lowell Verne Diller for his long and impressive record of service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ELI  
SETENCICH

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Eli Setencich, who passed away on July 12, 2014, at the age of 90. Eli was a veteran of America's greatest generation who will be greatly missed by residents throughout Central Valley.

Eli was born on April 10, 1924, in Sacramento, California and later moved to Sanger, California to live with relatives upon his mother's passing. In 1941, he graduated from Sanger High School and joined the Army Air Corps. During World War II, Eli flew 142 combat missions. He flew the A-36 Apache and P-47 Thunderbolt. Eli always showed great courage and superior flying ability during his combat missions. His service, heroism, and extraordinary achievements were recognized with two Distinguished Flying Cross awards.

In 1944, upon receiving his first Distinguished Flying Cross for the combat mission he completed in Italy, Eli was promoted from First Lieutenant to Captain. In 1945, Eli received his second Distinguished Flying Cross after flying a combat mission in Germany. He exhibited great leadership and determination.

When the war ended, Eli continued his service at the 144th Fighter Wing of the California Air National Guard. Later, he attended College

of the Sequoias and began his legacy in journalism. After working in the radio and television industry for a short time, he started his remarkable career at The Fresno Bee. Eli worked at The Bee for 41 years. He started out writing a weekly column, and later in his career, he was writing three columns a week. In 2002, Eli retired, and the contributions he made to the paper and the field of journalism were highly commended. Eli was a very insightful journalist, and his writing was both witty and humorous. His way with words could go unmatched.

Eli was a mentor and friend to countless individuals. His humble demeanor and ability to poke fun at himself was always refreshing. Eli will be greatly missed by his wife, Yvonne, daughter, Amy, and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to honor the life of Eli Setencich, an American hero and distinguished journalist. His presence will undoubtedly be missed, but the impact he made on our community will never be forgotten.

HONORING PAUL AND EMMA  
ESKER

**HON. ANDY BARR**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paul and Emma Esker for their many contributions to healthcare, education and the arts in Madison County, Kentucky. The leadership of both these citizens has been evident and invaluable to Richmond and throughout Madison County.

In particular, I would like to recognize the Eskers' dedication to the Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center and its Infirmary Association, and to Baptist Health Richmond. Mr. Esker served as a member of the Pattie A. Clay Foundation Board of Directors from 2005 to 2012, and has worked at the hospital as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist since 1973.

Mrs. Esker served as the St. Mark Catholic Church representative to the Pattie A. Clay Infirmary Association and as a member of its Board of Directors from 2001 to 2012. In 2013, she joined the board of Baptist Health Foundation Richmond. She also served the community as president of the St. Mark Catholic School Board and as a director of the Richmond Area Arts Council. She is a retired Radiology Technician who was employed at Baptist Health Richmond.

The retirement of Mr. and Mrs. Esker on August 1, 2014 marks the end of decades of quiet, selfless commitment to Madison County and beyond. Their service is a role model and inspiration to many, and has made a real difference to generations.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF MADISON, NEW JERSEY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the Borough of Madison, County of Morris, New Jersey.

The first residents of the borough of Madison were Lenape Indians with small villages located near rivers and streams. In 1715, when the first European settler, Barnabas Carter, reached what would become Madison, the Lenape had already left the area. The Presbyterian Church of South Hanover acquired a piece of land from Carter and built a meeting-house on it. This place, known as "Bottle Hill," became a center for Presbyterianism.

When the Revolutionary War began, the 20 families who resided in Bottle Hill joined the Morris County militia. The group was led by Reverend Azariah Horton, a Presbyterian minister. Bottle Hill provided a direct route to and from Morristown. The town served as a camp for the largest Continental Army in the Revolutionary War during the winter of 1777. Officers took up quarters in Bottle Hill, and General George Washington was offered hospitality in homes that are still located on Ridgedale Avenue today.

Once a part of South Hanover, Bottle Hill was divided between Morris and Hanover Townships until 1806 when the village joined with Florham Park, Chatham Township, and Chatham Borough to create one Chatham Township. Bottle Hill was the name originally given to Madison, and there are two beliefs surrounding this moniker. One idea is that the name is derived from the bottle-like shape of the town's original land, which was formed by two hills. The other, more likely idea, comes from a tavern that was once located on top of a hill at the meeting of Park and Ridgedale avenues that advertised by hanging a bottle-shaped sign outside. The nickname is also used for Madison's annual "Bottle Hill Day" street fair. In 1834, to pay tribute to James Madison, the fourth President of the United States and father of the U.S. Constitution, Bottle Hill's name was changed to Madison. In 1889, Madison seceded from Chatham Township to create the Borough of Madison.

In the mid-1800s, Madison was nicknamed "The Rose City" during a time when Madison was a popular destination for wealthy families from New York City seeking fresh-air and an area on which to build their country homes. So as to ornament their estates, these families wanted fresh flowers every day. Thus, they used individual greenhouses to grow roses for themselves and, later in 1856, for the commercial market. The growth of Madison's rose production was made possible by the Morris and Essex Railroad service that began in 1937. Roses and rose shows in Madison became internationally known, and working-class immigrants from Germany, Italy, and Ireland were attracted to Madison because of jobs in the rose industry and on the estates there. The descendants of these ancestors that still reside in Madison make it the diverse municipality that it is today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating with the residents and the officials that represent the wonderful Borough of Madison on the occasion of their one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary.

**OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT**

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

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

Today, it is \$17,621,751,199,943.72. We've added \$6,994,874,151,030.64 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

**INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE DESIGNATION OF A PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ENVOY TO THE BALKANS**

**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing a resolution to recommend the designation of a Presidential Special Envoy to the Balkans.

