

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Herkimer County Community College Women's Track and Field Team on their victories. I am proud to represent such talented athletes, and I wish them the best of luck with their future athletic and scholarly pursuits.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NON-NATIVE WILDLIFE INVASION PREVENTION ACT

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I have reintroduced a bill to protect the United States from harm caused by invasive species. In the 110th Congress, I introduced H.R. 6311, the Nonnative Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act, in response to the increasing economic, environmental, and human health threats posed by invasive wildlife species. I am reintroducing this legislation as a proactive approach to combating invasive wildlife species by prohibiting their importation.

Nonnative plants and animals are known by scientists to have been introduced into ecosystems in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the territories. Invasive, nonnative species can harm the economy, environment, other animal species' health and human health. Such harm ranges, for example, from depreciating farmland property values and loss of irrigation water to increasing spread of disease. Additionally, collapse of buildings, competition with native animals, sport, game, and endangered species losses, habitat alteration, and other ecosystem disturbances, have all resulted from the introduction of certain invasive species.

Scientists and economists generally estimate the cost of damages caused by invasive species in the United States to amount to over \$123 billion annually. The risks associated with the introduction and establishment of invasive species, and the costs of mitigation, will continue to rise concomitantly with the expansion of trade and increased speed and frequency of travel around the world and within the United States. The volume of cargo shipped and exchanged worldwide continues to increase and many communities across the United States are experiencing growth in tourism. These factors are reason alone to develop protocols and a system for assessing the risk of all nonnative wildlife species that could be imported or introduced into the United States.

Preventing the introduction of invasive species is a significant challenge and priority for many communities across the country, including my district, Guam. Invasive species, for example, threaten the biodiversity and the ecology of the Florida Everglades, the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, and the Great Lakes, among other national environmental treasures. On Guam, the brown tree snake has caused the extirpation of many endemic forest birds and lizards. The coqui tree frog and the coconut rhinoceros beetle are the latest species to have entered Guam. Although these species were 1 accidentally introduced, intentional introduction of invasive species is something that can and should be controlled. The bill re-

introduced today would protect citizens, the economy, and the environment from imported wildlife species that have the known potential to and that would likely harm our interests in the United States.

Absent a comprehensive federal law addressing the importation of nonnative species, the only protection is provided by the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981. This law authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to designate wildlife species considered "injurious" to humans and prohibits importation of such species into the country. The process, however, to designate a species as injurious can take up to four years, at which point harm has already been done.

The Nonnative Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act authorizes the establishment by regulation of a risk assessment process to control the importation of wildlife species. The bill adopts a preventative approach by requiring the Secretary of the Interior to develop with public notice and public input a "green list" of species allowed to be imported and a "black list" preventing invasive species from entering the country. Prior to approving a species to be imported, the Secretary must evaluate its potential risk to human, other animal species, and environmental health. Any imports of species, which are not on the "green list," will be subject to penalties under the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981. The Secretary, however, may permit importation of an animal of such other prohibited species for educational, scientific research, or accredited zoological or aquarium display purposes. Finally, import fees will be collected to cover the costs of the risk assessment process.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance this legislation and to strengthen the abilities of the federal government to more effectively manage and prevent the introduction and establishment of nonnative wildlife species.

THE AMERICAN FARM BUREAU AND THE U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AGREE: REPEAL THE \$175 COW TAX: COSPONSOR H.R. 391

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, last year, the EPA published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for a rule to give EPA's bureaucracy regulatory oversight of greenhouse gas, GHG, emissions under the Clean Air Act. This rule would affect both mobile and stationary sources.

If EPA is allowed to implement this rule, almost every small agricultural operation, including family farms, will meet the 100-tons-per year threshold. The cost of this rule will be a "tax" of \$175 per cow, \$88 per head of beef cattle, and \$20 per hog. In addition, any new farms or existing farm expansion will be burdened with the "New Source Review" permitting requirements. These permits, which are extremely costly and time intensive, must be acquired before any new changes take place.

While members of Congress may disagree on regulation of GHG emissions, the final decision should be made by Congress and not mandated by the EPA. H.R. 391 asserts Con-

gress' authority over this issue by pre-empting EPA from regulating GHGs under the Clean Air Act.

Please join me and support our farmers by cosponsoring H.R. 391. Congress must not allow EPA to establish regulations that place new costs on farmers and consumers.

