

in the aviation fuel excise taxes be placed on the fractional aviation community. It is important to note that both of these recommendations are fully supported by the fractional aviation community and are consistent with the agreement reached on this issue last year by the Senate Finance and Commerce Committees.

We had originally hoped to raise this issue during the Committee's mark-up on the aviation tax provisions of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2009. In the absence of this opportunity, we ask for your commitment to continue to work with us on this issue as this legislation moves forward.

Sincerely,

PATRICK J. TIBERI,
JOHN B. LARSON.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, May 21, 2009.

Hon. JOHN B. LARSON,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN LARSON: Thank you for writing me to express your interest in the tax treatment of fractionally-owned aircraft operations. My office has been contacted on this issue as well. In the last Congress, Ms. Tubbs Jones supported changing the tax treatment of these operations from commercial to non-commercial aviation before she passed away and I appreciate your efforts to take up this issue in her place. Last year, the Senate Finance and Commerce Committees reached an agreement on this matter when the Senate considered the FAA reauthorization bill. The Senate never completed action on that bill so we were unable to consider it in conference before the end of the Congress.

This year, we had a very brief window between the Committee's hearing on aviation taxes and floor action. To accommodate that schedule, we chose to bring the bill to the floor without a mark-up of the revenue title. In those circumstances, I felt that it was not fair to Committee members for the title to include new material and thus, after consulting with our Ways and Means colleagues, we opted to move a revenue title whose substance is identical to that passed by the House in the last Congress.

I want to thank you for cooperating in that effort. Unfortunately, that process made it impossible for us to give the tax treatment of fractionally-owned aircraft the attention and consideration it deserves. Accordingly, I would like to indicate that our failure to address the matter in the FAA bill is not the last word on the matter. If the Senate acts on the bill, we will have a conference committee. And there is a strong possibility that the Senate may include provisions related to fractional operations in its bill. At this point, I am not aware of any opposition to the proposal but believe we need to take a closer look to verify that there are no objections to or problems with changing the tax treatment of fractionally-owned aircraft operations. I have asked my staff to take a closer look at the issue and promise to keep working with you as this legislation moves forward.

Sincerely,

CHARLES B. RANGEL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, May 21, 2009.

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House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

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Sincerely,

CHARLES B. RANGEL,
Chairman.

RECOGNIZING THE ONE-HUNDRED
AND SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE GUM SPRINGS
COMMUNITY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the One-hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the Gum Springs Community in Alexandria, Virginia. The Gum Springs Historical Society celebrated the anniversary on May 16, 2009.

Gum Springs is an African-American community founded in 1833 by West Ford, a freed slave. West previously was owned by John Augustine Washington and frequently accompanied John's brother, General George Washington following the Revolutionary War. As a freed man, West inherited 160 acres from the Washington family adjacent to Mount Vernon which he later sold to acquire a nearby tract of 214 acres that became the basis of the Gum Springs Community.

West Ford's Gum Springs Community became a refuge for freed and runaway slaves before the Civil War, and the residents built homes, became farmers and loggers and worked in other various trades. They took a

patch of land, empty except for a solitary gum tree, and built a place of belonging for many Americans who, sadly, were marginalized and discriminated against in general society. Despite the hardships they were forced to endure, the residents persevered and prospered and the Gum Springs Community is a vibrant home to 2,500 people today.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Gum Springs Community on its One-hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary, and thank the Gum Springs Historical Society for preserving the heritage and courage of those first residents who overcame tremendous challenges and successfully raised their families and created a lasting community.

TRIBUTE TO VINCENT J.
TORNELLO

HON. THOMAS S.P. PERRIELLO

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, today I recognize Vincent J. Tornello upon his completion of 37 years of service to Virginia's Fifth District. As conductor of the Charlottesville High School musical ensemble since 1972, he has imparted to thousands of young students the lasting gift of a musical education, and it is an honor to acknowledge his contribution to the community.

