

October as Filipino American History Month and I am proud to note its observance again this year.

Filipino Americans have a longstanding history in the United States. In 1988, the Filipino American National Historical Society established this celebration to mark October 18, 1587, as the date when Filipinos first immigrated to the continental United States in Morro Bay, California.

Filipino Americans are the second largest Asian American ethnic group in the United States and continue to play a prominent role in our country in all facets of public life. One of the largest Filipino American communities in the U.S. resides in my district and I am committed to such a vibrant community. Filipino Americans have long served in the U.S. Armed Forces, and as chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee I continue to honor the military service of Filipino American World War II veterans.

The United States is a nation of immigrants and we celebrate the accomplishments of Americans of all backgrounds. From the military to health care, education, arts, business, sports, government, the sciences and countless other areas of endeavor, Filipino Americans have made and continue to make invaluable contributions to the United States.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this important celebration of Filipino American History Month.

RECOGNIZING COMMISSIONER  
CLARENCE BROWN

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bartow County Commissioner, Clarence Brown. His dedication to Bartow County and to the 11th District of Georgia has earned him the well-deserved honor of having a new conference center in Bartow County named after him.

Commissioner Brown has earned this great honor for a number of reasons—mostly because he has spent much of his life as a selfless servant to Bartow County. He has developed sustainable growth management plans while perpetuating Bartow's commitment to environmental stewardship. He has also brought a new college campus to Bartow County, and he has established local partnerships with national non-profit organizations while expanding recreation facilities throughout the county.

Madam Speaker, Commissioner Brown has touched and enriched the Bartow community in a number of lasting ways. I would like to congratulate Commissioner Brown on his accomplishments.

WESTERN WATER SUPPLY  
ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing a bill that

would expand water supplies, help resolve aging infrastructure in the West and protect irrigated farming acreage—all without increasing federal funding.

This bill, titled the "Western Water Supply Enhancement Act," recognizes the benefits of long-term regional water conservation planning at the local level by authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to provide up to \$15 million of already-authorized federal funding to irrigation districts and municipal entities engaged in multi-year, regional, integrated and coordinated water planning. This legislation amends what is commonly known as the "Secure Water Act" provision of Public Law 111-11 to ensure that large conservation efforts are eligible. As opposed to the current small-project-by-small-project approach to conservation, this legislation incentivizes more comprehensive, regional approaches throughout the western United States.

These regional approaches are a result of the Endangered Species Act, which places additional demands on already limited water supplies originally devoted to agriculture or municipalities. The Endangered Species Act is national in scope, but many of its requirements impact local water districts that bear much of the financial burden. Investing limited federal dollars in regional conservation projects that are the result of federal regulations can relieve this pressure and protect and promote existing water uses.

I have always been and will continue to be a strong proponent of new and expanded water storage. Legendary projects, such as the Grand Coulee, Hoover and Glen Canyon dams, are the flagship federal projects that have transformed the American West from the desert to some of the most productive agricultural land in the world. Some in the environmental movement believe that conservation of existing resources is the only way to solve our growing water and power scarcity problems. I beg to differ. Everything, including new storage, regulatory reform and new conservation, has to be on the table for us to resolve our supply problems.

The Western Water Supply Enhancement Act would be one tool in that toolbox. It is not the solution, but it is part of the overall solution to help water utilities with limited, already authorized funding in their efforts to provide water to farm families and help promote a safe and affordable food supply for our nation and the world.

HONORING HAWTHORNE MATH  
AND SCIENCE ACADEMY, HAWTHORNE, CA

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Hawthorne Math and Science Academy, HMSA, in Hawthorne, CA. HMSA, a dependent charter high school of the Hawthorne School District located in my congressional district, was recently honored with a Blue Ribbon Award by the U.S. Department of Education, a coveted award recognizing high-performing and improving schools across our country. This year, HMSA shares this distinction with 304 other schools among the thousands of schools in the United States.

I am very proud of the students, faculty, staff, parents, and community members of HMSA. In addition to receiving this prestigious award—the first school within the Hawthorne School District to do so—HMSA was also named a California Distinguished School and was listed—again—as one of the nation's top 100 high schools by U.S. News & World Report.