Please contact me directly or have your staff contact Rodney Bacigalupo at 5-2811, rodney.bacigalupo@mail.house.gov, to add your name as a cosponsor of H.R. 391 or to request further information on this issue.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET BUSH WILSON

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American—a feminist, social activist, and accomplished attorney, Margaret Bush Wilson was born before women had the right to vote. A pioneer and champion of woman's rights, she was the first woman to be president of both the St. Louis chapter and Missouri chapter of the NAACP and the second woman admitted to practice law in the state of Missouri. I am privileged to recognize this outstanding member of the St. Louis community as her friends and family honor her on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

Margaret Bush was born on January 30, 1919 in St. Louis, Missouri. Her father James Thomas Bush was a railway postal clerk and her mother Margaret Bernice Casey Bush was an outstanding educator. Both of her parents were very active in the local NAACP. As a young woman, she attended Talladega College where she was awarded a Julia Prescott Fellowship to study at Visva Bharati College in India.

After graduating from college with a B.S. degree in Economics, Mrs. Wilson benefitted from the Supreme Court ruling in the case of *Gains v. Canada*. That decision required the state of Missouri to admit African Americans to the University of Missouri School of Law, or to establish separate but equal law school facilities. Missouri chose to create Lincoln University law school, rather than to integrate. Margaret Bush Wilson graduated from that law school and passed the Missouri bar in 1943.

A dedicated public servant, Margaret Bush Wilson served as U.S. Attorney for the Department of Agriculture's Rural Electrification Administration and as the Assistant Attorney General for the state of Missouri. After her marriage to Robert Wilson in 1944, the couple established the St. Louis real estate law firm known as Wilson and Wilson.

Her expertise in real estate law proved instrumental when she served as counsel for the black Real Estate Brokers Association, an organization initiated by her father. The organization was active in *Shelley vs. Kramer*, a 1948 Supreme Court ruling in which racially based restrictive covenants were ruled unconstitutional and unenforceable. Mrs. Wilson also served as the head of Lawyers for Housing where she championed one thousand new housing units.

In her capacity as president of the St. Louis chapter of the NAACP, Mrs. Wilson was involved in landmark civil rights cases, including

the Jefferson Bank and Trust demonstrations and case. In 1975, she became the first chairwoman of the national NAACP board and served nine terms. During President Lyndon B. Johnson's administration, Wilson served as deputy director of the Model Cities Program.

During the 1980's, she served as chairman of the board of the Mutual Insurance Company of New York, Real Estate Investment Trust. She continues to be a beacon in the African American community. She served as board chair of two Historically Black Colleges: St. Augustine's College and Talladega. She is also a member of numerous nonprofit organizations and trustee-emerita of both Washington University and Webster University.

Madam Speaker, this Ms. Wilson is the epitome of a great American. She is an inspiration to all who cherish justice and equality. I am honored to salute her for her countless contributions to the state of Missouri and to this nation. I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the works of Margaret Bush Wilson; with tenacity, grace and courage she has blazed a trail for generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA POLLARD

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this moment to recognize the work of Martha Pollard of Lafayette County, Missouri. Martha served as Lafayette County Public Administrator for 16 years. She is married to Ian Pollard and has two sons Jeff and Mark. She also has two granddaughters, Julie and Emily.

Martha grew up on a farm in Pettis County and attended K-12 school in Green Ridge, MO. She graduated as Salutatorian. After graduating high school, Pollard went to the University of Central Missouri and received her Bachelor of Science in Education and Master's of Education.

Her service as a teacher has spanned the nation, from the Knob Noster elementary school in Missouri to the Los Angeles City Schools and finally the Concordia School District for the past 30 years. She taught music, chemistry and science.

Additionally, she has held many positions in the Missouri Association of Public Administrators, ending with President from 2006-2008.

Martha is concluding her service as Public Administrator in Lafayette County. I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in thanking her for her leadership and hard work in the Lafayette County community.

TRIBUTE TO SUNY COLLEGE AT
CORTLAND MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and congratulate the State University of New York, SUNY, College at Cortland Men's Cross Country Team on its 2008 NCAA Division III championship win.

I am proud to share with my colleagues that on November 22, 2008, the SUNY Cortland Men's Cross Country Team achieved its first-ever national title at the NCAA Division III finals against Hanover College. I am pleased to count SUNY Cortland amongst the many distinguished institutions of higher learning in my district, and this title win is yet another shining example of the high intellectual and physical caliber of the students attending this fine college.

