

in Iraq in 2007, and has recently been named the Director of the Army's Wounded Warrior Program;

Adrian Villalobos, a young man from El Paso, Texas, whose spinal injury occurred shortly after the ADA was enacted;

Cassandra Cox, a woman with a mental disability who has advocated for housing for individuals with mental disabilities that fosters their independence and dignity;

Cheryl Sensenbrenner, past board chair of the American Association of People with Disabilities;

and Jonathan Young, the chairman of the National Council on Disability.

Majority Leader HOYER, Congressman LANGEVIN, and Thomas Perez, the Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division, also testified about the history and future of the ADA.

Each witness had something unique to say about how the Americans with Disabilities Act has changed their lives, and what remains to be done to live up to the Act's mandate of inclusion, dignity and nondiscrimination.

What have we learned in the 20 years since the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed?

First, civil rights legislation has the power to create substantial and necessary change. Before the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with disabilities were routinely discounted, and their gifts were routinely ignored.

Fundamental human rights—the right to work, the right to live where you want to live, and the right to enter the stores, schools, and government buildings where everyone else shops, learns, and participates—were arbitrarily denied to individuals with disabilities.

Those obstacles were created by ignorance, indifference, and actual prejudice. The effect was the creation of a second-class citizenry, excluded from society in all meaningful ways.

We know that isolation breeds stigma. We also know that inclusion promotes productivity, mutual understanding, and equality.

Civil rights legislation is built on creating a more just society, by empowering and requiring equal access to all that American society has to offer—to every individual.

Second, the Americans with Disabilities Act reminds us that our concern with civil rights legislation does not end once a bill becomes law.

The Act did not magically erase the barriers to equality for individuals with disabilities. All doors and all minds were not instantly opened wide enough to encompass this diverse group.

Progress under the Act was slowed, and even blocked, by Supreme Court decisions that contravened our legislative intent, by narrowing the Act's scope and applicability, time and time again.

But we came together, on both sides of the aisle and in both chambers, to make it clear that we meant what we said: Americans with disabilities must have complete legal equality.

I proudly cosponsored the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act in response to those Supreme Court decisions, and ultimately, a law correcting the Court's misconstruction of the ADA was passed in 2008.

This anniversary is a time to recognize one of our most significant civil rights achievements.

But as the circumstances surrounding the ADA Amendments Act remind us, Congress

must remain a vigilant steward of the civil rights laws we have passed.

Third, we cannot celebrate our accomplishments without recognizing future challenges.

One issue impeding the fulfillment of the Act's promise is the failure of some States to comply with their obligations to offer integrated housing, where appropriate, to persons with mental illness.

The Olmstead case on this issue has correctly been called the *Brown v. Board of Education* for individuals with disabilities, because it condemned the practice of indiscriminately directing all individuals with mental disabilities into separate, segregated housing as inconsistent with the core purposes of the ADA.

Segregation from mainstream society, default warehousing in institutions, and enforced dependence are unacceptable conditions to impose on individuals with mental disabilities who have the ability to live more independent and integrated lives.

The Americans with Disabilities Act demonstrates that civil rights laws not only protect personal dignity, they enrich society as a whole.

In these hard economic times, what can be more important than easing obstacles that prevent individuals with disabilities from becoming productive members of the workforce?

We must continue to attend to the implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act to ensure that future anniversaries can make us equally proud.

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#### CONGRATULATING STATE POLICE CAPTAIN MIKE FOSTER

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#### HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 2010*

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate State Police Captain Mike Foster for his recent promotion by the Arkansas State Police Commission.

Captain Foster is a 19-year veteran of the department, faithfully serving the State of Arkansas and working to protect its citizens since 1991. Having served most recently as acting assistant commander and acting commander of Troop I based out of Harrison, Arkansas, he is now officially taking over as commander of Highway Patrol, Troop I. Captain Foster will lead highway patrol troopers in Baxter, Boone, Fulton, Izard, Marion, Newton, Searcy and Stone counties.

