

As Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security and Chair of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I am proud to support our nation's firefighters in Congress. These brave men and women risk their lives day after day to protect our communities and save the lives of others. Through Federal programs such as the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Program, we can do our part in ensuring that these heroes get the equipment, vehicles, training, staffing and other resources they need.

I hope that this milestone in the Massapequa Fire Department's history reminds us of not only the traditional role that firefighters have always played in protecting our communities, but also how their role has changed since September 11, 2001, because now they are also faced with an increasingly complex and dangerous job of preparing for and responding to acts of terrorism. We must do all that we can to support them in their mission.

I want to thank Massapequa Fire Chief Peter Anglim for his leadership and service, and all of the firefighters, both active and retired, who have proudly served the Massapequa community. Congratulations on 100 years of dedicated service.

CONGRATULATING INTERNATIONAL PAPER FOR BEING NAMED A TOP 100 CORPORATE CITIZEN BY THE CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY OFFICER ASSOCIATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate International Paper for being named a top 100 Corporate Citizen by the Corporate Responsibility Officer Association. This prestigious award is recognized as one of America's top three most-important business rankings. The recipients of this award exhibit praiseworthy commitment to their shareholders, the environment, their communities, their workforces and compliance with the law. International Paper, headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee, demonstrates each of these qualities, is a strong financial performer and job creator in the community.

Founded in 1898, International Paper has been at the forefront of the pulp and paper market for over 100 years and is the largest such company in the world. International Paper has operations in all corners of the globe, including North America, Europe, Latin America, Russia, Asia and North Africa. Its current Chairman and CEO, John V. Faraci, along with its 60,000 employees have continued to lead International Paper into the ranks of top performing, socially responsible companies.

International Paper has upheld a commitment to service, environmental protection and, most importantly, a high standard of ethics throughout its company. Quoting their Code of Business Ethics, "International Paper is comprised of good citizens, protecting employee health and safety, and managing natural resources responsibly." International Paper's philanthropic organization, the International

Paper Foundation, supports non-profit organizations within with a specific focus on environmental education and literacy. Since 1995, the International Paper Foundation has awarded more than \$50 million in grants to projects, namely its Coins for Kids program, a first-of-its-kind partnership with the World Food Programme to help fight childhood hunger worldwide.

Through its commitment to international excellence in the fields of ethics, financial performance, social responsibility, and environmental protection, International Paper has built a distinguished name of which they can be justly proud. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating International Paper for receiving this prestigious recognition.

HONORING THE VETERANS OF OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES, DETACHMENT 101

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Veterans of Office of Strategic Services, Detachment 101, for their service to our country during World War II and their post-war humanitarian work in service to their former allies in Burma. The Veterans recently held their annual reunion here in Washington, D.C. and I am honored to recognize them.

As the prototype for what would eventually become the Central Intelligence Agency, the Office of Strategic Services, OSS, was revolutionary in its operations during World War II. OSS Detachment 101 was created in 1942 and would be one of five such detachments created for field operations in support of the war.

Detachment 101 served in the China-Burma-India theater and in addition to gathering strategic and tactical intelligence, they were charged with the responsibility of planning, coordinating, and conducting guerrilla attacks against the occupying Japanese forces and recruited almost 11,000 indigenous Kachins for assistance. Their unorthodox methods laid the foundation not only for the modern-day intelligence community, but also for our Special Operations Forces. Because of their valor, courage, and heroic work, OSS Detachment 101 was awarded the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation in 1946.

But their work in Burma did not stop with the end of the war. Veterans and their families have given back to the Kachins in Burma they recruited and relied upon. They founded and helped to finance Project Old Soldier, through which they have trained Kachin villagers in substituting poppy crops with corn, buckwheat, potatoes, and other vegetables since 1996.