The SUNY Cortland Men's Red Dragons had an outstanding season in 2008, winning the 32-team cross country championship with a final score of 80 points. This final tally pushed the Red Dragons a total of 25 impressive points beyond their nearest competitors and contributed to a top-four national ranking for the third straight year.

Four Red Dragons earned All-American honors by finishing in the top 35 of the 278-runner pool. Junior Seth DuBois of Altamont, NY, finished in 7th place; senior Shamus Nally of Burnt Hills, NY, finished 11th; senior Josh Henry of Truxton, NY, placed 15th; and junior Justin Wager of Guilderland, NY, finished 28th. Additionally, the remaining three runners on SUNY Cortland's Men's Cross Country Team all finished in the top 75. Junior Kyle O'Brien of Monroe, NY, placed 61st; sophomore Stephen Scrafford of Cooperstown, NY, placed 65th; and junior Jerry Greenlaw of Warwick, NY, finished 73rd.

Madam Speaker, I also wish to recognize first-year head coach Steve Patrick for his guidance, leadership, and commitment to the Red Dragons. Mr. Patrick was deservingly named the NCAA Division III Men's Cross Country National Coach of the Year by the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association for his contributions to SUNY Cortland's sports program. I also wish to praise his assistant coaches, Kathryn Wagner and Jacob Smith, and thank them for their dedication.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate the SUNY Cortland Red Dragons on their impressive achievements in 2008 and I wish them much luck and success in their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF COLM F. CONNOLLY,
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR
THE STATE OF DELAWARE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to rise today and pay tribute to Colm F. Connolly, the United States Attorney for the State of Delaware. On September 4, 2001, after receiving a Presidential nomination and confirmation from the United States Senate, Colm assumed his position as the chief federal law enforcement officer in our state. It is not possible to quantify the many ways our communities have benefited from the work he did while in office, but I can say without doubt that Delaware is now a better, safer place because of his hard work and ceaseless dedication.

Though Colm is now departing the U.S. Attorney's office to join the law firm of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, he leaves behind an extraordinary legacy to which others can aspire. Dur-

ing his seven year tenure, Colm put systems in place to integrate federal and local law enforcement. Through fines and forfeitures, his office collected nearly \$600 million for the government. Furthermore, Colm successfully prosecuted numerous cases, including the trial and conviction of both Bruce Stewart and Thomas Capano. Remarkably enough, Colm was able to obtain a drug conviction of Stewart without police recovering drugs, and a murder conviction of Capano without police recovering a body.

Once again, I thank Colm F. Connolly for his selfless service to our community—his work has and will continue to touch the lives of many. Colm served the office to which he was appointed seven years ago with great distinction and honor, and the State of Delaware is greatly indebted to him. Due to his selfless efforts, Delawareans can rest assured that justice prevails and we are safer. Colm has set the bar high, and he will be missed by many. I wish him nothing but the best as he moves forward to pursue new opportunities and help others in need.

SPECIAL ORDER

HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Mr. SCHOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mourn the anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision in the case of Roe v. Wade. My colleagues have provided a litany of great arguments against this decision, ranging from the legal (the court overstepped its bounds), to the scientific (fetal awareness and pain) to even their personal beliefs as guided by their religion. As such, let me bring a new perspective to this debate.

I have the unique distinction as being the only member on the Floor today to have lived their entire life within the dark shadow cast by the Court's decision on January 22, 1973. As such, I do not remember the fiery debates the demonstrations or the heartache which followed a day which saw a nine-person judicial body devoid of medical knowledge singularly arbitrate a question that has plagued men for ages, "when does life begin?"

What I do know is that this decision has artificially divided the country for far too long, creating a single issues litmus test for every politician, judge and doctor. And while it seems this country will remain divided on this issue, it is my sincere hope that we all agree that human life is a precious gift that cannot and should not be wasted.

Throughout my life, women have been able to obtain abortions only to realize after the fact the sadness that comes with any death.

I am left to wonder about potential achievements that America could have accomplished had so many of its precious and innocent of citizens been given a chance to reach their potential. The future doctors, scientists, actors, teachers, policemen, coaches and, yes, even politicians that America has missed because nine people decided the definition of human vitality. Creating an almost arbitrarily line—above which exists human life, below which equals a mass of tissue.

But perhaps more troubling than these lost opportunities is the thought process that abortion on demand has created. A 2004 study