Vincent Tornello was born and raised in Oceanside, New York. He began conducting at age 17, and went on to earn his undergraduate degree at the Shenandoah Conservatory of Music, where he studied alto saxophone, flute, and piano; and his master's degree at the University of Virginia. During his time at Charlottesville High School, Mr. Tornello was the recipient of numerous accolades and honors from the community and beyond, including Sousa Foundation's Legion of Honor Award and membership in the Virginia Band Hall of Fame. Under his tutelage, Charlottesville High School bands have been named a Virginia Honor Band 27 out of 28 possible years, received superior ratings for 28 consecutive years at the state marching band festival, and performed at the 1998 Cotton Bowl Parade and the 1993 Fiesta Bowl Parade.

Throughout his career, Mr. Tornello has challenged each student to grow not only in musical skill, but also in discipline and an appreciation for the process of making music. Described as "tough, but inspiring" by his students, he has encouraged young people of varying backgrounds, abilities, and unique talents to take pride in the dedication and teamwork required to meet high standards of achievement. In helping each student reach his or her potential, he has created accomplished ensembles of young musicians dedicated to ensuring the school music program's continued success.

Although Mr. Tornello's legacy partly continues, his students have been inspired to enter the field of music and performing arts as a career, his students who have chosen a different path have noted the lasting impact of the life lessons learned under his guidance. Mr. Tornello has taught thousands of young people to strive for personal excellence and

find satisfaction and fulfillment in a job well done. On behalf of the City of Charlottesville and Virginia's Fifth District, I thank Mr. Tornello for his generosity and devotion in sharing his talent throughout the years and wish him all the best in his retirement.

HONORING PATTY CARLIS AS THIS
YEAR'S WALLENBERG TRIBUTE
HONOREE

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Patty Carlis, as a community leader in the arts and interfaith understanding.

At the 25th annual Wallenberg Tribute Dinner on Sunday, April 19, 2009 Patty was recognized as this year's Wallenberg Tribute Honoree. The award, given by the Institute for Jewish Christian Understanding (IJCU) at Muhlenberg College, is named for Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish diplomat who saved tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Nazis during the Second World War. He was taken into Soviet custody just days after Budapest was liberated and was never again accounted for by Western sources. Each year since 1989, the Wallenberg Tribute has honored one or more local individuals who are recognized for their courageous moral action on behalf of others. Patty's lifetime of work makes her truly deserving of such an honor.

Patty served as the IJCU's Schools Program Coordinator from 2000–2006 and before that was responsible for creating the Youth and Prejudice Conference in 1995. The conference, held each spring on Muhlenberg College's Campus in Allentown, has reached over 15,000 students in the Lehigh Valley. Students are able to be a part of a live theatrical performance while learning valuable lessons about interfaith and cultural tolerance. By meeting with Holocaust survivors and relatives of survivors they learn firsthand about prejudice and bigotry. The conference teaches students valuable lessons about human rights and that their own dignity and that of others depends on the choices they make each day.

Throughout her career, Patty has been able to combine her commitment to tolerance and interfaith understanding with her passion for the arts and education. Since 2000 she has been part of the theatre faculty of Muhlenberg College and each year leads her students in the production of the play *The Library: the story of a Jewish girl in Nazi Germany*. This play, which puts a human face on the history of the Holocaust, is performed at elementary schools across the Lehigh Valley each spring.

Most recently, Patty has implemented after-school drama programs in the Allentown School District. Now students who attend Roosevelt Elementary, Central Elementary, and Trexler Middle School have had the opportunity to explore and express themselves through the arts under the guidance and supervision of Muhlenberg theatre, music and dance majors. Patty is passionate about the power of the arts to spark imaginations, motivate learning and develop life skills.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to Patty Carlis for all

her work to build bridges and connect communities through the arts in the Lehigh Valley, the United States, and the world. She has made our community extremely proud.

HONORING CHARLES ROSE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Charles Rose for his dedication to his family and community. Mr. Rose passed away on Saturday, May 23, 2009 at his home in Fresno, California after a two and a half year battle with cancer.