In November of 1995 the United States government spearheaded a series of peace talks in Dayton, Ohio ending more than three years of warfare and genocide plaguing the Croats of the Balkans. Ultimately, from those talks stemmed the Dayton Peace Accords, establishing the new nation-state of Bosnia-Herzegovina. However, as time has lapsed for the Dayton Peace Accords the U.S. has made no attempt to revisit the many faults in the original agreements. The time has come to lend our services in aid of the Republic of Croatia and effect positive, and lasting diplomatic change.

While the U.S. has demanded that the Bosnian people initiate these revisions themselves, we have witnessed a nation-state with great political and economic potential fall back into violent patterns. As the Representative of the 44th district of California, an area steeped in Croatian culture, I have heard firsthand the concerns arising from growing political instability in the Bosnian-Herzegovinian region. This region is integral to the future success of our interdependent international community. We have an obligation to support the democratic and free market progress that has been hard won over the last two decades.

Therefore, I call upon this 113th Congress to designate a special presidential envoy to evaluate the successes and shortcomings of the Dayton Peace Accords, and to provide tangible policy recommendations to the Republic of Croatia. It is my greatest hope that the United States can be a catalyst for change and success in the new Bosnia-Herzegovina region.

**SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF ECODISTRICTS**

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to express my support for the work of EcoDistricts, a national organization founded in my district in Portland, Oregon, and which fosters innovation, community action, and sustainability at the neighborhood level.

I have spent my career working to build livable communities in my hometown of Portland and around the country. These are communities where people are safe, economically secure and healthy. The EcoDistrict model has achieved great success in achieving this goal by starting small and engaging neighbors, local businesses, and government in the process of improving communities and creating spaces where employers want to locate and families want to live.

We have seen the success of Portland's EcoDistricts, which are diverse and range from downtown near Portland State University, to the Lents neighborhood in the Southeast part of the city. This is an area that has struggled for decades with crime, air quality, transportation access, and equity issues. The engagement fostered by these districts helped approve a project to stripe bike lanes on the major arterial to Lents, a farmers market now runs every Sunday through the summer that features local immigrant communities, and volunteers are helping kids create gardens at three neighborhood schools.

The EcoDistrict model and process does more than just set goals and implement projects. It helps neighbors identify shared values and work together to make their shared spaces fit those values. I am thrilled that this model has since been expanded to other cities around the country, and look forward to continued success stories.

Thank you to the EcoDistrict team, and to the leaders involved in this initiative, for continuing this important on-the-ground work to make communities across the nation more livable.

**CELEBRATING THE RUSSIAN RIVER HEALTH CENTER 40TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the Russian River Health Center on the occasion of the organization's 40th Anniversary Celebration and National Health Centers Week on August 15, 2014.

For four decades, the Russian River Health Center has been recognized as an invaluable asset within the community and has continued to serve the growing and diverse needs of the people of West Sonoma County. The Center's HIV program has become a model and a leader in the integration of HIV care in a primary care setting and continues to provide care to people affected by the disease and reduce the spread of it in our community. In 2002, West

County Health Centers became a Federally Qualified Health Center ensuring ongoing funding to care for low-income and uninsured patients.

Russian River Health Center has had an incredible impact on the community it serves and will continue to provide vital health care for many years to come. Please join me in expressing hearty congratulations to the Russian River Health Center on the occasion of their fortieth anniversary.

HONORING ALLEN JACOB WEBB

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Allen Jacob Webb. Allen is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 43, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Allen has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Allen has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Allen has earned the rank of Runner in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Allen has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Allen restored a grave box at Mt. Mora cemetery, the oldest operating cemetery in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Allen Jacob Webb for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING CARLTON SMITH, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT RESOURCES OF FLORIDA, INC. (HERO FL), UPON RECEIVING THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S 2014 REGIONAL AND STATE OF FLORIDA SMALL BUSINESS EXPORTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

**HON. ANDER CRENSHAW**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jacksonville's very own Carlton Smith, Executive Vice President of Heavy Equipment Resources of Florida, Inc. (HERO FL), upon receiving the Small Business Administration's 2014 Regional and State of Florida Small Business Exporter of the Year Award. It is an honor to represent Carlton and his thriving export company, located in the Fourth Congressional District of Florida. Small businesses, like HERO FL, are the backbone of this country and are job creators that are revitalizing our nation's economy.

HERO FL began in 2008, when Carlton, his father Leslie, and uncle George, decided to take advantage of the opportunities that the expansion of JAXPORT had to offer. Expand-

ing on their already successful commercial landscaping business, Carlton saw an opportunity to branch out internationally, exporting machinery and other materials to construction and mining industries across the globe. And so, HERO FL was born.

HERO FL began specializing in worldwide exports of components, spare parts, and heavy machinery to mining and earthmoving industries. The company's ability to deliver hard-to-find parts quickly and efficiently to remote mining locations throughout the world has deservedly garnered a lot of attention.

In addition to the prestigious Small Business Administration award, HERO FL was recently honored with the President's "E" Award for its efforts to expand national exports. Created under President John F. Kennedy, the "E" Award recognizes people, firms or organizations that make major contributions in U.S. exports. Today, the "E" Award is the highest recognition any U.S. entity can receive for noteworthy export promotion efforts.

Due to HERO FL's success, today, 100 percent of its revenue stems from export sales and from 2010 to 2013, HERO FL's sales grew an astounding 344 percent. This is a true American success story and should serve as inspiration for all small business owners. I am proud that the First Coast can claim Carlton Smith and his prosperous company as its own.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of the House of Representatives join me in this very special congressional salute to Carlton Smith and everyone at HERO FL.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MAJOR JOSHUA S. KIRK, U.S. MARINE CORPS

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Major Joshua S. Kirk, United States Marine Corps, who recently passed away after over 10 years of service to our nation.

