

who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Sarah Ellis is a 12th grader at Ralston Valley High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sarah Ellis is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Sarah Ellis for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

HONORING RON GETTELFINGER
FOR HIS LEADERSHIP OF THE
UAW

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today to honor the career and dedicated service of Ron Gettelfinger, who recently retired from his post as president of the United Auto Workers (UAW).

Mr. Gettelfinger was elected to lead UAW in 2002 after many years in national and local roles in the union.

During his tenure as president, he led UAW through the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression; through the restructuring of General Motors and Chrysler; and through multiple negotiations and bargaining agreements.

The past two years were a challenging time for the domestic auto industry, and especially for autoworkers. As two of Detroit's "Big 3" automakers entered bankruptcy, Mr. Gettelfinger fought to ensure the millions of UAW workers and retirees received the best deal possible under excruciatingly difficult circumstances.

During his tenure, Mr. Gettelfinger was a steadfast supporter of workers' rights. He has been a tireless advocate for workers on key policy issues, such as trade and health care.

Ron Gettelfinger has been a strong advocate of renewing America's industrial base, especially the manufacturing sector, because he recognizes that good-paying manufacturing jobs are critical to a strong middle class, and a strong middle class is key to a healthy economy.

American workers need more leaders committed to the future of our domestic manufacturing base. Mr. Gettelfinger, thank you for your work on behalf of UAW and the American worker. I am pleased to join my colleagues in honoring your commitment to workers in Michigan and throughout the country. On behalf of UAW workers and retirees everywhere, I wish you well in retirement and all future endeavors.

COMMENDING LOWE'S CHARITABLE AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S DONATION TO WELDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Lowe's Charitable and Education Foundation on their recent \$100,000 donation to Weldon Elementary School in Weldon, North Carolina. This much needed funding will be used to renovate facilities, make technology upgrades and improve security.

Lowe's was founded in 1946 in North Wilkesboro, North Carolina. The company now operates stores in all 50 states, Canada, and Mexico and serves over 14 million customers per week. Lowe's operates a distribution center in Garysburg, North Carolina, a small town of just over 1,200 residents, located in my Congressional District. Over 750 people are employed at the distribution center and more than 1,500 people are employed at Lowe's six home improvement stores located in my District. Many of them have friends or family that have attended Weldon Elementary School and understand the potential impact of Lowe's gracious donation.

Donating funds to needy school districts across the country is nothing new for Lowe's. Founded in 1957, Lowe's Charitable and Education Foundation is dedicated to improving the communities they serve through support of public education and community improvement projects. The Foundation donates millions of dollars annually to public schools, community organizations, and individual students.

Madam Speaker, I am encouraged by Lowe's strong involvement in communities across the country. I hope that other businesses will follow Lowe's example and work to build public-private partnerships that yield tremendous benefits for communities across the country.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Lowe's for their recent donation to Weldon Elementary School and to the many other worthwhile projects they support across the country.

CALLING FOR RELEASE OF
ISRAELI SOLDIER BY HAMAS

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, this week the world marks 4 years since the kidnapping of Corporal Gilad Shalit, an Israeli soldier abducted from his post at Israel's Kerem Shalom border crossing with Gaza. Two Israeli soldiers were also killed in the attack.

Today, more than 1,400 days later, Gilad remains a hostage. Hamas has rejected all official requests from the International Red Cross to visit him. All it has provided is a propagandist video featuring Corporal Shalit in an address to his family. While that video was met with relief that he is still alive, it only compounded despair over the captivity of a young

man who should be celebrating the most vibrant years of his life.

Tragically, Gilad Shalit was not the first soldier kidnapped by Hamas. In 1994, Hamas terrorists in the West Bank kidnapped Nachson Wachsmann, a dual U.S. and Israeli citizen who was tortured before he was murdered by his captors during a failed attempt at his rescue.