I want to especially honor Principal Esau Beruman, who is only in his first year as principal of HMSA. I suspect we will continue to see great things from HMSA under his leadership, and I look forward to meeting him and one of HMSA's teachers when they come to Washington, DC in November to be officially honored by the Department of Education.

HMSA has made great strides to create a rigorous and comprehensive academic regimen that prepares its students for college and helps them become well-rounded young adults. It boasts an impressive 97 percent graduation rate.

As its own mission statement reads, "HMSA is committed to creating a challenging, rigorous, standards-based curriculum for all students, regardless of gender, ethnicity, primary language, or special needs status, within a safe and cooperative learning community." I believe the school is not only living up to that standard, but superseding it.

The students of HMSA should be particularly proud of their strong work. They are giving their school, our community, our state, and our country a good name through their dedication, their drive, and their excellence.

Congratulations to HMSA on this latest, but surely not the last, accolade.

THE INSTALLATION OF DR.  
CLAUDE G. PERKINS AS VIRGINIA  
UNION UNIVERSITY'S 12TH  
PRESIDENT

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Claude G. Perkins as Virginia Union University's 12th president. I am proud to represent Virginia Union University (VUU), which is located in Richmond, Virginia, and is one of the nation's oldest Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Established in 1865 on the site of Lumpkin's Jail in order to educate the newly freed slaves, VUU was formed by the merger of Richmond Theological Institute and Wayland Seminary. Hartshorn Memorial College and Storer College were later merged into the University forming a true "union." Today, VUU continues to be nourished by its African American heritage and energized by its commitment to excellence and diversity.

VUU's student body currently numbers 1,500 students—including 1,200 undergraduate and 300 graduate students—consisting primarily of first generation college students. VUU is proud to offer 24 majors at the baccalaureate level, as well as Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Christian Education, and Doctor of Ministry degrees at the Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology. VUU's Criminal Justice and Mathematics programs are renowned, and many teachers in the City

of Richmond are graduates of VUU's Education program. In addition to excelling in academics, VUU boasts strong extracurricular activities and programs. In particular, VUU has won four NCAA Division II National Basketball Championships—three for the men's team in 1980, 1992, and 2005 and one for the women's team in 1983.

This month, VUU formally installed Dr. Perkins as its 12th president. Dr. Perkins is a veteran educator with ties to Richmond, and I am pleased that he has returned to Richmond to lead this excellent academic institution.

Dr. Perkins has spent over 35 years in education leadership roles at various levels of K–12 and higher education. In Richmond, Virginia, he held the positions of Deputy Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent in the Richmond Public School System for several years in the 1980s and early 1990s. Dr. Perkins also served as Superintendent of Schools in Kansas City, Missouri, and Clark County, Nevada. In 2005, the Clark County, Nevada, School Board approved the naming of the new Claude Grandford Perkins Elementary School in recognition of Dr. Perkins' service to the Clark County, Nevada, education community.

In 2009, Dr. Perkins retired from Albany State University, where he spent 10 years in several posts, including Professor of Educational Leadership, Graduate Dean and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. School officials credited him with expanding the graduate program and increasing the University's international partnerships. He also taught graduate education courses.

Dr. Perkins is the recipient of many awards, including: The Ohio University Medal of Merit Award (1982); City of Richmond (Virginia) Resolution in Recognition of Educational Leadership (1997); The James Herbert White Preeminence Award for Education and Academics (2002); and the Nevada Senate Resolution of Educational Achievement (2005).

VUU has already seen significant change in the few short months of Dr. Perkins' leadership. Dr. Perkins led VUU through a successful reaccreditation process, increased enrollment, and began a significant campaign to upgrade classrooms and campus housing.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased that Dr. Perkins is the newest president of VUU. I congratulate him on this outstanding achievement and wish him much success as he continues the efforts to take VUU into the next century as a leader in higher education.

#### RECOGNIZING HARRY COGHLAN

##### HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Harry Coghlan, a New Yorker who has earned special recognition and praise from the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) for his steadfast commitment to advancing public safety.

On September 15, 2010, Mr. Coghlan was presented with the Director's Award for Excellence by FBI Director Robert S. Mueller. Citing Mr. Coghlan's continuing efforts to assist the mission of law enforcement officials through his donation of digital billboard space in Times Square, Director Mueller recognized Mr.

