country who ''hold their manhood cheap'' can only envy.

I don't care whether America honors or even remembers the good service we performed in Vietnam. It doesn't bother me that war is an image that America would rather ignore. It's enough for me to have the privilege to be among you. It's sufficient to talk to each of you about things we have seen and kinships we have shared in the tough and heartless crucible of war.

Some day we will all join those who are serving so gallantly now and have preceded us on battlefields from Gettysburg to Wanat. We will gather inside a firebase to open a case of C rations with every box peaches and pound cake. We will join with a band of brothers to recount the experience of serving something greater than ourselves. I believe in my very soul that the almightly reserves a corner of heaven, probably around a perpetual lager where some day we can meet and embrace... all of the band of brothers throughout the ages to tell our stories while envious standers-by watch and wonder how horrific and incendiary the crucible of violence must have been to bring such a disparate assemblage so close to the hand of God.

Until we meet there thank you for your service, thank you for your sacrifice, God bless you all and God bless this great nation. . . .

SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO REDUCE INFANT MORTALITY

SPEECH OF

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2009

Mr. WAMP Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 260, a resolution supporting efforts to reduce infant mortality in the United States. I thank Congressman STEVE COHEN for introducing this legislation, and I am proud to be an original cosponsor.

The infant mortality rate provides the best sense of the health of a country, and unfortunately, the U.S. ranks 29th in the world in this category. That means twenty-eight other countries have better success than us in delivering and maintaining the health of a child during its first year of development. Needless to say, this is a disturbing sign, and something we as a nation must address.

Although this is a national problem, it unfortunately hits close to home for my state of Tennessee. Nowhere in the country is the infant mortality rate higher than in Memphis. While devastating, the issue has inspired St. Jude's Hospital in-depth research on infant mortality, and this has led to discoveries about the variety of factors that affect infant mortality.

My hometown of Chattanooga, Tennessee, also struggles with a similar sad phenomenon known as low birth weight (LBW) which can, and usually does, lead to the death of children under one year of age. A baby is considered to have a low birth weight if it is less than five pounds at birth. Of the twenty-eight zip codes in Hamilton County which encompasses Chattanooga, twenty-seven have high rates of LBW, meaning Hamilton County has a higher percentage of LBW than some third-world nations. Researchers are had at work to pinpoint the actual cause.

Madam Speaker, our nations's high infant mortality rate is one of the most significant issues facing the health and future of our country, and this resolution recognizes the exceptiional work that is being done to address it.

I urge all Members to support the passage of this important resolution.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOYCE ERNESTINE WESTERHOLD

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Joyce Ernestine Westerhold, the Region 4 Outstanding Older Worker of the Year. As a homemaker, school teacher, and library assistant, Mrs. Westerhold has dedicated her life to serving others.

She began her career as a school teacher in 1948 and served the students of Missouri's public schools for a total of 26 years. While teaching various subjects in several public schools, Mrs. Westerhold remained active in the state teacher's organization and the Parent-Teachers Association.

After a distinguished teaching career, Mrs. Westerhold began working as a library assistant with University of Central Missouri. During her 24 years with the University's library system, her job was redesigned three times and she saw many technological changes. As the times changed, so did she.

While this award is in recognition of Mrs. Westerhold's 50 years of full-time employment as a teacher and library assistant, her work as a dedicated wife and mother cannot go unnoticed. She and her husband of 60 years have raised two lovely children.

Madam Speaker, Ernestine Westerhold has distinguished herself throughout her careers with Missouri public schools and the University of Central Missouri. I trust that the Members of the House will join me in congratulating her for this great contribution to Missouri and our country.

WIND ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3165, the Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009. I commend my colleague from New York, Representative TONKO for authoring this important legislation which moves our Nation further down the path toward energy independence.

As a representative of west central Illinois, I have the privilege of personally witnessing the development of our nation's energy future. Various companies, community colleges, counties, cities, and others in my congressional district are actively pursuing initiatives to develop and produce alternative sources of energy, and educate the new work force for this emerging field. In addition to the great work being done with biofuels, my district is also home to several wind energy projects, which is why I am happy we are considering H.R. 3165 on the House floor today.

As its name implies, the Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009 would provide much-needed funding for the research and development of technologies to advance wind turbine design, create better control systems and increase production capacity of energy output. The bill would also authorize $200 million annually for a new program aimed at developing technologies to improve the efficiency of wind turbines while reducing production costs.