Further, Detachment 101 Veterans were concerned over the quality of health of Kachin veterans, and so through private funds they set up a weekly visiting nurse service in Burma, which is normally a luxury. Additionally, Detachment 101 has started the 101 Schools program in 2004 and has opened seven schools in Burma to teach Kachin children mathematics and English language skills at no charge to the families. Detachment 101 Veterans have continued to oversee the fund-

ing and supervision of these schools. Finally, Detachment 101 Veterans have arranged for the translation and printing of village health care books into Jingpaw, the Kachin language, as well as the disbursement of textbooks to Kachin school children.

OSS Detachment 101 veterans have continued their service to our country off the battlefield and have upheld the American values for which they fought. It would have been easy to return to their normal lives; instead, they have kept their Kachin brothers in their hearts and have worked to share some of America's prosperity with those who have helped protect it.

RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BILL VOIGT TO NATIONAL VETERANS DAY

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, as we honor our veterans on Veterans Day 2010, it is an appropriate time to commend the service of Colonel Bill Voigt for his dedicated work as the President of National Veterans Day in Birmingham.

Birmingham, Alabama is the proud birthplace of Veterans Day. National Veterans Day in Birmingham is recognized by the U.S. Veterans Administration as the oldest largest observance of its kind in the nation. As the organizing director for more than 20 years, Colonel Voigt has honored and built on this legacy which has become the model for paying tribute to our troops in uniform and esteemed veterans for their service and sacrifice for the cause of freedom. The annual parade in downtown Birmingham attracts more than 5,000 participants and 20,000 spectators, and the associated luncheons and dinners have provided a forum for recognizing our nation's most prominent patriots. The success of National Veterans Day in Birmingham every year can be traced to the leadership of Colonel Bill Voigt.

Colonel Voigt has spent his career serving his nation in the military as well as the State of Alabama. His family's roots are in Walker County and, while born in California, he was raised here at home. He attained his undergraduate degree at Auburn University and his Masters of Business Administration at University of Alabama at Birmingham. Colonel Voigt was a member of the Alabama Air National Guard for over 30 years and served in the United States Air Force Reserve as well. His many community awards and accolades include his selection as a permanent Member of the Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame and his service on the Board of Directors of Birmingham Honor Flight.

Colonel Bill Voigt has devoted his life to his family, his country, and our brave men and women in uniform. As he retires as the President of National Veterans Day in Birmingham, we properly take pause to salute him for his selfless dedication to the United States of America, his concern for the well-being of our troops and veterans, and the enduring qualities of duty, honor, and service that he has exemplified with such distinction in our Birmingham community.

CONGRATULATING ABINGTON
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Abington Memorial Hospital for winning the Keystone Alliance for Performance Excellence, KAPE, 2010 award. As the first recipient of this state-wide honor, Abington Memorial Hospital is being recognized for an ongoing commitment to quality and excellence that makes it a leader among the area's hospitals. I am honored to represent Abington Memorial Hospital in Congress.

Abington Memorial Hospital has provided comprehensive, high-quality services to residents of Montgomery, Bucks, and Philadelphia Counties for more than 90 years. A not-for-profit hospital, Abington Memorial Hospital has a staff of more than 900 physicians including primary care, medical, and surgical specialties. Abington Memorial Hospital has the only Level-2 trauma center in Montgomery County and is a major regional referral center for cancer care, cardiac care, and surgery.

Recognition for its outstanding workplace environment and high quality of care is not new to Abington Memorial Hospital. In 2008, Abington Memorial Hospital was awarded the Magnet Prize, one of the most prestigious awards in the nursing field, and has also been accredited, approved or licensed by more than 15 state and nationwide organizations.

Applicants from both small and large organizations across Pennsylvania, from all sectors including education, health care, manufacturing, government and non-profit organizations were able to apply for the 2010 KAPE award. Applicants were evaluated by an independent board in the areas of leadership, strategic planning, customer focus, measurement, analysis and knowledge management, work-force focus, process management, and results. Abington Memorial Hospital's excellence in all of these categories made it a clear winner for the 2010 KAPE award.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me as I congratulate Abington Memorial Hospital for winning this prestigious award and applaud the hospital for more than 90 years of excellent care.

