

negotiation to ensure seniors are getting the best prices for their medication. In a separate bill Congress fixes doctor reimbursement so that a 21 percent rate reduction is avoided and doctors become more willing to take senior Medicare patients again.

Private employer-based health insurance would still constitute 60 percent of the way Americans get their health care. This bill provides a public option with negotiated rates and without tax-payer subsidies that will drive down costs without creating an uneven playing-field with private insurance companies.

H.R. 3962 does better by small businesses too. Small businesses with payrolls below \$500,000 are excluded from having to provide health care or pay penalties. The old bill set that limit at \$250,000. And only individuals earning over \$500,000 and families over \$1 million would be subject to the surcharge for incomes over those amounts.

Oregon does particularly well in the new bill. Not only are many of our pioneering health care delivery systems included in the bill with grants for expanding, but two studies create a Congress proof opportunity for the restructuring of Medicare reimbursement that will reward high-quality low-cost states like Oregon.

Perhaps most significantly H.R. 3962 substantially reduces the cost of the initial reform bill. Almost \$200 billion is trimmed from the costs, with more to come in negotiations with the Senate and President Obama. According to CBO, the bill reduces the deficit both in the short- and long-term. According to leading economists, the bill lowers premiums going forward compared to current law for all income groups, even those without subsidies.

I believe we can do better! I have personal commitments from the President that more cost containment is necessary and will occur as we work with the Senate. The Senate subsidies are much more sustainable over the long-term and strike a better balance between making health care affordable and curbing the overutilization through meaningful cost sharing.

I am excited about reforming our health care system to deliver better health outcomes and more affordable costs for families, businesses and our Nation.

ANGELA D'AURIO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and applaud Angela D'Aurio for her outstanding service to our community.

Angela D'Aurio has served Jefferson County for many years as a politically active citizen. She has managed several local campaigns, and is active in many civic organizations. Angela D'Aurio is also a supporter of the area Kiwanis Denver West Soccer Club.

The dedication demonstrated by Angela D'Aurio directly benefits her community, and is exemplary of her high personal and professional standards. She serves as a leader who inspires those around her to continually strive for a safer environment for America's children through her work protecting children from internet predators.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Angela D'Aurio for her recognition by

the West Chamber of Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF VFW POST 3020

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2009

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I stand before you today, asking you and my fellow Members of Congress to honor the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 3020. For 75 years they have stood firmly to their commitment to our Nation.

One of the ways we honor our country is to make service a tradition. In south Jersey, this effort has gained substantial support from the VFW, a visible, active, and honorable organization. I often cite the way in which our veterans find ways to continue to serve as a strength to our community. Veterans in south Jersey have been a constant reminder of the pride we take in public service throughout the past 75 years.

VFW Post 3020 has always been supportive of service men and women at any time of need. The members of VFW Post 3020 all served this country once. Now they are serving their country again. And I for one would like to thank them for all they have done, and will continue to do.

Madam Speaker, please join me in wishing the best for the long future ahead for this great organization. Thank you to all of the veterans of VFW Post 3020, and thanks to all of the members of our community who support the VFW in their mission. God bless you all, and God bless America.

HONORING LARRY SHEHADEY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I am joined today with Congressmen JIM COSTA and DEVIN NUNES to honor the life of Larry Shehadey for his dedication to his family, business and community. Mr. Shehadey passed away on Saturday, October 10, 2009 at the age of one hundred and two. The life of Mr. Shehadey will be honored on Thursday, October 15, 2009 in Fresno, California.

Larry Shehadey was born on July 2, 1907 to Lebanese immigrants Salem and Sadie. He was raised in the foothills of Northern California. He never missed a day of school, although he did walk or ride his horse five miles one-way to get to school. His family moved to San Francisco, where he graduated from Polytechnic High and excelled in athletics. Upon graduating from high school, he became a salesman in San Francisco and married Elayne.

In 1951, Mr. Shehadey bought a controlling interest in Producer's Dairy and moved his family to Fresno, California. When he became involved with Producer's, the company was one of over seventy dairies in the Fresno area; however, through creative marketing

Producer's became the top dairy in just three years. He was innovative and always looking for a better way to do things. He developed his own vertical integration system to make production more efficient. He also started his own herd and added acreage to grow alfalfa to feed his herd. His two sons, John and Richard, became part of the family business.