Gilad Shalit may not be an American citizen, but he is a native son of a close strategic ally and a fellow democracy. His situation brings anguish to us all. As we consider H. Res. 1359, a resolution urging Gilad's release, let us pledge to redouble our efforts to bring about his safe return.

SARAH ROSE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sarah Rose who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Sarah Rose is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sarah Rose is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Sarah Rose for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

HONORING U.S. AIR FORCE MAJOR
GENERAL DOUGLAS BURNETT

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Air Force Major General Douglas Burnett, the Adjunct General of Florida, for 47 years of distinguished service to his country and the state of Florida. Major General Burnett exemplifies the values of a committed military officer.

General Burnett began his career with the Florida National Guard in 1963 as an electronics specialist. For the next six years, he was an aircraft radio repairman with the 125th Fighter Group stationed in his hometown of Jacksonville, Florida. It was during this time that he decided he wanted to be a fighter pilot.

Following his graduation from the University of Mississippi and his commissioning as an Air Force officer, Second Lieutenant Burnett became a full-time alert pilot with the 125th, flying the F-102 Delta Dagger. He also flew commercially for Pan American World Airways and United Airlines. He remained an active member of the Guard and over the years

served as pilot, air operations officer, staff director, chief of staff, and commander of the Florida Air National Guard. In 1996, Brigadier General Burnett became the Assistant Adjunct General as well as Commander of the Florida Air National Guard.

On November 3, 2001, for the first time in the history of the Florida National Guard an Air National Guard officer was appointed The Adjunct General of Florida (TAG), overseeing 12,000 soldiers and airmen. As the new leader of all Guardsmen, MG Burnett, who was well versed in blue suit issues, immersed himself in soldier, or green suit, issues including the proper usage of the word hoorah. He studied basic infantry tactics, weaponry and other army equipment. His preparation paid off as he became a wartime TAG. General Burnett set the highest standards for excellence and then led by example to reach and surpass those goals. Using his personality, skill, resourcefulness and the ability to manage and juggle priorities to meet the support needs of the Guard and their families, General Burnett has upheld the highest traditions of the Florida National Guard. He became fluent in two languages—Army and Air Force—and understood that the crew chief on a flight line is as committed as the soldier crawling through the mud. His engaged leadership was the catalyst behind the Florida National Guard being positioned to not only respond to the Global War on Terror but maintain its state duties and react to 14 hurricanes, five firefighting seasons, major tornadoes, and border security missions. More than 11,000 Florida Guardsmen have served in combat zones around the world over the last nine years.

General Burnett worried that his Guardsmen, who were called to active duty, would not be as well equipped as the active duty military units. He worked with the Florida Congressional Delegation and as a result, his troops received both the training and the equipment they needed in battle. This “hands-on” General saw another problem—troops were being deployed not for six months but for longer periods of time. His citizen soldiers left jobs and higher paychecks for military compensation. Debts based on the higher pay still came due even when the service member was “doing his duty.” Families became frightened. So, General Burnett traveled the state explaining to families why their soldiers were serving and promising to support the families. He worked with the Florida Legislature to ensure that Florida offers the military, including Guardsmen, the best benefits of any state.

Under his watch, General Burnett made readiness the watch word of the Florida National Guard. He realized and stressed that you can't take a reserve force and put them on active duty capable of fulfilling the missions unless they are ready. His readiness mantra has served his soldiers and airmen well. The Florida National Guard has built a reputation that its members are not only ready to serve but capable of fulfilling its missions overseas as well as here in Florida.

This Saturday, June 26, 2010, Major General Douglas Burnett will retire after 47 years, four months and 12 days, setting a record as the longest serving Air Force officer. He will miss the people committed like he was to serving his country and state. Florida will miss his dedicated leadership and commitment to excellence.

And on behalf of the State of Florida and the 4th Congressional District, it is my privi-

lege to recognize the dedication, caring and leadership that makes Major General Douglas Burnett a leader among men and an outstanding Floridian.

