

SUPPORTING NATIONAL
HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H. Res. 1388, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Hurricane Preparedness Week. As a representative of a Congressional District along Florida's Gulf Coast, many of my constituents have witnessed the destruction that hurricanes can cause. Although the Tampa Bay area has been fortunate enough to evade the path of a major storm for the past five years, we must not forget the importance of being prepared.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has predicted that this could be an extremely active hurricane season, with 14 to 23 named storms. I worry that predictions of an active season exacerbated by the still unknown implications of the effects of the oil spill could be a recipe for the most devastating season we've yet to experience.

Although we hope and pray that this will not become reality, we must also call to mind the memories of the power outages and physical damage caused by the high speed winds. We must put ourselves in a position of preparedness.

I encourage all individuals, especially those who reside along the Gulf Coast and Eastern Seaboard, to take the necessary precautions to prepare themselves and their families should these predictions prove accurate. Develop an emergency plan. Make a disaster preparedness kit that includes water, non-perishable food items, a first aid kit, medications, and important documents. Know emergency evacuation routes. The best time to prepare is now.

IN SUPPORT OF THE CALLING
CARD PROTECTION ACT (H.R. 3993)

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY SUTTON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Ms. SUTTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support for the Calling Card Protection Act (H.R. 3993) and would like to commend Rep. ENGEL for his leadership on this issue.

The Calling Card Protection Act provides common-sense solutions to protect consumers from fraud and abuse.

When buying a calling card, a consumer should receive the full amount of time purchased to talk to their family or friends.

Unfortunately, because of hidden fees and charges, this is not the case.

H.R. 3993 requires that calling card providers accurately and clearly disclose any fees and charges . . . and provide an accurate representation of how many minutes the card will provide.

Madam Speaker, our troops use pre-paid calling cards to call their loved ones while they are fighting for us overseas.

They deserve the full amount of time when calling their family.

HONORING SAUNDERS MIDDLE
SCHOOL FOR BEING NAMED ONE
OF THE TOP PERFORMING
SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Saunders Middle School for being named as a School to Watch and as one of the top 90 performing middle-grades schools in the nation by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform in 2010.

Saunders Middle School provides an outstanding academic environment for its students to learn. The teachers' devotion to the students' well-being and the students' commitment to learning and challenging themselves have set Saunders Middle School above its counterparts. The staff and student body earned this award by not only being an excellent academic school, but also by being sensitive to each individual students' needs and fostering a socially equitable environment as the students begin to make their transition from adolescence to young adulthood. As a School to Watch, the students and teachers of Saunders Middle School provide a great example of what our educators and students across the nation should strive to achieve.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Saunders Middle School for this recognition and in wishing, its teachers and students continued success.

HONORING RON GETTELFINGER
FOR HIS LEADERSHIP OF THE
UAW

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ron Gettelfinger who is retiring from his role as president of the United Auto Workers after years of outstanding service.

Mr. Gettelfinger has spent his entire career in the auto industry. His union involvement began in 1964 with his first job at Ford's truck plant in Louisville, Kentucky as a line repairman. There he was elected committee member, bargaining chair and president for the plant. After excelling in these roles he soon moved on to be elected president of his local union in 1984. With diligence, hard work and constant concern for his fellow worker, Mr. Gettelfinger quickly rose through the union ranks, serving 6 years as director of UAW region 3 until his election as the UAW Vice President in 1998. Mr. Gettelfinger's career as UAW president began with his election in 2002, and was reconfirmed in 2006.

At 65, Mr. Gettelfinger is retiring, following a longstanding union precedent that asks union presidents not run for reelection beyond this age. He will long be remembered for his dedication to his fellow workers, whom he warmly refers to as his "brothers" and "sisters." We can only hope that future presidents will share

his inspiring work ethic and thoughtful concern for those whom he was charged to represent.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again offer congratulations to Mr. Ron Gettelfinger for his tenure as UAW president and to wish him the best of luck as he moves onward from his post.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF UNITED STATES-JAPAN
TREATY OF MUTUAL COOPERA-
TION AND SECURITY

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the First Japanese Diplomatic Mission to the United States as the Museum for the City of New York pays tribute to Samurai in New York—The First Japanese Delegation, 1860.