Captain Foster is to be commended for his many years of service and sacrifice for the people of Arkansas. He is well deserving of this recommendation and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these accomplishments and congratulate Arkansas State Police Captain Mike Foster and wish him future success in his career.

HONORING MS. GLADYS MCDANIEL FOR HER 32 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE ASHEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND CONTINUAL EFFORTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

#### HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 2010*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Gladys McDaniel for her dedication to the City of Asheville, North Carolina and to congratulate her on her retirement after 32 years of service to the Asheville Police Department. Her dedication to philanthropy and her community is evident as she has participated in nearly every community event Asheville has had to offer for the last 3 decades.

Ms. McDaniel has come to be known as the "heart" of the Asheville police department. Serving as the gatekeeper of the department, her attention to detail and tireless efforts have touched almost everyone who has interacted with the Asheville police department. Police Chief Bill Hogan recalls how Ms. McDaniel's "organizational and historical knowledge helped to get his feet on the ground" when he joined the department 6 years ago.

In addition to her full time job as a public servant, Ms. McDaniel has taken an unofficial position as a full time volunteer in the Asheville community. From helping to organize the nationally recognized Bele Chere festival to donning costumes to entertain children, no job has ever been too big or too small for Ms. McDaniel. For the past 30 years she has played an integral role in the planning and orchestration of the Bele Chere festival. A proven problem solver, she is the key force behind the scenes. In addition to her efforts at the Bele Chere festival, Ms. McDaniel organizes two blood drives every year, coordinates events for the Special Olympics, and assists with the annual Asheville film festival.

Along with her tremendous commitment to the Asheville Police Department and the Asheville community, Ms. McDaniel has always shown remarkable commitment and devotion to her country and family. Ms. McDaniel spent 4 years in the Army Reserves, and 2 years as an inactive ready-reservist, while raising two gentlemen. A devoted mother of two, Ms. McDaniel describes herself as "[thriving] on nurturing both her family and community." Madam Speaker, I urge my fellow colleagues to honor and thank Ms. Gladys McDaniel for her tireless devotion to her family, country, and community.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION—

#### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 2010*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House floor during rollcall votes 465–466. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall Nos. 465 and 466.

HONORING TYLER GROSDECK

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 2010*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tyler Grosdeck. Tyler is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 447, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tyler has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges and contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project, but also earned the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tyler Grosdeck for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING 20TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 26, 2010*

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the Speaker and the Majority Leader in recognizing the 20th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

First, I want to applaud you, Mr. Speaker, for making history today as the first American with disabilities to preside over this distinguished body. It is a truly inspiring sight and a reminder that the disabled are, of course, among the most active and functional members of our society. It is also a testament to the historic measure we are celebrating today.

I also want to commend my friend from Maryland, the Majority Leader, who I know played a leading role in making this legislation a reality, and in ensuring that we come together across the aisle when necessary to make certain it continues to fulfill its original mission.

Before the Americans with Disabilities Act, nowhere in the world was there a comprehensive declaration of equality for people with disabilities.

In the medical community, people with disabilities are called "HANDY-CAPABLE" because they strive and succeed in the face of great personal obstacles.

There was a time, however, when that courage alone could not get them into their hometown theatres to see a movie, or their office buildings to apply for a job and provide for their families.

Those wrongs were corrected on July 26, 1990 when President George H.W. Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act into law on the South Lawn of the White House.

On that day, President Bush noted that it was roughly a year after the Berlin Wall came down and said that this legislation "takes a

sledgehammer to another wall, one which has for too many generations separated Americans with disabilities from the freedom they could glimpse, but not grasp."

For too long, our Nation kept Americans with disabilities dependent when all they yearned for was independence. The Americans with Disabilities Act has given them the tools to do just that—to quench their thirst for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. It has changed the lives of millions, and it will continue to do so for generations to come.