In 1999, Major Kirk, a native of my home state of Ohio, joined the United States Marine Corps and was commissioned in August 2000. He earned a law degree from the University of Virginia in 2004 and over the course of the next 10 years, held several positions around the world in service to his country as a Marine Corps Judge Advocate.

His assignments included Civil Law Officer and Trial Counsel at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar; Legal Assistance Officer in Charge, Senior Defense Counsel, and Chief Prosecutor at Marine Corps Base Hawaii; and Prosecutor in the Office of Military Commissions in Washington, DC. In 2006–2007, Major Kirk deployed to Iraq with the Third Marine Aircraft Wing in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate. He has earned a variety of awards for his outstanding service to our country. His personal awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards).

I recognize Major Kirk's honorable commitment to our country and the sacrifices he made on its behalf. He is survived by his wife

of 10 years, Lieutenant Commander Erin Quay, United States Navy, Judge Advocate General Corps, and his son, Aedan Kirk. It is an honor to stand in recognition of this dedicated military family.

CANCEL AUGUST RECESS

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, once again, I am disappointed that Congress plans to adjourn this August without addressing critical issues important to the American people.

I appreciate that district work periods allow Members to visit and work on behalf of their constituents. I am fortunate to commute from my home in Montross to Washington, DC on a daily basis, so I am in my district listening to the concerns of my constituents every day.

However, too much unfinished business remains, and too many important issues must still be addressed with a limited amount of time on the calendar. Congress has not completed its work, and our constituents expect us to stay and finish the job.

I am prepared to stay in Washington until we complete the people's work. As I have asked year after year, let's clear our schedule, halt the outdated tradition of adjourning for the month of August, and stay in Washington to complete the work our constituents sent us here to do.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF COLONEL GARY P. GOLDSTONE OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

**HON. TONY CÁRDENAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of California's 29th district, I am proud to honor one of our most distinguished constituents and homegrown heroes, Colonel Gary P. Goldstone of the United States Air Force. On August 6, 2014, Colonel Goldstone is retiring, after an incredible 26 years and 19 days of active duty service.

Colonel Goldstone has served our great country with dedication and honor beginning his military career as a candidate in the United States Air Force Officer Training School. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1989. In the time since then, Colonel Goldstone's career epitomizes leadership and selfless service. He has served his country extraordinarily well as a Commander at the Squadron, Group, Wing, and Installation levels of command. During those challenging command tours he deployed into austere conditions in foreign lands to command flying operations in combat and humanitarian missions. Further, Colonel Goldstone has flown all over the world as a command pilot in a variety of aircraft in service to the United States.

Colonel Goldstone attended California State University, Northridge, and graduated in 1987. He went on to earn his commission and the coveted Air Force pilot wings of silver at

Laughlin Air Force Base Texas in the Smooth and Easy Class of 1990–07. He has nearly 4,000 flying hours (including over 630 hours of combat time) in the following aircraft: T–37, T–38, C–130E/H, EC–130H, EC–130J, KC–135R/T, C–17A, and C–21A. Colonel Goldstone's career has taken him to foreign lands and harsh living conditions and to the dynamic environment of the Chairman's Joint Staff in the Pentagon, the Headquarters Air Force Staff in the Pentagon, and the Headquarters Air Mobility Command Staff. Additionally, Colonel Goldstone has held key positions on every staff and concludes his career as Chief of the Strategic Planning Integration Division in the Directorate of Strategic Planning. He also serves as Chief of Staff at the Headquarters Air Force Total Force Task Force and the Total Force Continuum.

As testament to his exceptional service, Colonel Goldstone's military decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

Colonel Goldstone's wife of 25 years, Mary Goldstone, has also supported the Air Force mission, actively volunteering and holding a variety of positions primarily with spouse and family support organizations. Notably, she was instrumental in reactivating the 16th Airlift Squadron spouses group while at Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina. Through her tireless commitment she expanded the group from approximately 30 spouses to 120 spouses by the time the Goldstones departed in June 2004. During this time she helped sponsor numerous morale-building socials, fundraisers, and welcome/farewells. These activities were vital toward promoting unity of effort and support for families, especially when active-duty members were deployed conducting combat operations.

During Colonel Goldstone's tour as the Scott Air Force Base Illinois Installation Commander, Mary shined as "The First Lady of Scott Air Force Base" by continuing her steadfast work primarily with families and spouses through groups such as Phoenix Spouses, Heartlink, and Newcomer's Orientations for spouses. She also worked closely with the Airman and Family Readiness Center to restart and revitalize various key programs.

Colonel and Mrs. Goldstone have two children, Garrett and Danielle. It is with great pride and honor that I extend my heartfelt appreciation to Colonel Gary Goldstone and his family for all of their sacrifice and service, and wish them well in all future endeavors.

Colonel Goldstone has set a truly inspiring example of dedication to the defense of freedom, service before self, and what it means to be an Officer and Gentleman.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS McNABB ON COMPLETION OF 30 YEARS AS THE NATIONAL SECRETARY OF THE ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS OF AMERICA

### HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas McNabb on his completion

of 30 years as the National Secretary of the Ancient Order of Hibernians of America (AOH).

Thomas McNabb was born and raised in Auburn, New York, where he joined the Auburn Hibernian Division in 1955. Known as "Mr. Hibernian" around town, Tom has served his division in every capacity. He started many local Irish-American traditions such as the Friends of Ireland Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon; he was also the founder of Auburn's Irish Festival.