Growing up during the depression, his goal was always to provide well for his family and to leave a legacy for them. He was also very involved in our community. Mr. Shehadey was generous in giving and donated to Fresno hospitals, Fresno City College and possibly his largest contribution was to California State University, Fresno. He donated to CSU Fresno through his support of the Craig School of Business, the Jordan College of Agricultural Science and Technology and the athletics department. He was honored by CSU Fresno when they named a clock tower after him.

After sixty-three years of marriage, Mrs. Shehadey passed away. Mr. Shehadey is survived by his two sons, John and his wife Mary, and Richard and his wife Sue; eight grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren and two nephews.

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

HONORING BRENDA D. WILLIAMS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2009

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Brenda D. Williams for her many years of service and dedication to the U.S. Postal Service. On October 31, 2009, after 36 years, Brenda retired from her position as Customer Relations/Congressional Liaison for the Chicago District.

Ms. Williams began her career working in the old Chicago Main Post Office Building as a Tour 1 Scheme Qualified/Distribution Clerk. Her hard work and dedication earned her a position in the Regional Office and secretary to the Manager.

After five short years, Ms. Williams was transferred to the Computer Forwarding Site to help train all new clerks. Due to her experience and knowledge of the postal system, Brenda soon became a valuable asset to all CFS Managers. Her institutional knowledge helped ease the transitions of six managers, ensuring that operations never missed a beat.

In 1995, Brenda moved to the Consumer Affairs Department, where she stayed until 2001, when she was transferred to the Congressional Office.

Brenda always went above and beyond to provide assistance to those who were unable to access alternate means of assistance, both in the public sector and as a congressional liaison. She calmly dealt with many difficult circumstances.

Ms. Williams has helped the Postal System in other ways, as well. She has served on numerous committees, including: Multicultural Day, Federal Employee of the Year, Postmaster Installations, Stamp Unveilings, Congressional Briefings, Santa Letters and Employee Recognition Day. In all areas, Brenda's expertise proved invaluable.

Madam Speaker, I join with all of my colleagues in congratulating Brenda D. Williams on her retirement and wish her continued happiness in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed recorded votes on the House floor on Monday, November 2, 2009 and Tuesday, November 3, 2009.

Had I been present on Monday, November 2, 2009, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 832 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 1168), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 833 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 291), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 834 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to S. 509).

Had I been present on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 835 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to HR. 3949), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 836 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 398), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 837 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 866), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 838 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 867), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 839 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3157), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 840 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 736).

ANN EVANS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and applaud Ann Evans for her outstanding service to our community.

Ann Evans exhibits a rare combination of drive, leadership, compassion and generosity. She is a nursing professional with extensive experience in both classroom and hospital settings and is committed to ensuring safe, high quality delivery of care in our community. Ann Evans has worked hard to improve patient care at Lutheran by incorporating a cultural belief model as a foundation for improving patient satisfaction. She has been recognized professionally for her efforts by the American Heart Association and is a fellow of both the American Heart Association and the American Academy of Nursing.

In her dedication to furthering women's issues, Ann introduced a program called Inspire to Jefferson County which focuses on non-traditional approaches which encourage women to practice self care and preventative care. She also introduced the Daisy award, a monthly patient-nominated award for exceptional nurses, and provided the lead gift to the Friends of Nursing Fund dedicated to the advancement of nursing excellence in the community.

In addition to her work in healthcare, Ann Evans serves as Board secretary/treasurer of

The Cloud Foundation, a group which focuses on the preservation of wild horses on public lands. She served on the Jefferson County Symphony Board of Directors, has been appointed to the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence and the Daisy Foundation's Board of Directors, and has served on the Board and as President of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Ann Evans for her recognition by the West Chamber of Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE PICKERING
TREATY IN CANANDAIGUA, NY

HON. ERIC J.J. MASSA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2009

Mr. MASSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the anniversary of the longest standing unbroken treaty between the United States government and a sovereign Native People. This Wednesday, the 11th of November, will mark the two hundred and fifteenth anniversary of the signing of the Pickering Treaty in Canandaigua, New York, the treaty which established peace between the people of the Iroquois Confederacy and the United States of America.