Coghlan in a special ceremony held in Washington, DC.

Times Square is known around the world for its energy, color, and signature advertising billboards. In January 2010, the FBI announced an agreement with Mr. Coghlan for his company, Spectacolor, to provide 40-foot by 40-foot digital billboard space at the corner of 47th Street and Broadway to display wanted fugitives, missing persons, and high-priority security alerts.

By entering into this agreement, the FBI hoped to follow the trend set by Newark, New Jersey, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by empowering the public in high traffic areas to help law enforcement by providing tips. Given the success of the digital billboard program in those cities, the immediate success of the program in Times Square was a surprise to no one.

On September 12, 2010, the FBI announced the arrest of an alleged mobster who had been displayed on a Times Square billboard in Yonkers, New York. Since the inception of the program in 2007, more than 35 arrests have been made by the FBI in connection with tips prompted by digital billboards.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the FBI for its effective partnerships, and I commend Mr. Harry Coghlan and Clear Channel Spectacolor for their pioneering work to use advanced technology to benefit law enforcement and public safety.

#### COMMEMORATING THE TRICENTENNIAL OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN WATERFORD

##### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a very special occasion for the First Baptist Church of Waterford. Next month the Church will be celebrating its tricentennial—300 years in Connecticut and a rich history that predates our nation.

In 1710, the First Baptist Church of Waterford was founded by members who withdrew from the First Baptist Church of Groton to create a new church on the western side of the Thames River. They built a meeting house on Pepperbox Hill, which they shared with another congregation. Some services in these early years were held at the homes of the church's members. The third and current sanctuary, the Jordan Meetinghouse, was built on Rope Ferry Road in 1848. Today, the First Baptist Church of Waterford is the second oldest Baptist church in the State of Connecticut.

It shares a spectacular history with the town—having even served as the seat of its government. It was once a recruiting station for the Civil War. More than anything else, however, the church's 300 hundred years are defined by its deep involvement and generous contributions to the community around it. Today, the church serves people in the Waterford area by providing assistance from food to medicine to heating oil.

The First Baptist Church of Waterford is an historic and treasured institution that has persevered, survived attacks by English forces during the Revolutionary War, given our nation statesman, soldiers and helped those in need.

Three hundred years is a truly remarkable achievement. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the First Baptist Church of Waterford on this milestone and wishing the church well for many years to come.

#### RECOGNIZING MEGAN JOHNSON AS THE WINNER OF THE 2010 PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

##### HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Megan Johnson of Federal Way, Washington for winning the 2010 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

Every year, Prudential Financial, Inc. chooses two people from each State and the District of Columbia as winners of the Spirit of Community Award. Megan Johnson was chosen for her outstanding community service. As a state honoree, Megan will receive a \$1,000 cash award and a trip to Washington, DC. A senior at Highline CHOICE Academy in Burien, Megan was Washington State's top high school volunteer and one of ten national honorees. She initiated philanthropic programs for hospitalized children, the homeless, and substance-addicted babies. Her goal is to provide the underserved with the necessary resources to improve their situations.

At the age of 10, Megan Johnson established a non-profit organization named "Megan's Mission," making blankets for the homeless and soliciting donations to buy the homeless scarves, hats, and other warm clothing during the winter. In the following years, Megan joined ranks with community groups, schools, churches, and prisoners from Monroe Correctional Complex to make blankets for infants born of addicted mothers and collect DVDs for children's hospitals. Megan has aided four homeless families in finding a home; a remarkable feat for such a young woman. Currently, Megan raises money for Shriners Hospital for Children by writing and illustrating children's books, selling hot cider during Christmas, selling jewelry, and soliciting donations from corporations.

In addition to being invited to speak at the Prudential Spirit of Community Service Awards in South Korea, Megan has also been asked to be a National Patient Ambassador for Shriners Children Hospital.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Megan Johnson for her selfless commitment to others and her dedication to help her community.

#### CALLING ON TURKISH-OCCUPIED CYPRUS TO PROTECT RELIGIOUS ARTIFACTS

SPEECH OF

##### HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2010*

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I have serious concerns regarding H. Res. 1631 which was considered on the House Floor on Tuesday, September 28.