Thomas McNabb also served on the AOH New York State Board as Secretary, Treasurer, Organizer, State Director, and Vice President. Tom rose through the ranks to become the youngest AOH state President in 1975.

Tom's unwavering commitment to the AOH was recognized nationally when he was elected National Vice President in 1976 and then later became the second youngest National President in 1978.

Thomas McNabb was elected to his current position of AOH National Secretary in 1984.

During his years in National Hibernian leadership, Tom met with numerous elected officials and prominent figures to promote and support Irish causes. Notable meetings included President Jimmy Carter, Members of Congress, as well as Catholic Bishops, Cardinals and Archbishops.

In addition to Tom's great work in the United States, he has traveled to Ireland numerous times in support of the nation's causes. Tom was instrumental in the funding, building, and dedication of the Great Hunger Memorial in County Clare in 1995. This monument was the first memorial in Ireland to honor those who suffered and were lost during The Potato Famine, now renamed The Great Hunger.

On top of his distinguished and devoted work for the AOH, Tom had worked as the Safety Inspector for the City of Auburn and served as an Auburn City Council member from 1995 to 2011.

Throughout his life, Thomas McNabb has fully embodied the AOH Motto—"Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity".

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Thomas McNabb on his completion of 30 years as the National Secretary of the Ancient Order of Hibernians of America (AOH). May he continue to be a leading force for good in an ever-changing world.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL NIGHT  
OUT

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House the powerful effect that National Night Out has on our communities' continued unity and success. Next month, we will celebrate the event's 30th anniversary.

The annual event was started in 1984 by the National Town Watch Association in order to incite local cultural and philanthropic interests in the name of crime prevention and promoting deeper community relations. On Tuesday, August 7, 1984, 2.5 million Americans participated across 400 communities in 23 states.

Presently, through the efforts of thousands of hard-working Americans with those missions in mind, National Night Out comprises 37.8 million people across 16,124 communities in all 50 states, U.S. Territories, Canadian cities, and military bases around the world.

My district contains the City of Salinas, an agricultural hub, providing fresh produce throughout the United States. The City of Salinas struggles with crime and, as often follows, social splintering among residents—partially due to gang-related violence. But time and time again, my constituents and organizations in the community come together to support each other and to remind the community that peace is the answer. This year the City of Salinas' National Night Out has approximately 30 organizations taking part in the Community Safety Fair and Peace March. Some of the organizations include: A Time for Grieving and Healing, Second Chance, County of Monterey, Clínica De Salud del Valle de Salinas, Monterey County Rape Crisis Center, Natividad Medical Center, Partners for Peace, Peacock Acres, United Farm Workers Foundation, United Way, and Sun Street Centers that are dedicated to creating unity and peace in the community.

Mr. Speaker, National Night Out will spread the message of unity and positive energy to communities throughout the United States, including Salinas, the way Salinas has shared Salinas-grown fresh produce throughout the country. I commend all of the participants taking part in National Night Out on their contribution to the worthy goal of eliminating crime and encouraging deeper community relations.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 MINNESOTA  
POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

### HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Eric Kilian of the Hutchinson, Minnesota Police Department, a brave law enforcement officer from the 7th Congressional District who was recently awarded the 2014 Police Officer of the Year award by the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association—the largest organization of professional law enforcement officers in the State.

Sgt. Kilian has served as a law enforcement officer for over 22 years and was recently recognized for his heroic actions during an occurrence that took place last October in Hutchinson. When responding to a report of a suspicious person, Sgt. Kilian was faced with a dangerous suspect likely under the influence of methamphetamines. The suspect engaged the officer in a physical altercation and attempted to disarm him and take command of his service weapon. Running out of options and thinking quickly, Sgt. Kilian discharged his weapon in the suspect's chest. The injured perpetrator attempted to escape but collapsed nearby. Sgt. Kilian then proceeded to administer first aid until paramedics arrived. The suspect ultimately survived after being transported for medical treatment. Based on Sgt. Kilian's actions, a dangerous situation was resolved, and a life was saved. Sgt. Kilian's professional response to the incident demonstrates his excellence as a law enforcement

officer and I would like to recognize his brave actions before this Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, as a long-time friend, supporter and ally of the Minnesota law enforcement community, I am proud to recognize the sacrifices our officers make in the line of duty each and every day. I, along with all my colleagues, owe a great deal of gratitude to the Americans who make this a safer country every single day. It is a great honor to represent these heroic men and women and I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Officer Kilian on receiving this recognition.

HUMAN RIGHTS VETTING: NIGERIA  
AND BEYOND

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, Boko Haram has significantly accelerated its acts of mass murder and abduction in Nigeria, requiring a more robust and effective response from the Government of Nigeria and friends like the United States. According to a recent report by the Internal Displaced Monitoring Centre and the Norwegian Refugee Council, there are 3.3 million Nigerian Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)—more than every other country in the world except Syria and Colombia. The UN High Commission for Refugees estimates that there are now more than 10,000 Nigerian refugees in Niger and Cameroon. According to the International Rescue Committee (IRC), due to credible fears of abduction as many as one thousand refugees a week—80% women and girls—are fleeing to the nearby country of Niger from Nigeria's Borno State alone.

Former U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria Robin Renee Sanders testified before my subcommittee on June 11th that the fight against Boko Haram will be a long war, but that Nigerian military and security forces are insufficiently trained and ill-equipped to meet the challenge of savage, relentless violence. Earlier this month, she told a Capitol Hill forum on Boko Haram that in the vacuum created by delays in training Nigerian forces, vigilante groups have been formed and that now are themselves committing human rights abuses.

According to the current State Department human rights report, Boko Haram is responsible for the most heinous human rights violations in Nigeria, but that same report tells us elements in the Nigerian armed forces and security apparatus have committed serious human rights abuses with little or no accountability.