Timothy Pickering, representing President George Washington on that historic day in Canandaigua, along with the leaders of the Iroquois Nation, signed the treaty which established peace and friendship on the western frontier of New York while securing lands in New York State for the Iroquois Confederacy. The treaty was signed into law by President Washington in January of 1795, following its ratification by the United States Senate in Philadelphia.

As a veteran, I note the appropriateness of this anniversary falling on Veterans Day. It is significant that Native Americans join the U.S. Armed Forces at a higher per capita rate than members of any other group in our country and have established a record of bravery under fire that stands as a monument to courage and national service. The service of our veterans, regardless of race or ethnicity, all sacrifice for what this treaty has stood for over two hundred years: Peace between peoples, cooperation between neighbors, and friendship among nations.

I stand today to remind this storied chamber that while the bonds of friendship that embody this treaty have been strained, they have never broken. It is an imperative that we, as Americans, keep and celebrate the promises that we make to other nations and that we always recognize the importance of our word. No other treaty signifies this sacred obligation more than the Treaty of Canandaigua.

RECOGNIZING THE HARLEM COUNCIL OF ELDERLY, INC., SALUTE TO EGYPTOLOGIST DR. YOSEF A.A. BEN-JOCHANNAN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise with great pride to join New York Democratic County Leader Keith L.T. Wright and the Harlem Council of Elders to pay tribute to Egyptologist and Pan-Africanist, Dr. Yosef A.A. Ben-Jochannan (Dr. Ben), Harlem's internationally renowned historian and educator of the African Diaspora.

In 1918, Dr. Yosef A.A. Ben-Jochannan, affectionately known as Dr. Ben was born in Gondar, Ethiopia to Krstan ben Jochannan, a lawyer and diplomat, and Tulia Matta, a native of Puerto Rico, who was a homemaker and midwife. Dr. Ben's parents were both of the Jewish faith. His father was a member of the "Falasha," or Beta Israel, and his mother was a descendent of Spanish Sephardic Jews. Krstan ben and Tulia met in Madrid, Spain, where she was attending college and he was working as a diplomatic attaché. Soon after their marriage, they traveled from Spain to Ethiopia where their son, Yosef, was born.

In Ethiopia, he spent the first five years of his life, later on moving to the Americas. He said in later interviews that, in the 1920s, the Ethiopian government sent his father to Brazil to help develop its coffee trade. They lived for about a year in Rio de Janeiro before a 1928 coup in Ethiopia saw the overthrow of Empress Zauditu and the consolidation of power under Emperor Haile Selassie. After the change in political leadership, the family decided not to return to Ethiopia but instead settled permanently in Puerto Rico. Yosef was raised primarily in the town of Fajardo, located on the eastern side of Puerto Rico, and the nearby islands of St. Croix and St. Thomas, where his mother had relatives. He was thus fluent in Spanish and English from an early age.

Dr. Ben attended the University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras, where he first studied law, but later switched to civil engineering. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1939. In his senior year of college Dr. Ben wrote and self-published a booklet titled *Nosotros los Hebreos Negros* (We the Black Hebrews) about his experience growing up black and Jewish on a predominately Catholic island where at the time people of African ancestry were commonly viewed as inferior. Dr. Ben's father was fluent in several languages and often spoke with his son about the significance of Ethiopia's ancient past. However, at school and in the community, he frequently heard the view that Africa was a backward and wretched continent. In response to this, his father sent him to visit his grandparents in Ethiopia, where he stayed for several months. To get there, Dr. Ben traveled by ship to Egypt, then took a train through that country to Ethiopia, and thus began his lifelong fascination with Africa's 4,000-mile-long Nile Valley.

Upon his return to Puerto Rico, he worked briefly as a lawyer and in 1941 moved to New York City with his maternal uncle, Casper Holstein, a self-made millionaire and philanthropist who had become rich from the Harlem