On March 17, 1860, exactly 150 years ago today, a sailing ship flying a flag never before seen in North America entered the Golden Gate. It was the Kanrin Maru, the first Japanese ship ever to cross the Pacific on its arrival to San Francisco, California. Japan had been closed to the rest of the world for more than 200 years until 1854, when Commodore Matthew Perry and his squadron of American warships forced the Japanese to open their doors to trade.

The Kanrin Maru had a difficult and stormy 37-day voyage from Japan when it set sail in the winter of 1860. During its time of isolation, the Japanese had had no oceangoing ships and only one member of the Japanese crew had ever been beyond the sight of land. This epic voyage continued until the ship arrived in San Francisco, when the crew's first appearance was revealed on American soil.

At that time, San Franciscans were familiar with the Chinese immigrants in California, but were amazed to see this delegation of distinguished men, so noted by the senior man aboard, Admiral Yoshitake Kimura, who had a shaved head and a topknot in the manner of a samurai. It was also observed and reported by the San Francisco Evening Bulletin that there had been important officers who carried two swords and were obsessed with etiquette. It is also noted that these men always wore robes and never wore hats.

On the other hand, the Japanese were surprised that San Franciscans walked on expensive rugs with their muddy boots. They were astonished that the powerful governor of California traveled without an escort of retainers and that Americans used horses to pull their carriages. They were also amazed that American men treated women as equals.

Twelve days after the arrival of the Kanrin Maru, the USS *Powhatan* arrived bringing the first Japanese Embassy to the United States to ratify the new treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation between the United States and Japan. Sent by the Tokugawa Shogunate were three Ambassadors, Masaoki Shinmi, Norimasa Muragaki and Tadamasu Oguri whom headed the mission to exchange instruments of ratification of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce. The delegation also included a group of approximately eighty samurai diplomats. The delegation officially arrived

in San Francisco on March 29, stopped in Washington, DC on May 14 via Panama, then went on to Baltimore, Philadelphia, and, finally, to New York.

The arrival of the Japanese in Washington DC was a major event, and Congress granted a \$50,000 budget, almost \$1.5 million in today's dollars, to entertain them. On March 28th, the mission paid its official visit to President James Buchanan.

On June 18, 1860, hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers packed the streets of Manhattan to watch the sword-toting samurai parade on Broadway during the diplomatic two-week stay in New York. The unprecedented throng of New Yorkers lined the parade route from Lower Manhattan to Union Square, hoping to glimpse the exotic visitors. The great Walt Whitman was on hand and composed a poem in their honor. The city hosted a grand civic ball for 10,000, and members of New York society vied to entertain the visiting Japanese diplomats. Mayor Wood and the Common Council of New York held a reception in honor of the Japanese ambassadors in the Governor's Room at City Hall.

New Yorkers and the popular press were overcome with Japan mania, especially for the youngest member of the group, seventeen-year-old translator Tateishi Onojiro, also known as "Tommy." With the appearance of the popular song, the "Tommy Polka," the "Tommy" boom outlasted the departure of the delegation itself. For their part, the Japanese delegation studied American industry and technology, learned about its government and customs, and brought back ideas that would help fuel Japan's emergence on the world stage.

Madam Speaker, although largely forgotten today, the Japanese 1860 Samurai Mission was to ratify the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation, which had been signed several years earlier. The agreement opened the ports of Edo and four other Japanese cities to American trade, among other stipulations. In the years before the Civil War, the Japanese visitors captivated the American people and the press. This first face-to-face cultural exchange between, the Japanese and everyday Americans was one of the most elaborated spectacles of its time.

As Dean of the New York Congressional Delegation and on behalf of my colleagues and all of the residents of my district, we are honored to join Ambassador Shinichi Nishimiya, Consul General of Japan in New York, James G. Dinan and Susan Henshaw Jones in celebrating Samurai in New York—The First Japanese Delegation, 1860 at Harlem's beloved Museum of the City of New York.

CONGRATULATING THE WINNERS
OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD
FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHE-
MATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the teachers who have been selected to receive the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and

Science Teaching. Administered by the National Science Foundation (NSF) on behalf of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, this award recognizes exemplary teachers for their contributions to the teaching and learning of mathematics and science.