HONORING SENATOR SUSAN
TUCKER

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Ms. TSONGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Senator Susan Tucker from the Fifth District of Massachusetts for her exemplary service to the citizens of the City of Lawrence and the towns of Andover, Dracut, and Tewksbury as a Massachusetts State Representative and Senator.

Senator Tucker was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1982

and to the Massachusetts Senate in 1992. While in the Senate, she served as Chair of the Joint Committee on Housing, Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee on Telecommunication, and as member of the Committees on Education, Ways and Means, Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, Financial Services and Revenue.

Senator Tucker has exhibited a lifelong commitment to advocacy and community service, and earned a reputation as an innovative and responsive leader. Known for her willingness to take on any challenge, she worked tirelessly to eliminate auto insurance fraud and address the foreclosure crisis in Massachusetts. Senator Tucker has received numerous leadership awards from state-wide groups recognizing her contributions to the betterment of life for citizens of the Commonwealth. In 2008, she was awarded the Pioneer Institute's Better Government Award for taking on auto insurance fraud, and in 2009 she was named Legislator of the Year by the Massachusetts Association for Families for her dedication to improving the lives of foster and adopted children.

Senator Tucker and her husband, Mike, reside in Andover and have two grown sons, as well as the loves of her life, granddaughters, Secoya and Autumn.

Upon her retirement, I wish to thank her for her friendship, recognize her for her inspiring leadership in the Massachusetts Senate, and congratulate her for her distinguished career.

IN HONOR OF EDWIN AND ALMA
LAKIN

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, today, it is my honor to recognize Edwin and Alma Lakin for their outstanding work to support Holocaust and genocide education initiatives, locally and nationally, through the Pennsylvania Holocaust Education Council.

This remarkable couple's consistent advocacy for a Holocaust Library and Resource Center at Albright College, as well as their fundraising efforts on behalf of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Lakin Early Education Center, the Jewish Federation of Reading, and innumerable humanitarian projects worldwide, reflects their commitment to remembering mankind's darkest hour. If we do not, we may allow these unspeakable horrors to be repeated.

In the words of Nobel Peace Prize Winner Elie Wiesel, "Mankind must remember that peace is not God's gift to his creatures; peace is our gift to each other." The Lakins' perseverance in honoring the victims of the Holocaust and their exemplary efforts to bring out the best in us all is essential to achieving that peace.

I join good people everywhere in commending Edwin and Alma's vigilance against hatred and tyranny. We should all be so strong.

HONORING DR. LUKE TORIAN'S
15TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY
WITH FIRST MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Luke Torian's 15th Pastoral Anniversary with First Mount Zion Baptist Church of Prince William County. As Pastor, Dr. Torian has served not only the congregation of First Mt. Zion but also the community. For three years he served on the Action in Community Through Service of Prince William County Board of Directors, and he is currently a member of the Prince William County Ministerial Association. Additionally, in 2004 Governor Mark Warner appointed Dr. Torian to the Virginia Board of Counseling.

Since 1995, Dr. Torian has helped First Mt. Zion expand from 650 members to a congregation of almost 3,500 members. This growth has led to the development of a new public facility and sanctuary, from which nearly 70 different ministries and community service programs operate. In addition, Dr. Torian has worked with the Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement, VOICE, an organization that seeks to energize local communities to fight for important social change such as expanding affordable housing.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Pastor Luke Torian and the First Mount Zion Baptist Church congregation as they celebrate this important milestone and plan for a successful future.

A TRIBUTE TO VIRGINIA HAWKINS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Virginia Hawkins.

Virginia Hawkins was born on August 29, 1908 in Stanton, Virginia. She came to New York in 1930. She has always been committed to the community's needs and has dedicated herself to helping others, and has heard the call from God to serve her church and community.

She has been a member of the Newman Memorial United Methodist Church under the pastorate of Reverend O.W. Jones for 57 years.

Ms. Hawkins has served as a member of the MacDonough Street Block Association since its inception. She was the first to sign up as a block watcher, and has always demonstrated concern about the safety and unity of her neighbors.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of Virginia Hawkins.