

want gay Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen—together with our loved ones—to have the sort of peace of mind that our straight sisters and brothers take for granted.

Congressman Ackerman, I read on your Web site about how you stood up for Soldiers who were not getting their combat zone tax exemption in Iraq. So I know you are a leader who believes in taking care of the troops. Sir, I believe that now is the time to give troops like me relief from the injustice of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” If and when this issue comes up for debate, and even for a vote, in Congress, I respectfully ask you to remember all the gay military personnel who are right now risking our lives to defend the United States and its values. If you have any questions or comments about anything I have written, you may contact me via e-mail. And please feel free to share this letter and its enclosures, including my contact information, with any individuals or organizations whom you deem appropriate.

Sincerely, ———.

CONGRATULATING NASCENT SOLUTIONS, INCORPORATED ON ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nascent Solutions, Incorporated on its fifth anniversary. Nascent Solutions is a humanitarian and development organization headquartered in the Commonwealth of Virginia which benefits several impoverished African countries.

Founded in 2004 by Dr. Beatrice Wamey in Fairfax Station, VA, Nascent Solutions has grown over the past 5 years with the help of donations and partnerships with other international and faith-based organizations. Now registered as a Public Volunteer Organization with the United States Agency for International Development, this organization is devoted to building the capacity for the poor in rural Africa to achieve self-sufficiency and assume total responsibility for their well-being.

Among the organization’s primary objectives are care for orphans and vulnerable children, literacy and skills development, basic health and child care, agricultural development and food security, and protection of the rights of women and children. This organization empowers young people and women in underprivileged African environments by providing resources and skills development programs that would have otherwise been absent from their lives. Through these efforts, Nascent Solutions effectively responds to the immediate needs of the people and encourages them to recognize and strive to work towards their potential.

Over the past 5 years, Nascent Solutions has been able to respond to natural disasters with relief efforts, provide food and clothing to underprivileged children, improve the health of the African people through agricultural development, promote and expand civil rights, and improve the education system. This organization models the selflessness and concern for humanity for which we all strive.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the vision and dedication of those individuals who have worked to create

an organization so committed to international development. I wish Nascent Solutions continued success in its work to provide help and hope to those who so desperately need it.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the National Museum of American Jewish History.

Originally established in 1976, the National Museum of American Jewish History is the only museum in our great Nation which has devoted itself fully to the preservation and exploration of the American Jewish experience. This important museum was founded by the Congregation Mikveh Israel, one of the oldest synagogues in the United States. Established in 1740 as the “Synagogue of the American Revolution,” the Congregation Mikveh Israel stands for values and ideals which all Americans share.

The National Museum of American Jewish History is a vibrant component in the cultural life of Philadelphia. Through its lectures, panel discussions, authors’ talks, films, children’s activities, theater, and music, this museum educates us all about the rich cultural heritage of Judaism in America. It has an impressive record of preservation, conservation and collections management and is the largest repository of Jewish Americana in the world, with more than 25,000 objects.

Honoring and remembering the American Jewish experience is crucial to a deeper understanding of our values as Americans. Located at the birthplace of American liberty, this institution represents our freedoms, the same freedoms that have made it possible for Jewish Americans to flourish.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to offer my ongoing support for the National Museum of American Jewish History and for its project of preserving the material culture of Jewish Americans. It is my belief that we must recognize the great efforts of this institution to educate Americans about this important piece of our shared history.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROSA ATKINS

HON. THOMAS S.P. PERRIELLO

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, today I wish to recognize Dr. Rosa Atkins, who was named Virginia’s Superintendent of the Year on May 20, 2010. Last October, U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan attended a roundtable discussion at Greenbrier Elementary—our Blue Ribbon school—with area school superintendents. In that meeting, Secretary Duncan saw in Rosa Atkins what we see every day, and what the Virginia Association of School Superintendents recognized with this award—an educator fiercely determined to lift all of her students.

It is a task worthy of Hercules, but she accomplishes it with grace and seemingly with ease.

But we know closing the achievement gap is not easy. It is especially difficult in tough economic times. But Dr. Atkins has tenaciously persevered and the results are remarkable—and ongoing.

You would be hard pressed to identify a single job more important to a community than school superintendent, and you would be hard pressed to identify a single individual better suited to that job than Dr. Rosa Atkins. On behalf of Virginia’s 5th District, I offer my deepest appreciation for her service to our students.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JEFF THEERMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLEAN WATER AGENCIES

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jeff Theerman, Executive Director of the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, MSD, on his election as the new President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, NACWA.

Mr. Theerman is an accomplished leader and committed environmental steward. He has dedicated his career to the improvement of the environment and public health in Missouri, and throughout the Nation. Without a doubt, he is ideally suited for this national leadership position with NACWA.

Mr. Theerman has served Missouri through his work at MSD for over 25 years. In October of 2003 he was named MSD’s executive director, willingly and ably accepting accountability for all aspects of the utility’s operations.