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through twelfth-grade math or science teacher can receive for outstanding student instruction in the United States. Enacted by Congress in 1983, this program authorizes the President to bestow up to 108 awards per year. For the 2009 award, President Obama named 103 teachers from the seventh through the twelfth grades to be recognized with a citation signed by the President and a \$10,000 award from the NSF.

Awards are given to mathematics and science teachers from each of the 50 states and four U.S. territories. In addition to honoring individual achievement, the goal of the award program is to exemplify the highest standards of math and science teaching. Honorees serve as models for their colleagues, inspire their communities, and lead in the improvement of math and science education.

Congratulations to the recipients—all of whom have demonstrated outstanding teaching ability and have contributed greatly to the education of our nation's youth. I would especially like to congratulate Kimberly Morrow-Leong of Marsteller Middle School in Bristow, VA, who has been recognized for mathematics and Dat Le of the H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program in Arlington, VA, who has been recognized for science. In the words of President Obama, these teachers "are inspirations not just to their students, but to the Nation and the world."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments and recognition of the recipients of this Presidential award. I wish these, and all teachers, continued success in educating our nation's youth in math and science, providing for a brighter tomorrow across the country and the world.

HONORING HELEN MAUTNER

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Helen Mautner for her tireless dedication to improving the lives and protecting the rights of all people in Arizona and throughout the United States. For many years, Mrs. Mautner has been involved in the struggle for basic human rights and social justice. She has volunteered for and been employed by organizations that assist those unable to speak or stand up for themselves all her life.

Helen Mautner was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1930. While living in Chicago, she attended Marshall High School on the west side of the city. At the age of sixteen, she moved to California with her family and finished high school there. When Helen was growing up, her ambition was to help the slums of Chicago as an activist. This led her to become a sociology student at Los Angeles City College. She graduated from the University of California

(Berkeley) and received her Bachelor's degree, then her Master's in Social Work. She taught sixth grade for several years. While employed as a school social worker in California, she was introduced to Robert Mautner. They were married from 1958 until his passing in 2004.

Helen and Robert Mautner moved to Tucson in 1965. For the next decade she immersed herself in caring for Robert and her children Erik, Chris, and Alisa, and started her impressive volunteer path to help those in need. She was a stay-at-home mom to the three kids during their elementary school years: she took pottery classes, ran the studio during school hours, met members of Tucson's politically progressive community, and expanded her awareness of how to assist marginalized populations. She volunteered for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) office in Tucson, an organization that defends individual rights guaranteed to every person in the United States. In 1973, she became the ACLU's Southern Arizona Chapter Director. She also served on, and chaired, the People with AIDS Coalition (now the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation). She has been a member of the Tucson Police Citizens Review Board, the Arizona Superior Court Judicial Review Committee, and the City of Tucson Magistrate Selection Committee.

For years, Helen was also involved in compliance with the federal Tucson Unified School District (TUSD) desegregation order. Helen has volunteered for every cause she holds dear, and still spends a great deal of time volunteering for election campaigns for those who share her vision. Her dedication and inspiration helped her to become friends with many local and national activists and political figures. She lent her time and dedication not just to politics, but to people from many walks of life. A longtime associate and friend, Cornelius Steelink, remembered her assisting a local biker group in an anti-discrimination case in the mid 1980s and saw first-hand how her beliefs and openness shone through. He remembered her saying, "You never know who's going to walk into this office, but you have to be ready to (help) them." Emojean Girard, a local activist and retired judge, recently said of her: "We esteem her for her clear thinking and dedication to the cause of civil rights. Tiny though she may be in physical structure, she is a giant of fortitude and determination." In 1997, Helen retired from the University of Arizona as the Assistant Director of the Affirmative Action Office.

When not volunteering her time, she has financially supported charities ranging from Amnesty International to The Redwing Indian Schools. Helen is a regular walker on Martin Luther King Day, and has marched many times for Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers union. Her children remember times when no meat, grapes or chocolate were allowed in the home in support of the causes she held dear. They treasure the values they learned during those formative years from their parents and love Helen for everything she is and what she has always stood up for.

Helen Mautner has been a fantastic mother to her children, providing positive and loving guidance and navigating the challenges of parenthood. She and Robert saw Erik die of cancer in 1987, and she has missed him ever since. Alisa and Chris would not be the people they are today without their mother. Both are