Even in the face of serious threats to Nigerian and regional security, the U.S. Government, which has a longstanding alliance with the Federal Republic of Nigeria, has experienced obstacles in providing the security assistance necessary to help our ally address this dire emergency. Laws our Congress created to prevent our alliance with rogue military and security forces are being blamed for making our assistance more difficult to provide. But is the law the problem or rather is it how the law is being applied? Or is the U.S. not attempting to train sufficient numbers of human rights-vetted Nigerian forces? What is the tar-

geted number of trained Nigerians? For this year—and the future—how many trainers have committed to this task?

I believe the Leahy laws are necessary components of a prudent human rights policy, and today's hearing is in large part intended to find out whether there are legitimate obstacles to their implementation.

At the outset, I would like to make clear that I have long supported human rights vetting to allow for training of those who pass muster. One example of many: as chair of the then-Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, I chaired a hearing on Indonesia on May 7, 1998 featuring Pius Lustrilanang, who was tortured by members of the Indonesian military amid deep concerns that those involved may have been trained under our International Military Education and Training Program or IMET program. In like manner, I and others were concerned that U.S.-trained Indonesian troops may have been complicit in slaughtering people in East Timor.

On a fact-finding mission to Jakarta, I sought—but never received—the names of specific individuals, trained by the U.S. including members of the elite Kopassus unit, who slaughtered dissidents as the Suharto government fell.

Similar training concerns were expressed by me and others concerning the Joint Combined Exchange Training or JCET program and the Rwandan Patriotic Army during the period of time when the RPA was engaged in the killing of refugees in Zaire, now the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Moreover, in 1999, Congress passed my legislation (part of P.L. 106-113) that suspended all U.S. federal law enforcement support and exchanges with the British police force in Northern Ireland, the Royal Ulster Constabulary, until new human rights training programs were implemented there and until programs were established to “vet out” any RUC officers who engaged in human rights abuses from benefiting from American training and preparation.

The “vetting” legislation worked. Exchanges and training at FBI facilities for RUC officers were suspended for more than two years until President Bush certified that the British established a system to vet and block anyone who committed or condoned human rights violations from the program.

According to the current Quadrennial Defense Review, we are in a time of increased danger from terrorist forces in foreign nations while shrinking budgets force our military and security forces to become smaller and leaner.

The QDR states that: “The Department of Defense will rebalance our counterterrorism efforts toward greater emphasis on building partnership capacity, especially in fragile states.” One manifestation of that developing policy is the president's proposal to allocate \$5 billion to a new Counterterrorism Partnership Fund (CTPF).

I have visited Nigeria twice in the past nine months alone and have chaired several hearings on security in Nigeria in the past two Congresses alone. Just last month, I met with U.S. and Nigerian Government officials to find out why our security assistance has been so difficult to provide when the need is so increasingly great. Is it the process or has the Administration not sought to seriously expand training?

You will notice that the Department of State did not testify at the hearing that I convened

on human rights vetting earlier this month. That is partly because Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Tom Malinowski was unavailable when we invited him to testify. But it may also be partly due to the abundance of caution surrounding the discussion of difficulties experienced in implementing the Leahy laws.

When I was in Abuja last month, I asked our Embassy to provide me with their recommendations for making the Leahy vetting more effective so that we can provide the much-needed aid to the Nigerian government and end the increasing slaughter and kidnapping of innocents, such as the Chibok school girls. Despite initial assurances of cooperation, I have yet to receive the information. I understand that not everything that can be said publicly should be said. Nevertheless, these laws were created in the light of day and so should our efforts to implement them be clear and transparent to all concerned.

We refer to Leahy laws because there are actually two: one for the Department of State and one for the Department of Defense. Together, they cover material assistance, including equipment, and training. These laws require investigation of allegations of human rights violations by military and security forces, including police. These investigations, performed mostly by the Department of State, require details on not only individuals, but also military units. Failure to obtain such information as name and date and place of birth can place an investigation in limbo. National government officials may consider such information an invasion of their sovereignty, but to avoid aiding and abetting rogue elements, we must know if a perpetrator of abuse is a man from Jos or a man with the same name from Kano, for example.

If individuals or elements of a larger force are guilty of human rights violations, entire battalions or regiments can be tainted unless the guilty are identified and separated out from those forces that are innocent of such crimes. The Leahy laws allow for the re-creation of “clean” units. On the surface, it would seem that such a policy is clear and possible to implement. Unfortunately, it seems not to be so simple in practice.

Despite the fact that Sarah Sewall, Undersecretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights told the Foreign Affairs Committee on May 21st that at least half the Nigerian military and security forces are clear of allegations of human rights violations, we continue to be told that Leahy vetting is at least slowing the provision of security assistance. According to congressional testimony by Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Robert Jackson, there are an estimated 187 Nigerian military units and 173 police units that have been cleared, but very few Nigerian units have been trained or are in training today. Why?

Our Government provides approximately \$15 billion in security assistance worldwide each year, involving 158 countries. Yet there are only 13 headquarters staff people handling Leahy vetting, in addition to embassy personnel. Is this a sign that these laws are not being taken seriously enough by our own government?

In the current Fiscal Year, the Department of State is receiving \$2.75 million to conduct Leahy vetting, which represents only two-one-hundredths of a percent of all military aid. Is

insufficient funding for such vetting the major problem?

Of the 158 countries we provide with security assistance each year, 46 had some aid withheld in 2011. The typical percentage of global Leahy vettings that don't meet requirements is at most 1–2 percent with just under 10% suspended. In Fiscal Year 2012, according to Congressional Research Service expert Lauren Ploch “the State Department vetted 1,377 members of the Nigerian security forces—of that figure, almost 85% were cleared to receive assistance, with 15% were rejected or suspended.”