WELCOMING REV. LANE D. BEMBENEK

HON. BOB INGLIS

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. INGLIS. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize and welcome Rev. Lane D. Bembenek, pastor of the Joy Lutheran Church in Moore, SC.

Pastor Bembenek studied theology in Rock Hill and Columbia, SC, and first pastored a church at the Pine Grove Lutheran Church in Lone Star, SC. In 1998, he began developing a new congregation in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America called Joy Lutheran church. This church has grown into a thriving congregation on the west side of Spartanburg, SC.

Pastor Bembenek is married to Dianna Bonnett Bembenek. They have two sons, Jacob and William.

We very much appreciate his contribution to the people of the Fourth Congressional District of South Carolina.

FORMALDEHYDE STANDARDS FOR COMPOSITE WOOD PRODUCTS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY SUTTON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Ms. SUTTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support for Formaldehyde Standards for Composite Wood Products Act (S. 1660).

And I'd like to commend my friend, Rep. MATSUI, for her leadership on this issue.

This bill will protect the health of American families from high uses of formaldehyde in common household products like flooring, paneling, cabinets, and doors.

Currently foreign manufacturers who use unsafe levels of harmful toxins like formaldehyde are able to undercut domestic manufacturers who put safety above profits.

When a family installs a new countertop or paneling, they expect that the wood products are harmless.

And we must ensure that is the case regardless of where the products are made.

Recently, the Economic Policy Institute published a report stating that 2.4 million American jobs have been lost since 2001 directly because of unfair trade tactics by China.

The report states that in the “wood products” segment, our trade deficit was a negative \$862 million in 2001.

By 2008, our trade deficit in “wood products” alone had more than doubled to \$1.8 billion.

This trade imbalance from unfair trade practices like using cheaper and often dangerous materials like formaldehyde has cost our nation millions of jobs and endangered American families.

Today, we can help to level the playing field for domestic manufacturers by taking action against unsafe amounts of formaldehyde.

Vote yes on Formaldehyde Standards for Composite Wood Products Act.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ROBERT E. CROWLEY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to our country are exceptional. The United States has been fortunate to have dynamic and devoted men and women who willingly and unselfishly dedicate their lives in service to our country. Colonel Robert E. Crowley is one such individual. Saturday, June 26, 2010, is Colonel Crowley's change of command ceremony at March Air Reserve Base in California, when he passes on his duties as Commander of the 358th Civil Affairs Brigade and retires from the United States Army. Colonel Crowley assumed command of the 358th Civil Affairs Brigade on August 9, 2008. The brigade, headquartered at March Air Reserve Base, California, consists of four Civil Affairs Battalions located in California and Arizona.

A native of New London, Connecticut, Colonel Crowley was commissioned an Infantry Officer in 1982 through the University of New Hampshire Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program and qualified as a Civil Affairs Officer in 1994. His previous commands include Commander, 404th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne) and Chief of Civil-Military Operations, United States Southern Division, HQDA. His overseas assignments include: Iraq, Haiti, Colombia, Ecuador, Bosnia, and Macedonia.

Colonel Crowley's military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff Officer Course, the Joint Combined Warfighting Course, and the National War College. Prior to his current assignment as the Commander of the 358th Civil Affairs Brigade, Colonel Crowley was assigned to the National Defense University in Washington, DC, where he earned a Master's of Science Degree in National Security Strategy and was selected distinguished graduate. In addition to his master's degree, Colonel Crowley holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science.

Colonel Crowley's awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and Army Staff Identification Badge.

Colonel Crowley is the proud father of Elizabeth, Sarah, and Robert E. Crowley, III.

As we look at the incredibly rich military history of our country we realize that this history is comprised of men, just like Colonel Crowley, who choose to live their lives in service to our country. He joins a unique brotherhood that, from the first shots at Lexington during our own revolution, has stood to protect us and defend the ideals of freedom and democracy. I know we are all grateful to Colonel