

out, co-signers are often obliged to pay off the balance of private student loans in the instance of such tragedies, a requirement that is typically not included in federal loans. This bill would protect families like the Bryskis, including many of the families in my district, which contains three community colleges and five universities.

From 2007–08, 13 percent of students attending four-year public colleges or universities and 26.2 percent of those attending private four-year institutions had private student loans. The SLM Corporation, the major private loan provider commonly known as Sallie Mae, estimates that 84 percent of private student loans involve cosigners. These statistics make clear the need for private loan companies to thoroughly educate the students and families to whom they provide aid. This is the best way to ensure that American families are adequately equipped to manage their loans under any circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5458 and recognizing the immense burden that may befall millions of families across the nation if Congress does not act.

HONORING SEPTEMBER AS NATIONAL RICE MONTH

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th anniversary of the annual September celebration of the harvest of rice in the United States.

For centuries, rice has been the primary food staple for over half of the world's population. Today, the United States and countries around the world still enjoy rice as a dietary staple, but also as the foundation for many dishes and side dishes. Rice is enjoyed as part of cereal, flour, bran, cooking oil, rice cakes and many other snacks.

Rice production has and continues to be a significant source of revenue for the American economy. In fact, rice production in the United States dates back to 1685 and is one of the oldest agribusinesses in the United States. Rice continues to be produced in force by 10,500 rice farmers in the States of Arkansas, California, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and in my home State of Texas. In fact, I am proud to have 45 active rice farmers working on 20,000 acres of rice fields in the district that I represent—the most of any Congressional district in Texas. In Texas alone, the rice industry has created 2,700 jobs and \$1.6 billion in total economic activity.

Rice farming is of critical importance to the economy of my district and to the southern United States. In 2009, rice farmers in the U.S. produced nearly 22 billion pounds of rice that had a farm gate value of more than \$3 billion. Subsequent sales of rice generated \$17.5 billion in total value added to the U.S. economy. This activity contributed 127,000 jobs to the U.S. labor force in 2009. Additionally, the U.S. is one of the largest exporters of rice and produces more than two percent of the world's rice supply, feeding millions around the world.

I am proud to represent the rice farmers of the second district of Texas, and to recognize

their achievements during National Rice Month.

And that's just the way it is.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TRI-COUNTY SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING FACILITY BROWN, OUTAGAMIE, AND WINNEBAGO COUNTIES, WIS- CONSIN

HON. STEVE KAGEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to the Tri-County Single-Stream Recycling Facility, located in Little Chute Wisconsin, on the occasion of its winning the Solid Waste Association of North America's Gold Award for Excellence.

Each year, the Association recognizes the best recycling facility in North America. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Tri-County, which serves Brown, Outagamie and Winnebago Counties, in recognition of its accomplishment.

I was honored to have participated in the Recycling Center's grand opening in 2009. I am proud to report that since then, the facility has achieved its annual goal of collecting 48,000 tons of material, while also managing to come in under budget.

The operation allows three counties to process glass, aluminum, paper and plastic without requiring any pre-sorting. This convenience to consumers enhances public participation and expands the overall reach of the projects. The spirit of cooperation between the participating counties has spurred its success and fueled discussions of expansion.

Special commendation should be made to Outagamie director of solid waste Phillip Stecker, Brown County solid waste director Chuck Larscheid, and Winnebago Solid Waste Management board chairman Patrick O'Brien for their exemplary stewardship.

Madam Speaker, the Tri-County Recycling Center has greatly improved the energy efficiency and environmental health of Northeast Wisconsin, and the Gold Award for Recycling Excellence is very well-deserved. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Tri-County's contributions to our society and our environment.

HONORING TREE FRESNO

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Tree Fresno upon celebrating its 25th anniversary. The organization's anniversary was celebrated on Friday, September 24, 2010 in Fresno, California.