Charles Rose was born on August 12, 1938 in Kansas City, Missouri. His family moved to the San Joaquin Valley in 1943. As a teenager Mr. Rose worked in the fields, canneries and the Port of Stockton. He graduated from Stockton College High School in 1956. Upon graduation he was recruited to play major league baseball as a pitcher; he did not take this opportunity, but instead chose to serve his country in the United States Marine Corps. Mr. Rose served in the Corps from 1958 through 1966.

Prior to his military service Mr. Rose met the love of his life, Bonnie Jean. He and Bonnie were married in August, 1964. After life in the military, they settled down in Fresno and Mr. Rose began working at Foster Farms Dairy. He worked there for many years as a distributor. He was well-known for his black 1927 Ford Model T that he drove to work every day and to the Fig Garden Golf Course on the weekends. Mr. Rose was a devoted husband, father and grandfather.

Mr. Rose was preceded in death by his mother and father, Pearl and Harold Rose and his precious daughter, Felecia Ann. He is survived by his wife of forty-four years; his children, daughter Michelle and Wayne Ransier of Stockton, son Darren and Lisa Rose of Clovis, and daughter Linda Banks of Rocklin; his grandchildren, Brittany, Ashten, Sarah and Grace; and his sister Vermona Geigel of Stockton.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Charles Rose. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and wishing the best for his family.

HONORING HEALTHSOUTH REHA-
BILITATION HOSPITALS OF NEW
JERSEY TINTON FALLS AND
TOMS RIVER

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospitals of New Jersey Tinton Falls and Toms River. Throughout the years, employees within these hospitals have worked to rehabilitate those who are fighting heart disease and stroke. On May 30, 2009, their accomplishments earned them the American Heart Association Have A Heart Ball Community Leadership Award, presented by the

American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.

At the annual Have A Heart Ball, the Community Leadership Award is given in recognition of outstanding and consistent dedication to the well-being of Ocean and Monmouth County Communities. The American Heart Association is in need of allies in its attempt to combat cardiovascular disease and stroke, and I can safely say that it has found two in the HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospitals of New Jersey Tinton Falls and Toms River.

The services of these two hospitals have been invaluable to their local communities. Serving 4,000 inpatients and 28,000 outpatients annually, the hospitals of Tinton Falls and Toms River are committed in their care for the community. This commitment begins at the top with Linda A. Savino, Chief Executive Officer of the Tinton Falls hospital, and Patty Ostaszewski, Chief Executive Officer of the Toms River hospital. Their devotion to this honorable cause shows that they are truly deserving of this award.

The areas of Tinton Falls and Toms River are undoubtedly better off with the presence of these hospitals. HealthSouth has become part of these communities through charitable support, community education programs, and support on local and state-wide initiatives. Moreover, HealthSouth has contributed to various initiatives such as the Shoreline Start! NJ Heart Walk, Go Red For Women movement, and the Have a Heart Ball. I am sure that this commitment will continue as time goes on.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospitals of New Jersey Tinton Falls and Toms River on this achievement and thanking their employees for their service to the community. Their accomplishments will continue to benefit and inspire my constituents and future generations.

RECOGNIZING GERALD O.
GUSTAFSON

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Gerald "Jerry" Gustafson, a member of my staff. Next Friday, May 29th, is Jerry's last day as a Congressional Aide in our office. Jerry has been serving the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois for many years.

Jerry was born on the North West Side of the City of Chicago. His working experience spans from working in private industry as a personnel manager; a union representative at Central States Joint Board; and State of Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs. He has been working in the Fifth Congressional District Office having joined my predecessor Rahm Emanuel's staff in 2006.

Jerry worked hard to develop close relationships with the many congressional liaisons and always knew the right person to contact for a constituent in need. Jerry always went above and beyond to provide assistance to those who were unable to access alternate means of assistance. He calmly dealt with many difficult circumstances.

Jerry has been an extraordinary asset to my office as we've managed the transition process. It has been a lot of hard work, but that