

the Financial Services Committee, the Committee on Homeland Security, as well as the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, where he is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs.

Known as a “maverick” and an “independent thinker,” one of his most well-known legislative accomplishments is probably the Shays-Meehan bill, which was signed into law as the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002. In his work on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, CHRIS played a key role during the debate to create the new Department of Homeland Security.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated leader and friend to many in this body. I know his family, his wife, Betsi; his daughter, Jeremy; and his many friends and colleagues join me in honoring his accomplishments and extending thanks for his service over the years on behalf of the state of Connecticut and the United States of America.

CHRIS will surely enjoy the well deserved time he now has to spend with his family and loved ones. I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING THE “HELPING OUR HEROES FOUNDATION”

#### HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 10, 2008*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Helping Our Heroes Foundation (HOHF) for its many accomplishments, and their volunteers for their support of our servicemembers and their families.

The Helping Our Heroes Foundation, founded in October of 2004, is preparing to conclude its mission at the end of this year. Over the past four years, the Helping Our Heroes Foundation has provided funding and services and organized volunteers in support of servicemembers injured in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Helping Our Heroes Foundation has done so through a partnership with the Department of the Army. This partnership has improved the quality and scope of services and opportunities made available to our veterans during and after their recovery at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC. The support provided by the Helping Our Heroes Foundation has boosted morale for our veterans and assisted their families with challenges associated with recovery.

Among its many initiatives, the Helping Our Heroes Foundation has supported our wounded heroes by sponsoring baby showers for expectant mothers who are spouses of injured servicemembers, resume writing workshops for veterans ready to transition to the civilian workforce, scholarships to enable advanced education and training, and activities to bring the community together. The Helping Our Heroes Foundation also has excelled in its goal of securing charitable donations in support of veterans programs. These are a few examples of the Foundation's overall efforts.

Volunteers are at the heart of the Helping Our Heroes Foundation's success. The leadership of its Board of Directors and its founding

donors has enabled the Foundation to fulfill its goals. In particular, Ms. Karen Theobald-Conlin, who serves as President of the Helping Our Heroes Foundation, is to be recognized for her initiative and commitment. On this occasion, communities and veterans across the country are joining together to recognize the support provided by the Helping Our Heroes Foundation, its Board of Directors and volunteers, to our wounded heroes and their families. As a Member of Congress who has taken part in their activities at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, and witnessed the good work of their volunteers, I join others in recognizing the role the Helping Our Heroes Foundation has served for our veterans. We will continue to honor our veterans based on the foundation established by the Helping Our Heroes Foundation.

#### TRIBUTE TO KAREN DAVIS

#### HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 10, 2008*

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Karen Davis. Karen recently celebrated 10 years of service in my Omaha Congressional Office. She is a dedicated servant to the Second Congressional District of Nebraska. She works hard and deserves accolades.

Karen Davis serves as Outreach Coordinator for my Omaha Congressional Office. Karen is the epitome of customer service. Karen has the skill and understanding to help seniors make sense of complex issues such as Medicare and Medicaid. Although at times carrying a crushing workload while being a working mother, she is accessible, helpful and always puts constituents first. Her dedication to service has touched thousands of individuals during her 10 years. I should also point out that Karen's dad was a Tuskegee airman—a point of pride for not only Karen but all of us in our office.

Karen, today I offer you a heartfelt thank you. Thank you for your vision, passion and understanding. You should be proud of the many things you have accomplished over the years. I know I am. I consider you a friend and I am grateful to have you on my team. Thank you.

#### WEYERHAEUSER: CORPORATE LEADERSHIP

#### HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 10, 2008*

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in acknowledgment of the wonderful and continuous success of the Weyerhaeuser Corporation, located in my home state of Washington. This past October, Weyerhaeuser was named to the Dow Jones Sustainability Index—an index that tracks North American companies in terms of their environmental, social and economic performance—and is the only North American company named in the category of forestry and paper products.