Since its inception in 1985, Tree Fresno has been involved in the planting of more than thirty-seven thousand trees on public land in and around the Fresno area. The organization has promoted youth environmental awareness and leadership by encouraging student participation in tree planting projects. Through the cre-

ation of the Junior Tree Fresno board of directors, the youth in the community have an opportunity to learn leadership and environmental stewardship skills. Tree Fresno provides tree education programs for citizens of all ages, creating an opportunity for volunteers to become actively involved with civic improvement projects.

By planting and maintaining trees, Tree Fresno is creating an improved urban forest in Fresno County where homes and parks are shaded, the air is cleaner and the beauty of the city is enhanced. Tree Fresno has planted trees along streets, trails, public parks and school campuses. Through the formation of community coalitions, Tree Fresno has been able to restore the natural oak forest along a major road by planting over fourteen hundred native oak seedlings. Through advocacy and beautification efforts, Tree Fresno has established itself as a leading organization in the community, dedicated to the improvement of the urban forest and overall quality of life for our community.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Tree Fresno upon 25 years of service to Fresno County and the surrounding communities. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Tree Fresno many years of continued success.

HONORING THE SCRANTON AREA FOUNDATION ON RECEIVING THE ATTORNEY ROBERT W. MUNLEY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FROM LACKAWANNA PRO BONO

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the Scranton Area Foundation on receiving the Attorney Robert W. Munley Distinguished Service Award from Lackawanna Pro Bono.

Lackawanna Pro Bono is a non-profit organization established in 1997 to increase the availability of free legal representation for low-income individuals and families throughout Lackawanna County.

Over the past 13 years they have organized local attorneys to volunteer their time to provide representation in over 2,000 cases, and in the process have helped nearly 5,000 residents of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Lackawanna Pro Bono will host its second annual Fundraising Gala on October 21, 2010 in Scranton, Pennsylvania. For the second year, Lackawanna Pro Bono will honor a select number of individuals and organizations who have demonstrated excellent service to the community with its Attorney Robert W. Munley Distinguished Service Award.

This year's group of deserving recipients includes the Scranton Area Foundation.

The Scranton Area Foundation was initially formed in 1954 as a private foundation. In 1988, the Foundation qualified as a charitable non-profit organization and transitioned into a public community foundation.

The Scranton Area Foundation's mission is to "meet a wide variety of education, cultural, human service, and other charitable needs throughout Lackawanna County."

To achieve this goal, the Foundation coordinates charitable giving throughout the Scranton area and Lackawanna County by encouraging and facilitating local philanthropy and matching donations to the community's greatest areas of need.

The Foundation educates donors on the different mechanisms of charitable giving and works with them to maximize the effectiveness of their donations.

Then, the Foundation's staff directs the donations to the community's arts and culture, economic development, education, environmental, health, and recreational needs.

Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded over \$8 million in grants throughout the Scranton area and Lackawanna County.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the Scranton Area Foundation on being recognized as a valued asset of Northeastern Pennsylvania. In the years ahead I am confident they will continue to make positive impacts in the growth of our region.

HONORING STEPHEN LACINA

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Stephen Lacina. Stephen 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 394, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Stephen has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Stephen has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Stephen has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Stephen designed and placed landscaping the Veteran's War Memorial in Dearborn, Missouri.

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

HONORING DR. CHARLES E. WARNER FOR A LIFETIME OF SERVICE AS AN EDUCATOR

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, in honor of his retirement, I rise to commemorate decades of hard work and commitment to the young people of Connecticut by Dr. Charles E. Warner, an esteemed educator in our New Haven community.

In a long career as a teacher and administrator, beginning in nearby Bridgeport in 1971 and culminating with his tenure as the director of instruction and director of special programs

for New Haven's public schools, Chuck has worked tirelessly to ensure that each and every child in his purview has access to the tools they need to thrive. Day in and day out, Chuck has fought for the kids and the teachers in our community, and to make New Haven's schools the best they can be.