As MSD’s executive director, Mr. Theerman leads one of the Nation’s largest wastewater and stormwater management utilities, providing services to approximately 1.4 million people in the city of St. Louis and St. Louis County. Under his leadership the MSD currently operates seven wastewater treatment facilities, treating an average of 330 million gallons of water per day and maintaining 9,649 miles of sewers.

Since joining others in founding NACWA 40 years ago, the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District has benefitted from his active engagement with the organization. A member of NACWA’s board of directors since 2004, Mr. Theerman has served as the organization’s secretary, treasurer and vice president. It is fitting that his election as president coincides with the 40th anniversary of NACWA’s advocacy on behalf of the Nation’s clean water agencies—and the environment we all value so much.

When I hear terms like “accountable” and “responsive,” I think of public servants like Mr. Theerman. Under his able leadership NACWA looks forward to proactively and effectively addressing the complex 21st century water quality challenges we face as a Nation.

It is my sincere pleasure to congratulate Jeff Theerman on becoming president of NACWA. I am certain his actions will ensure continued water quality progress for St. Louis, Missouri, and the Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2010 VOLUNTEER PRINCE WILLIAM, VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of 2010 Volunteer Prince William, Volunteer Appreciation Awards.

Every year since 1981, Volunteer Prince William and the Volunteer Coordinators Network host a Volunteer Recognition Ceremony. The organizations gather and celebrate the accomplishments of hundreds of Prince William volunteers. These citizens of all ages and abilities work in agencies throughout the community to help citizens in need; feeding the hungry, building houses, keeping seniors safe in their homes, tutoring children, protecting our resources, sharing our history, responding to disasters or simply being a good neighbor.

It is my pleasure to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the recipients of the 2010 Volunteer Prince William, Volunteer Appreciation Awards.

31st District Court Service Unit: Pamela Millett, Charles Trepel, Sharon Stefl, Lindsey Washington, Christopher Taylor, Kalisha Spence, and Kiara Ayenson.

Action in Community Through Service: Dave Forcier, Elsa Lewis, William Parker, Mocha Moms, Lee McCormack, Latonya Thomas, Alexis Thompson, Shakira McEachren, Jalishka McEachern, Martha Hendley, Beth Madden, Jason Burgess, and Mary Manning.

Citizen Corps Council: Howard Horner, Matt Dixon, Jacob Koch, Jonathan Leonhard, Debra Bobbitt, Pastor Heath Butler, Tom Wheeler, Katherine Wheeler, Camille Apicella, Miquela Apicella, Joe Hall, Shane Hall, Lori Hall, Griffiin Peters, Beth Peters, Vivian Rivero, Kayla Hernandez, Karina Hernandez, Jamie Shalvey, Danielle Johnson, Dorothy Hill, Peggy Ho, Christian Reotuter, Melissa Murden, Brian Shaw, Tyler Bezek, Zachary Bezek, James Harbour, John Harbour, George Killian, Paul Neiderer, Sam Neiderer, Conor Sanderson, Gregory Stoffa, Caleb Voelker, Forest Voelker, Spencer Voelker, Bill Bezek, Mark Harbour, David Neiderer, Albert Stoffa, Danielle Voelker, Jordan Tibbs, Jonathan Tibbs, Devante Thomas, Joan Beaner, Dan Bergin, Silvana Ellis, Dave Ellis, and Alexis Thomas.

Habitat for Humanity: Mark Luiggi, Lynn Ashe, Steve Fedos, Betty Reichert, Jasmin McDonald, George Braun, Frank Jacquette, David Dallas, Marci Swanson, Irene DuBois, Marlena Kauer, Al Harris, Sheila Lueking, Lynn Eklund, Mayumi Ferrin, Christina Arlen, Jessica Baker, Jody Miller, Bob Gainer, Sarah Awwad, Shawn Byers, Joseph Bolos, Donita Ruehs, Jarvis Jones, Patricia McKenzie, Kelli Akremi, David McKissick, Josue Garcia, Iain Shaw, and Kelly Atkinson.

Manassas Park Police Department: Tricia Sutherland and Heather Gustin.

Prince William County Historic Preservation Division Volunteers: Morgan Breeden, Mary Kay Breeden, Daniel Breeden, Vanessa Bulk, Gladys Eanes, David Eanes, Charles Elder, Kenneth Garlem, Kyle Lee, Howard Margolies, Pat Margolies, Tony Meadows, Georgia Mead-

ows, Suzanne Obetz, Roger Pelletier, Angela Pelletier, Pamela Sackett, Bill Scott, Barbara Ziman, Kareen Attreed, Brenda Caricofe, Nerine Clemenzi, Sandra Dawson, Kathryn Fullerton, Leslie Harris, Kelly Hunsaker, Chris LeGrand, Sandy Melson, Gay Misso, Janice Overman, John Overman, Joanne Porreco, Patsy Smith, Winnie Tierney, Linda Weeks, Pat Wink, Mary Anne Burgess, Maria Burgess, Rose Ann Carlsen, Sharon Dougherty, Florence Gish, Linda Lasko, Michaeleen McGettigan, Nellie Elaine Armstrong, Elizabeth Cardinal, Norma Newbold, Nikki Ott, Lucille Selfridge, Wanda Simpson, Linda Stauffer, Carolyn Werle, Jill Wiest, Don Wiest, Diana Turner, Patrice Malley, Avery Born, Dave Born, Sue Born, James Craft, Joanne Craft, Gisela Glodeck, Phyllis Ingram, Phil Maddox, Kyle Maddox, Matt Maddox, and Bonnie Swank.