Weyerhaeuser, one of the largest pulp and paper companies in the world, and the world's

largest private owner of softwood timberland, is indeed a global leader in terms of sustainability. Along with many other innovative environmental initiatives, they have committed to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent by the year 2020 based on their 2000 levels and have already made great strides. They also employ over 40,000 people all over the world who contribute positively to each community they reside in and, in 2007, sales at Weyerhaeuser totaled more than \$16 billion.

As a staunch supporter of conservation and the innovative environmental leadership of businesses both big and small, I congratulate Weyerhaeuser as a whole for the most recent acknowledgment of their environmental, social and economic success. Specifically, I salute Weyerhaeuser Chairman and CEO Steve Rogel, COO Richard Hanson and the Board of Directors for their fantastic leadership and vision.

#### RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE RIC KELLER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 10, 2008*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of the Honorable RIC KELLER for his service to the people of Florida and the U.S. House of Representatives. Congressman KELLER has represented the Eighth Congressional District of the State of Florida for the past eight years.

Born and raised in Orlando, Florida, Ric graduated first in his class at East Tennessee State University and received his law degree from Vanderbilt University. Before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, Ric worked as a private lawyer in Orlando, helping write two state constitutional amendments to finance the cleanup of Everglades National Park. One, known as “Polluter Pays,” required sugar companies to contribute to the restoration of the Everglades.

Raised by a single mother on a secretary's salary, Ric used Pell Grants, federal grants for low-income college students, to help pay for his college education, and since coming to Congress, he has been a leading champion of Pell Grants. As a member of the House Education and Labor Committee, as well as founder and chairman of the Pell Grant Caucus, Ric was successful in pushing to raise the maximum grant from \$3,750 to \$4,050 a year.

Ric is also a member of the House Judiciary Committee, from which post he has been a leading advocate of the Community Oriented Policing Service (COPS) program, which makes law enforcement officers more visible by taking them out of patrol cars and putting them on neighborhood streets.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated leader and friend to many in this body. I know his family, his wife, Dee Dee; his four children, Nick, Christy, Kaylee and Kate; and his many friends and colleagues join me in honoring his accomplishments and extending thanks for his service over the years on behalf of the State of Florida and the United States of America.

RIC will surely enjoy the well deserved time he now has to spend with his family and loved ones. I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF PACIFICA  
CITY COUNCILMAN CALVIN HINTON

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Pacifica City Councilman Calvin Hinton, who retires this month after twelve years of admirably and honorably serving his community.

Madam Speaker, the United States Marine Corps once recruited with the slogan, "We're looking for a few good men." In 1945, they got exactly what they were looking for with Cal Hinton. Little did they know that the young recruit from Indiana would go on to serve his country in so many ways.

Following his service in World War II, he moved to Northern California where he attended The College of San Mateo, University of San Francisco and Stanford University.

Cal Hinton first served his adopted hometown of Pacifica by joining the Fire Department in April, 1959. There, his work ethic and natural leadership ability propelled him through the ranks until, after a stellar term as Fire Captain, he was named Chief of the City of Pacifica Fire Department on January 13, 1970. Chief Hinton remained in that job until his retirement in 1983.

In 1996, Cal offered his services in a different capacity by seeking—and winning—a seat on the city council. Twice more the voters of Pacifica returned him to office.

Earlier this year, Cal showed just how tough he is when, while recovering from hip replacement surgery, he was struck by an out-of-control SUV while walking in downtown Pacifica. The vehicle hit Cal before coming to a stop inside a local restaurant where fortunately, no one was seriously hurt. As for Cal, he broke the same leg where he just received the new hip. Despite being 81, he was able to bounce back and, before long, returned to the City Council.

Retirement will allow Cal to spend more time with his family, including his lovely wife Marilyn.

Madam Speaker, California's 12th Congressional District, and indeed our nation, is better off because of the service of Calvin Hinton. On behalf of you and the United States House of Representatives, I thank him for a lifetime dedicated to helping others.

OFFERING A POEM BY ALBERT  
CAREY CASWELL

### HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

December 10, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, a good friend to a lot of us in the House of Representatives, Albert Carey Caswell, who works for the U.S. Capitol Guide

Service, recently shared with me a poem he wrote about his admiration for the Make a Wish Foundation. As a grandfather of five, and out of respect for the work of the Make a Wish Foundation, I wanted to introduce his poem in to the RECORD so others may enjoy it in the future.