In Colombia, the government rejected the requirements of the Leahy laws before changing their minds and accepting the process. Now there reportedly are more high-ranking Colombian military officers behind bars than in any country other than Argentina, and Colombia is cited as a Leahy law success. In Nigeria, there have been no disciplinary actions against Nigerian military for scorched earth assaults on populations, and few high-ranking Nigerian military officers have been held accountable for human rights violations.

We are here today to examine the questions these facts raise, and our witnesses have been asked to walk us through the process, to tell us what works and what doesn't work and to suggest ways to make this process more effective.

In more than three decades of promoting human rights adherence in Congress, I have seen far too much brutality and indiscipline among military and security forces that are charged with establishing the peace and protecting their people. The Leahy laws are intended to prevent our Government from supporting such behavior, but if these laws are not implemented properly, they cannot achieve the goals for which they were created. No law is perfect, and we must never stop trying to perfect the laws we create—especially when they are meant to be both practical and aspirational.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE YMCA OF GREATER HOUSTON AND CHILDHOOD SWIM SAFETY

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the three children who die every day in our country as a result of drowning and to recognize organizations, like the YMCA, that are working to give America's children the necessary skills to prevent these tragic accidents from happening.

Drowning is the leading cause of death nationally for children aged one to four and is the second leading cause of death for children aged five to nine. For children between five and nine, the drowning rate for African American and American Indian children is three times the rate of white American children. At ages 11 and 12, the disparity between black and white children grows even worse. Regardless of race or ethnicity, lower income populations disproportionately bear the burden of drowning.

For my hometown and state, the numbers are very sobering. In the Houston metropolitan

area, 22 children drowned last year. For the State of Texas, 82 children were victims of drowning in 2013 and 66 percent of all child-aged drowning victims in our state in 2012 were male.

The YMCA is one example of an organization that is changing statistics for children across the country. The YMCA is bringing swimming safety and drowning prevention programs to underserved communities throughout the U.S., including communities in Houston and Harris County. YMCAs partner with schools to bring kids to the Y for lessons and offer swimming lessons year around. I learned to swim at the M.D. Anderson YMCA in our congressional district.

I am proud that the YMCA of Greater Houston is one of 15 YMCAs across the country piloting a program to improve childhood swimming and drowning prevention. This commendable program is providing drowning prevention and water safety skills to underserved communities who would otherwise not have access to these lifesaving skills.

The YMCA of Greater Houston is one of 103 Y's providing additional scholarships to children in their communities that may not otherwise have access to swim lessons as part of a nationwide data collection project on effectiveness of skill instruction in all communities.

I would like to congratulate the YMCA of Greater Houston on serving the people of Houston and Harris County for over 100 years and on its great efforts to save the lives of all our children and I invite Members of this chamber to join them in educating parents and providing children the skills they need to swim safely and avoid harm.

REMEMBERING THE GENOCIDE IN DARFUR

**HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues of the ongoing genocide in Darfur, which began in 2003 and continues unabated. During that time more than 300,000 Darfuris have been murdered, countless numbers of women and children as young as 6 years of age have been brutally raped. Millions have been left homeless. The International Criminal Court has issued an arrest warrant for Sudanese President Omar Bashir for crimes against humanity and, in July 2010, issued a warrant for his arrest on charges of genocide.

The government of Sudan, however, has yet to turn him over, and since the issuance of the warrants, the country has seen increased violence. Furthermore, the government's forceful expulsion of humanitarian aid agencies from the country has further jeopardized conditions for many more thousands of displaced and marginalized civilians. Days, weeks, months, years pass and the people of Darfur are not closer to security, a just peace, or adequate humanitarian relief. The international community must do much more to help the people of Darfur.

RECOGNIZING JUAN ESPARZA LOERA

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Juan Esparza Loera as he receives the “Service Above Self” award presented by the Fresno Latino Rotary. Juan's dedication and commitment to reporting quality news to the community is something to be honored.

Juan was born in Chihuahua, Mexico, and immigrated with his parents to the United States when he was only three and a half years old. He moved to the San Joaquin Valley in 1969, and has lived there ever since. Upon his graduation from Delano High School, Juan continued his education at Bakersfield Junior College and then went on to California State University, Fresno, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism.

Juan's career in journalism began in Bakersfield as the high school sports editor for the Bakersfield Californian. His career would then take him to Modesto, where he worked for the Modesto Bee. During his time at the Modesto Bee, Juan held multiple positions ranging from general assignment reporter to business editor. His hard work in Bakersfield and Modesto created opportunities for him in Fresno. In May 1990, Juan was hired as the Editor and Publisher for Vida en el Valle. Twenty-four years later, Juan still holds the position.

Over the years, Vida en el Valle has been recognized for national awards. In 1998, Vida en el Valle was awarded the General Excellence Award by the California Newspaper Publishers Association. It was the first time a bilingual newspaper had ever won the award. Since then, Vida en el Valle has earned more than 20 additional awards from the California Newspaper Publishers Association. In 2003, Juan was recognized by Hispanic Media 100 as one of the most influential Latino journalists in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize Mr. Juan Esparza Loera. The contributions he has made to our San Joaquin Valley deserve to be commended.