THE RESTORING AMERICAN  
FINANCIAL STABILITY ACT OF 2010

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 2010*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, this is a good opportunity to implement Wall Street reform, and help make our financial markets safer for everyday American citizens, investors, and small businesses. At the center of our efforts today is the concept of power, and what it means to those who have it, and those who don't. Baltasar Gracian, a renowned Spanish Jesuit writer, once said that "The sole advantage of power is that you can do more good."

I think many people would agree with me that the corporations and executives on Wall Street have considerable power. The question remains, however, whether they are using that power to do good things. People will point out, and I agree, that they are making many people very wealthy, but at what cost? For too long corporate interests have been allowed to dominate decision making in America's financial capital, and many times, this has meant unfair and predatory practices. As lawmakers, we should set out to make our financial markets a more evenhanded place for our citizens, and the consumers that put their trust and money on the line.

One of the key things that H.R. 4173 will do is to create a Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, tasked with the responsibility of making sure consumer lending practices are fair. Also, under the Volcker rule, large financial institutions would no longer be allowed to engage in risky trading using federal dollars, supported by taxpayers. Throughout the many various initiatives and stipulations in the bill, one theme is clear: protecting American citizens, and maintaining a fair market that allows both informed consumers and powerful financial markets to thrive in tandem.

H.R. 4173 does not set out to take power away from those on Wall Street, but to make sure they use their many strengths and abilities for the benefit of the average American investor and small business owner. I support H.R. 4173, the Restoring American Financial Stability Act of 2010, knowing that the benefits and wealth for the few should not come at the cost of the many.

HONORING COLONEL THOMAS C. CHAPMAN

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 2010*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor COL Thomas C. Chapman upon his retirement from the United States Army Corps of Engineers. For the past three years I have had the pleasure of working with Colonel Chapman on a number of flood protection projects that are key to my hometown of Sacramento. I found Colonel Chapman to be a man of intelligence and integrity, a man who never forgot the public he served. As he retires, I would like to pause today and ask that my colleagues join with me in offering our thanks to a distinguished American.

Beginning with his graduation from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1984, Colonel Chapman has led a distinguished and notable career in the Corps of Engineers. He has assisted with and led many projects which have helped to maintain the integrity and vitality of our nation's infrastructure and worked to improve the security of our military bases abroad.

Colonel Chapman's career has taken him and his family from Fort Knox to South Korea, from Philadelphia to Afghanistan and a number of stops in between. Each stop has been characterized by success. At Camp Red Cloud in South Korea, he developed a new master plan for installations, which was later adopted as a model for all U.S. forces in Korea. As the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Engineer School, he oversaw the integration of the Engineer School into the Army's Maneuver Support Center. In Afghanistan, he served as the senior engineer at NATO Corps Headquarters, where he managed both the construction of all NATO facilities and oversaw NATO's Counter-IED training. Colonel Chapman aided Coalition Forces by developing a new engineer organizational structure and by developing NATO's first Counter-IED doctrine.

In July of 2007, Colonel Chapman was installed as the Commander of the Corps of Engineers' Sacramento Division. Lying at the confluence of the Sacramento and American Rivers, the City of Sacramento and surrounding region faces the constant threat of flooding. Our levee and flood protection systems require continuous attention and the Corps of Engineers is actively involved with major upgrades currently being undertaken at Folsom Dam and along local rivers and streams.

In particular, Colonel Chapman's leadership has helped keep the Folsom Dam Joint Federal Project, a collaborative effort with the Bureau of Reclamation, on schedule and on budget. When completed, this immense project will strengthen the dam and add a second spillway, which will allow more water to be released in anticipation of a storm, giving much of Sacramento over 200-year protection. Colonel Chapman has also worked diligently to advance the Natomas Levee Improvement Project, which will also give 200-year protection to the 75,000 people that call Natomas home. On these and other projects, Colonel Chapman has worked with local and state officials to ensure there is a strong partnership between all levels of government.