Not only does this legislation have the potential to establish a vibrant wind energy industry in the United States, but it could also lead to the creation of thousands of jobs in the manufacturing and engineering of wind turbines, turbine components, and turbine maintenance.

Additionally, this investment in wind energy would address the looming energy crisis by capturing and harnessing a naturally produced and renewable alternative to fossil fuels. A recent report published by the Department of Energy confirmed the technical feasibility of producing an estimated 20 percent of America's energy from wind turbines by the year 2030. This important legislation would provide the funding we need for the development of the technologies to reach this goal.

We have known for decades that the United States must turn to renewables and other forms of clean energy to combat climate change, achieve energy independence from unstable foreign nations, gain greater control over the cost of energy sources, and ensure energy security. Representative TONKO's bill would provide our country the tools needed to help facilitate this transition.

The United States is poised to become the worldwide leader in clean energy development and production—we have the ingenuity, the will, the workers, and the resources. H.R. 3165 would ensure that we lead the next breakthrough in clean energy technology.

Again, I thank my friend from New York and urge my colleagues to join me in voting for the Wind Energy Research and Development Act.

STATEN ISLAND CORPS OF THE SALVATION ARMY

HON. MICHAEL E. McMAHON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. MCMAHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Staten Island Corps of the Salvation Army on their 125 years of unyielding service to the people of Staten Island. Over their many years they have fed the hungry, clothed the cold and supported those in need during disasters.

Founded in London's East End in 1865 by William Booth in order to assist the poor and needy regardless of age, sex, color or creed, they now have expanded their services to 119 countries.

They have continued to live out the same mission for the neediest Staten Islanders since their commencement on February 3, 1884. The Salvation Army operates two centers on Staten Island and has been able to provide vital services from food pantries to after school activities, as well as music instruction.

During the attacks of September 11, 2001 the Salvation Army was at the forefront, working hand in hand with New York's Bravest and Finest, in order to bring assistance and relief during our nation's most troubling time.

Even in these tough economic times, they have not given up on their services and continue to provide the same stellar opportunities regardless of the cost incurred.

I would like to take the time to give special recognition to the honorees of their ''125 Years of Service'' luncheon: Mr. James Devine, CEO of the New York Container Terminal; Mr. Richard Salinardi, Executive Director of Life Styles for the Disabled; The University of Notre Dame Club; and the late Mrs. Rosemary Cappozalo, Staten Island's beloved ''Matriarch of the Arts.'' These individuals embody the very essence of service that our nation is grateful for.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending The Salvation Army on their dedication to the citizens of Staten Island.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. BARTLETT. Madam Speaker, I submit the following: Funding of $2,000,000 is necessary to meet the on-going need in DoD to increase the number of ISR orbits delivered by Unmanned aircraft. The Universal Distributed Management System (UDMS) is a demo-proven (TRL–6) autonomous command and control system that will enable up to twelve UAVs to operate simultaneously from a single ground station and perform complex tactical objectives. Expert Rules-based software enables collision and terrain avoidance and cooperative engagement tactics among the constellation of multiple vehicles and sensors. The complex tactics are user programmable and can be executed autonomously or with dynamic operator inputs to the changing tactical situation. UDMS can be integrated with existing UA ground control system with no modification required to the air vehicles or existing C3 links.

THE PROMISE OF EMERGING DEMOCRACIES

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring to my colleagues' attention a September 8, 2009, Washington Times op-ed written by Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Since 1991, Nursultan Nazarbayev has served as the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Oftentimes, emerging democracies like Kazakhstan are not the focus of media attention, but in the Washington Times op-ed entitled, ''The Promise of Emerging Democracies,'' President Nazarbayev reminds the world that emerging democracies do have an important and pivotal role to play on the global stage.

[From the Washington Times, Sept. 8, 2009]

THE PROMISE OF EMERGING DEMOCRACIES

(By Nursultan Nazarbayev)

The world is remaking itself. Amid pressing economic challenges and multinational security concerns, new alliances are forming. Global commerce along with governments are bringing down borders, opening relationships and creating opportunity. Kazakhstan, like most emerging democracies, is cautiously optimistic, with a pragmatism steeped in the hard lessons of history. Policies have consequences; alliances can liberate as well as captivate. With the stroke of a pen, superpower leaders like Presidents Obama and Dmitry Medvedev of Russia can reverse a decade of tepid relations to put forces and agendas into motion that affect all of us.