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS RELATING TO H.R. 4263

**HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following exchange of letters between the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure relating to H.R. 4263, the Social Media Working Group Act of 2014.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

*Washington, DC, July 7, 2014.*

Hon. MICHAEL T. McCAUL,  
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write concerning H.R. 4263, the Social Media Working Group

Act of 2014, as reported by the Committee on Homeland Security on June 19, 2014. There are certain provisions in the legislation that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

In order to expedite this legislation for floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action on this bill. However, this is conditional on our mutual understanding that forgoing consideration of the bill does not alter or diminish the jurisdiction of 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. I request you urge the Speaker to name members of the Committee to any conference committee named to consider such provisions.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during consideration of the measure on the House Floor.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,  
*Chairman.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,  
*Washington, DC, July 7, 2014.*

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,  
*Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN SHUSTER: Thank you for your letter regarding the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's jurisdictional interest in H.R. 4263, the "Social Media Working Group Act of 2014."

I agree that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has a valid jurisdictional interest in emergency disaster response, and that the Committee's jurisdiction will not be adversely affected by your decision to forego consideration of H.R. 4263. As you have requested, I will support your request for an appropriate appointment of outside conferees from your Committee in the event of a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation, should such a conference be convened.

Finally, I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the Floor. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. McCAUL,  
*Chairman.*

16TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL  
FIRE AND RESCUE AND EMS  
AWARDS

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

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

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

Two years ago, I established the 16th District Congressional Fire and Rescue and EMS

Awards to honor officers, departments, and units for outstanding achievement.

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

Dr. Steven R. Newman, a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians and Medical Director for Sarasota County Emergency Medical Services, was chosen to receive the Career Service Award.

Manatee County EMS Lt. Mark Jones, Charge Paramedic Angie Hadlock, and Paramedic Renee Bergschneider; East Manatee Fire Rescue Battalion Chief Stacy Bailey, Lt. Sean Battick, Lt. Chad Gamble, and Firefighters Stephen Beecher, Steven Rickman, Doug Sprigg, and Andrew Stark; and Bayflight 2 Flight Nurse Kelly Long, Paramedic Mike Bull, and Pilot Joe Mattina were chosen to receive the Unit Citation award.

Firefighter/Paramedic Larry Gibbs of the Sarasota County Fire Department was chosen to receive the Dedication and Professionalism award.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF HARIS  
SULEMAN

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a profound sense of sadness, as I grieve with so many of my fellow Hoosiers over the loss of a young man who cared deeply for his community. Today, we remember Haris Suleman, a 17-year-old student who passed away last week in a plane crash.

For the past month, Haris had been piloting a single-engine aircraft around the world with the hope of setting a world record and raising money to help build schools in his family's native country of Pakistan. He was a determined young man, who took interest in being a pilot after years of flying with his father, Babar. Sadly, his father, who accompanied him on this trip, is still missing.

Haris was going to be a high school senior this fall and he dreamed of becoming an engineer like his father. Although he was only with us for a short time, Haris made a positive and lasting impact in his community, and his passing is a great loss for so many. May his determination to reach his goals and his commitment to help others serve as an example for all of us to follow.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our thoughts and prayers to Haris Suleman's family.

REMEMBERING FORMER REP.  
CALDWELL BUTLER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2014*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor my former colleague, Rep. Caldwell Butler of Roanoke, who passed away on July 29, 2014 at the age of 89.

I will always remember Caldwell as a true Virginia gentleman. Representing Virginia's Sixth District from 1972 until 1983, I had the pleasure of serving with him during my first term in Congress. I appreciated Caldwell's golden character and the lasting impact he had on this body. He was a good, decent and honorable man—qualities that we should all aspire to emulate; qualities that are especially important for those in public service.

Rep. Butler had a great sense of humor and sharp wit. As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, he demonstrated these qualities each and every day. He served his country and his district with distinction.

Prior to serving in Congress, Caldwell joined the Navy during World War II and later attended the University of Richmond and the University of Virginia School of Law. In 1962, he was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates, where he served until his election to Congress.

Caldwell and his wife, June, were always a team. Sadly, June passed away just last month. Together, they raised four sons—Manley, Henry, James and Marshall—and have seven grandchildren and two step-grandchildren

I submit the following article from The Roanoke Times on Caldwell's life and accomplishments. I respectfully ask that my colleagues join me in extending our deepest condolences to his family and in honoring his great service to our country.

[From the Roanoke Times, July 29, 2014]

CALDWELL BUTLER, FORMER ROANOKE CONGRESSMAN WHO CAST KEY VOTE DURING WATERGATE, DIES

Caldwell Butler, a former congressman from Roanoke who was thrust into the national spotlight when he became one of the few Republicans to favor Richard Nixon's impeachment during the Watergate scandal, has died. He was 89.

Richard Cullen, a close family friend and former Virginia attorney general, confirmed Butler's death this morning. Cullen said he expects funeral services to be held Friday at St. John's Church in Roanoke. Butler's wife, June, died last month.

Rep. Bob Goodlatte, R-Roanoke County, who holds the 6th District seat today, remembered Butler in comments before the Judiciary Committee today. Longtime Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., also recalled serving with Butler. Watch the comments here.

Butler was first elected to Congress representing Virginia's 6th District in 1972, running as a member of "the Nixon team" in a district where Nixon amassed 72 percent of the vote. But less than two years later, in a dramatic reversal, Butler voted for Nixon's impeachment.

As a freshman member of the House Judiciary Committee, Butler was thrown by circumstance into the Watergate scandal, which grew out of Nixon's cover-up of a break-in at the Democratic headquarters in 1972. Through the spring and summer of 1974, as the committee investigated the actions of the president and his advisers, Butler's role became more important.

Butler had supported Nixon's legislative efforts. And some said he owed his own congressional career to the GOP landslide sparked by Nixon.

Butler was viewed as one of the half-dozen crucial swing votes on the Judiciary Committee, though. During most of the committee hearings, he had not joined the president's attackers. But neither had he joined the defenders.