For his achievements in education, Chuck has been nationally recognized many times over, including appearing in publications such as Parents Magazine and serving on the advisory board of the National Middle School Association. And his good works have not been confined to the school day. Chuck has been an engaged participant in community affairs and has volunteered his time and effort in any number of ways, including, most recently, serving as Connecticut's After School Alliance ambassador over this past year—one of only thirty in the Nation—for his contributions to afterschool programs.

Along with teaching and, of course, his wife Regina, Chuck's great passion has been music. And from his very first teaching job at East Side Middle School in Bridgeport, where he led a band of over two hundred students, to his 20 years of service as a Minister of Music for the Dixwell Avenue Congregational Church's Sanctuary Choir, Chuck has enriched our community by sharing this love with us.

As an educator and public citizen, Chuck has been a credit to our city, to our State, and to our Nation, and he has improved the lives of countless New Haven children for the better. I congratulate him, Regina, and their children Alexis, Charles Jr., and Bryon on his retirement, and I thank him for his decades of service to our community. Congratulations, Chuck. You have earned it.

HONORING MRS. LEOTA DENICO SEWARD

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Leota Denico Seaward on her 100th birthday and congratulate her on being awarded the Boston Post Cane.

Leota was born in Vassalboro on October 6, 1910 and grew up in South China, Maine. After graduating Erskine Academy as class salutatorian in 1929, she married Elmer Wilson Seaward, and the two started a large farm in Turner.

Despite taking on the challenge of running a farm during the Great Depression, the Seawards never forgot the less fortunate and were able to provide a large portion of meat and vegetables for the community. Leota and George were well known for their caring nature during those tough times, often taking in the homeless and providing them with food and work.

Throughout her life, Leota has remained active in the community, taking jobs in the local rug shop, hatchery and post office, all while raising four children. She remains fiercely independent, not relinquishing her driver's license until she was 98 years old and living on

her own until last year. This year, Leota, surrounded by fifty members of her family spanning five generations, participated in the 4th of July parade.

Mrs. Seaward will be celebrating this historic moment with her daughter, Bunny Gilbert, who shares the same birthday and will be turning 80. I wish Leota the happiest of birthdays, surrounded by all her friends and loved ones.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Leota Denico Seaward on her new status as a Centenarian.

HONORING BISHOP-ELECT
REVEREND URUNDI B. KNOX

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bishop-Elect Reverend Urundi B. Knox. Bishop-Elect will be ordained and consecrated as a Bishop at a service to be held on Friday, October 1 at Ebenezer Ministries in Burton, Michigan.

Bishop-Elect Knox graduated from Flint Central High School in 1981. He earned an Associate's Degree from Mott Community College, and a Bachelor of Applied Science from the University of Michigan. He received a Master of Arts from Eastern Michigan University and completed his doctoral studies at Wayne State University in 1996.

During this time he was teaching at Mott Community College and Detroit College of Business. In September, 1993 he became a full-time professor at Mott Community College. Bishop-Elect Knox served as assistant pastor at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church until the retirement of Pastor Clarence Knox in September 1994. Bishop-Elect Knox succeeded his father and became the pastor. In a testament to his leadership, the congregation has grown to over 1000 members and a new sanctuary was erected two years later.

Bishop-Elect Knox saw the need for spiritual and temporal guidance in the community and he embarked upon the "Take Back the City Crusade" providing worship services and feeding the hungry in downtown Flint. Drawing inspiration from 1 Samuel 7:12 "Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us" Bishop-Elect Knox decided to change the name of the church to Ebenezer Ministries reflect the mission of reaching out to those in need. Because of his work in the community, Bishop-Elect Knox has been recognized numerous times as one of the unsung gems in the Flint area.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and applaud the work of Bishop-Elect Urundi Knox. He has inspired his congregation with a zeal for spreading the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ and I congratulate him as he is consecrated a Bishop. I pray that he will continue his work with love, enthusiasm, and determination for many, many years to come.