#### CLOSE YOUR EYES

Close your eyes . . .  
And Make A Wish . . .  
This most precious time together, is but our gift . . .  
For families, with heart's of gold . . .  
Moments to carry with you, as you grow old . . .  
All in the coming years . . .  
We will remember, what we do here!  
All in our tears . . .  
Close your eyes, my precious child . . .  
And Make A Wish . . .  
Make A Smile . . .  
As to your fine hearts, so graciously we give this . . .  
And wipe all of those tears, from your eyes . . .  
Oh how, your most courageous hearts . . .  
Make us cry . . .  
Forget all of your pain and heartache . . .  
Watching you, oh how our heart's break . . .  
As we see those little smiles, upon your face . . .  
For you give to us, far . . . far . . . much more, than you take!  
Little hearts which beat so loud . . .  
Who make, The Angels Up In Heaven Proud . . .  
Magnificent families, who make each moment count!  
Teaching Us . . . and Reaching Us . . .  
Beseeching our heart so very loud . . .  
What life is truly all about!  
Close your eyes . . .  
And Make A Wish . . .  
All for you, we do this . . .  
Make, Dreams Come True!  
All for you . . .  
Close your eyes, And Make A Wish . . .  
Little soldiers, children should not have to be . . .  
But, this is what our Lord God make's us see . . .  
To Teach . . . what counts!  
That no greater heart could ever beat!  
No finer soul for Heaven, could so compete!  
Families, who are like our soldiers too . . .  
and their families, who must now so weep . . .  
For every day, you fight a war . . . a battle so for sure . . .  
With hearts of courage full, oh what you endure . . .  
Families living close . . .  
As you know, each and every moment but means the most!  
Is that but not what Heaven is for?  
Close your eyes my dear child . . .  
And Make A Wish . . .  
Oh how you bless this world, with your most heroic gifts . . .  
To be a child!  
To wear a smile . . .  
To forget all of your heartache, but for a little while . . .  
I close my eyes . . .  
And Make A Wish . . .  
That, I might bless and but live such a fine life as this!

TRIBUTE ON THE RETIREMENT OF  
MR. ANTHONY "BEN" BORDA, JR.

### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Anthony "Ben" Borda, Jr. of Huntington, WV and his 36 years of service to the State and people of West Virginia. For the past 36 years, Mr. Borda has served in the Federal Government, 34 years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and 2 years with the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining. Mr. Borda currently serves as the Acting Chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Huntington District and New River Navigator for the New River American River Heritage Initiative and is now set to retire on January 2, 2009.

Born and raised in Fairmont, West Virginia, Ben has devoted his life to protecting West Virginia's God-given natural resources. He earned a bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture from West Virginia University in 1972 and a Masters in Biological Science from Marshall University in 1994.

For nearly four decades, Ben has been a godsend to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Huntington District, helping manage land and water usage, and has played a powerful role in dozens of district projects covering three states. From Landscape Architect to Acting Chief of the planning Branch, Ben has left his mark on virtually every aspect of the Huntington District and improved the lives of the people of southern West Virginia.

Additionally, Ben is the longest serving New River Navigator in the country, having served for the past ten years as the Federal Liaison for the New River under the American Heritage Rivers Initiative. In this capacity, he has helped the New River Community Partners leverage millions of dollars in federal, state, local, and private funds to help bring economic, conservation and preservation, education, and transportation projects to the New River Area and was awarded the American Heritage Rivers Initiatives' Navigator Award in 2006 for his success.

Ben's list of accomplishments far exceeds his years of service. His leadership and vision have been invaluable to the Huntington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and helped shape environmental policy across southern West Virginia. His dedication to his work and commitment to helping others are examples to us all.

I again congratulate Ben for his 36 years of dedicated service to the State and people of West Virginia and wish him continued success in retirement and all his future endeavors.

FORMER FIRST LADY ALICE KING

### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, Like so many New Mexicans, Alice King's biggest contribution to our state was her children. Unlike other New Mexicans, though, Alice's children include thousands of young New