Juvenile Detention Center: Substance Abuse Prevention, Virginia Hills Youth Ministries, Ebenezer Baptist Youth Ministries, First Mt. Zion Youth Services, Friends of Juvenile Detention Center Youth Ministries, Girls Circle, Greenhouse Gardening with Youth Master Gardner, Heritage Fellowship Youth Ministries, Life Skills Instructor, Reconciliation Community Church, St. Francis Youth Ministries, Youth Ministries from St. Francis Middle School, St. Paul's Youth Ministries, Success Oriented Students-Court Smart, Star of Bethlehem Youth Ministries, Tri-County Ministries, Youth Outreach Services-Youth Services, and St. Mark's Lutheran Friendship House.

Prince William County Police Department: Bill Graham, Barbara Merer-Brice, Rick Mensch, Lee Ann Smith, Vicky Smith, Karen Wilkens, Chaplain J. Douglas Duty, Jr., Ed Roman, Dave Whitman, and Patricia Whitman.

Prince William County Sheriff's Office: Mike Fradette, Paula Adams, Nikki Adams, Ritchie Dennison, Tom Muddiman, Bryan Kelly, Jim Lippold, Jack Fulmore, E. Phillips Grier, Burnadeane Day, Betty Ann Blanton, Sharon Livingston, Sandy Sindlinger, Debbie Stryker, and Jamie Esquerra.

Project Mend-A-House: Dean Quick, Scott Sells, Linda Pulley, Jeff Hintosh, Howard Horner, Raymond Stuckey, Laurie Zeisler, Brian Henkel, Robin Bales, Joe Swetnam, Walt Koscinski, Marti Hale, and Myrna Andres.

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program: Penny Spatzler, Ellen Newdorf, Linda Pulley, Dave Forcier, Bob Finch, Ed Roman, Mitzi Roman, Kim Roman, Janelle Bryant, Ronda Davis, Jayne Frelin, Anna Griffin, Leticia Click, Pete Click, JoAnn Barron, Cindy Zelinski, and Cara Sundholm.

SERVE—A Program of Northern Virginia Family Services: Mickey Heyward, Ginny Heyward, Amy Sue Huheey, Rob Huheey, Justine Huheey, John Durkin, Maggie Hart, Anna Hooker, Esther Caesar, Marilyn Ruland, Leigh Anderson, Sue Johnston, Rana Chehreh, Tom Bohacek, Steve Fritter, Ralph Lickey, Jane Lickey, Pat Margolies, Howard Margolies, Don Shaw, Mona Shaw, Paul Perdue, and Rachel Hall.

Volunteer Prince William: Connie Beck.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the recipients of the 2010 Volunteer Prince William, Volunteer Appreciation Awards. A vibrant and robust culture of volunteerism is the backbone of a healthy community. I extend my appreciation to the dedicated individuals who selflessly contribute their time to alleviating the plight of others.

RECOGNIZING BEN ARREDONDO, RETIRING MEMBER OF THE TEMPE CITY COUNCIL

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ben Arredondo and his 16 years of service as a member of the Tempe City Council. I wish to thank him for his dedication to public service and look forward to seeing his future accomplishments within our community.

Councilmember Arredondo's contribution to Tempe has been both earnest and extensive. His years of teaching and service on school boards and the City Council have revealed him to be a fierce champion for improvement of education and commitment to our youth and to the community. As a former teacher and Mayor of Tempe, I respect and share Ben's commitment to public service and education, and wish to thank him for his tireless efforts and leadership.

Though Ben will be retiring from the Tempe City Council, his service to his community will surely continue in other capacities. Also, his family's legacy of service to Tempe will continue through his niece, Robin Arredondo-Savage, who was recently elected to the City Council. I am honored to call Ben a friend, and I wish him all the best in his next endeavor.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Ben Arredondo's 16 years of outstanding service as a member of the Tempe City Council.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5136) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Chair. I rise in support of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010. As a member of both the Foreign Affairs and Homeland Security Committees, I support Chairman IKE SKELTON and the Democratic leadership's investment in our military to increase our national security. I support our men and women in the armed forces and our need to ensure our national security.

This defense bill reflects our commitment to support the men and women who fight to secure not only our citizen's freedom, but the freedom of others. This bill will provide the necessary resources to protect the American people and our national interests at home and abroad. The Armed Services committee has provided for military readiness; taking care of our troops and their families; increasing focus on the war in Afghanistan; and improving