Butler and the other pivotal committee members were considered bellwethers of support for impeachment. When Butler announced, in July 1974, that he backed two impeachment charges, the president's defense withered.

THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE OF  
AUTISM

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the global incidence of autism is steadily increasing. About 1 in 68 children has been identified with autism spectrum disorder, or ASD, according to estimates from the Center for Disease Control's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network. ASD is reported to occur in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups, but is almost 5 times more common among boys (1 in 42) than among girls (1 in 189).

Studies in Asia, Europe, and North America have identified individuals with ASD with an average of about 1% of the population. The prevalence of autism in Africa is unknown, but there is no reason to believe that it is any different than other parts of the world. A new study recently found that each case of autism costs \$2.4 million over a lifetime, including the expense of special education and lost productivity for their parents. Meanwhile, 85 percent of autistic adults are jobless or underemployed.

It is, therefore imperative that people with ASD are empowered to be self-sufficient so that they can not only earn money to meet their own needs, but also so they can utilize the talents they possess to contribute to society at large. A hearing that I held last week examined some innovative strategies to achieve this goal.

SAP, a global software company, is working to rectify this problem. SAP partnered with Thorkil Sonne, CEO and Founder of Specialisterne, to develop its highly successful "Autism at Work" program. Mr. Sonne, whose 17-year-old son Lars is autistic, realized that, while those with autism might lack the social skills recruiters are looking for, they possess many attributes high on their radar as well: intelligence and memory, the ability to see patterns and attention to detail on repetitive tasks. He reasoned that it would be phenomenal if we could use skills like we see among people with autism in software testing, data analysis, and quality control. He said that there is no reason why we should leave these people unemployed when they have so much talent and there are so many vacant jobs in

the high-tech sector. SAP and Mr. Sonne provided further details of their extraordinary program at last week's hearing.

In her testimony, Theresa Hussman of Autism Society of America said, "In school, at work and in the community, people with autism are often faced with segregation, low expectations, impoverished conditions and denial of opportunity that a society committed to civil rights should find unacceptable. Today, if you are an adult living with autism, you will likely be unemployed or vastly under-employed, living well below the poverty level, and denied access to affordable housing and so much more."

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Ron Suskind testified in part about success with an "affinity" approach, and he says, "for every visible deficit, there is an equal and opposing strength. This population is just like the rest of us, only less so and more so. The question increasingly is not 'if' these 'more so' qualities exist, but 'where'?"

Autism used to be described as a disorder characterized by delays or abnormal functioning before the age of three years in social interaction, communication or restricted, repetitive and stereotyped patterns of behavior, interests and activities. More recently, behavioral scientists describe a range of such behavior now referred to as autism spectrum disorder, which includes a more high-functioning version known as Asperger syndrome.

It is medically possible to diagnose someone with ASD as early as 18 months or even younger, and a reliable diagnosis can be made by the age of two. However, symptoms might not present themselves until later in life. Those with some form of autism may never be diagnosed at all.

This has led to a debate over famous, productive people, often considered geniuses, who appear to have symptoms of autism, especially Asperger syndrome. In the April 30, 2003 issue of *New Scientist* magazine, writer Hazel Muir revealed the debate over whether geniuses Albert Einstein and Isaac Newton had Asperger syndrome.

Simon Baron Cohen, an autism expert based at Cambridge University, and Oxford University mathematician Ian James speculated that Newton, the noted English physicist and mathematician, exhibited Asperger traits such as hardly speaking, forgetting to eat and giving scheduled lectures even to an empty room. Einstein, the German physicist, was said to have obsessively repeated sentences until he was seven years old and was a notoriously confusing lecturer. Both were highly productive scientists, perhaps because of the kind of focus ASD produces rather than in spite of it.

In a February 2, 2005, report on CNBC, anchor Sue Herara presented an interview with

2002 Nobel laureate Vernon L. Smith in which he spoke of the way in which his autism has allowed him to excel. "I can switch out and go into a concentrated mode and the world is completely shut out," Smith is quoted as saying. "If I'm writing something, nothing else exists."

During the interview, Smith, who won the Nobel Prize for inventing the field of experimental economics, admitted that he is sometimes "not there" in social situations. He said that teaching had forced him to be more social, but it was only because he was talking about issues on which he was already focused.

I raise the issue of intelligence and functionality because we too often see people with ASD as victims who must be cared for when the focus their condition produces may allow them to be highly successful in certain endeavors. When we begin to look at people with ASD in this light, we can better see how they can be enabled to contribute to society. It just requires understanding of their potential as well as their limitations.

Many fields involving mathematics and science would allow for the intense focus exhibited by many people with ASD to be quite useful. Think also of fields of analysis—intelligence, actuary science, and other positions requiring what we commonly call "numbers crunching." The ability to analyze data and see patterns most people would not recognize would be invaluable in analytical jobs.

As Nobel laureate Vernon Smith said, his disconnection from social relationships enables him to think outside the box, as it were, without concern for violating social norms. Smith found his condition to be an advantage in enabling greater creativity. In our increasingly technical world, people with ASD actually are becoming more valuable, if we can help them overcome social disconnection and allow them to find fields in which what we have thought to be their disability is actually their advantage.

We hope today's hearing can be instructive in at least initiating a change in perspective on what people with ASD can do to help themselves and to make a contribution to society as a whole. We must not continue to waste the talents of people who could make their lives and ours much better.

Finally, I'd like to thank the amazing group of individuals who testified last week who made a historic difference in the lives of those on spectrum.

As Michael Rosanoff put it in his testimony "our mission at Autism Speaks is to change the future for all who struggle with autism spectrum disorders." Each of you on the expert witness panel did just that.