Nowhere in the world is the influence more keenly felt than in Kazakhstan and Central Asia, positioned as we are between Russia, China, Iran and Afghanistan. Here, a breeze in global diplomacy among nations like Russia, the United States and China can have the impact of a blinding windstorm, leaving us to wonder about our role and influence within these relationships.

Bellicose nations rattle sabers to garner attention and receive a concession here and there; certainly, their tactics make the nightly news. Others push America and Western democracies to the brink before backing off and waiting for another strategic push in their quest for a place among nuclear nations. Emerging democracies like Kazakhstan, on the other hand, while not the focus of media attention, have a responsibility and role to play on the global stage that is far more consequential to the welfare of freedom-loving nations.

The objective of Mr. Obama and Mr. Medvedev to cut their nuclear arsenals by a third is indicative of that role. The current size of those arsenals was influenced greatly by a decision our nascent democracy made 18 years ago to permanently shut down the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site, which set the stage for a decision to safely dispose of 104 SS–18 intercontinental ballistic missiles we had inherited from the Soviet Union, each tipped with 10 nuclear warheads. To put this in perspective, North Korea, which the world cautiously watches, is believed to have enough plutonium for only a half-dozen atomic bombs.

Keeping the weapons could have made Kazakhstan a larger player in our potentially volatile region, and surely the world would be more aware of us today. There were some who encouraged us to keep the arsenal. But larger considerations, including the role and responsibility of emerging democracies like ours, weighed heavily in the decision. Our focus was on building a new economic and political model in Kazakhstan, and we had a firm belief that our future and welfare rested on commercial and security relationships in the West.

Our desire was to engage in what I like to call cooperative leadership, pragmatic and constructive engagement with the myriad and often complex forces in our region. This was the philosophy that prompted us to dismantle our arsenal and pursue relations not only with the United States, but with Russia, China, Iran and, in fact, all nations that see opportunity in Kazakhstan.

On Aug. 29, we celebrated the anniversary of our decision, and the philosophy of cooperative leadership that inspired it continues to benefit Kazakhstan and our relationships throughout the world. A dedication to democratic values, the rule of law, transparency, tolerance and open trade has led to stability and a strong, well-educated middle class. This increasingly firm foundation at home enables us to play an important role among nations abroad, providing strategic engagement and opportunities for cooperation among countries that often may be overlooked, as well as among those who may not be inclined to work together otherwise.

Sharing common values of freedom and peaceful development, democracies firmly support each other. That is why since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks that shocked the entirety of mankind, Kazakhstan has stood shoulder to shoulder with the United States in the fight against international terrorism and today provides much-needed assistance for the stabilization of Afghanistan.

As an emerging democracy practicing cooperative leadership, Kazakhstan is able to encourage dialogue even among adversaries. Our recently concluded third annual Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions is only one example, with spiritual leaders attending from almost every faith and nation to promote tolerance and understanding. Likewise, our quest to establish an international nuclear fuel bank to be governed by the International Atomic Energy Agency, which would allow nations like Iran and others to openly and honestly pursue their energy agendas, finds support among leaders in the United States, Russia and China. Recently, Israeli President Shimon Peres proposed Kazakhstan as the site for a historic meeting with key leaders from his country, Saudi Arabia and the Islamic world.

This is how emerging democracies can make a difference. In the absence of the entrenched and sometimes dogmatic divisions of the past, young entrants on the global stage of freedom can offer an environment for pragmatic solutions. Mr. Obama understands this. Two weeks after his election, he called to discuss regional cooperation, nonproliferation measures and energy cooperation. At that time, and many times since in public statements, he has favored pragmatism as the basis for civilized statecraft.

Some have suggested this is an inadequate approach for charting the new direction in foreign policy that Mr. Obama has promised. However, I believe those criticisms are misconceived. Pragmatism is necessary in nation-building and more likely to evoke a positive response from allies than an ideological crusade. Emerging democracies understand this challenge, undertaking in decades an experiment that has engaged America for much more than 200 years. Cooperative leadership is the important role we can play and the example we can set for others.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF SEAN MICHAEL HINPHEY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize a young man in my district, Sean Michael Hinphey. This young man will receive the Eagle Scout honor from his peers in recognition of his achievements.

Since the beginning of this century, the Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of boys and young men each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

The Eagle Scout award is presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our Nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service.